



# The Barnette Bear Beat



## FOLLOWING THE STUDENTS AND STAFF OF BARNETTE

Each month we will bring you information based on the staff and students of Barnette Elementary. This will be an opportunity to highlight various staff and students, grade level events and happenings, school culture, and curriculum tidbits.

### FEBRUARY EDITION:

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. BERRY, OUR TEACHER ASSISTANT OF THE YEAR!



1. Mrs. Berry was a regular Ed. classroom teacher for 17 years, teaching 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.
2. She has a son and two daughters and two baby grandchildren.
3. Mrs. Berry has have lived in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Indiana, and North Carolina.
4. Reading, swimming, and spending time with family and friends are her favorite ways to spend her time.
5. "The way children make me laugh and smile has kept me in education for all these years."

## GRADE LEVEL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MONTH:

### PRE-K-K:

In Pre-K this month, our students have been focused on learning about different types of buildings and what all goes into a construction project. They have learned about the different parts of a building in terms of the roof, windows, chimney, doors, frame, and foundation. They have also discussed and learned about the different types of personnel it takes to oversee a building project. For example, the students have discovered how the inspector, surveyor, roofer, landscape architect, engineer, and welder all play significant roles in the design and construction of a building. Using a KWL chart, the students began their unit by discussing what they already knew about buildings. Ms. Harris' students were able to discuss different types of buildings they knew about, as well as some of

the different materials that are used in the construction process. Mrs. Houston's students even transferred their knowledge from creating Lego buildings, to working on building a castle in the classroom as seen in the picture below. In Mrs. Clarke's room, the students have also been working on solving problems, recognizing and identifying letters, understanding spatial reasoning, and working with comparing and measuring different shapes. Based on a recent donated "puzzle picture" from Mrs. Estrada and her son, the students in Ms. Harris' room were able to view the finished product and take a class vote on where to hang the picture in the classroom.

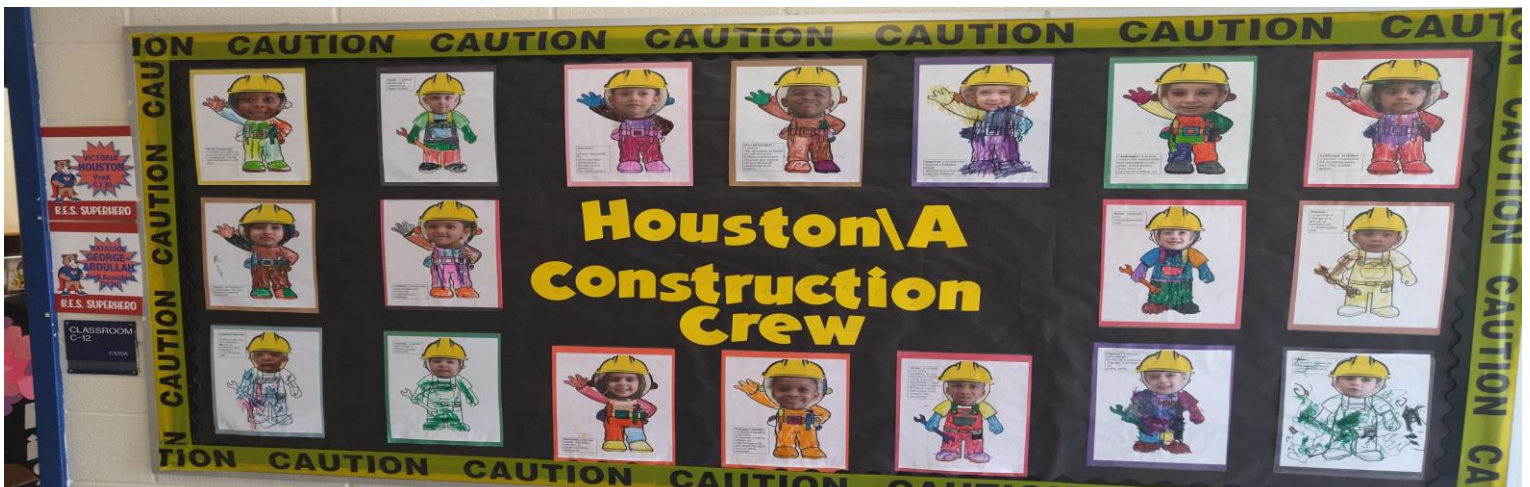
*Our Pre-K students learning about buildings.*



*Students working in Mrs. Clarke's room during center time.*



*Mrs. Houston's "Construction Crew."*



*Ms. Harris' student checking out the donated Lego puzzle picture from Mrs. Estrada and her son.*



*Mrs. Houston's students working on building their in-class castle.*



## **KINDERGARTEN:**

In math this month, our kindergarten students have been working on number sentences based on addition and subtraction. During recent visits to Mrs. Wronsky, Mrs. Womack, and Mrs. Harris' rooms, the students were using numerous math manipulatives to support their learning and application of subtraction. Such tools as snap cubes, individual white boards, and extra-large, fuzzy dice were utilized by the students to solve subtraction problems and create the number sentences related to these equations. The students have additionally begun to learn and understand that the "minus" sign represents subtraction. In literacy, Ms. Carlen and Ms. Merritt's students were working on their blending skills and recognizing three-letter, sight or high frequency words. Using the poem, "Fun in the Sun," the students first had to identify all of the three-letter words in the passage. Then, using specific clues and hints, the students eliminated three-letter words that did not fit the criteria. Eventually, the students were able to identify the specific word they were to look for. In science, our students are learning about how organisms and how different objects move, while also discussing living and non-living things. With social studies the students have been discussing examples of natural resources.

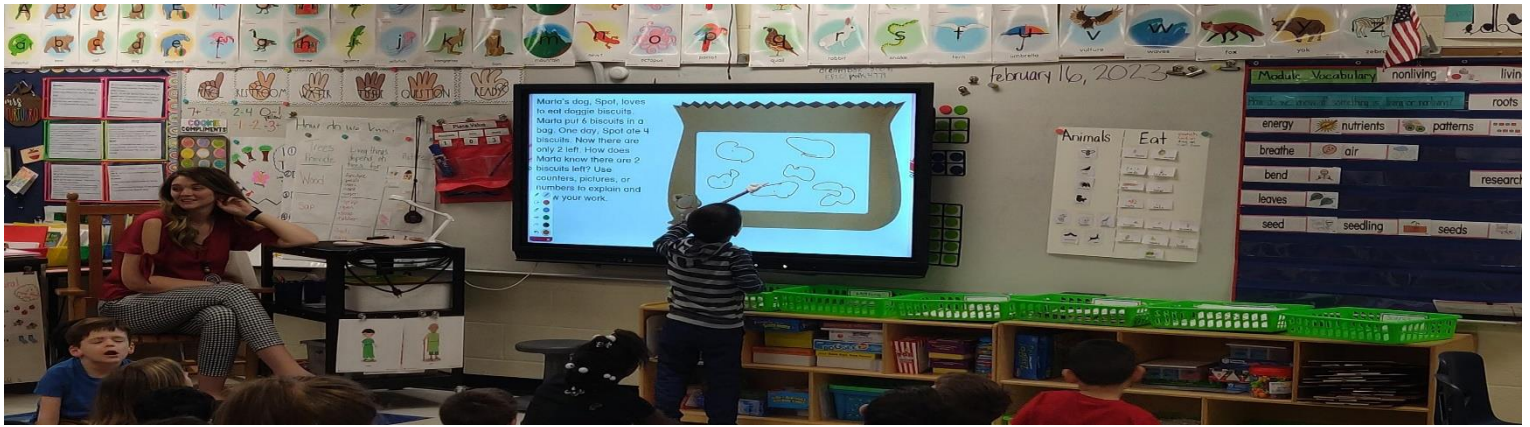
Students in Mrs. Wronsky and Mrs. Womack's classes working on their subtraction strategies.



Kindergarten problem solving practice.



**One of Mrs. Turturro's students walking the rest of the class through how to solve a subtraction word problem.**



## 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE:

In Mrs. Long and Ms. Norris' classrooms, the students have been working on comparing numbers using a number line, and mentally adding and subtracting 10 or more to a given amount. They have also been working on counting to 150 from any given number, as well as comparing two different numbers using the greater than and less than symbols. During recent visits to both Mrs. Cunningham and Mrs. Long's classrooms, the students were using individual 100's charts to locate numbers meeting the criteria of a virtual spinner, in terms of greater than, less than, or equal to. The goal was to meet the criteria and get ten in a row to be the winner. The students seemed to really enjoy the activity and quickly grasped the concept. Ms. Norris' students have been using bar graphs to represent and interpret data. Using the information on the graph, the students then were to answer specific questions from each category and the represented data, as well as determine how many more or how many less there were based on the completion of the graph. In the graph pictured below, the students graphed the results of their favorite winter time activities. In science, our first graders are exploring and explaining the forces behind pushing and pulling forces and how they can affect the motion and movement of an object. In social studies, the students have begun learning about maps, and how to use them to locate places. Mrs. Brown's students were recently practicing their spelling skills by first "tracing" the letters in the air with their finger, and then "tapping out" each letter. They have also been learning how to contribute to a central focus statement by adding details to a shared writing piece. This is a great strategy to develop writing skills, as well as collaborate with their peers. Part of this month's unit of study has been about different types of birds. Recently, the students in Mrs. Brown's class have been involved in reading the text, "Beaks." Through their reading and research, they now have a better understanding of how different birds use their beaks for survival.

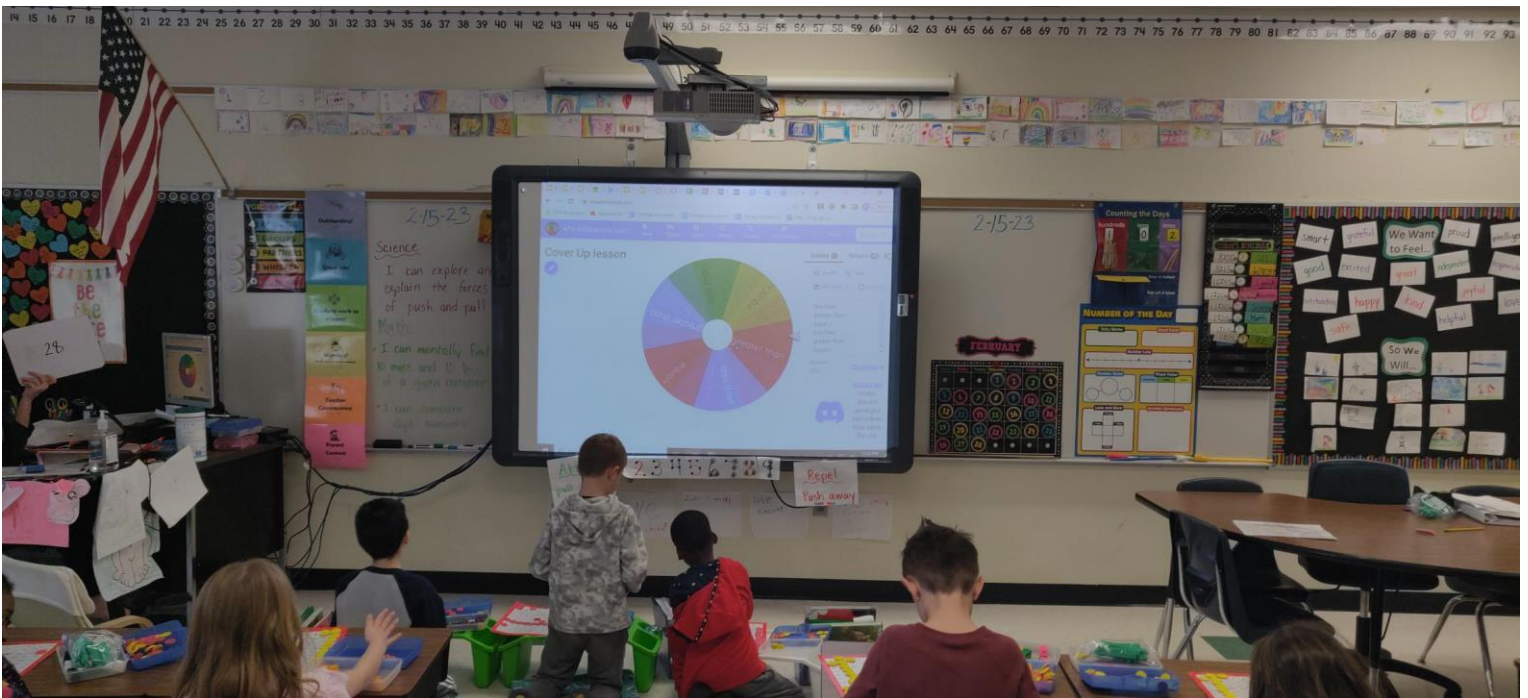
### First graders working on graphing and representing data.



*Mrs. Brown's students practice their letter and word "tapping" skills.*



*Math activities in Mrs. Cunningham and Mrs. Long's rooms.*



## Workshop time in Mrs. Long and Mrs. Brown's classrooms.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE:

In second grade this month, our students are learning about fruits, flowers, and vegetables as part of their literacy lessons. In order to better understand information pertaining to seeds, plants, flowers, and fruits, the students have participated in mapping activities based on identifying the different characteristics, definitions, examples, and visuals of each item. Using their new knowledge, they have begun to learn about and discuss the process of pollination, and how bees can land on one flower, pick up nectar from the flower, and carry it to another plant. They have further discussed how pollinators help plants grow and survive. In math, our students are working on identifying place value, and how many 100's, 10's, and 1's are represented in specific numbers. Recently, Mrs. Boardman's students were using a partial 100's chart to locate missing numbers, while identifying patterns to potentially make the process easier. During the class discussion, several students shared how they could use counting by ten in order to complete the chart quicker. In science, our students have been learning about various

weather tools, cloud formation, and different types of weather we experience in North Carolina. Recently, second grade was visited by meteorologist Brittany Van Voorhees from WCNC. She taught our students about what it takes to be a meteorologist, how weather balloons work, and how various storms are formed. The students discussed the different kinds of clouds and what type of weather they produce. She reviewed some safety guidelines to help students prepare for inclement weather. Additionally, the students were able to check out the storm tracker vehicle and hear how they broadcast live from anywhere.

***Literacy time in Mrs. Roberts' classroom.***



***Ms. McFalls discussing the pollination process.***





*Students in Mrs. Boardman's classroom identifying patterns on a 100's chart.*



*Pictures from second grades visit with WCNC Meteorologist Brittany Van Voorhees.*

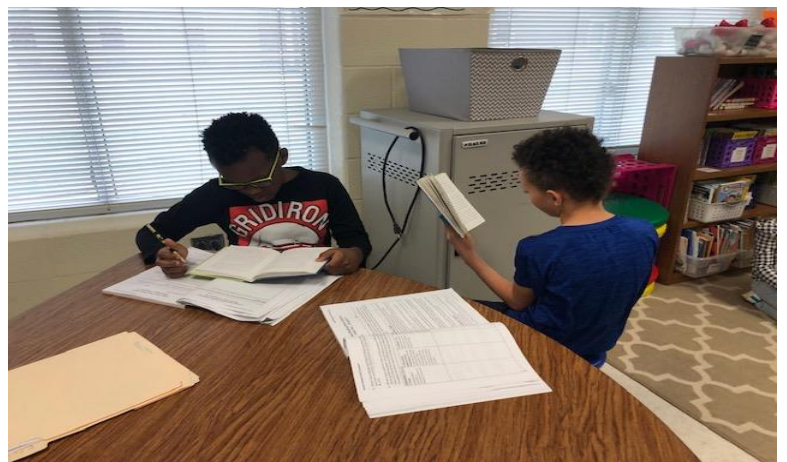
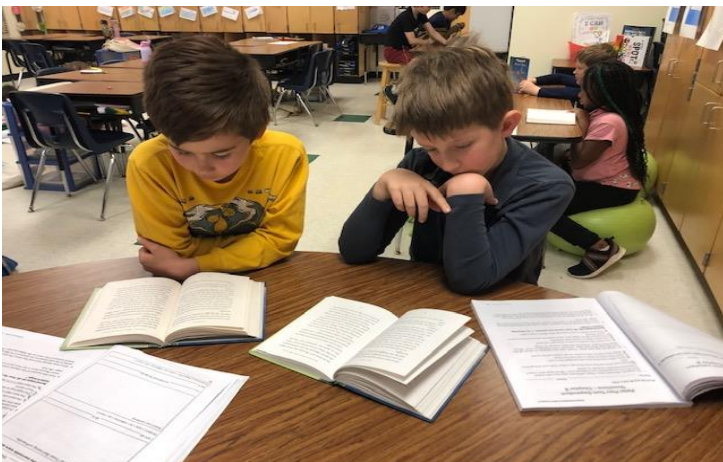


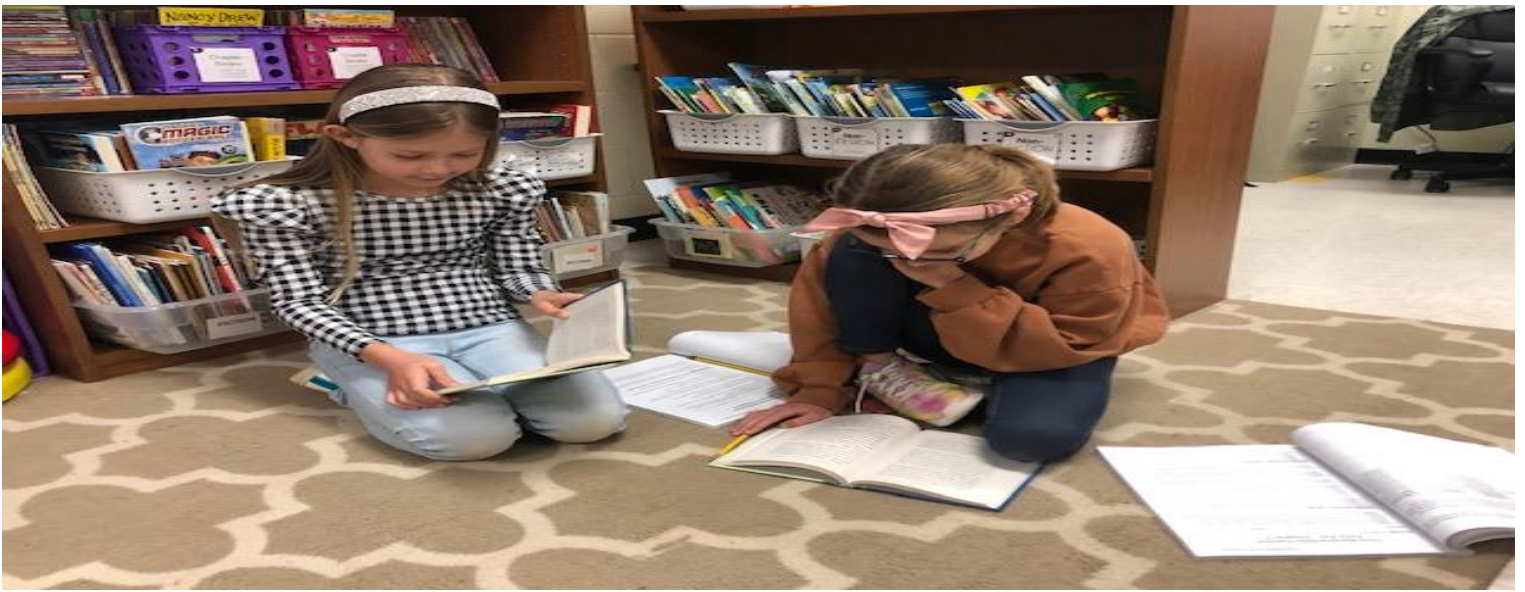


### 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE:

In third grade math this month, the students have been working with different types of data and graphs to solve multi-step word problems. In Mrs. Ignasiak’s classroom recently, the students were using their CUBES strategy to solve word problems, determine answers to “hidden information” within the problem, and utilize bar graphs to problem solve. As part of their data discussions, the students have had to interpret data in a frequency table, use picture graphs and bar graphs to answer questions. Using a Project Based Learning activity, the students finished their data unit by “discovering” a deserted island, and creating a “kid friendly” resort. Through this process, they had to survey their peers, graph and represent data, and solve data-related word problems. What a wonderful, real-world application activity for our students. Recently, the students have moved on to learning about fractions. They have begun to discuss how fractions represent a part of a whole number, what the numerator and denominator represent, and how to identify equivalent fractions. In literacy, the students have been reading about and discussing one of the all-time classics, Peter Pan. The students have actually been reading about, discussing, and comparing and contrasting two different versions of Peter Pan. In Mrs. Hicks’ classroom the students were recently comparing the different characteristics of Wendy, Tinker Bell, and Peter Pan, while also identifying each characters point of view, and using evidence from the text to support their answers. Additionally, they are looking at how part of the story often builds on a previous part, as well as how illustrations can contribute to the text. The students have also learned what a “cliffhanger” is, and how it contributes to the overall story. In science, Mrs. Harbin’s students have been studying about how forces acting on an object can change its speed and direction. Additionally, they have been comparing the relative speeds of objects traveling in the same direction. Recently, the students have begun to learn about the human body’s systems, and how they are essential to life and our survival.

***Students in Mrs. Fatzinger’s classroom reading and learning about Peter Pan***





*Student's listening to Mrs. Harbin read Peter Pan.*



*Third grade data robots.*



## An example of a third grade Fraction Playlist.

Bronte 's Fraction Playlist Lesson C

NF.1- Interpret unit fractions with denominators of 2,3,4,6 and 8 as quantities formed when a whole is partitioned into equal parts
NF.2- Interpret fractions with denominators of 2,3,4,6 and 8 using area and length models
NF.3- Represent equivalent fractions with area and length models
NF.4- Compare two fractions with the same numerator or the same denominator by reasoning about their size, using area and length models, using $<$ $>$ $=$ symbols.

enVision Topic	Level 3 - Mastery	Level 4	Level 5
Topics 12 & 13 NF.1-4	<input type="checkbox"/> GO Spaceman <input type="checkbox"/> Fraction Golf <input type="checkbox"/> Writing Fractions  **Teacher Check-In _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fraction Flags <input type="checkbox"/> Problem-Solving -and Prove It (CANVAs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Triangles: <a href="https://nrich.maths.org/2124">https://nrich.maths.org/2124</a> <input type="checkbox"/> Breakout EDU <a href="https://bit.ly/2u2bFY0">https://bit.ly/2u2bFY0</a>

## 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

In Mrs. Chapman and Ms. Towner's classes this month, the students have been working on solving fraction associated word problems, involving both whole numbers and other fraction amounts. As part of this process, the students having been adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions while utilizing such strategies as visual models, number lines, and repeated addition. Additionally the students have also been working to understand how to solve fraction word problems through creating models and symbols, as well as being able to explain why fractions are equivalent. In science, the students are learning about the different components of various ecosystems and how they are connected. They have also been learning to understand the different properties of matter before and after they undergo a change. Recently, the students have been studying and learning about the Rock Cycle. With this, they have studied Metamorphic Rocks, Sedimentary Rocks, and Igneous Rocks. Additionally, they have learned about weathering, erosion, heat pressure, magma, and lava, and the impacts these all have on the different types of rock formations. To show their learning and understanding, the students are in the process of creating their own Rock Cycle Comic Strips. In Ms. McElhinny's class, the students were recently displaying their Rock Cycle knowledge through a Gimkit review game. Mr. Maciag's students on the other hand, were using snap cubes to demonstrate how size can create various rock molecules, as well as form different size crystals based on the amount of time they are under pressure. With literacy, the students are working to determine the main idea of a non-fiction text, by using key details to support their understanding, as well as to summarize their learning. The students are also working to explain how authors use various reasons and evidence to support specific points in the text, as well as how they can use visuals from the text to create stronger connections to their reading. Additionally, the students are using various texts to determine cause and effect, compare and contrast events, determine sequence, and better understand problems and solutions. Through fiction sources, the students have been analyzing the depth of characters in their reading, while using specific details from the text to support their answers.

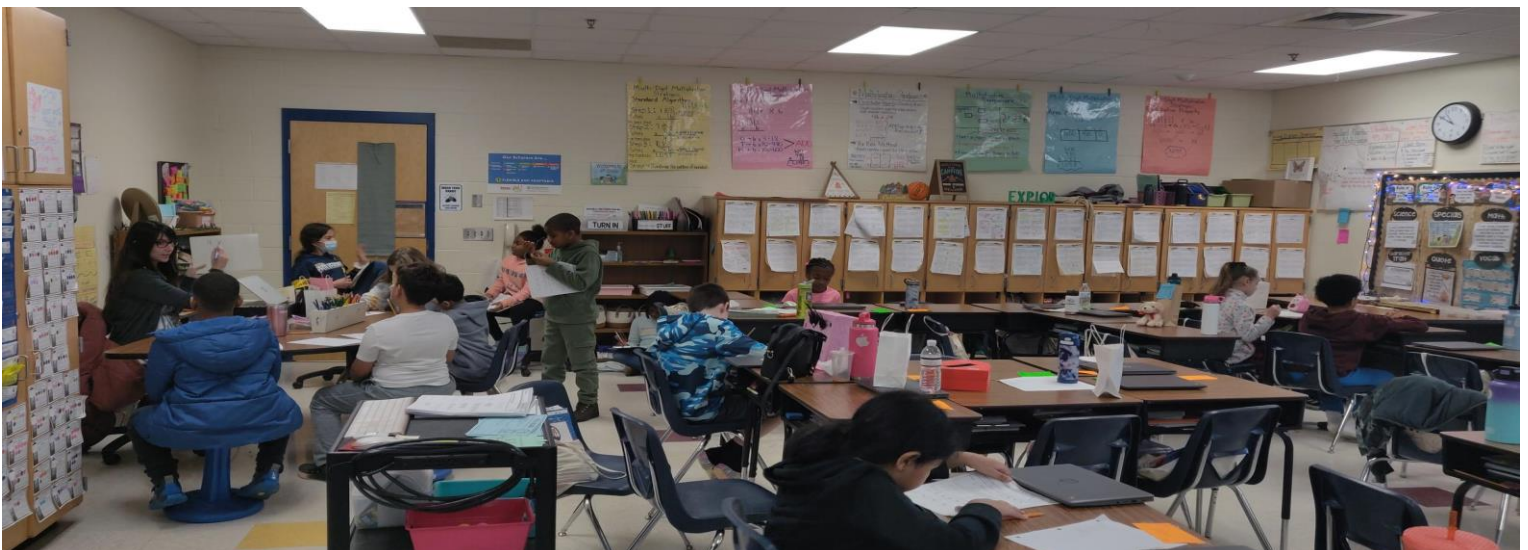
*Math workshop time in Ms. Towner's class.*



*4<sup>th</sup> Graders explaining how to add and subtract fractions.*



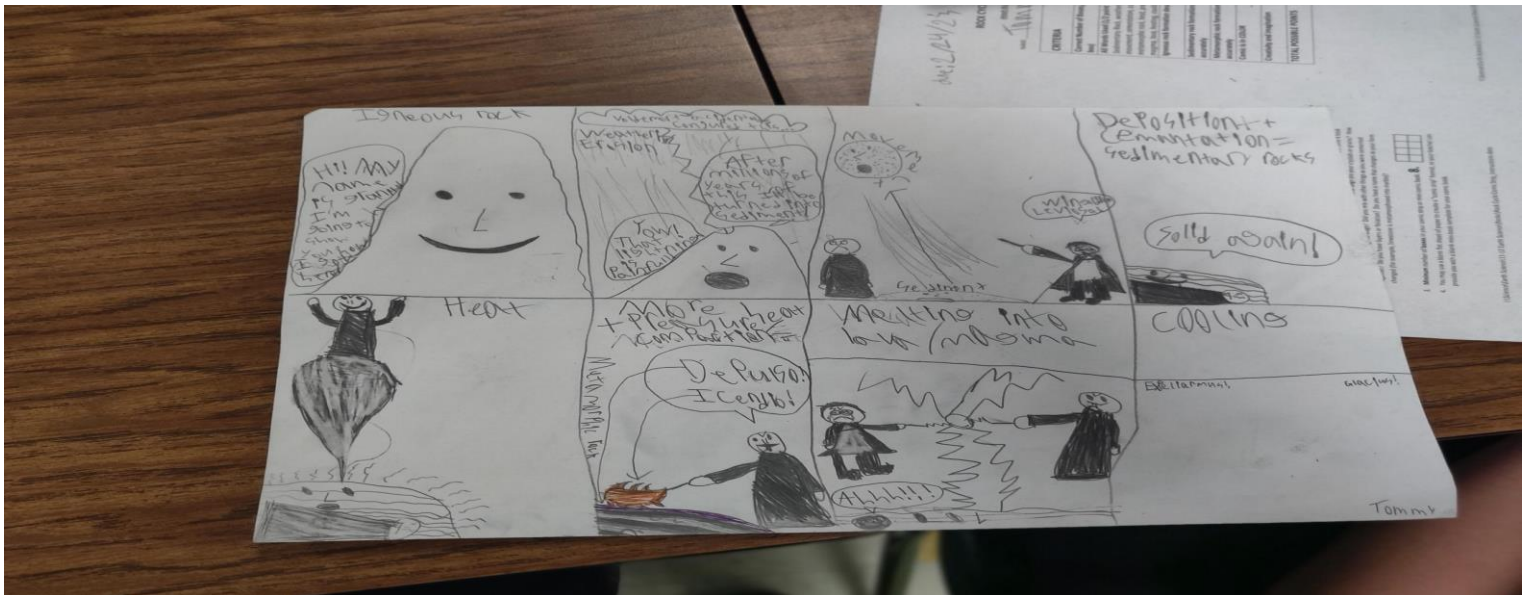
*Small group work in Mrs. Chapman's room.*



Students in Mr. Maciag's class working on science experiments.



An example of a fourth grade Rock Cycle Cartoon.

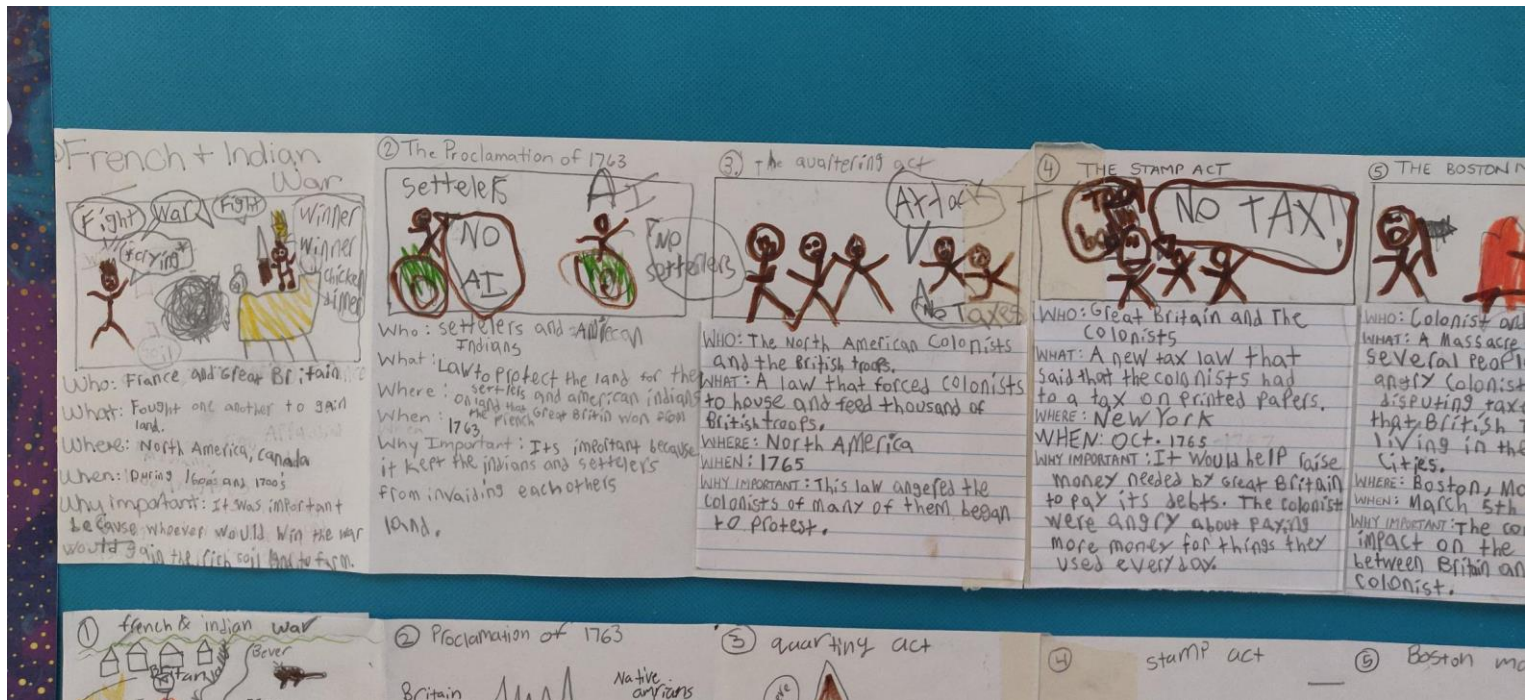


## 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

In Mrs. Wilson's classroom, the students have been reading various selections to better understand and identify the gist/main idea of the passage, as well as to help summarize the passage. The students have also been working to identify the main points of multiple selections, while providing supporting evidence. In social studies, they have been working to compare and contrast the similarities and differences of a Loyalist and a Patriot. With this, they have also studied The Stamp Act, The Boston Massacre, The Boston Tea Party, and The Intolerable Acts, explaining who all was involved, what the event actually consisted of, where and when the event took place, and why the event was important to American history. Additionally, they have also been discussing and learning about The French and Indian War, The Proclamation of 1763, and The Quartering Act. Mrs. Terry's class has continued with their reading about the life of Jackie Robinson, analyzing the author's point of view, and how Jackie Robinson served as a leader for social change. Through their reading and class discussions, the students have been able to successfully identify the point the speaker is trying to get across, as well as seeking evidence to support their claims.

Mrs. Terry's students have also been writing as Pen Pals to the Conrad Fitzgerald Academy in Canada. What a wonderful global experience for our students. In math, Mrs. Huffman's students are using their knowledge of multiplication and number sense to help them achieve success with multiplying fractions and mixed numbers. Mrs. Key's class has been working to explain why one fraction can be equivalent to another fraction. Additionally, her students are comparing two fractions with different numerators and denominators, while also ordering them from least to greatest, and greatest to least. During a recent visit in math workshop, the students were engaged in activities consisting of multiplying and dividing fractions, finding the greatest common factor, and working with graphs. In science, the students have been working to understand the different components of multiple ecosystems and how they are connected.

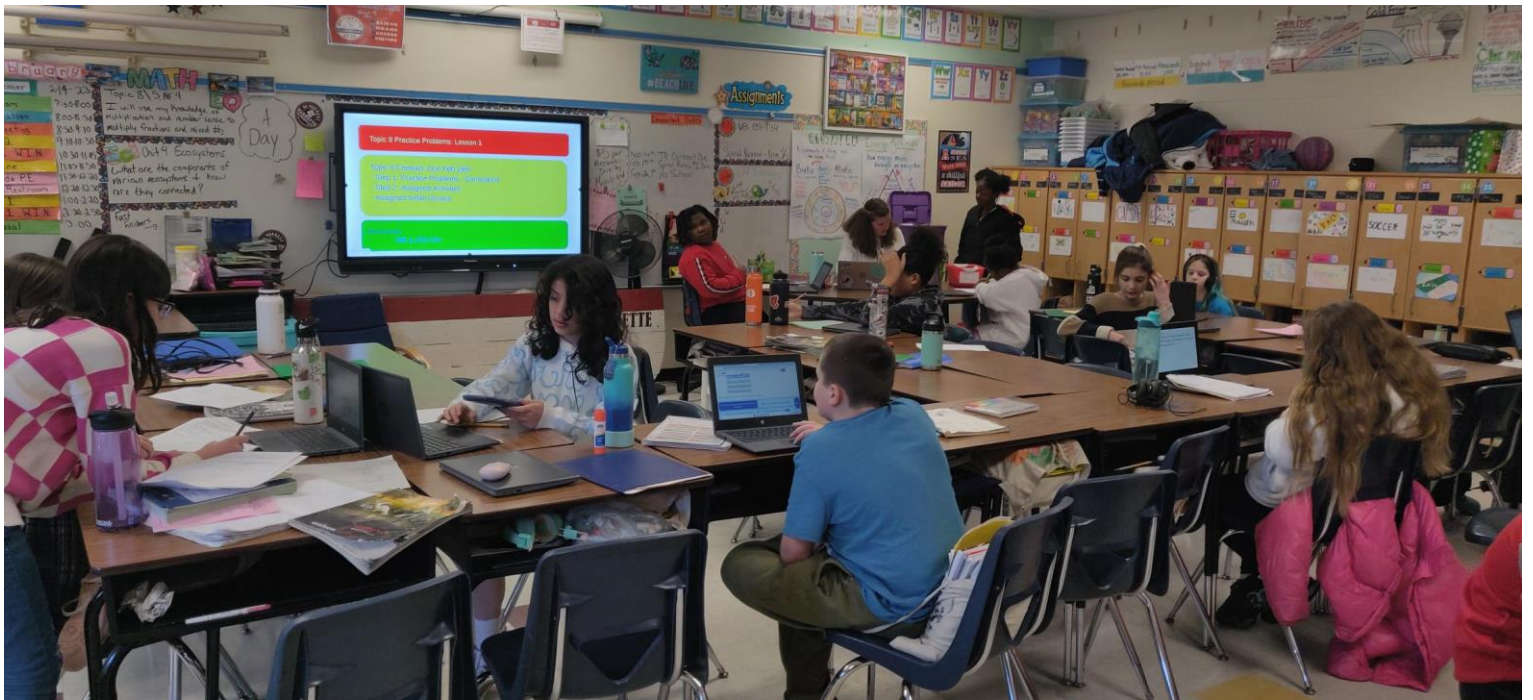
**Various historical events in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.**



Pen Pal writing activities in Mrs. Terry's room.



Math workshop in Mrs. Huffman's class.





## SPECIAL AREA:

Recently, several Hopewell High School students came to Barnette to read to our kindergarten and second grade students.



In PE this month, our K-2 students have been involved in applying motor skills and movement patterns in order to participate in a basketball related activity called, "The Leaning Tower of Dribble." With this activity, the students are practicing by dribbling basketballs with the pads of their fingers, while also working together in small groups to accomplish a given task. Through this activity, the students have been able to apply authentic "teamwork" skills while working with their peers. Continuing with the theme of basketball, our 3-5 students have also been working on their skills through such basketball related games as Knockout, Around the World, HORSE, and Hotspots. In art, the students have been working on various projects involving form, color, and texture. During a recent visit to one of our kindergarten art classes, the students were working on tree and plant sculptures as they relate to the current plant unit they are studying in their classrooms. This truly makes for a stronger learning connection for our students. In music, the students have been learning about meter, ostinato, and steady beat. To help her students better understand what a steady beat is, Mrs. Craddock compared it to our heartbeats. She discussed how the beat

could be slow while we are resting, or how it could be fast if we are exercising. Again, another wonderful real-world connection for our students.

*Kindergarten students working on their plant sculptures.*



*Student tree ceramics from art class.*



*Kindergarten students working on their jump rope skills.*



*Pictures from the Daughter Dance.*





*Recently our Student Council participated in a community service project collecting items for the Bags of Love for a local nursing home.*





## UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS:

3/2-Character Breakfast

3/3-Pre-K Assembly

3/7-PTO 6:00

3/8-Early Release Day-12:00

3/10-Spring Book Fair Parent/Art Show Night

3/13-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Latta Fieldtrip

3/14-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Symphony Fieldtrip

3/15-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Latta Fieldtrip

3/20-Adiminstration Coffee Chat-8:30, SLT-6:00

3/21-3/23-5<sup>th</sup> Grade to Washington DC

3/27-Teacher Workday-No School for Students

3/30-Spring Pictures