**FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER**

12th-Valentine Dance Party/$1 if student wants to participate during 4th period. Proceeds benefit Scranton family who lost their home in recent tornado.

13th-P/T Conferences 3:30-7:00

14th and 17th – NO SCHOOL

**LOST AND FOUND**

There are a lot of coats/jackets/caps/gloves and lunch boxes in the LOST AND FOUND. If your student is missing something, please remind them to check the rack outside Mrs. Wood’s office.

Resource Math/Mrs. Tedford

We have had a good year studying math. We are learning in both 6th and 7th grade how math will help us for the rest of our lives by solving real life math problems. In 7th grade we will begin a unit on percentages and how to solve problems using percentages. In 6th grade we are using order of operations to solve equations. Also, both grades have discovered that Algebra can be fun and is not that hard at all.

In the future we will study geometry and how it works in our world. Remember that addition and multiplication facts are important to know without a calculator so keep practicing them.

Happy Valentines Day
NEWS FROM DIRECT INSTRUCTION/MRS. SEXTON

Everyone is working so hard this year and I am so proud of all my students. Changing classes and following a schedule is a big change from last year and everyone has adapted. We have done some exciting things in class this year and I look forward to what the rest of this school year holds for us.

In English, students are working on writing expository essays. Students like to have a writing prompt to give them ideas and they take off from there. They are also learning about words and their meanings. This helps students to expand their everyday vocabulary.

In Science, students are learning about populations, ecosystems, and habitats. They are discussing how animals fit into their environment and how they impact our lives as well. We do our notes on the first day of the week so students have an understanding of what the hands-on activities mean throughout the rest of the week. The students are learning so much from these hands-on activities.

In Social Studies, we are finishing up our unit on Asia. We have talked about the geography, ancient history, and their current cultures, including food, clothing, and music. As we come to an end to this unit, students will have the opportunity to enjoy different music and foods from different Asian countries. The students really enjoy this interactive part of social studies.

In Math, we are starting our unit on money. Money is around us everywhere and students are getting eager to learn about (and spend) it. Students are reviewing different coins and paper money. From there, they will move onto earning and spending money in our classroom store. This is a fun unit for everyone.

We just finished the ELPA 21 and ACT Aspire testing. I am working on DLM testing with some of my students. There is a lot of testing that goes along with school and my students go with the flow and get it done. I am so proud of them and their achievements this year. They are so smart and really want to do their best!
February

Empathize & Include

Start With Hello Activities

- Visit elementary students, Start With Hello and discuss the importance of positive character traits, like compassion and integrity.
- Give your teachers icebreakers from the Start With Hello program and encourage them to have a SAVE Promise Club member facilitate these getting-to-know you activities throughout the day.
- Activate Empathy in your school community! Get homeroom and advisory teachers on-board to hold morning meetings or community circles each day to share-out thoughts, feelings, and express gratitude to each member of the classroom community.

Say Something Activities

- Place six large orange ribbons and four green ribbons in a highly visual place. This represents the statistic that 60% of American children are exposed to violence, crime, or abuse in their homes, schools, and communities.

Additional Activities

- Invite representatives from local domestic violence shelter to discuss healthy relationships.
- Sponsor a fundraiser of selling “Candy Grams” for Valentine’s Day. Include a healthy relationship statistic.

Share on Social!

- In the fall, we hosted #StartWithHello Week at enter school name and this month, we’re bringing back the #StartWithHello vibe! We want to expand how our school community empathizes and includes. What do you know about empathy? @nationalsave
- What are some ways we can learn to better empathize? We can focus our attention on the welfare and needs of others. Learn 8 more ways here: http://bit.ly/2LbiL9
Resource Spotlight

One way we can empathize and include others is through mindfulness. Have your SAVE Promise Club create a mindfulness routine to kick off each club meeting. Each lesson of the SAVE Promise Club Toolkit includes Mindful Minute activities. Use these activities to create your routine!

Icebreaker

To play Human Knot, members begin by forming a circle. Each person, using their right hand, grabs the hand of a person across from them. Members should then join left hands in a similar manner. Now, untangle the human knot! If you have 16 or more participants, divide into two circles.

Good luck! 😊

“Be the change you wish to see in the world.”
-Gandhi

Amber McCormack
Mukwonago High School (WI)

Question of the Month: How can your club promote relationship safety? Answer this question on our Instagram, Twitter, or Facebook! #SAVEPromiseClub or tag @nationalsave
Greetings from the Mrs. Pelts' Resource English Classes!!!

We have been very busy this year working on Reading, Grammar, and Writing!!

We have reviewed the parts of speech and extended this into writing. The students have completed several writing projects using different types of writing.

We all enjoyed a book study of Charlotte's Web. In reading the story and completing work projects, we were able to concentrate on developing our reading comprehension skills, as well as examining the moral of the story – friendship and support.

Recently, the students have completed the study of the Six Syllable Types. They are using these skills to assist them in reading and spelling.

We are beginning a new book study featuring The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. I'm looking forward to the students learning new vocabulary and finding these new words in their writing.
Planning for standardized tests

When your middle grader takes a standardized test, having a plan will boost his confidence and help him do his best. Here are strategies to use every step of the way.

The week before...
Encourage your child to try his hardest on practice tests. Even if they’re not graded, the results can reveal what he needs to brush up on. Suggest that he try to figure out where he went wrong on incorrect answers and ask his teacher if he’s not sure. This may prevent him from making similar mistakes on the actual test.

The day before...
Being well rested and well fed can keep your tween focused and alert. Before bedtime, help him plan a breakfast with protein and whole grains. You might hard-boil eggs while he sets out a cereal box, bowl, and spoon. Then, he’ll need a good night’s sleep (at least 9–11 hours). Tip: Have him pack a healthy snack like an apple, whole-grain crackers, and water, if allowed.

The day of...
Your middle grader should think carefully about how to approach different types of questions. If he’s given a passage to read, he might skim the questions first so he knows what information to focus on. For multiple-choice math problems, he could solve first, then look to see if his solution is among the choices—if so, it’s likely correct.

Bonding with your tween

Spending time with your child opens the door to conversation and keeps you involved in her life. Plus, it can be fun! Consider these ideas:

- Create a family photo album. While you work, talk about memories the pictures bring to mind. Tip: When your middle grader has a rough day, flipping through the album together may encourage her to smile and perhaps talk.
- Have monthly living room campouts. Put out sleeping bags and popcorn. Then, take turns reading aloud or telling stories by flashlight. Tip: Your tween may be more likely to chat in the dark. When you turn on the lights, share something about your day, and she might follow suit.

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