



# WILLOW AVENUE NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Kindness Lives at Willow

Vol. 4 issue 7



## Kindness Awards -

Brayden B. - 2nd Grade	Savannah C. - 2nd Grade	Elena L. - 1st Grade
Davis B. - 2nd Grade	Michael D. - 4th Grade	Ms. Mante
Madeline B. - 1st Grade	Aria I. - 2nd Grade	Paetyn M. - Kindergarten
Sumer C. - 4th Grade	Wesley J. - Kindergarten	Samson M. - 4th Grade
Noah C. - 3rd Grade	Joe L. - 4th Grade	Jaxon N. - Kindergarten
		Jenna P. - 4th Grade

**ALWAYS  
CHOOSE  
KINDNESS**

## Upcoming:



**FMO - 3/8**

**Supt. Conference Day - 3/11**

**FMO - 3/22**

**Spring Recess - 3/25-4/1**

## Cornwall Trait

**Patience -**

**To wait calmly for someone or something, to be flexible and alter plans necessary.**

## **Our Knockout Kindergarteners with Mrs. Gandolfini and Mrs. Sweeney**



MARCH will ROAR in like a lion, ready to POUNCE...  
So in Math we will become little COUNTS!  
We will count to 20 and then beyond we will soar...  
Like skip counting by 10's to reach 100 and more!  
March is also never complete without our annual SEUSS week.  
Let's dress for the days and practice our skills  
Rhyming can be a silly thrill.  
We will look for a leprechaun to steal his pot of gold—  
He better look out and have a good hold!  
In Science the weather we will explore—  
Like clouds, rainbows and storms—March has so much in store.  
Reading groups will continue and it is so much FUN  
To see all the learning you have done!  
Report Cards will be sent home and they will show  
all that we have Learned as we continue to Grow—

**Website:**  
**[www.cornwallschools.com](http://www.cornwallschools.com)**

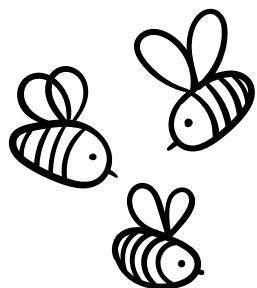


**Follow us on Instagram:**  
**@willowavenuees**



## **Fantastic First Grade News with Mrs. Berchielli and Mrs. Line**

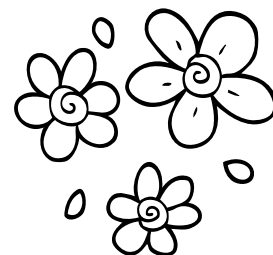
First grade students enjoyed library enrichment with Mrs. Ebenhoe this trimester! They had a wonderful time researching an endangered animal and writing their very own non-fiction book! Throughout this unit, students used the Pebble Go website for research on their animal and included many features of non-fiction texts in their books. This is a wonderful time for families to visit the local public library to check out books about animals or even find some time to visit a local zoo!



## **Principal Awards**



Owen B.	Alessandra B.
Alexandra B.	Novah B.
Lucas B.	James C.
Madison D.	Bryce D.
Tate F.	Dylan G.
George K.	Joe L.
Shane M.	Ethan R.
Carson S.	Catharine S.
Sebastian T.	



## **Caring Hands with Nurse Katie**

**I need to stay home if I have....**



**Temperature of 100.0 or higher**



**Vomiting in past 24 hours**



**Diarrhea in past 24 hours**



**Rash with itching or fever**



**Eyes with: redness, itchy, crusty, drainage**



**I need to stay home if I have....**

**Fever-Free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication**

**Able to keep down foods for 2 consecutive meals**

**Free from diarrhea for 24 hours**

**Free from rash or has been seen by MD and has note**

**Evaluated by MD & 24 hours after 1st dose of medication**



## **Sensational Second Graders with Mrs. Byrne & Mrs. Santos**

**Sensational second graders are super busy! We have learned about many influential Americans and are working on our Bottle Biographies. We cannot wait to share them with our schoolmates! We have been learning about erosion and doing experiments to see what natural resources help to protect against erosion. We can now add and subtract three digit numbers and we are beginning our units on money and time! We are becoming strong writers who can write full paragraphs with proper detail and support!**

## **Mrs. Hogan and Ms. Mante's Terrific Third Graders**

March is another busy month for our third graders! We're getting ready for our field trip to Ellis Island, where we will get to experience what the immigrants went through when they came to America. To prepare, we will be learning about Ellis Island and will create a background for the immigrant we are portraying. This connects with our Social Studies unit on communities around the world. We will be doing a project with Mrs. Ebenhoe when we start Library enrichment, where we will research a country of our heritage. In Math, we started our unit on fractions. We will be learning about the different fractional units and will be modeling fractions on bar and area models as well as number lines. In ELA, we're finishing up our unit on frogs before we start our new unit. Our third graders have become experts on frogs! We are looking forward to our spring break at the end of the month and will be recharged and ready for the last few months of third grade!





## **Fabulous Fourth Grade with Mrs. Cleeves & Ms. Merante**

March comes in like a lion and hopefully will go out like a lamb! The fourth grade is working hard in all areas of the academic curriculum as we prepare for the New York State tests that will take place in both April and May. Time is set aside each day to review the math and ELA topics that have already been introduced. In math we are "piecing" together the last bits of our fraction units and look forward to "building" knowledge by exploring 3 dimensional figures. The students were excited to display the Explorer Plate Projects as we prepared to wrap up the explorer unit and move toward the building of Colonial America. Reading and writing continues to take place in all areas of our academic curriculum. We have recently finished our Heart of Gold writing pieces and have started researching and writing about how animals use their senses to communicate. We will continue with reading groups , however a new class book titled, The Winter of the Red Snow, will be introduced as a curriculum enhancement to our Colonial America unit. Mrs. Cleeves and Ms. Merante are pleased with the kindness and responsibility that has been shown by many of the students throughout the building. We are looking forward to a fun and WARM spring!



# Spring



## **Artful News from Mrs. Butler**

We are gearing up for Spring in the art room! Kindergarten artists celebrated Dr. Seuss week by reading the Lorax and talking about ways we can help our earth. We are collaging using torn paper and paint to create grassy hills and Truffula trees! In first grade we finished our Chris Uphues inspired heart magnets and then closed out Dr. Seuss week by making headbands with different Dr. Seuss characters on them. Second graders have begun our fiber arts unit- we are learning to weave with yarn! We discussed the rainbow and how there is a very certain order to the rainbow, and we learned the acronym ROYGBIV to help us. Students each got half of a paper plate, which we painted to look like the sky and then we started weaving our rainbows. Our focus is really on learning to tie yarn together- which is tricky! So far, we are doing an amazing job! Third and fourth graders drew portraits of the Cat in the Hat for Dr. Seuss week, which we cut out and glued over beautiful watercolor backgrounds that our artists made. The art room is getting an exciting addition- on March 18th we will have

Ms. Sherman join us as a student teacher for a couple of months. We are very excited to meet her and welcome her to the Willow Avenue family :) Last but not least, save the date of April 9th for Willow Avenue's first "Night at the Museum" Art show! Details to follow...



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**3/4: Lorelei M. - 2nd Grade**

**3/4: Zayn I. - 2nd Grade**

**3/4: Harper T. - 1st Grade**

**3/9: Alexander R. - Kindergarten**

**3/10: Emmett K. - 4th Grade**

**3/14: Amelia P. - 3rd Grade**

**3/18: Shahm S. - 1st Grade**

**3/19: Declan D. - 3rd Grade**

**3/22: Genevieve F. - 1st Grade**

**3/23: Melania N. - Kindergarten**

**3/23: Sara C. - 1st Grade**

**3/23: Ella K. - Kindergarten**

**3/27: Nathan S. - 3rd Grade**

**3/27: Lucas B. - 1st Grade**

**3/28: Tyler D. - 2nd Grade**

**3/28: Lucas K. - 1st Grade**

**3/28: Ryan S. - Kindergarten**

**3/31: George K. - Kindergarten**



### Kids in Motion - Ms. Nissen

Are You Ready??

Then Get Set!!

Because Mission Impossible is almost here!!!

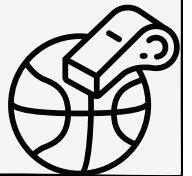
Willow's infamous Mission Impossible Obstacle Course will be challenging our students (and staff members) during the Month of March!

After completing the Gymnastics Unit, students will be ready to tackle the impossible obstacles throughout this course.

Each year the giant course is constructed in our gymnasium with NEW and "impossible" obstacles for the students to learn, practice, and master.

This highly-anticipated activity not only strengthens students' motor skills, but strengthens important life skills such as perseverance, integrity, and cooperation.

Good Luck!



### Stay in the Know with our Willow Ave PTO

#### Yearbook

**2023-2024 yearbooks are on sale now. Scan the below QR code to order yours today:**



**Once a Dragon Always a Dragon. Our logo shop is opened for a limited time. Also the 4th grade lawn signs are available for sale.**





## **Ms. Zawacki's Mindful Moment**

### **Keep in Touch:**

**Email: [kzawacki@cornwallschools.com](mailto:kzawacki@cornwallschools.com) or 845-534-8009- ext 3026**

Our March Character Trait is Patience. Patience is to wait calmly for someone or something, to be flexible and alter plans when necessary.

We show Patience in our classrooms and at home when we:

- \*Take turns speaking and then listening with our ears, eyes and mind.
  - \*Wait for a friend or family member to finish their turn in a game or when we are walking somewhere together.
  - \*Asking just once (or twice) for something and then waiting for a parent or friend to answer or provide us with what we have asked for, not whining or asking over and over again!
  - \*Not giving up if something is frustrating or not working out. Taking a deep breath and trying another way. Except when asking your parents for something over and over again!!!
- As always, if your family has a need and could benefit from support for food or winter coats please contact Amy Bishopp at Food Services Department to complete the confidential paperwork.

Email: [abishopp@cornwallschools.com](mailto:abishopp@cornwallschools.com) Phone: (845) 534-8009 ext. 7704

If you or your family would like referrals to any outside resources to support you please visit my website: [https://waes.cornwallschools.com/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=818611&type=u](https://waes.cornwallschools.com/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=818611&type=u)

Or you can reach me at [kzawacki@cornwallschools.com](mailto:kzawacki@cornwallschools.com) (845) 534-8009 ext. 3026

Let's  
talk it  
out

## **Tidbits of MOTivation with Mrs. Lucia**

**Occupational therapists often recommend fine motor games that promote hand-eye coordination and finger dexterity. Examples include:**

- 1. Playdough Activities:** Rolling, pinching, and molding help enhance hand strength and coordination.
- 2. Puzzles:** Working on puzzles encourages precise finger movements and problem-solving skills.
- 3. Stringing Beads:** Threading beads onto a string enhances hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.
- 4. Scissor Skills:** Cutting paper into shapes or along lines helps develop hand strength and control.
- 5. Building with Blocks:** Assembling blocks fosters fine motor skills and spatial awareness.
- 6. Lacing Cards:** Weaving strings through punched holes promotes finger dexterity and coordination.
- 7. Drawing and Coloring:** Using crayons, markers, or colored pencils helps refine hand control and grip.
- 8. Buttoning and Zipping Games:** Practicing with buttons and zippers aids in developing fine motor skills related to clothing.

**Always tailor activities to the child's specific needs and abilities and HAVE FUN!**



## Bookmarks from our Librarian - Mrs. Ebenhoe

March is jam-packed with reading fun! Read Across America Day was March 2nd, which also coincides with the birthday of Theodore Seuss Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss.

Students celebrated their favorite Seuss stories all week. We are running Book Madness, pitting favorite Willow picture books against each other in a month-long bracket. Classes will vote on the one winning title.

Students are encouraged to continue to read Three Apples selections if they want to be a part of the vote in April. See Mrs. Ebenhoe if your student needs a reading list.

## **Noggin Newsflash!**

**By Ms. Dillon (the Dynamic Duo School Psychologist Team)**

**Imagine a world where there is no technology. What would you do? How would you feel? Our brains love to watch screens. They keep us stimulated and busy. While there is plenty of educational and inspiring content out there to watch, there's also a lot of content that is unhelpful for our brains. Endless scrolling and staring at screens for hours can make us feel sick – literally! Our minds and bodies need to be in a place called the present moment in order to feel our best. It's where we are connected to the world around us. It's a fancy way of saying we are being mindful. By training our brains to be present, we become better at paying attention and concentrating on things that are important to us. We feel less anxiety and stress, and we have better relationships with the people around us.**

**Think of this as your reminder to spend some time just being. Try it: unplug and reconnect with your brain!**

**REMHINDER**



**Spring Ahead!**





## **“Live from Room 212, it’s Mrs. Jennings with the Speech News”**

**Happy Almost Spring Speechies!!! Manifesting nice weather ahead.**

**This month we are participating in Read Across America Week with our Dr. Seuss Books. These books are great for rhyming!!**

**Produce 3 rhyming words for each:**

**\*Book \*Spring \*Fun \*Pot \*Gold**

**When working on rhyming words, have your student listen to the word first rather than looking at it, because some words that rhyme are spelt differently. For example: “fun and done” rhyme, but are spelt differently. It all starts with hearing the end sounds for rhyming.**

**Referenced from:**

**We are feeling lucky in Speech, and celebrating St. Patrick's Day as well!**

**March irregular past tense verbs for practice:**

- 1. Yesterday, Rebecca \_\_\_\_\_ a four leaf-clover. (find)**
- 2. Last week, my class \_\_\_\_\_ a leprechaun trap. (make)**
- 3. On St. Patrick's Day, Lisa \_\_\_\_\_ to wear green. (forget).**
- 4. Who \_\_\_\_\_ the leprechaun? (catch)**
- 5. This morning, my sister \_\_\_\_\_ green milk. (drink)**
- 6. I \_\_\_\_\_ green to school! (wear)**



**Global  
Recycling Day -  
March 18**