

STUART WILDCATS NEWSLETTER

January 2015

Stuart Elementary School
Tammy Waldron, Principal
Terry Harris, Assistant Principal

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, Jan. 6: Students return.

Wednesday, Jan 7: 1st talent show practice.

Monday, Jan. 12: Talent show practice 3:30-5:30pm.

Tuesday, Jan. 13: Tutoring starts for grades 3rd thru 7th. 3:30-4:30 pm.

Every Tuesdays and Thursdays tutoring from 3:30 – 4:30 pm. for grades 3rd thru 7th.

Thursday, Jan.15: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-6:00pm.

Wednesday, Jan. 21: Talent Show practice 3:30-5:30 pm.

Monday, Jan. 26: Talent Show practice 3:30-5:30 pm.

Thursday, Jan. 29: Talent Show dress rehearsal 3:30-5:30 pm.

Friday, Jan 30: Talent Show 1:00 pm.

Message From the Principal

Wildcats Rock!!!

After School Tutoring, IXL, and Study Island

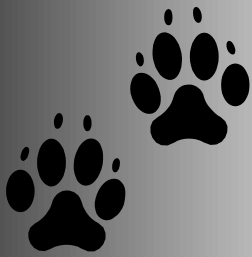
Students in grades 3 through 7 may participate in after school tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Teachers invited students who need additional help in reading and math to the after school tutoring program. Tutoring starts Tuesday, January 13th beginning at 3:30 and ending at 4:30. Each student will receive a snack during tutoring. Parents are asked to wait in the car rider line for pick-up at 4:30. Tuesday's tutoring sessions will focus on reading and Thursday's sessions will focus on math.

IXL is an online remediation program for students in grades 1st-7th. All students have been given a login and password. This program is a great way for students to practice math and reading skills on snow days or on weekends.

Study Island is another online remediation program for students in grades 3 through 7. This program is connected to each child's MAPS assessment. Study Island creates a learning path specific to each student. Students can login and practice math and reading every day.

If parents have any questions about login and password information for either IXL or Study Island, please contact your student's teacher or call Mrs. Waldron at the school (694-7139).

Sincerely,
Tammy Waldron, Principal



Pre-K News



Students in Pre-K enjoyed making gingerbread cookies.



We read "Gingerbread Baby" and made our cookies in class. The children enjoyed decorating their cookies.. Yum- yum!



We read the "Polar Express" and completed our counting the marshmallows activity using one-to-one correspondence and gluing them in their hot cocoa mugs.



Re telling the story "The Mitten" during their Book Club time.



Kindergarten News



Students are making their site words with play-dough!



First Grade News



First grade students are learning hands-on lesson on counting money.



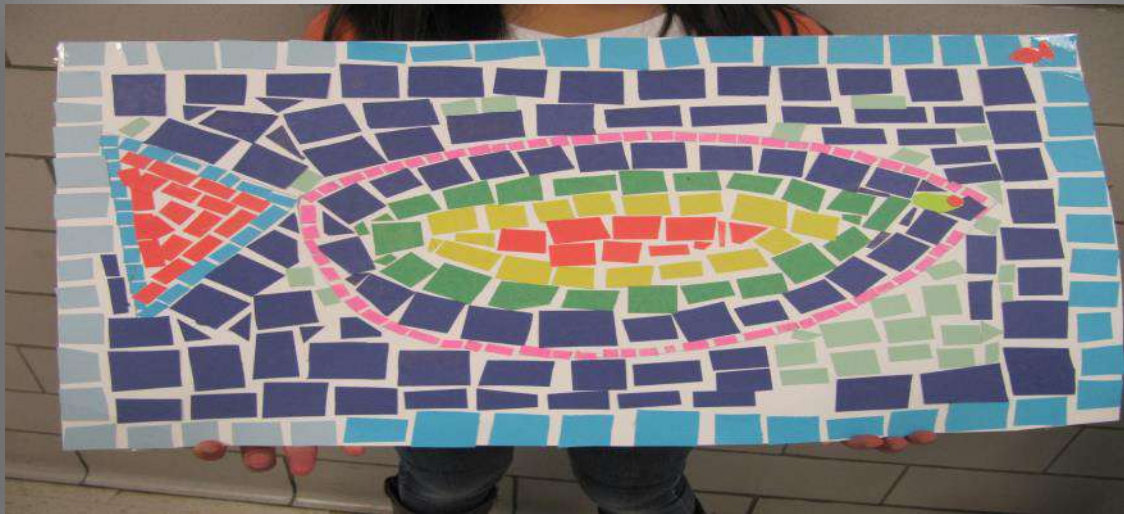
Second Grade News

Second graders at Stuart Elementary School have been working hard on their Diorama projects. The students picked either Powhatan, The Plains or the Pueblo tribes & created a Native American village in a shoebox. They used everything from figurines, bark, leaves & even tortillas for teepees. The students have enjoyed learning about the Native Americans this six weeks!





3rd Grade News



Third graders have been studying Greece and Rome and were recently asked to make their own mosaic.



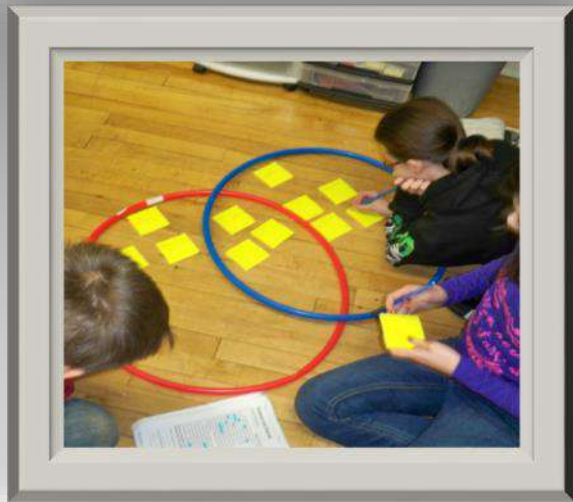
4th Grade News



Fourth graders often work in small groups using IXL and Study Island to practice reading and math skills.



5th Grade News



Above: Fifth grade students in Mrs. Amy Vernon's reading class are doing a comparing and contrasting activity using the hoola hoops to form a Venn Diagram.

Below: Students in Amy Vernon's science class are completing a molecule and compound lab using Play-doh and toothpicks.





Title 1 Star Catcher Party





Jr. Beta News



Friends Feeding Friends

Jr. Beta students led the Friends feeding Friends food drive for the Patrick County food bank during the month of December. A total of 937 pounds was collected for hungry families in Patrick County. The class that collected the most food was Ms. Lisa Stovall's class with 146 pounds. Mrs. Beth Clark's class came in second with a total of 101 pounds of food. We are so proud of the Wildcats for joining together to help our community.



Christmas Parade





'Twas the Week Before Christmas

A Christmas Poem for Teachers

'Twas the week before Christmas and all through the school
The children were crazy, I was losing my cool!
Their papers aren't finished, they don't want to work
But when I try to make them, I feel like a jerk!
I'm tired, I'm cranky these kids have it coming
But I stop and think, what a Scrooge I'm becoming!
So I tune out their chatter and I try to enjoy
The last days before Christmas with each girl and boy
They are so excited, and buzz with holiday cheer
And then homemade presents begin to appear
Be-glittered and fashioned with craft sticks and glue
And of course there's a "Best Teacher" mug....or two
The last day, they come as candy crazed creatures
But then it's **TWO WEEKS** of break...

I love being a teacher!

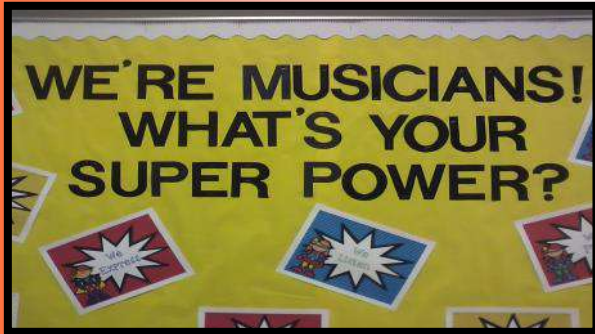
By: Amy Oelschlager
December 2008

<http://verdyteacherconfessions.edublogs.org>



Mrs. Helms' Art News

Band News



Fifth grade choir students went to different classrooms to sing Christmas carols.

Wildcats had a great PTO show on December 4th, 2014! Thank you to all families that supported the arts! I am so blessed to be teaching your kids! Thank you! Here are some pictures of the art !





Notes from the Counselor



"Used by permission of the author, Leah Davies, and selected from the *Helping Children Cope with Worries* By Leah Davies, M.Ed.

Since children's worries often interfere with their learning, it is helpful to understand their concerns. I asked 320 third graders to list one or two things they think about when they can not sleep. The results indicate that children today are anxious about the following:

One hundred and twenty-four children wrote that they worried about their mom or dad never being home, being sick or hurt, dying, coming home late, being mad, working too hard, living in another state, being sad, having an accident, getting in fights, doing something bad, being lost, wrecking the house, hitting them, ignoring them, running away, or getting a divorce. The most poignant comment was, "My first mom smothered my little brother because she was on drugs." Another child wrote, "I have not seen my dad in six years. I think he does not care for me."

Eighty-four children reported worrying about their brother, sister or grandparent dying or getting sick, lost, or hurt, or having to go to the hospital. A solemn statement was, "My brother died of crib death." One child wrote, "I worry about my brother because he does what the crowd does and he might take drugs." Another stated, "My sister was in a car accident and I thought she was going to die."

Forty-two children wrote about nighttime when they have scary dreams about movies they had seen. They reported having nightmares of monsters or ghosts hiding under their bed or in the closet and killing them with a knife. One wrote, "When I go to sleep it's going to come out and kill me."

Thirty-three worried about their pets feeling bad, being sick or hurt, or dying. A child stated, "My dog died and it keeps me from doing my work and from sleeping at night."

Twenty-nine worried about school. They wrote about failing, not getting their work finished, getting bad grades, and about their teacher not liking them.

Eleven children reported worrying about friends being sad, hurt, taking their toys, hurting them, picking on them, refusing to play with them.

Other worries listed ten or less times concerned robbers trying to kill them or their family; themselves getting sick, hurt, lost, or dying; relatives getting hurt or dying; fire or tornadoes; snakes or spiders; sick or crippled people; poor people who have no food or clothes.

How can we help children cope with their worries so that they will be ready to learn?

- Provide a place where each child feels valued, safe and secure.
- Offer opportunities for children to write down or discuss their concerns or feelings.
- Take time to listen and respond with compassion.
- Encourage the children to make healthy living choices including eating healthy food and saying "no" to tobacco or alcohol.
- Stress the importance of getting enough rest and sleep each night.
- Teach them friendship skills, so that they can develop supportive peer relationships.
- Help the children understand that some circumstances CANNOT be changed, so they must be accepted, like death, divorce, or illness. Help them identify things they CAN change.
- Teach them relaxation techniques like slow, deep breathing, counting backwards, or tensing the body and then relaxing.
- Discuss positive coping skills like walking, playing, exercising, jumping rope, reading, resting, writing down or telling someone their problems.
 - Teach them to use positive self-talk like:
 - "Everyone feels good and bad, now and then. "Even though I make mistakes, I can do many things well." Nobody's life is perfect; everyone has problems. "Everyone makes mistakes, but what is important is to keep trying. "Since I only have one body, I am going to take care of it." "Worrying does not help, so I will think of good things. "Since I care about me, I will make good choices."



Mrs. Lawson's first grade class won the ice cream party for collecting the most hearts for Jase's heart .

Jase's Heart

Stuart Elementary School students and staff are truly blessed. Our hearts for Jase are overflowing. The Student Council Association at SES collected \$931.00 to help with expenses. Some children sent gold dollars to Jase and his family for luck while others wrote get well wishes. May we remember the reason for the season and to share of ourselves whenever, in any way we are able.





Ronald McDonald House Pop Tab Program

Sponsored by the SES Jr. Beta Club

What: Donation of pop tabs from soda cans for the Roanoke House. This is a home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill children in the Roanoke Valley hospitals. The House opened in 1984.

When: Anytime between now and the end of the school year

Where: Turn them in to the homeroom teacher.

Why: The House receives \$0.04 more per pound of pop tabs than per pound of cans because the aluminum alloy is purer in the tabs.



January 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Students return	7	8	9	10
11	12 Talent Show Practice 3:30- 5:30pm.	13 Tutoring starts 3rd-7th grade 3:30-4:30 pm.	14	15 Parent/Teacher conferences 4:00-6:00 pm. No tutoring.	16	17
18	19	20 Tutoring 3rd-7th grade. 3:30- 4:30pm.	21 Talent Show practice 3:30- 5:30pm.	22 Tutoring 3rd-7th grade.	23	24
25	26 Talent Show practice. 3:30- 5:30pm.	27 Tutoring 3rd-7th grade 3:30- 4:30pm.	28	29 Tutoring 3rd-7th grade.3:30- 4:30pm. Talent Show dress rehearsal 3:30-5:30 pm.	30 Talent Show 1:00pm.	31