

The Leopardletter

Logan Elementary School and Francis E. Donnelly ECLC

March 2024

Hello, Donnelly ECLC and LES Families! As the gentle breeze of spring whispers through our school corridors, we find ourselves filled with the joy and anticipation that this season brings. March has been a month of growth, renewal, and exciting discoveries, and we are thrilled to share some highlights with you.

Throughout March, our classrooms were alive with activity as our students embarked on new academic adventures and engaged in hands-on learning experiences. From exploring the wonders of nature in science class to diving into captivating stories during reading time, each day was filled with opportunities for growth and exploration. We celebrated the joy of reading and learning on Read Across America Day, immersing ourselves in the magic of storytelling and the boundless possibilities that books offer. Our students embraced their love for literature with enthusiasm, fostering a lifelong passion for reading and knowledge. In honor of Women's History Month, we paid tribute to the remarkable achievements of women who have shaped our world. Through engaging lessons and discussions, our students learned about the inspiring contributions of trailblazers in various fields, empowering them to dream big and reach for the stars.

As we bid farewell to March and eagerly await the adventures that April has in store, we look forward to continuing our journey of growth and discovery together. With the promise of warmer days ahead, we're excited to explore the wonders of springtime and all it has to offer. In the coming weeks, we'll dive into new learning experiences,



LES March Super Citizens

celebrate the diversity of our school community, and embrace the joy of discovery in every lesson and activity. With each passing day, we're reminded of the incredible potential that resides within each of our students, and we're honored to be a part of their educational journey.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we welcome the beauty of spring and all the possibilities it holds. We wish all families a wonderful Spring Break!

Warm regards,
Mrs. Stewart



Spotlight on Special Area Subjects: Music, Italian, and P.E.

LES Music: It's "Madness" in the Music Room
- Ms. Kathie Ottinger

During the month of March, Ms. Ottinger's music classes have been learning about the instruments of the orchestra! First grade students listened to the "Carnival of the Animals". They discovered the instruments and used many movement activities to go along with each animal. Second graders listened to "Peter and the Wolf" and built their instrument knowledge by adding instruments like the bassoon, oboe and French horn to the list they learned in first grade. Both the first and second grade students made mini books to go along with their stories. The third grade classes began their unit on the instruments of the orchestra. This year they will be hearing about ALL of the instruments of the orchestra and will be able to put them into the four families: Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion.



First Grade "Carnival of the Animals" mini book!

All students participated in Ms. Ottinger's Music March Madness! Each week classes vote on a song to move onto the next round. This year's theme was Disney - villains vs. heroes! Who will win as LES's favorite song?



Second Grade "Peter & the Wolf" mini book!



Music March Madness bracket and voting!



LES Physical Education
- Mr. Mike Allen

This month in P.E. we learned all about basketball for March madness. With it being the NCAA basketball tournament this month we figured it was a good time to teach basketball skills. Students learned all about basketball and the skills that go along with being a good player and teammate. We practiced our passing skills with a partner, dribbling skills moving in and out of cones, and we got to shoot some hoops on the basketball nets. It was a great time as we were able to lower the nets for some students to practice, but some students were able to score points on the regulation height (10ft) baskets! It was a blast watching the students' reactions when the ball went through the hoop, their faces lit up with excitement! It was a great month and the students had a great time learning their basketball skills, and we can't wait to see them use their skills in the future



Spotlight on Special Area Subjects: Music, Italian, and P.E.

Donnelly Music: The Rhythm of Our Hearts
- Mrs. Robin Wilson

It's Music in our Schools Month! What better month to read about why music is so important in our schools. There's lots of learning through the language of music. Many people around the world use music for special occasions, whether it be for happy or sad times. It soothes the soul, relaxes the mind, pumps you up, encourages you through tough times. In the classroom, children can learn about the days of the week, months of the year, math facts, and even facts for Science and Social Studies. Many teachers in our nation use music to reinforce various concepts that are taught throughout the school year. It's so much fun to learn many things through music! Research has proven that students who have music in their lives do better in all subject areas.

The Pre-K and Kindergarten students in the Donnelly School came together as a community to have our 1st Drum Circle in honor of Black History Month! With the assistance of our Art teacher, Mrs. Schaeffer, the Kindergarten students decorated recycled boxes to make beautiful drums. It was a beautiful sound to experience!

The Pre-K students have been learning a new instrument to play each week to celebrate Music in Our Schools Month.

For the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, the Special Area Team and Kindergarten Team gathered together and enjoyed an Irish Folk Dance! Music is truly universal!



Pre-K Students in Miss Barbara's class learning literacy through music.



Pre-K students in Mrs. Bacon's and Mrs. Pitts' classes participating in the Drum Circle.



The Kindergarten students enjoyed "Rakes of Mallow" with their classroom and special area teachers.



The Special Area Teachers, Kindergarten Teachers, and Kindergarten students learned an Irish Folk dance.

Spotlight on Special Area Subjects: Music, Italian, and P.E.



LES and Donnelly ECLC Physical Education
- Mrs. Erica Marsh

Our Logan Leopards have been hard at work in our Health and Physical Education classes! Across the grade levels, we have been working on our flexibility, muscular strength and cardiorespiratory endurance in our warm ups every class. In Kindergarten, First Grade and Second Grade, we are just finishing our Basketball Unit where our Leopards did amazing with our three main basketball skills: dribbling, passing and shooting the ball. We got to play fun activities like relays, stations and our game Hot Shots! In our Third Grade P.E. classes, our Leopards did incredible with our Football Unit! We learned all about different football positions like Quarterback and Wide Receivers along with practicing our skills of throwing, catching and offense versus defense. Over the year, our Leopards have done incredible work with various units such as our Locomotors, the game of Pillow Polo, Bowling, and our Throwing and Catching Unit utilizing fun games like Hula Hut Throwdown, Oscar the Grouch and Battleship. We also have done a great job with our themed cooperative and team building games like Elf Express and Creative Christmas Tree. We are

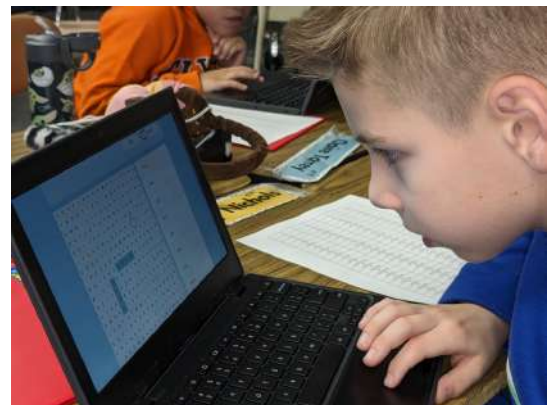
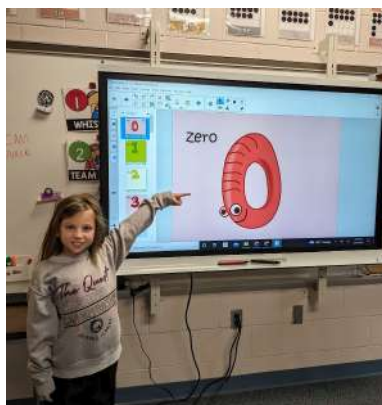
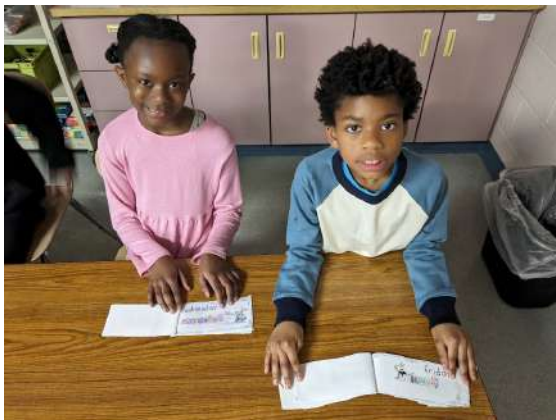
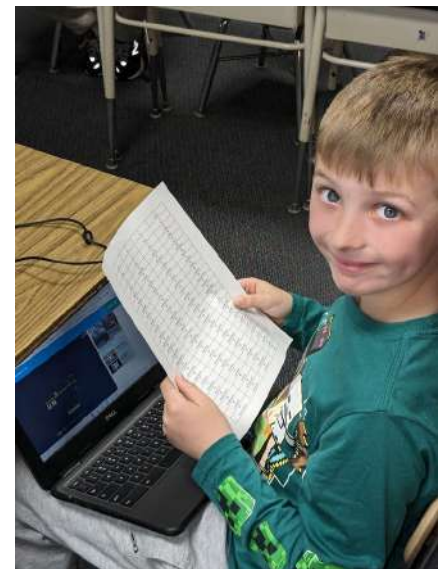
so excited to keep this Health and Physical Education train going strong with fun, engaging activities all the way until the end of the year!



Spotlight on Special Area Subjects: Music, Italian, and P.E.

LES Classe di Italiano
- Mrs. Cinzia Neary

In second and third grade Italian classes, students have been working on pronouncing and identifying the days of the week and numbers from 0 to 31. A typical Italian class begins with the "Buongiorno" song and then students are immediately immersed into new Italian vocabulary! Students view slides of the targeted vocabulary, sing and dance to catchy songs to help with memorization of the new words, and play word games on Conjuguemos to reinforce the correct spelling of the words. Once students have a good understanding of the new vocabulary, students are given a question to answer. For example, "Che giorno è oggi?" (What day is today?) or "Che giorno era ieri?" (What day was yesterday?) are the types of questions that students are asked to respond to. Asking and answering questions in Italian helps students apply knowledge of their new words into functional conversational language. The next Italian unit focuses on the months of the year. By the end of this unit students will be able to say the date, their birthdays, and tell how old they are! I am extremely pleased with the students' work, passion, and enthusiasm they have for the Italian language. I am looking forward to seeing students progress in their language acquisition of Italian.



Upcoming: Autism Awareness Month

Mrs. Allison Szymanski, Preschool Behavior and Inclusion Coach

Dear Families,

Throughout this school year, our teachers have done a wonderful job of introducing and reviewing our PRIDE values to our students. Looking forward to the month of April, in recognition of Autism Acceptance Month, we will focus on being Inclusive of All People. In our school community, Inclusive of All People means we include others, show understanding and acceptance of our differences and demonstrate empathy and patience towards each other. Learning more about Autism Spectrum Disorder is one way we can build on this value.



We have many wonderful activities planned for this month, including our Bubbles for Inclusivity event, so please keep an eye out for further information from your child's classroom teacher. We also would like to share these resources with our families, so that you may learn more about individuals with autism.

[American Speech Language Hearing Association-Autism Spectrum Disorder](#)

[Sesame Street-Family Resources on Autism](#)

[CDC-Autism Spectrum Disorder](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or contact me at aszymanski@logantownshipschools.org.

Spring *Break*

• **MARCH 27 – APRIL 3**

**We will see everyone when school resumes on
Wednesday, April 3rd. Enjoy the break!**

