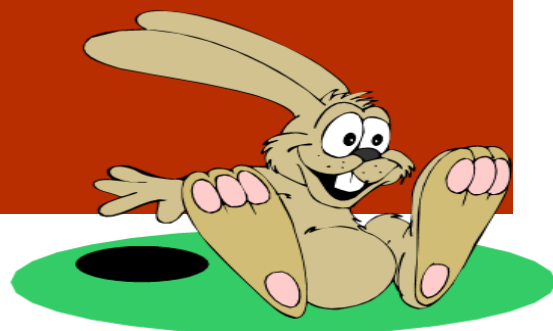


MARY F. JANVIER  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

April 2023  
Janvier  
Journal

# The Janvier Journal



## Mr. Kobik's Corner



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Spring has arrived! We certainly have experienced a weather variety throughout the month of April but blooming flowers and growing grass tell us that warm, sunny days are ahead. Of course, the school year is not over yet and there is still much learning to do and many achievements to recognize. Student of the Month, the Weekly Character Sticker Award, and our Lunchroom Champions program are just a few of the ways that we recognize positive decision – making among our student population. Throughout April, positive behaviors towards the targeted character education trait of “Citizenship” were encouraged through character lessons that emphasized the importance of the children following routine procedures, listening to their teachers, being involved in lessons and overall, being a “team player”. Our school’s Character Wall continues to grow as the children hang their “bricks” which show that they have made great choices towards demonstrating strong character. The children are enthusiastic towards our school’s character education program and are learning that good character should also occur outside of our school’s walls. As a full community we can promote this concept by recognizing our children’s good character when it is demonstrated at home, in the store, or during an extracurricular activity. Identifying our children being responsible, respectful, gracious, kind, trustworthy, honest, and cooperating with others is certainly something that makes us all proud and the children need to be praised when they demonstrate these qualities. We should also remember that our children generally learn appropriate values through their observation of those around them. In effect, one can state that values are caught and not taught. Positive role models have a great impact on

our children’s lives and during April, each of our school’s grade levels had the opportunity to interact with students from our district’s Caroline Reutter School and with school district personnel who served as guest readers during *Read Across America* activities. You will find information about this event in this edition of the *Janvier Journal*. Also in this edition, you will read of learning that is occurring in our Related Arts classes of Computers and Physical Education as well as news from the Pre K, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teams. Of note, information about our recently held school – wide Earth Day celebration is communicated. Our Speech Therapists provide an update from Speech Therapy and our school’s Reading Specialist shares tips and activities for you to use at home to assist your child in practicing their letter sounds, letter names, high frequency words, and phonics skills. I hope that you find this edition of the *Janvier Journal* informative. The Mary F. Janvier staff continues to appreciate all of the support that you have provided and we hope that the remainder of the Spring is enjoyable for you and your family.



## What's Happening In Gym Class

Janvier students have just finished up their jump rope activities where everyone in the school became a Jump Rope Ninja! The students worked very hard and should be very proud of themselves for their jump rope accomplishments! Coming up soon, the students will be working with hula hoops and learning different ways we can use them!



## What's Happening In Computers Class

Our students are continuing to do fabulous in Computers class. Kindergarten is continuing to become familiar with the keys, creating capital letters, using the spacebar while typing sentences, and adding a period to the end of the sentence. They are becoming masters in click, drag and drop!



In 1st and 2nd Grade we are coding as well as completing Lego Robotics! The students are learning block based coding, which allows them to use images of arrows to make an object move on the screen to complete different tasks. During Lego Robotics, the children are learning how to work as a team to build an object then they code the Lego to perform certain actions. The students are working excep-

tionally well together as a team while completing the required tasks.



## Tips From The Reading Specialist

Hi, I am Mrs. Fasanella, the Reading Specialist at Janvier! Please see the tips below for practicing letter sounds, letter names, and phonics skills at home.

### Chalk Walk

Write words in sidewalk chalk, then walk (or hop or skip) along them, sounding the word out along the way.

### Vowel Hunt

Hide sticky notes around the room with various vowels. Then, write CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words with the vowels missing. Have kids hunt for the missing sounds and fill them in. You could also use long

vowel patterns such as "ai" or "ay."

### Play Dough

Using play dough, call out different letters of the alphabet and watch your child construct the letters. For a visual aid, place a flashcard of the letter they're trying to create in front of them.

### Letters/Phonics Patterns in the Mud:

Encourage children to write letters/phonics patterns in different ways. Write them with a stick in the mud, with their finger in sand or salt, or with a straw in paint. This is not only great for their sound/letter cor-

respondence but also for handwriting. For example, if the phonics pattern is "ow, ou," you would write words such as "cow" and "loud." You can also practice this outside by using chalk. Please check out my school website for more ideas and videos from me: <https://sites.google.com/franklintwpschools.org/mrs-fasanella/home>.

# Phonics



## What's Happening In PreK

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Spring has sprung and the PreK students have been learning all about the season of Spring, and the changes that occur with the new season. The students have learned how the weather changes in the Spring, and how our clothing changes as the weather changes. The children have explored how new plants grow and learned that seeds and plants need sun, air, and water to grow. They also learned gardening skills and how to take care of plants as they grow. The students in Mrs. Belko's classrooms went on a Spring nature hunt

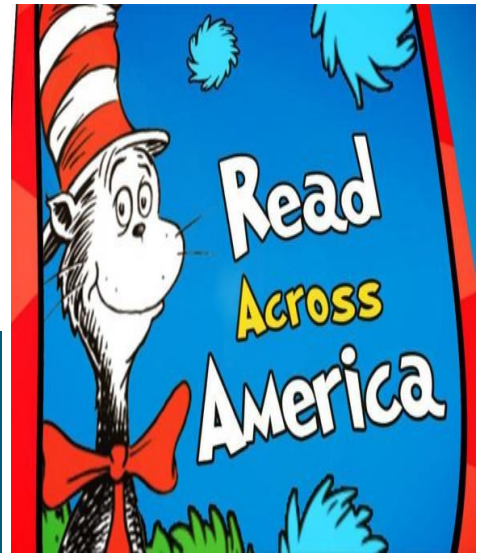
to look for some of the signs of Spring that they learned about in the classroom. Some students found new flowers growing, some found butterflies and birds flying in the air, others found new leaves growing on trees around our school. As they found each item on their walk outside, they checked them off of their lists. They then practiced their math skills by counting how many items they each found from their list as well as how many items they had remaining.



## “Read Across America” In The Library

What a wonderful time we had in March celebrating Read Across America Day! Each student received a special “Cat In The Hat” hat and tie, bookmark, and pencil provided by the Janvier PTA. 6th Grade Reutter students joined in the fun by providing a reading of their favorite Dr. Seuss book for each of our classrooms. Read Across America Day was a huge success for the Janvier and Reutter students, and I want to thank everyone who made our celebration possible! The Spring BOGO

Book Fair will be taking place on Thursday, May 18 from 4:30 to 7:30 PM in the Janvier All Purpose Room. Students and their families will have a chance to visit the 2nd Grade Art Show, grab a snack, and browse the Book Fair for some new summer reading books. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

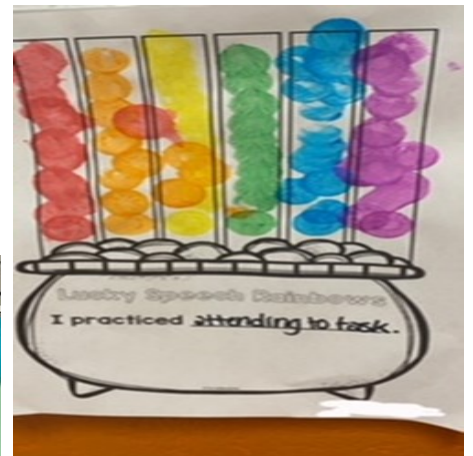


## What's Happening In Speech

Our “bright” speech students are working on rainbows in speech therapy! Students are working on their speech and language goals and showing off their hard work. Rainbows are hung around and outside of our speech rooms.

PreK students are working on goals such as attending to task, requesting, and accurately producing sounds. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade

students are working on goals such as defining vocabulary, forming grammatically correct sentences, and accurately producing sounds. We cannot wait to add in more Spring activities and vocabulary!



## Learning About Earth Day In Kindergarten

In Kindergarten, we learned all about Holidays and Celebrations in our recent Reading unit, talking about different ways that people celebrate certain holidays. We recently were able to spend a day talking about all things Earth in honor of Earth Day! Students were able to participate in Earth Day themed activities that included nature walks, planting a class flower, planting their own seeds to grow at home, reading stories, and

more! The students enjoyed being able to learn things outside of our classroom and being a part of all the activities! Ask your child what they can do to take care of our Earth!



## What's Happening In First Grade

April is full of fun and excitement for the students of 1st Grade! This month, with the help of our parents, the 1st Grade team put together a surprise Spring Egg Hunt for the students. This activity brought joy, laughter, and gave the students the opportunity to enjoy the fresh air with friends before Spring Break. Speaking of fresh air, Earth Day was also this month. The students had another opportunity to enjoy time outside together. 1st Grade connected with nature by learning lessons outside, planting seeds in our

school's garden, participating in an Earth Day scavenger hunt, and completing a nature walk. The teachers of 1st Grade are so excited to share these experiences with your kids and we hope they had a wonderful time and lots of fun this month!



## Learning About Measurement in Second Grade

We have been measuring maniacs this month in 2nd Grade! We have taken the opportunity to use several different tools to measure items around the classroom. The students have learned that there are 12 inches in a foot, and 3 feet in a yard. We have also been discussing how different tools are used to measure different objects. For example, we wouldn't use a meter stick to measure our pencil, or even measure in centimeters if we wanted to see how long our

classroom is. Those lessons have brought up class discussions as to why when we measure the same object using different units of measurement, we will never get the same number. Recently, we solved word problems involving lengths that are given the same unit and comparing the length of objects expressing the difference of length. If you get a chance, with your child, build a structure or something made out of items around the house, and then have

your child measure the item using the appropriate tools. Measuring can be fun, so have fun with it!

