



Bulldog News

@ Grant Elementary School

June 2, 2023

A cooperative school & home newsletter for the Grant School community.

G & T NEWS: Mrs. Morris

It is hard to believe that May has come to an end. We have been very busy in Enrichment and Gifted and Talented classes. Kindergarten through second grade have been participating in Fairytale STEM. Kindergarten and first grade students heard Goldilocks and The Three Bears, adapted by Maya Alperin and used this story to explore SEL and STEM activities. Kindergarten students built Goldilocks her own chair, while first graders designed and built Goldilocks a bed of her own! Grade 2 students worked on problem solving and have begun their own fairytale STEM unit, "Hansel and Gretel Trap the Witch." In this unit, students collaborated to design and build traps that Hansel and Gretel can escape, but the larger Witch cannot! Grade 3 students continue building models of Tiny Houses! In the process, we are studying geometry, area, and perimeter. These houses are coming out so cool! Grade 4 students have completed their original learning board games, and we are now playing them in class! Grade 5 and 6 G & T students have been enjoying exploring the Strawbees building system. Currently, grade 5 students are using them to design and build bridges and grade 6 students are designing and building catapults, to see who can project an object the farthest!

SPANISH NEWS: Ms. Molina

¡Hola a todos!; Hello to all! Kindergarten students have been learning the names of various farm animals, pets and even animals who live in the ocean through books, stories and practice in class. First grade students have been studying the names of the immediate members of the family and will soon begin a new topic, classroom objects. Second grade students have become familiar with the names of some typical Hispanic dishes prepared for breakfast, lunch and dinner in different Spanish-speaking countries. Third grade students are concluding their studies on Spain and are being introduced to Mexico and the other Spanish-speaking countries in Central America. ¡Gracias!



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June's Theme:

Caring
Be empathetic, kind,
compassionate, generous,
and thankful. Be charitable
without expecting anything
in return.



Edited by Steve Lenart



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ART NEWS: Mrs. Conversano

Every year, July 4 is a big day in Ridgefield Park! The Ridgefield Park Fourth of July Parade and Celebration, founded in 1894 is one of the oldest parades in the United States, and the oldest in New Jersey.

Ridgefield Park takes great pride in the parade and celebration of the Fourth. A Fourth of July Program Cover Contest is held each year for Ridgefield Park students. This year the contest is open to students in grades K-6. Each year two students have their artwork selected. I am

pleased to announce that Arianna Z (6th grade, Mrs. Gerard's class) created the first place winning drawing and Faith J (5th grade, Ms.

Fenton's class) created the second place winning drawing!

Congratulations Arianna and Faith! The first place winner's art appears on the program cover, second place is inside the program. The winners receive their awards at a committee meeting and are invited to participate in the parade.

In other art news, kindergarteners had a lot of fun drawing with shapes to make a number train. First and second grade students are putting the finishing touches on their Elements of Art Sketchbooks. Elements of Art are the building blocks of art. The elements of art are line, shape, color, form, value, texture, and space. Third and fourth grade artists have been painting with watercolors. Fifth and sixth grade artists are working on a one-point perspective aquarium. Sixth grade students created a Class of 2023 name banner to commemorate their promotion/graduation from Grant Elementary School. Finally, wishing every student and their family a happy and fun-filled summer.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS: Mr. Garcia

Students have been demonstrating fantastic work! Students in the gym are working on their hockey skills and playing full mini games at a controlled level. Students are scoring, passing and demonstrating all the skilled they have learned throughout the school year to put into the games. Students are working hard at defending as well as offensive skills to win mini games and they are doing great! Lower grades are developing their skills in controlling manipulatives as well as throwing and catching in small games. In health class, students are currently learning about being wise consumers as well as caring for our environment. Students are learning that caring for the world that we live in is very important to us and the people around us so that we can live in a healthy and cleaner planet.



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SMALL GROUP NEWS: Dr. Steele, Mrs. Conversano & Ms. Raimo

Dr. Steele's ELA classes are wrapping up an opinion piece on whether it is better to be an adult or tween. We are also working on finding the percent of numbers and discussed when to use this type of math in the real world. Kudos to the third and fourth graders for completing the NJSLA testing in math and language arts! With the school year winding down, math classes are reviewing the skills they have learned throughout the year by working on various assessments. ELA classes are focusing on the poetry genre. The students will be listening to the works of Shel Silverstein, Jack Prelutsky, and Nikki Grimes to name a few. They may be carrying a 'Poem in My Pocket,' drawing a picture about a poem, or memorizing one that inspires them.

Students in Mrs. Conversano's small-group math classes have been reinforcing their fraction skills. We are using the Build it - Draw it - Write it method. First, we use hands-on learning to build fractions using fraction tiles and fraction circles. Then we draw pictures of fractions, including fractions on the number line, fraction bars, and fraction circles. Then, we use numbers and symbols to represent fractions. Students are using math vocabulary such as numerator and denominator, proper fraction, improper fraction, and mixed-number fraction. Students have been working on comparing fractions with like denominators, comparing fractions with unlike denominators, and adding fractions with like denominators.

DANCE NEWS: Ms. Butler

Many students in Grant School are preparing to present their dance pieces on June 1! All students in grades 1-6 have been preparing for the show for several months and are encouraged to practice outside of dance class using resources that are available on Google Classroom. Check the Classwork section under a similarly titled area as "Practice Videos", for example. The show will be recorded and posted using a private link for viewing! Lastly, there will be a dance showcase presented by RP Rhythm at JSHS June 7 at 7pm for everyone to enjoy. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$7 for adults. Hope to see you there!



In music class, we are finishing up the school year with many fun activities. Students in upper grades have been improving their rhythm skills playing Rhythm Baseball and also by accompanying pop songs using boomwhackers and other instruments. Lower grade students are also playing instruments in class and have been reviewing dynamics using a variety of songs and activities, including the Closet Key song game. Students in both Kindergarten and Sixth Grades are also practicing for their moving up ceremonies. Parents of 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students received an email from Mrs. Hernandez on May 22nd about their children joining the Band in the Fall. The same information is also posted in your child's Google Music Classroom. Parents of new and returning Band members should fill out the Google Form by Thursday, June 15th, so that we can begin lessons mid-September. Please don't hesitate to contact Ms. Mir (rmir@rpschools.net) if you have any questions that aren't answered in the information posted online.

Help us reach our new goal of \$20,000

Thank you for all who have supported this sale. We are so excited to have exceeded our initial two goals. If you are interested in participating, scan the QR code.



Dates to Remember

Tuesday	June 6th	1PM Dismissal
Friday	June 9th	Field Day