

Maple Lane Gazette



From Dodd's Desk...

Greetings Maple Lane Families!

I am writing following an unseasonably warm September! I cannot believe our first month of school is over – time has flown as our students have been engaged in a variety of learning activities here at Maple Lane! I've enjoyed getting to know all of our new students, and seeing students who returned to Maple Lane for another year.

Students at Maple Lane are enjoying many new technology initiatives that we have going on. For example, we've renewed our subscription to Moby Max and many rooms have already been pre-assessing students to determine a good starting point. This is a program you can use at home, too; if you're interested, please contact your child's teacher. We've also been taking the NWEA assessment so we can monitor student growth throughout the school year.

Please take time to review our STAR rules at home. At Maple Lane, we are Safe, Try our best, Act Responsibly and are Respectful. Throughout the month of September, students have been learning and practicing these skills across many environments at our school: the bus, the playground, the hallway, the classroom, etc. Many of our rewards here at Maple Lane are based on these STAR rules. We kicked off our STAR rules celebration on September 15th by visiting with our therapy dogs, learning about art and exploring technology, as well. This was a great way to honor students for following all of our STAR expectations.

Parents, thanks to all who attended Open House on September 21! We had a great turnout and the evening was full of valuable information to start another fantastic year at Maple Lane. Thank you for your continued devotion and support of our program. I'm looking forward to a great October!

Sincerely,
Jack Dodd, Ed.S.
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS!

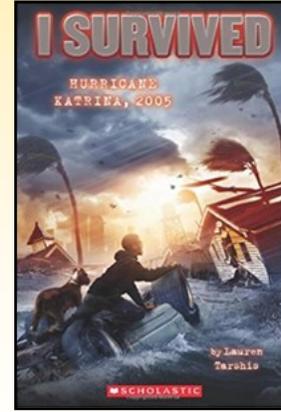
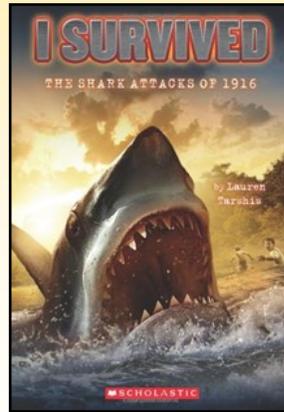
Tuesday, October 31 - half day, 11:54 dismissal

Friday, November 3 - Great Skate

November 22-24 - no school, Thanksgiving recess

R2

The students in R-2 have been learning about sharks and hurricanes. The classroom just finished two books. *I Survived a Hurricane* and *I survived a Shark Attack*. Next, the kids will start a plaster cast of a shark and then do a follow-up writing assignment. We are excited about the new school year and building a team in our classroom.



Classroom News!

R3

Welcome back to Maple Lane! We, in room 3, are hoping for this to be a FABULOUS school year! It may already be October, but a lot of learning has already been taking place in our classroom. We are learning many health and science words, such as seasonal, transitions, decompose, thermometer, harvest, and nutrients. The students in Room 3 LOVE learning big words, and using them in the classroom.

We are cooking once again on Fridays, and this year we are going to practice what we learn in health class by cooking some delicious AND nutritional dishes. The students are getting great practice in their fine motor skills in cooking class, too. We are learning to peel, chop, shred, twist, pull apart, crush, and roll. It's a lot of work, but LOTS of fun! Room 3 has even incorporated food into our art projects. One of our favorites was apple prints using real apples. (We think they turned out so nice!)



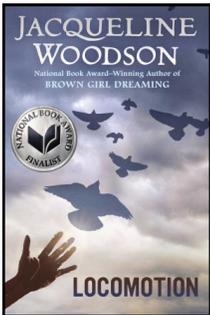
Everyone in Room 3 is working hard already to become better readers, better mathematicians, better spellers, and amazing authors. That means every day we all have to DO our best, to BE our best. Here's hoping for a school year filled with wonderful learning and lots of laughter and fun!

R4

Welcome to R-4!! We are so excited to start the year off! The students have been working on “get to know you” activities. We are learning to work together and help one another.

For Constitution Day, we learned the song “Fifty Nifty United States” and performed it in front of the student body. They did great!

We started our first chapter book, *Locomotion* for the reading unit. They are coming up with ways to be strong readers and building their reading stamina. Ms. LaRoche, Ms. Melissa and Ms. Deb are looking forward to a wonderful year.



Classroom News!

R5

The students in R-5 spent the first few weeks of school getting to know each other with our “All About Me” posters displayed on the classroom window.



Through our project, we learned that Cameron E. wants to be a construction worker when he grows up, Logan wants to be a paleontologist, Jade would like to be a firefighter and Cameron G. dreams of being a treasure hunter. We learned that Derek’s favorite place is a bounce house, Brian enjoys the park and Trenton’s favorite spot is Wal-Mart. We also found out that if Lamyra had one wish she would wish for a car, and if Ethan had to pick a favorite food, there’s no way he could pick just one – he loves “everything”!

Several of our students visited Play Place at the end of September, and later kicked off Halloween celebrations with Ms. Peggy’s coordinated dances to “Thriller” and “Ghostbusters” during the first week of October.

R6

Written by:
Adam S.

In R6 we have been reading a book called "My life as a Stunboy". We also been doing positive and negative thinking and Thanks to our students. Lanaijah Conner Adam Ethan Keegan Bryant Mark Cameron Jaidyn have also been doing positive thinking. And Adam our student have been helping staff he is great at typing. Also we have been working on our goal "Safe Behavior" We also learned about Math Earth and all the other planets. And the S.T.A.R. Rules in Maple Lane have been our rule for a while and we are now learning about seasons Summer Spring Winter and Fall and we did our classroom Constitution. And for our great teachers, Ms. Sasek. Ms. Pierce and Ms. Lori. We also go in peace together we also enjoy having fun. And cool events every Friday.

This is what the S.T.A.R. Rules stand for

- Safe Behavior
- Try my best
- Act Response
- Respect others

Classroom News!

R7

Room 7 has been hard at work already this school year! We have been working on multiplication, reading, and writing. We have also started our NWEA testing, working on Moby Max, and Easy CBM assessments. We really enjoy working as a team in gym class. Our favorite thing to do is go outside for recess at the end of the day.

"Tell me one thing you like about our classroom this year:"

- Lou'Mar likes our classroom because it is challenging which makes it fun. Everyone is nice. The math is really cool. He likes all the work here.
- Jacob says, "What I like about this school is Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Greenwell."
- William likes recess. He also enjoys his integration.
- Abby likes the whole school.
- Caiden likes learning about the Presidents.
- Hunter likes going outside for recess.
- Reno likes reading, math, and read aloud.
- Elizabeth says our classroom is fun.
- Trevor says, "I like that I have best friends at Maple Lane and at my local school." He is enjoying his integration.



R10

R-10 is starting the year off with a growth mindset. We are learning how our brain works, we can have growth mindset and learn all we can or a fixed mindset and be stuck in a rut.

The students have been filling buckets based on the star expectation rules. Once a bucket has 30 puff balls, the class earns a reward. So far they have made root beer floats and dirt cups - make sure to ask your child what that is! Way to go R-10!!



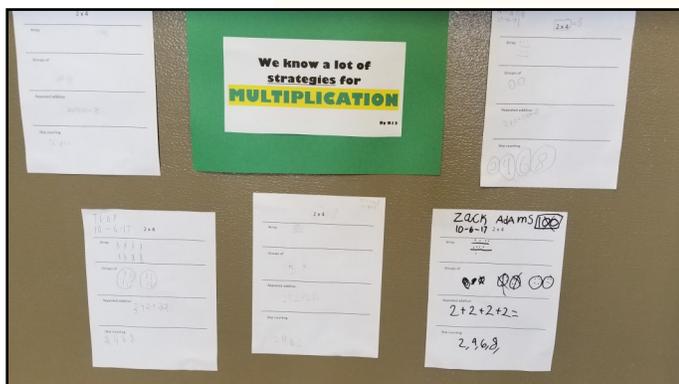
Classroom News!

R13

Students in R13 have been focusing on diving into their learning and becoming deep thinkers. Math has been especially challenging for the students and they are all accepting the challenge with open arms. They have learned how to use drawings to represent equal groups and relate groups to repeated addition. They are using strategies for solving problems and working to determine the most efficient strategies for multiplication. Please ask your child how to make an array or skip count to find the answer to a problem! They should be able to demonstrate these strategies for you.

Math lessons in R13 always start with concrete activities (touching math manipulatives, building things, moving objects). From there, students move on to the representation portion of the lesson (making drawings or mental images). Finally, students work in the abstract realm (knowing 2×3 is 6, working independently on worksheets). Together, these steps are helping your child build a solid foundation for understanding mathematics on a deeper level.

**MATH
MANIA!**



This work is difficult and students have been working hard! Please praise them for their good efforts!

R14



R-14 is settling into the new school year. We have many returning students and some new students this year, so it has been exciting to watch the kids get to know each other. In addition to starting our academics, the students have had two great enrichment activities. In art, Mr. Rollins taught the students how to make “pinch pots” from clay, which the kids can’t wait to paint in the next art class. On September 29, we visited the Play Place. We played with Legos, danced, went on a merry-go-round and visited the computer area, they had a blast! Now that the weather’s cooled down, we can start celebrating fall.



Classroom News!

PE



We are off to a fantastic start in Physical Education! Classes have already begun the fun, got their sweat on and even practiced a few very important social skills. We are well on our way to a successful school year in P.E. and it is only October! So far, I have been incredibly impressed with the positive attitudes and effort shown by students both new and old to Maple Lane.

September blew in a review of important movement concepts such as personal and general space, locomotor movements (galloping, skipping, leaping etc.) Students K-5 were introduced to a new set of warm-up activities we will be using throughout the year. My goal as a P.E. teacher is to get each student moving as soon as possible so that they can receive the highest benefit from their 30 minutes with me (3x a week). After their hard week of review, I awarded all classes with a chance to show what they know by playing a few of Maple Lane’s favorite gym activities. Games included Swamp Ball, Snowball Fight and Toe Tag.

It’s already October and with the fall weather being perfect for soccer I am taking full advantage! Last week classes began a soccer unit. Classes have been practicing dribbling, passing, and goal kicks outside.

Please make sure your child wears sneakers for physical education class. The sneakers should have laces or Velcro with good ankle/foot support and a flat sole. Sneakers need to stay securely on your child’s feet during physical activity.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to a fun and active school year with you and your child!

Kelly Mero, kmero@misd.net

Westview Orchard



Constitution Day



FIRE SAFETY DAY



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



Watch for our next
newsletter before our
winter recess!

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