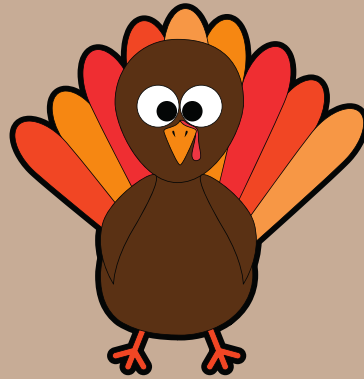


NOVEMBER 2022

CARRINGTON *School*

PRINCIPAL: Karen Renna

VICE PRINCIPAL: Kristen Gwiazdoski



IMPORTANT DATES

10/31 - iReady Challenge Starts

11/2 - 12:00 Dismissal

11/7 - End of 1st Marking Period

11/8 - Election Day - No School

11/11 - Veterans Day - No School

11/23 - 12:00 Dismissal

11/23 - iReady Challenge Ends

11/24 & 11/25 - Thanksgiving Recess

Principal's Corner

PRINCIPAL: Karen Renna

VICE PRINCIPAL: Kristen Gwiazdoski

It is hard to believe that the first marking period is almost complete. We thank you for helping your child nightly to reinforce what is taught daily in school. We are happy to welcome back Ms. Palmer as our first grade teacher. We would also like to say congratulations to Mrs. Varholak on the birth of her third baby girl.

Thank you for your understanding and patience with the teacher shortage. We are doing our best to provide coverage and teaching to all students every day in all subject areas. All of the staff has been amazing at going above and beyond to meet the needs of all our students.

We welcome new families to Carrington and strongly encourage them to join our PTO, volunteer, and have a voice in the activities and the building of our community. Please reach out to Jean Creaven our parent liaison to get involved.

As we approach Thanksgiving I would like to take this opportunity to say that we are very thankful for all our students and families. We appreciate your continuous support and partnership. This helps to enable your child to be successful. From our Carrington family to yours we wish you a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!



AUTUMN CHALLENGE

2022

*****For Carrington Students in Grades K-5*****

Earn A Delicious Bag of Homemade Popcorn!



From Halloween Through Thanksgiving:

Complete at least 60 minutes of i-Ready® *My Path* Lessons each week.

Maintain an Average Pass Rate of at least 85% each week.

Nurse's News

Tina Hauser RN

Flu Season Prevention: If possible, get your flu shot. This is the best protection for you and your family! All preschoolers are required to receive a flu shot prior to January 1, 2023.

Reinforce covering coughs and sneezes with your child.

Keep your child home if they are feeling ill or have a fever of 100.4 or more.

And of course, wash those hands!

Vision screenings are currently under way for grades K,1,3,4 and 5. If you receive a referral, please make an appointment for an evaluation. As always please call the nurse's office with any questions at 203-574-8303

Reading Department

Happy November! What a wonderful month to enjoy reading every night. There are so many great books to enjoy. The library is a good source. Do you and your child have a library card? If not, this is the month for it. Stop by the Bunker Hill Branch on any Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday to sign up for one. What wonderful adventures await! Remember our goal as parents and teachers is to instill the love of reading.

All students are currently being seen for small group instruction by their teachers and interventionists. Your child's instructional focus is based on their beginning of the year testing data. Your child's academic performance is also being progress monitored on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly basis in order to provide his/her teacher with data to support both strengths and weaknesses in your child's performance. Exit or entrance letters for Tier II and Tier III Intervention have been sent home. Please be sure to sign and return to your child's teacher. Students are enjoying the extra attention and strategies provided so that they can meet success. Any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at (203) 574-8184.

Remember...READ, READ, READ!

Sincerely,

The Reading Department

Ms. Johnson – Literacy Facilitator

Mrs. Cavanaugh – Reading Teacher

Mrs. Carosello – Reading Tutor

Mrs. Moriarty – Reading Tutor

Pre-Kindergarten

Mrs. Mauceri and Mrs. Promotico

We are a couple of weeks into our new study on "Trees". What a perfect time of year to watch all the colorful changes around us and learn about this amazing part of nature. We are exploring several questions about trees, such as: What are some characteristics of trees that we can see?

Who lives in trees? What foods come from trees? Who takes care of trees? How do trees change? What can we do with parts of trees? These questions are great things you can talk about with your child at home!!!

As we approach Thanksgiving, we will also talk about our family traditions and what it means to be thankful. What are some of the special traditions you do with your family? Please share these with your child.

We are diligently working with the children as they are playing with their peers during our "Choice Time", and during our small group and whole group times as we prepare for our first Progress Reports. They are due to go home December 20th and our Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, December 7th. More details to follow.

Important Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, Nov 2, 2022- 12:00 Dismissal

Tuesday, Nov 8, 2022 - No School: Election Day

Friday, Nov 11, 2022 - No School: Veterans Day

Wednesday, Nov 23, 2022 - 12:00 Dismissal

Thursday-Friday, Nov 24-25, 2022 - No School: Thanksgiving Break

Kindergarten

Mrs. Riggi and Mrs. Baker

In ELA, we continue to learn to identify, form, and make the sounds of all the letters in the alphabet. We are also identifying story elements: characters, settings, and events of the story, predicting what will happen next, and creating a mental picture in our mind. We have begun to segment and blend sounds to make simple CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words.

In Math, we will continue connecting written numerals to quantities and classifying objects into categories by counting, using objects, pictures, and numerals. We also have begun comparing two numbers between 1-10 using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and abstract models.

We are finding shapes in everything around us, learning about insects, learning about handy tools that help us do a job, learning about following rules, and learning about our community.

Remember...a Carrington School Cougar always "ROARS":
Respectful, On Task, Accountable, Responsible, Safe.

1st Grade

Ms. Palmer and Mrs. Varholak

There is a lot of fun as well as learning going on in our classrooms in Grade 1. Students are learning digraphs in FUNdations. We are learning that a digraph is 2 letters smooshed together to make one sound. In math we are continuing working with fact fluency. Counting on and counting back are strategies we practice daily. Please remember to reach our weekly i-Ready goals of 45-60 minutes on our learning path. Our Wonders reading program focuses on Unit 2. Our big idea is: Our Community. We will be learning about what makes a community so special for the next 5 weeks. Please continue to do your part by reading nightly with your child. Make it a special time for them. First grade is excited about moving into the colder months of November. With that being said, please make sure we have warm jackets for outside recess and school uniform sweaters for class. Please continue to send in a dry snack daily. Mrs. Varholak and Ms. Palmer want to wish our first grade families a Happy Thanksgiving! We are extremely thankful for our team effort with helping students learn and grow!

2nd Grade

Mrs. Boivin and Ms. Guerrero

Happy November, 2nd grade families! We can't believe we are already in November! By now, students should be familiar with daily routines, schedules, and expectations. Please check out Dojo to see how your child is doing throughout the day.

We have been learning A LOT in Grade 2! In Math, we are wrapping up using mental math strategies to add and subtract. We will begin to apply those strategies when solving problems requiring us to interpret data from graphs. We will even create our own graphs! In Foundations, we will learn a new syllable type, the closed syllable exception, and learn rules for adding suffixes to basewords. We are excited for Unit 2 in Reading! This unit allows us to build upon information learned from our latest unit in Science to dig deeper and get a better understanding of animals and habitats while focusing on characters, setting, and plot. In Writing, we will explore the features of a How-To Text and work through the Writing Process to write our very own How-To Text!

We have used the data from the beginning of the year assessments to find an instructional focus for each student in Reading and Math. Students will continue to participate in small group instruction in Reading and begin to participate in small group instruction in Math. We are thrilled that students have done an excellent job with these small group routines thus far!

The weather is changing quickly, please make sure your child has a coat to go outdoors for recess. Also, if your child needs a sweater while in the building, it must be compliant with the District's Dress Code Policy. Please review the Student Handbook for District Policies including Dress Code Expectations. Please be aware that hoodies and Crocs are NOT approved dress code for students and are not to be worn. We will continue to have Fitness Fridays, unless certain events happen otherwise.

ParentSquare is the best form of communication. Please check ParentSquare often as we will continue to post updates, reminders, and events along with what your child is learning in the classroom. Please send in a note with your child if there is a change in his/her dismissal. Please do not ParentSquare that information. Thank you for your cooperation. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Boivin or Miss Guerrero if you have any questions or concerns.

November Important Dates:

11/2 - Early Dismissal (12:00 p.m.)

11/23 - Early Dismissal (12:00 p.m.)

11/24-11/25 - Thanksgiving Recess...No School

3rd Grade

Mrs. Ciccone and Mr. Gagnon

During the month of November third grade will begin our study of multiplication in numeracy. Students will learn about the commutative property of multiplication and that multiplication is repeated addition. They will be introduced to equal groups, arrays, and should understand that multiplication equations can be used to represent them.

In literacy, students will read stories that include themes of cooperation, immigration, and government. Students will learn that themes are the author's message, or lesson, in a story. Students will also learn about "how to", or "process" writing during the month of November.

During Foundations we will conclude Unit 2 and begin Unit 3. Unit 3 will review the "vowel consonant e" syllable type. They will learn to recognize and spell these syllable types in two syllable words that have both closed and "vowel consonant e" syllables.

Mrs. Ciccone's class will have a field trip to the Mattatuck Museum on November 10. Mr. Gagnon's class will also have the same field trip on November 11. Please be sure to send the permission slips back to school as soon as possible before the field trip date.

Finally, please be sure to check Parent Square daily for important general announcements or individual messages. You may monitor your child's behavior on Class Dojo.

4th Grade

Mrs. Carroll and Ms. Smith

A lot has been happening in 4th Grade! The students did an amazing job on the Bio Bottles for Hispanic Heritage Month and their projects are now on display in the 4th Grade showcase. See photo below of their work.

In Math, we have finished Unit 1 - Place Value, Comparing, Rounding, Adding, and Subtracting Whole Numbers. In Unit 2, we will be working on Multiplication, Multiples, and Factors. We will then move on to multiplying by multi-digit numbers. It is important that students practice their multiplication facts daily so that they can solve these problems in a timely manner.

In ELA,

In Science, we have started Unit 3 on Waves and Information Transfer and we will continue to explore this unit in November.

As the temperatures continue to drop, please make sure to send in proper outerwear with your student (coat, gloves, hat).



5th Grade

Mr. Russo

Happy Autumn to you all,

We have been very busy these past few months. We completed Unit 1 in our reading program and just began Unit 2. We will be starting to concentrate on more writing and choosing subjects to write about. Halloween is next week and Thanksgiving is not very far away. We are really moving right along.

In Science we continue learning about matter and its 3 forms. We are getting ready to complete some hands-on activities that go along with the unit. Students seem excited to start conducting investigations and learning new terms and information.

I wish all of you a great and safe fall season. I also look forward to continuing working with you this school year to ensure the success of your children. Thanks for your continued support.

Miss Crespo

Here in Math class, we have been working very hard with our previous three lessons on Volume. We are tying everything together this month, and will be moving on to more challenging topics such as multiplying multi-digit numbers, dividing multi-digit numbers, and finally solving multiplication and division problems.

For Science, we have been exploring what matter is as well as what properties make up matter in Unit 2. Recently, we have been exploring more about physical properties, and I anticipate that we will be moving on to the next lesson of how matter changes very soon!

I hope everyone has a great month, especially now that we are coming closer to the holiday season! I can't wait to update you on next month!

6th Grade

Ms. Griffin and Mr. Carosella

Math: Students will fluently add, subtract and multiply decimals using standard algorithm strategies for each operation. In doing so, students will apply standard algorithm strategies to solve multi-digit problems for all operations. Also, students will represent ratios using tables, charts and diagrams. Using their understanding of ratios, students will solve real world mathematical problems.

Please make sure students are completing daily Basic Skills and That Quiz activities for homework.

Science: Students will start Unit 2 Ecosystems. Students will begin the unit by identifying key components of an ecosystem. The focus then turns to biotic factors such as producers and decomposers. Students will research and focus on specific producers and decomposers to better understand the flow of energy in an ecosystem. Students will be challenged to identify the components necessary for a healthy ecosystem, as well as the factors that may place an ecosystem at risk.

Social Studies: Students will begin to explore the continent of Asia. Specifically, students will learn about the physical geography, history and life in East Asia.

Reading: Students will begin Unit 2 "Our Heroes" exploring a variety of informational texts that celebrate real-life heroes, with selections that include both ordinary and historical figures whose bravery, fearlessness, and strong will inspire others. Students will analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated and elaborated throughout text examples or anecdotes through text structure.

Language Arts: Students will continue to build grammatical strategies and skills with daily practice through Quill with a focus on effective use of adjectives and adverbs. Students will also learn how to develop an argumentative essay that includes a focus on the effective use of textual evidence to support their position and ideas.

7th & 8th Grade

Mr. Thomas

In Social Studies, The 7th grade will study Geography as well as the history of the eastern portion of the United States.

The 8th grade will continue to learn about the 13 colonies and analyze the expansion of European power in North America. Students will focus on the Spanish, French, and English colonies in North America, leading into the French and Indian War as a precursor to the American Revolution.

Ms. Stetzer

7th grade is currently finishing up their narrative spooky stories. Next, we will continue strengthening our narrative writing by using StudySync mini lessons.

The 8th grade reading class is continuing to read "Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky". They are filling out a "story mountain" that goes with the book that will give them a clearer understanding of Rising action, climax, falling action and resolution.

The 8th grade finished up their E.R.A.C.E.R template constructed responses, and will continue to strengthen the skill as we move forward.

English as a Second Language

Mrs. Parker

We celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by researching famous Hispanic Americans like Cesar Chavez, Dr. Anotonia Novello, and Ellen Ocha. Students collaborated with one another and created PowerPoint presentations. We learned how these people have influenced the world and how they persevered despite all the obstacles that they endure. Younger students are focusing on letter identification, letter sounds, and story elements..

Special Education

Mrs. Cancellaro

We have been working so hard on high frequency word recognition and instructional level reading fluency. Please have your child practice their high frequency (Dr. Fry) words daily. They can be found in my google classroom (ccancellaro-resource room). Also, once we have completed a fluency passage I will be sending them home to practice as well. Please encourage your child to read them to you.

You will be so proud of their progress!!

My 4th and 5th grade students have been busy working on their reading comprehension skills. We are working cooperatively with "finding facts" after reading informational texts. Once these facts are shared and discussed, students will participate in a teacher-directed writing lesson. Students will practice establishing a focus and introducing it by using an engaging sentence or question. Through the shared writing process, students will be exposed to writing complete sentences about a topic and using details that support their main idea.

Ms. Panonni

Happy Fall!

Students have been doing an awesome job of building their foundational skills. For reading, many students are working on letter and letter sound identification, as well as blending sounds together to create CVC words. Some students are working on words that contain four or more letters and different combinations of sound blends. Students have also been completing reading fluency checks and have shown significant growth from last year. In math, students are refining their adding skills to make partners of 10. Some students are working on two-digit plus one-digit numbers. After some more mastery with addition, we will begin to focus more on subtraction.

Essential Skills

Mrs. Barbosa

This month in Essential Skills we will be learning about Turkeys, Pilgrims and Thanksgiving. We are working on big and small, identifying more animals and talking about being Thankful. Our shape of the month is Oval and the Color of the month is Brown. The Number of the month is 3. We are continuing to talk about community helpers and what they do. We are working very hard on our individual objectives.

Ms. Barbati

This month in Essential Skills we will be learning about Turkeys, the history of the Thanksgiving/Pilgrims and what we are all thankful for in life. In our Lively Letters Program, we are reviewing letters learned so far: "p/b, t/d, f/v, k/g" and will be introducing letters "q, a, o, m/n". Our colors for this month are yellow and brown and the number we will focus on is "3". Our shape this month is the "star" and in the theme of Thanksgiving, we will be making a classroom poster with students handprints on stars with thankful messages to the fallen Bristol Police officers - Lt. Dustin DeMonte, Sgt. Alex Hamzy and "Hero" Alec Iurato. Once completed, I will drop off the poster to the Bristol Police Department to be displayed for all to see!

Specialists

Mrs. Doolan - Music

In Music Classes, the students have been learning about the musical keys of Major and Minor. Major key songs are happy and upbeat and minor key songs are sad or scary. Students also played the xylophones to accompany a minor keyed song. Some songs included: "There Was and Old Women", "Bats Flying in the Air", "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor", "Pumpkin Jack" " Pass the Broomstick" and "Five Little Pumpkins". The Middle School students turned in and presented their projects on their favorite music artist.

Mr. Rivera - Art

In art, the elementary levels have completed wonderful drawn and painted Fall themed paper leaves which are hanging in the main office atrium and the middle school grades have completed line design drawings and abstract colored pencil drawings. This month's focus will be on compositional elements of contrast and unity, along with collage techniques. Students in middle school will explore the Japanese art form of Notan designs. Notan art focuses on light and dark elements in compositional designs. On the elementary level, we will continue to work with shapes, color theory and line while incorporating holiday themes.

Mr. Chiasson - Physical Education

In grades Pre-K to 2nd, students will begin working on their kicking skills as it relates to soccer. Other skills that will be of focus will be passing, shooting, and trapping of a soccer ball. In grades 3-5 students will be participating in a pretest for the CT Physical Fitness Assessment, which will provide baseline data in the P.A.C.E.R, Push Up, Curl Up, and Sit and Reach. Students will also be working on a variety of soccer skills with the hope of playing modified games towards the end of the month. Students in grades 6-8 will also be participating in a pretest for the CT Physical Fitness Assessment. They will be working on more advanced skills associated with soccer culminating in a round robin tournament at the end of the month.

Mrs. Rosa - Library Media

This month in grades Pre-K to 1st, we will be reading fiction and nonfiction books about turkeys. Grades 2-5 will be reading about Election Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving. 6th grade is starting a project on the Macy' s Day Parade. 7th Graders are learning about the pros and cons to media usage. 8th Grade students are researching different local high schools and career choices.