

School Seven Stallion Star News!

School Seven Stallions Gallop towards Success!

April, 2017 Vol. 2



Dear School Seven Families,

The School Seven Stallions are having a wonderful school year. Grades three through five are immersed in PARCC practice, while our younger grades are also exposed to technology based learning through the new Wonders ELA series and Envision Math. Parents are encouraged to log onto www.connected.mcgraw-hill.com with their user name and password to access materials from the Wonders Program at home.

Please use your OnCourse connect username and password to view our teacher websites, homework assignments, your child's attendance, and grades. If you need assistance with resetting your password, please log onto parenttechsupport.belleville.k12.nj.us.

Many of our faculty members submitted class projects and essays to the Project Pride Expo, which was held at the Livingston Mall during the month of March. Special thanks to the students in 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 4C, & Mrs. Steinwandtner's class for their writing selections and very creative projects, which were displayed at the expo.

The School Seven Stallions represented at the District's recent Health, Wellness, & Safety Fair with a sensory and nutrition table. A warm "Thank you" is also extended to our amazingly generous OPE for their snack and water donations, as well as their attendance at all of our school and district events.

We are excited about the upcoming events that the OPE is planning for our School. A committee was formed consisting of faculty and members of the OPE to plan our upcoming Field Day Event scheduled for June 9th. All parents are encouraged to participate in Field Day on June 9th. We will need lots of volunteers to assist with all of the activities that are being planned for the students. Please make it a point to attend our monthly OPE meetings to volunteer for our upcoming events and contribute your ideas on how to make our school even better than it already is!

Kindness, tolerance, and respect for one another and our differences is an awareness and message that we continue to support and spread each and every day at School Seven. The students absolutely love earning BANK BUCKS, and they really love cashing those earned BUCKS in for individual and class wide rewards.

We will be acknowledging Earth Day, which is April 22nd through participation in a school wide poster contest. A panel of teachers will judge the posters, and select a 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winner within each grade level. We will also tie blue and green ribbons on the fence outside, as a symbol of respect for our precious mother earth.

We ask for the cooperation of all parents and friends of the School Seven Community regarding the safety of the students, faculty, and staff. Please do not pull into the parking lot at drop off, during the school day, or at dismissal time. Please do not double park or park on the sidewalk along Joralemon Street and Passaic Avenue. We never want the safety of our students to be compromised.

We are very happy to now have a bike rack in place outside of the building for any students who would like to ride their bikes to school. Please make sure that your child has a lock in order to secure his/her bicycle on the rack for that day.

Your children are supported each and every day by kind hearted and dedicated faculty and staff members. We are a close knit School Seven Family! Our doors are always open to you. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Sincerely,

Lucy Demikoff, Principal

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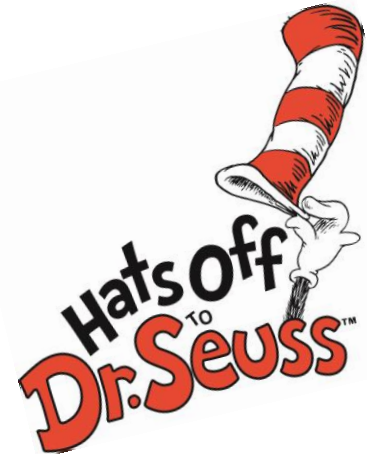
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Pre-School

We have been having so much fun in Pre-K! We started off 2017 by celebrating the New Year and learning all about penguins. Did you know that the daddy penguins take care of the eggs while the mommy penguins go hunting for food? We also learned about winter and read books like *The Snowman* and *The Snowy Day*. In February we celebrated Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Dental Health Month, and Black History Month! We looked for our shadows like Punxsutawney Phil and learned how to keep our teeth healthy. We kicked off March by celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday. We were so excited to have some of our parents visit our classroom! They read us books like *Green Eggs and Ham* and *Fox in Socks*. We can't believe it is spring already. Time sure flies when you're having fun!



Kindergarten

This trimester the Kindergarten has been full of activity! In addition to our everyday reading, writing, and math work, we have managed to save time for creative projects and celebrations. The classes joined together to cheer on the athletic heroes celebrated during this year's Black History month. The Kindergarten watched a tennis match played by Venus and Serena Williams, drew portraits of the athletes, wrote letters of admiration, and worked together to create papier-mâché tennis balls. We also celebrated the 100th day of school! The kindergarteners worked very hard to create projects using 100 items. The students presented their projects, which were proudly displayed outside of our classrooms. To add to the excitement of this semester, the kindergarten welcomed many wonderful community and parent guest readers into our classes for the celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday! The students were incredibly excited and grateful for each guest that came to celebrate with us. We are looking forward to another fun filled semester! Hooray for spring!

First Grade

The first grade classes have been working hard earning BANK bucks. We've been following the rules all around school. The students love handing in their bucks for different prizes and rewards! In ELA, we have been working at different learning centers and improving our reading during guided reading time. We learned about friendship last month and discussed what it means to be a good friend to others. Our classes were fortunate to have different readers from the community come in and read to us on Read across America Day. This has always been one of our favorite days in first grade. The children wore "Cat in the Hat" hats, and they listened to many of their favorite Dr. Seuss books. We completed writing projects and other learning activities as a follow up to this day. We are excited spring is here and looking forward to many of the other fun activities coming up this year!



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Ms. Steinwandtner's Class

It has been very exciting in Ms. Steinwandtner's class. We love earning B.A.N.K bucks and counting and cashing in our money for special privileges and prizes. National Kindness day is celebrated in February. We celebrated by acting out ways to be kind and created a kindness banner with pictures and sentences about being kind. We also wrote our first research report and had fun presenting it to the class. We learned about fairy tales and folktales, and we created castles, which were be displayed at Project Pride in the Livingston Mall from March 10th- March 17th. We are looking forward to more learning during this season of spring!

Second Grade

In 2C, we celebrated Dr. Seuss Day by writing about If Thing 1 and Thing 2 Came to Our School how would you welcome these new students here? Everyone wrote a composition to these students with pictures taken of each student with blue hair. Come see our bulletin board! We also completed rhyming sheets and Cat in the Hat pictures. The students loved having parents come in as guest readers on Dr. Seuss' birthday.



Ms. Bardi, Ms. LaForgia, Ms. Pagano, & Ms. Howe-Richards

Our students are learning how to foster their independence through completing jobs around the school. The students enjoyed their visit from Daniel the Beagle & Shelby, the two therapy dogs who came to visit the classrooms. The students had the opportunity to see and learn about how these dogs assist people within their everyday lives. The students also got to pet the dogs.

We are geared up for April's "Autism Awareness Month." "Light it up blue" will be in full effect. The Belleville school district will be spreading Autism awareness and holding various fundraising opportunities to help support Autism Speaks.

Everyone is looking forward to the upcoming trip at The Turtle Back Zoo! The students love seeing all the different animals, especially those in the aquarium.

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Third Grade

The third grade has been very busy improving their writing skills, particularly letter writing! We have had the pleasure of teaming up with Ms. DiPopolo's 3rd graders, at School 4, to write letters back and forth. All of the third graders were so excited to hear about their pen pals and have the chance to learn about them. Here at School 7, students in 3B have responded to their new friends and eagerly await their next letters to arrive!

In science, we created a 3D model of the layers of the Earth for project PRIDE. We also created fossils.

In Social Studies, students created their own businesses selling goods or services to their peers. This modeled a classroom economy.

In math, students created fraction pizzas to demonstrate their ability to model and write fractions.

Ms. Fontanez's

Ms. Fontanez's class has been studying many fun and exciting things; including the weather, Presidents, Civil Rights Leaders, the regions of the U.S., verb tenses, multiplication, and division. During Black History Month, we studied the first African American to play in the NBA, Earl Lloyd, and made a timeline of his life. On Read across America Day, March 2nd, we wrote about Dr. Seuss characters we would like to visit our class. We are excited for spring, we and are looking forward to the upcoming Earth Day Poster Contest!

Nurse's Note

Be a germ stopper.

Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.

Use a tissue and throw it away.

Clean your hands. Washing hands with soap and water is best.

Stop germs and stop colds and flu.

REMINDER

Pre-school students are required to receive a yearly influenza vaccination.

Mrs. Lewis

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Fourth Grade – 4A, 4B, 4C

The Stallions of Grades 4A, 4B, and 4C would like to begin by wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year. We are doing some great activities in all of our subjects. In ELA, we will participate in DRA testing, writing assessments, and comprehension checks. These tests will help determine if our Language Arts skills have improved, and we are sure they have. The Stallions will continue to practice their ELA skills for the PARCC. In Science, The Stallions of 4A, 4B, and 4C analyzed the human body. The children created their very own human bodies, put together skeletons, and are presently studying the Earth, volcanoes, and earthquakes.

The Stallions of 4A, 4B, and 4C will continue to practice for the PARCC in all tested subject areas. We celebrated Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Presidents Day and the 100th day of school by completing various activities, including writing and comprehension checks. We honored all African Americans during Black History month, and included a lesson about the importance of many African Americans in history. Mrs. Mendez's students prepared a quilt square stating his/her famous Black American's name, facts, and quotes. All of the squares put together form a quilt.

We celebrated "Read across America" Day by inviting guest readers to come to our classrooms and read a favorite Dr. Seuss book to the class. We also participated in various activities to honor Dr. Seuss.

The Stallions also celebrated Women's History Month by honoring a special woman in their lives. The children constructed a light bulb with a theme of "You Light Up My Life" and wrote essays on why their particular woman is so special. We continue to show kindness and respect with our monthly activities, and we continue to facilitate the "BANK" rewards program.



Fifth Grade

The 5th grade has been learning about volume, area and fractions while practicing for the PARCC Assessment. This component of math has been fun because we have been using the math block manipulatives and our NEW Smart TV. The students are building their own structures using formulas, and figuring out the volume of their finished products. By the end of this month, students will be well on their way to mastering fractions. The fraction learning component can be a challenge due to the many different rules that need to be applied. With daily and nightly practice, I am confident the students will be successful.

In social studies the students are learning about settling into the new world and as a result, many new opportunities for work are starting to happen for the new settlers. As the students come to find out, not all have the same opportunities. All of the farmlands are in need of workers, and this is when the slave trade begins. The students learn about the in-humane treatment of those individuals taken from Africa. Since January, we have been learning about slavery, the Triangle Trade and the Civil Rights movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The 5th grade worked hard on mapping and writing letters regarding slavery. They had a wonderful opportunity to read and present at the Black History Month Celebration at the High School.