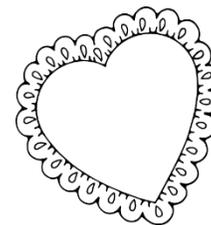




Salem Avenue Saber News

February 2017



School Website: www.salemavenue.weebly.com

Facebook: Salem Avenue

Important Dates & Upcoming Events

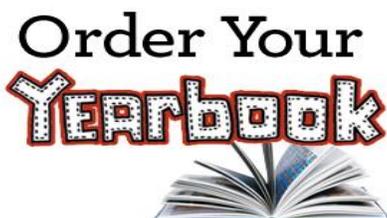
February 7: Roy Roger's Family Night 4:30-7:30 p.m.

February 20: President's Day- School Closed

February 28: Team Tiger Tuesday- wear house colors or college shirt

IMPORTANT DROP OFF & PICK UP REMINDERS

- If you use the lower parking lots, PLEASE park in a parking space. We are having an issue with cars stopping in the middle of the lot, which blocks other parents trying to enter or exit the parking lots.
- Students cannot be dropped off in the lower parking lots or along the curb. Parents must walk their child to the building. The parking lots are too busy to have students walking by themselves. The safety of your child is a priority to us.
- Please remember to use the crosswalks and sidewalk. Families should not be walking down the bus lane.



Yearbooks Are Back!!!

The annual yearbook sale will begin soon. Cost is \$20.00. Flyers will be sent home with students at the end of February/ beginning of March. There is also an online ordering option. More information to come.

Attendance/ Tardies/ Early Dismissal Information

Regular school attendance is extremely important to student achievement. The Washington County Public Schools attendance policy states: No more than 12 absences, lawful or unlawful, per school year. Absences after 12 days require official documentation (i.e. Doctor's notes, legal documentation, etc.)

- If your child is absent, please send a note the next day explaining the absence. Per WCPS policy, students are permitted to miss only 12 days a year.

Salem's school day begins at 8:55. Any student arriving after 8:55 a.m. is considered tardy and MUST be signed in by a parent/ guardian. Tardies disrupt the normal flow of the school day. Tardy students are not able to enjoy the free breakfast that would normally be provided to them and are often missing out on valuable instruction. It is important to have your child to school on time every day.

- If your child is tardy, you MUST walk them into the school and sign them in using the C.L.A.S.S system. You WILL NEED to bring your driver's license in with you.

If your child is going home another way than their usual way, please be sure to provide us with a written note. We cannot dismiss students a different way without a note.

- Students will not be dismissed early after 3:15. After that time all, students will be dismissed as walkers at 3:25.



Volunteers **MUST** complete a Volunteer Application and Information Form **AND** be approved to volunteer and/or chaperone, each school year. Many volunteer opportunities are offered to only already approved volunteers, so we encourage you to complete this process ASAP. Contact Jennifer Johnson, Title I School Family Liaison with any questions.

Team Tiger News

Fundraiser on February 7th! Families who attend these events earn a Family Tiger Ticket for each of their children. The ticket is worth 10 regular Tiger Tickets!

We are hoping for an especially strong showing at Roy Rogers because this fundraiser helps to pay for our annual Spring Fling! Spring Fling is Salem Avenue's largest event of the year! On May 19th, we will partner with Citibank to provide a fun day of carnival games, water activities, team challenges and Kona Ice! Students need Tiger Tickets to be able to play carnival games. Kona Ice and team challenges (including water games) are available to all students regardless of the number of Tiger Tickets. The students with good attendance and good behavior are offered additional activities that day! To obtain VIP status, students need to have no more than one minor write-up for the year and they must have no more than one unexcused absence. If you are able to obtain a community sponsor or prize donations for Spring Fling, please contact Jenny Johnson or Kristy Irving.

The House Cup challenges have been very close this year. In the spring we offer additional incentives to the winning teams so please check Facebook for team updates so that you can help your child's team!

Music News - February



Kindergarten: We're learning about long and short sounds and playing xylophones.

Grade 1: We're writing so and mi on the staff and learning about the higher sound la.

Grade 2: We're learning about the lower sounds re and do and we're identifying patterns in songs.

Grade 3: We're singing in harmony by learning to perform canons/rounds and we're using all the notes we've learned to write music.

Grades 4: We're learning about syncopated rhythms and using sixteenth notes to write music.

Grades 5: We're using eighth and sixteenth notes to write music.



Pre-kindergarten News February 2017

Please remember to:

- Visit our website weekly for updates: <http://mrsmeltonprek.weebly.com/>
- Return your **library book** and the **baggy book** on Mondays. New books go out on Tuesdays/Wednesdays.
- Check your child's folder each night and initial the calendar.
- Continue to help your child write his/her name.
- Practice zipping and buttoning coats as cooler weather arrives,
- Ensure your child has a change of clothes in his/her backpack. Please update with winter clothing.

This month your child will be learning:

- ***Reading:** Continue to explore story elements and facts in nonfiction books; tell how the illustrations support the story; identify similarities and differences between 2 texts
- ***Fundations:** The correct formation of letters and identify letters and sounds, begin to "tap" out sounds to listen for beginning and ending sounds.
- ***Writing:** How to write personal stories and opinions, place labels on the illustrations, continue to add more details, write simple sentences, work with a partner and writing resources.
- ***Math:** Counting, Subitizing, Comparing, Naming 3D Shapes, Measurement

Ways you can help:

- ***Reading:** Encourage your child to retell stories and name the characters and setting, and to discuss the new information learned in nonfiction books. Compare how stories are alike and different.
- ***Fundations:** Use the Fundations formation directions when helping your child write his/her name. Remember to say the directions out loud and invite your child to join you.
- ***Writing:** Continue to encourage your child to label pictures and begin to write simple sentences. Help your child listen for letter sounds, particularly the sounds at the beginning and ending of words.
- ***Math:** Practice counting to 10, 20 or higher, compare the length and weight of common objects. Use words such as bigger/smaller, longer/shorter, lighter/heavier, and taller/shorter.

Kindergarten in February!



This month we will be learning:

- **Reading:** Students will continue to become resourceful by tackling hard words and tricky parts in books. They will also learn about a variety of topics and use new vocabulary as they read nonfiction books.
- **Writing:** Students will be composing informative pieces of writing. They should be writing sentences that begin with a capital letter, have spaces between words, and end with a period. They should be sounding out and segmenting words.

- **Fundations:** Students will distinguish between long and short vowel sounds. They will segment and blend sounds. Trick words will be introduced.
- **Math:** Students will represent addition and subtraction with objects, fingers, drawings, verbal explanations, equations, etc. Students will solve addition and subtraction word problems within 10 by using objects or drawings to represent the problem. Students will decompose numbers less than or equal to 10 in pairs in more than one way (Ex: $5=3+2$ and $5=4+1$). Also, for any number from 1 to 9, students will find the number that makes 10 when added to the given number.
- **Social Studies:** Students will be learning about maps, globes, natural and manmade resources.
- **Science:** Students will be learning about ecosystems: the basic needs of plants and animals.

You can help your child at home by:

- making sure your child arrives on time. Students who arrive late are missing Reading instruction.
- making sure your child completes his/her homework and filling in the Reader's Log.
- ensuring that your child has a coat appropriate for the weather and can button, snap, or zip his/her own coat. If the playground is clear, if it is not snowing or raining, AND the temperature is above 32 degrees, we will go outside for recess.
- helping your child practice tying his/her shoes.
- update your child's bag of clothing for emergencies to winter clothing.
- having your child dress for the weather. Mittens and hats are necessary for cold days. Layered clothing is helpful for inside the classroom.
- returning a signed homework folder to school every day.
- sending a separate note to the teacher if your child is leaving early. Please don't write that note on the homework folder.

Look What's Happening in First Grade

This month we will be:

- **Reading-** focusing on fluency, phonics and comprehension. The students will learn more ways to read hard words and understand their books.
- **Math-** composing and decomposing 2d shapes; partitioning shapes into equal shares
- **Social Studies/Science-** planning and conducting investigations to provide evidence that vibrating materials can make sound and that sound can make materials vibrate.
- **Writing** – Continuing opinion writing and beginning poetry at the end of the month



Look What's Happening in Second Grade

Second grade students will be working on Fiction text, focusing on Fluency and Figurative language in Reading. Continue reading with your child on a daily basis.

In writing, students will be writing Poetry and Songs, and learning about rhythm and rhyme.

A good at home activity for writing may be to read poetry with your child and encourage them to look at each piece through the poet's eye.

In Math, students will be adding and subtracting to 1000 and estimating with measurement. Continue to practice Math facts daily.

In Social Studies, students will be working on Economics focusing on wants and needs, and how it affects their lives.

In Science, students will be learning more about the Processes that Change the Earth, by doing hands-on activities, reading articles and using notetaking skills.



Look What's Happening in Third Grade

- **Math**-Third grade mathematicians are working on a geometry unit. Students will learn about quadrilaterals, other shapes and their attributes.
- **Writing**-Third grade writers will be working on an If/Then Unit on Writing Baby Literary Essays. Students will be close reading text and writing about books they are reading. They will be reading a text and closely studying and writing about the characters and their traits, relationships, and problems.
- **Reading**-Third grade readers will focus on fluency, understanding literary language, tackling longer texts and setting goals. To begin the unit readers will focus on smoothing out their reading voice and reading in the voice of their characters. We will then shift to understanding figurative language such as: similes, metaphors, puns and idioms. To end the unit students will work in same book partnerships. They will set goals and coach each other to meet their goals.
- **Science**-Third grade scientists will focus on life science and ecosystems this module. They will investigate how environmental changes impact an area and the plants and animals that live there. They will also identify adaptations that help animals live in different environments. In addition, students will study fossils to learn about plants and animals and the ecosystems they lived in long ago.

The Exciting Things Happening In Fourth Grade!

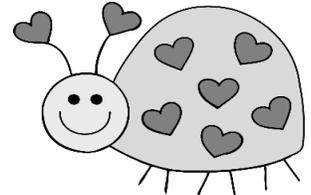
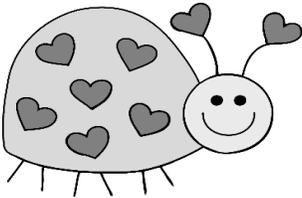
This month we will be learning:

- **Reading**- This month our students will be learning how to read as historians. Students will be exposed to primary source documents as well as historical texts.
- **Writing**- Students will be writing informational writing pieces based on the Colonial Maryland, Revolutionary War, and Civil War in Maryland!
- **Math**- Students will continue working with measurements as well as geometric shapes and figures in real world settings.

- **Science-** Students will be investigating the internal and external structures of plants and animals to determine how they survive and live as well as how our eyes send images to our brains!
- **Social Studies-** Students will be learning about the Civil War in the state of Maryland as well as topics such as the Underground Railroad and the Emancipation Proclamation.

You can help your child at home by:

- Check and sign homework planners nightly.
- Sign and return Tuesday folders on a regular basis, please return the work for your child's portfolio.
- Continue to encourage your child to read each night by finding a cozy and quiet spot as well as talking to them about what they are reading!
- Helping your child to complete the math warm ups as well as practicing multiplication and division math facts on the Reflex Math app or using flashcards.



Look What's Happening in Fifth Grade

This month we will be learning:

- **Reading:** Analyze ideas and individuals/characters in both informational and literary texts.
- **Writing:** Write texts that are persuasive to support a personal idea or belief.
- **Math:** Read, write, organize, compare, and compute with decimals.
- **Social Studies:** American colonization as well as taking an in depth look at regions, government and economics.
- **Science:** The physics of light and motion. Specifically, Newton's Three Laws of Motion

Ways you can help:

- **Reading:** Look at texts your children are reading and ask them to identify traits characters' exhibit.
- **Writing:** Ask children to support their opinions with evidence and research.
- **Math:** Decimals are everywhere in the real world. Ask your children to identify examples of decimals and how they are used.
- **Social Studies:** Discuss the regions of the United States with your children and how government and economics influence each of them.
- **Science:** Ask students to give examples of Newton's Laws in life.

