# Mifflin County School District LEWISTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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Julie Lohr, Principal Jackie Shinskie, Asst. Principal



## **Upcoming Events...**

Friday, January 18—School in Session (snow make u day) Monday, January 21—School in Session (snow make up day) Friday, January 25—Shaver's Creek visit to LES Kindergarten Wednesday, January 30—Class Photos/Spring Portraits

### From the Principal's desk...

## **Help for the Homeless**

If you know of a family who has school-aged children and is currently homeless, please let them know that there is help available. Each school in the Mifflin County School District has a guidance counselor who can direct the family in the right direction.

There are many reasons that families may become homeless. Our concern is for the health and well-being of the family unit and the education of the children. With that in mind, the Mifflin County School District has received countless boxes of donations of clothing, toiletries, school supplies, and other items. Our guidance counselors have access to those items.

Homelessness is a sensitive subject; therefore, we are asking that those who may need assistance reach out to Mrs. Kauffman, our guidance counselor. She can make sure the needs of the students and family are met. She also may know of other resources through the community that would be of help to the family. If you know someone who is homeless but does not attend Lewistown Elementary, please encourage him or her to reach out to the guidance counselor at their child's school. Our goal is to make an unfortunate situation tolerable for the family.

#### Notes from the Nurse:

#### **Physical and Dental Examination Requirements**

All students are required to have a physical examination upon entry to school for **kindergarten**, in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. All students are required to have a dental examination upon entry to school for kindergarten, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. School dental examinations are offered once during the school year in the early Spring. It is preferred that your family dentist complete this examination. Dental forms will be coming home soon with your 2nd grade student for this requirement for 3rd grade. Please have any completed forms returned to the school nurse.

## Flash from First Grade

#### A Christmas Story Celebration

First grade had fun celebrating the holidays with some of our favorite Christmas stories. To celebrate we read each of our favorite books and accompanied them with some special activities. First, we started with "The Gingerbread Man" and compared and contrasted different versions of the book. Some of us even conducted a science experiment to see why the Gingerbread Man would not swim across the river. Next came "T'was the Night Before Christmas". We enjoyed talking about this old, but familiar poem. It really got us thinking about Santa! "Frosty the Snowman" was a great day for us to wear our favorite hats. Some first graders conducted a special Frosty science experiment to learn about the states of matter. We also read "The Grinch" and "Rudolph". The grumpy old Grinch and friendly Rudolph gave us some great characters to analyze and some fun opportunities for writing. We finished up our week with "The Polar Express". Our pajamas, some donuts, hot chocolate, and one of our favorite books/movies, was a great way to celebrate the holiday with our first grade

## Second Grade splash...

Happy New Year from the Second Grade Team!

This month, we will be exploring many new areas as learners. We will be learning how to tell time and count money. We even have a human size clock to help us learn the minute hand from the hour hand! In Benchmark, we will be learning how to make inferences by finding clues in our readings. We are always learning how to become better readers.

In Mrs. Faro's STEM unit, the students observed some real life fossils, shark teeth, amber with bugs in it and the best of them all, A RAPTOR CLAW! The students used observation skills to determine how it smells, feels and looks like! They had a fun time. Looking forward to learning MUCH MORE this school year.



## Kindergarten scoop

It Was the Most Wonderful Time of the Year in Kindergarten
On December 21<sup>st</sup>, Kindergarten had a fun Polar Express Day. It was filled with lots of excitement, hot chocolate and a visit from Santa Claus! The teachers and students read the book <u>Polar Express</u> and watched the movie while wearing pajamas. We all shared lots of laughs and fun! We could not wait for Christmas to come!



#### Third Grade News

Last month, third graders participated in a Pillo Polo tournament. Pillo Polo is a mix between field hockey and floor hockey. The kids worked hard at practicing offensive and defensive strategies with Mr. Lorson during their gym classes. All of the classes had fun participating in a double-elimination tournament in the days leading up to Christmas break. Everyone did an awesome job at putting their skills and good sportsmanship into practice! Congratulations to Byler's Bulldogs for winning the championship game in the tournament!





#### LES Huskies Fill Home Buckets!

Miley Knepp, a second-grader in Mrs. Carper's class, helped Mom with chores. Zoey Stains, a first-grader in Mrs. Sweeney's class, helped with a tree clean-up project, and Treyson Yohn, a first-grader in Mr. Winey's class, helped fold the laundry. Kaylee Wade, a first-grader in Mrs. Weaver's class, brought her dishes to the sink instead of leaving them on the table after supper, and Sidney Koontz, a kindergartner in Mrs. Kehler's class, fed her fish without Mom telling her to do so. Dakota Bailey, a first-grader in Mrs. Hack's class, helped Dad after surgery.

These are only a few of our Lewistown Elementary School students who are filling their families' buckets at home and in the community.

Brody Hower made his parents proud when he showed respect during a football game toward a team displaying unsportsmanlike conduct. Owen Wagner gave one of his Cowabungas to a friend. Both boys are first-graders in Mrs. Sweeney's class.

And what teacher wouldn't want to hear to that her student is reading to his younger siblings at home? That's what Griffin McMorris, a first-grader in Mrs. Ryan's class, did and earned a Bucket Filler ticket from his Mom.

Our home bucket-filling program is off to great start! Parents are encouraged to acknowledge their children's good deeds by filling out the tickets in the monthly newsletter. So far, more than 100 students have filled their families' buckets! Bring the tickets to school and put them in the white bucket for a chance to win a special reward.



