



# Stewartstown

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### From Principal Humphrey:

Happy Holiday Season. This is a time for fun and celebration. We have some fun activities planned for the month of December with Holiday Cheer Week. This is also a time for reflection and to think about what we are thankful for. I am thankful for all of my students, staff, and families at Stewartstown Community School. A positive learning environment creates a safe place for our students to learn, do their best, and fail. It is with failures that we learn, grow, and move on. Having a positive mindset is important in order to learn and grow.

I was very excited to see many of you at the parent-teacher conferences in November as well as at the holiday lunch. I would like to thank Ms. Toni for all she does. For those who do not know, Friday, December 1, 2023, will be Ms. Toni's last day at SCS. We will miss her greatly and thank her for all her support and caring for our students. We would like to welcome Colleen Dams. She has been working with Ms. Toni and will be taking over the kitchen after Friday.

If you need help logging into Alma, please contact the office. Mid-quarter check-in (formerly known as progress reports), will be December 8. Grades are updated in Alma weekly by Monday morning. It is important for you to check the progress of your student. December 8 is also an early release for students.

For the month of December, Fun Friday is December 1, which is dress up in your favorite sports team apparel. Please make sure that your student has proper winter clothing to go outside. Snowpants and boots are required to go in the snow. Jackets, hats, and mittens are required to go outside.

Sincerely, Principal Humphrey

## Upcoming Events



**12/1 Fun Friday- wear your favorite sports team apparel**

**12/4 School Board Meeting**

**12/8 Mid Qtr. check-in 2nd quarter**

**12/8 Early Release**

**12/18 Holiday Concert**

**12/19 Holiday Meal - families invited to attend**

**12/18-12/21 Holiday Cheer Week**

**12/22- 1/1 Holiday Break**

**1/2-1/12 AIMSWEB & Star testing**

# Pre K & K

## Mrs. Hemon

November may be a short month, but it was packed with learning for the PreK/K class. We have finished with our introduction to all the letters of the alphabet, and now will go back and focus on each one in more detail. We have introduced the high frequency words the, a, see, and we. We have made two books for our classroom library using these words. In Math, we are still focused on reading, writing, counting, and comparing the numbers 0 to 10. We will make sure these are mastered before moving on to more difficult concepts, such as addition and subtraction.

# 1st & 2nd

## Mrs. Ricker

First and second graders started the month out by reading "Turkey Trouble" by Wendi J Silvano. Students then had the task of bringing home a turkey to disguise in order to be kept from becoming Thanksgiving dinner! First and second graders were very excited to disguise their turkeys and it showed in their creativity. Some of the disguises included a gumball machine, cereal, a mermaid, and a hunter!

During the month of November we learned about the Pilgrims and Wampanoag. We read books and watched videos about them. Students were very interested in Plimoth Plantation and although we are too far away to take a field trip there, we were able to take a virtual tour of the plantation.

In Math, First graders practiced addition and subtraction to 12. We have practiced different strategies, such as adding doubles, doubles plus one, and making a ten to add. Second graders have practiced many ways to add and subtract problems mentally. We are now learning to add 2 digit numbers mentally and will soon be learning about regrouping! Continued practice of basic addition and subtraction facts to gain fluency will help as we advance throughout the year.

# 3rd

## Ms. Scott

Winter is here! Please send students in with winter gear and shoes to wear during the day inside. We have had lots of fun outside in the snow. In math we have jumped into factors and multiplication. In ELA students are continuing to work hard on their writing and reading fluency. We have started learning about theater and reading plays. Our new science unit is all about selection, traits, and animal survival. Stay warm!



### Stewartstown Temperature Guidelines for Recess and outside Breaks



#### 0-32 degrees

COATS are required along with a hat, headband, or hood that covers the ears to go outside and stay on the tar/plowed area (basketball court)

If a student is playing in the snow, he/she must wear snow pants, boots, a hat, and gloves/mittens.

#### Below 0 degrees

Recess/Break will be inside.

\*Temperatures are based on the feel-like temperatures to account for wind chill.

Grades 6 through 8 will need at least a jacket to be outside when the temperature is 32 degrees or below. If they do not have boots, they cannot go in the snow. Students should not wear slides or sandals; these are unsafe, with wet/slippery floors or sidewalks.

November gave us a taste of the colder, snowier weather yet to come. Many 4th and 5th graders have quickly realized that they should find their winter gear fast or their outside time will be spent shivering. They all need to have a jacket, gloves, a hat, boots, and snowpants.

While indoors, attending to our studies, we spent much of November perfecting the art of multiplying multi-digit whole numbers and decimals. Our ELA is always full of skill builders such as visualizing, point of view, figurative language, etc...and applying these skills to the selections we read. We also spent this month learning about sound in Science. I hope their instruments come out well. We'll put a little light on the subject next month. Finally, we are in the middle of studying some general Native American groups from across the country. We've been discussing basics about their cultures such as foods, environment, transportation, shelter, and other interesting facts. We have a few more groups to cover and then we move onto studying Colonial America and the 13 Colonies.

December is just around the corner. Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!!!  
Ms. Wonkka

Junior  
High

## ELA & Social Studies- Lapoint

Hello Junior High families,

November has been a busy month and has passed quickly for students in grades six through eight. Students have read stories in their HMH Into Literature books and have chosen activities to complete after each selection. Also, they have been able to read the October 2023 Issue of Jr.Scholastic Magazine. One of the articles, titled "The Power of Sports," educated us as to the importance of baseball to the people of the Dominican Republic. We have also been writing for various reasons, with Mrs. Bergman, using Writable for other assignments, solving analogies daily, working on warmup grammar exercises, and reading student-chosen independent books.

Social Studies classes for junior high grades focused on researching and creating projects, along with some textbook activities. Grades six and seven students have been learning about Prehistoric times and early settlements. They have been making a timeline with personal and world events that happened during their lifetime. Grade eight students will start researching and learning about the Native American Indigenous groups. They will be creating a project from their research.

Enjoy the snowy weather, and have a happy holiday season!

Mrs.Lapoint

## Math and Science- Kennedy

**Science 6** Have you ever created a model of a watershed? Ask a 6th grader. They did. Students have been learning about the land around a water resource referred to as a watershed. Students placed red food coloring in a location of their model to show the "runoff" effect on their water resource, which was colored in blue food coloring. The students have been learning about how the hydrosphere is such a critical part of our existence and the importance of water to our survival.

**Science 7** Have you ever dropped a Mentos in a bottle of Coca-Cola? What happens? The Mentos changed, and you produced a chemical reaction! Similarly, students placed an Alka Seltzer in a balloon, crushed it up, placed water in a plastic bottle, added the tablet pieces, and closed up the ending with the balloon. What happened? Yes, if you guessed, the balloon inflated because of the creation of a gas. Students are learning about matter and its stages, and matter changes as well.

**Science 8** Students have been learning about microorganisms. What are organisms? Living things are organisms. Grade 8 students were excited to learn and view how algae looked under a microscope the other day. With that excitement came more! How? A student placed a piece of his hair under the microscope to see his hair cells. Ask Carson Cross, and he will tell you! Great learning, Carson! Students are also learning about viruses and bacteria.

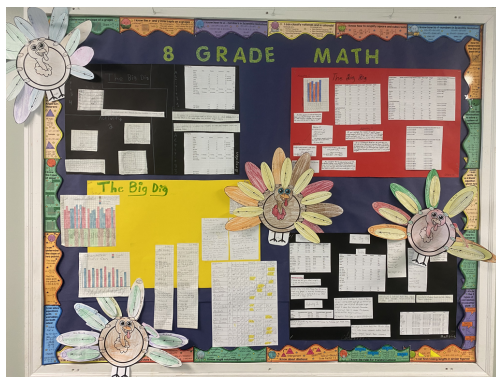
**Math 6** Students finished learning about the importance of using exponents in scientific notation. Why do we use scientific notation? Scientific notation helps math and science people to calculate large or small numbers more easily by using their knowledge of exponents and their laws.

Grade 6 is also learning the importance of the divisibility rules so they can have a better understanding of factors and multiples of numbers.

**Math 7½** How do you solve a two-step equation? How can I solve for the unknown variable?

What steps are involved in solving this type of equation? If you can add, subtract, multiply, and divide, then you too can do the pre-algebra these students are learning how to do. What else are they learning? Solving for perimeter, area, and volume, students use their knowledge of two step equations to solve such problems. Is anyone planning on putting new carpet in a room at your house? You need to know your formulas to solve these real-life problems that you will encounter.

## Math- Joos



During the month of November Math III group worked on equations and inequalities. Students practiced building and solving one- and two-step equations using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division properties of equations. They simplified, solved, and graphed one- and two-step inequalities on a number line. 8 Graders practiced solving word problems using equations and inequalities and completed a big project on math connection between height and length of bones in the human body. I am proud of all the students' hard work.

## STEM & Library

### Mrs. Falconer

In PreK/Kindergarten in STEM class, we have played with playdough and crafts, and played with popsicle sticks to make shapes. We have also played with whiteboards to draw and write. We have made different turkey projects and that has gone well. We have played together and separately. In the library, we read books, and I will ask some questions, and a few students will answer. The students get excited about reading and getting books.

In First/Second-grade keyboarding class, we are moving out at our own pace, learning the different keys and typing with our hands on the home row. The students are trying really hard to do this, and they get excited at their new achievements. Then we have a STEM class where we learn how to work separately as a team. We play but learn all together. The students love STEM and what I come up with next. We have Library class where we read many stories and talk about who the characters are and much more.

In third grade keyboarding class, we were doing Edu Typing. They are doing well with review packets and their Edu Typing lessons. In STEM class, we have been team building. We have also been able to work alone on different things as well. Some work will go home; others must wait for the student showcase. We just started to work with Lego League class packs and that is helping with using imagination. In the library, we read books and do different activities to go along with our books.

In Fourth and Fifth grade, we did independent typing in edutyping. I have noticed with this class that keeping their fingers on the home row is hard, so we always practice this. In STEM class, we have been team building. We have also been able to work alone on different things as well. Some work will go home; for others, you must wait for the student showcase. We have been using graphs to make drawings and making them bigger each time we upgrade the graphs. In the library, we learn about story elements and put the lessons into practice.

In the Sixth/Seventh STEM class, we are learning how to make roller coaster design and then actually put it into practice. Then they have to make sure it works out if it does not, then they have to write what happened and how to fix it. Then try again! In Intro to Library class, we are learning how to do research papers and cite the resources properly.

In Eighth, we have been learning how to make a marble maze in STEM class. They must write how they will make it and map out the maze. Then, they will make what they have designed and try it out. If they do not work, they must write what happened and how to fix it. Then try again! In library class they have started research papers.

### Mr. Covill

## Special Education

How is November already over? There has been a breeze of progress throughout the month. The Pre-K students are working with others; learning through play and working together to solve issues. The third grade is starting to sink their teeth into multiplication. When we look at  $\frac{4}{5}$ , there is a wide variety of learning. From increasing phonological awareness to multiplying with decimals! In middle school, we looked at parts of speech and evaluated more complex expressions. With December comes a great opportunity for learning and growth. Let us shine like poinsettias and grow in the depths of winter.



# Breakfast & Lunch Menus

Stewartstown Community School Breakfast  
December 2023

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4. <b>Wig Donut</b> Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	5. <b>Sausage &amp; Cheese</b> English Muffin Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	6. <b>Chocolate Chip</b> Breakfast Round w/ Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	7. <b>Homemade Fruit Filled</b> Muffin Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	8. <b>Cinnamon Toast Crunch</b> Breakfast Bar Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
11. <b>Healthy Maple</b> Breakfast Bread Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	12. <b>Warm Cinnamon Bun</b> Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	13. <b>Fluffy Pancakes</b> Real Fruit Syrup Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	14. <b>Ham &amp; Cheese Bagel</b> Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	15. <b>Cinnamon Granola</b> Breakfast Round Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
19. <b>Scrambled Egg &amp; Cheese</b> Waffle Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	20. <b>Oatmeal Bar w/ 1/2</b> English Muffin Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	21. <b>Strawberry Crunch Bar</b> Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	22. <b>No School</b>	23. <b>No School</b>
25. <b>No School</b>	26. <b>No School</b>	27. <b>No School</b>	28. <b>No School</b>	29. <b>No School</b>

Stewartstown Community School Lunch  
December 2023

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4. <b>Street Tacos</b> Garden of Eatin' Rice Pilaf Cubito Sour Cream Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	5. <b>Grilled Cheese Sandwich</b> Chicken Noodle Soup Wig Saline Crackers Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	6. <b>Cheese Pizza</b> Pepperoni Veggie Pizza Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	7. <b>Homemade Shepherd's Pie</b> Dinner Roll Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	8. <b>Fluffy Pancakes</b> Real Maple Syrup Sweet & White Homemade Twin Sausage Links Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
11. <b>Creamy Macaroni &amp; Cheese</b> Homemade Garlic Breadcrumbs Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	12. <b>Chicken Philly Cheesesteak Sandwich</b> Homemade Garlic Breadcrumbs Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	13. <b>Cheesy Breadsticks</b> Marinara Sauce Corn Chowder Wig Saline Crackers Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	14. <b>Sleepy Joe</b> Roasted BBQ Potatoes Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	15. <b>Hot Ham &amp; Cheese Pinwheels</b> Butternut Squash w/ Apples Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
18. <b>Dress Your Own Hot Dog</b> Hand Cut French Fries Milk Variety	19. <b>Oven Roast Turkey w/ Gravy</b> Chef's Mashed Potato Seasoned Green Beans Hearty Stuffing Dinner Roll Cranberry Sauce Apple Sauce Milk Variety	20. <b>Cheese Pizza</b> Pepperoni Veggie Pizza Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	21. <b>Hot Turkey Sandwich</b> Chef's Mashed Potato Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	22. <b>Squash</b> Taste Test Event - Winter <b>No School</b>
25. <b>No School</b>	26. <b>No School</b>	27. <b>No School</b>	28. <b>No School</b>	29. <b>No School</b>

## Christmas Spirit Week

Monday December 18 - Thursday, December 21

Stewartstown Community School

**Monday 12/18**

**Candy Canes**  
Wear Red and White

**Tuesday 12/19**

**Deck the Hall**  
Get Decked in Ugliest Shirt/Sweater

**Wednesday 12/20**

**Holiday Character Day**  
Dress as your favorite holiday or winter character

**Thursday 12/21**

**The Polar Express**  
Wear Pajamas

**Decorate your classroom door.**  
Judging will be Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.. Please take down before you leave on Thursday 12/21.

**Door Decorating Monday-Wed**

# Music

PreK and Kindergarten have been working on a scarf dance to the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy and several songs with movement for the Christmas Concert. We have also been practicing steady beat and quarter and eighth note rhythms (we call them "beet" and "cherry" at this stage). First and second grade are doing great memorizing the lyrics to their holiday songs and are going to be great models for the younger students during concert rehearsals. Third grade is working their way through a Boomwhacker holiday song and is also learning three songs to sing- this year, they have made the leap to singing with the older students in an ensemble! They sure do grow up fast. Fourth and fifth grade did some group ensembles with various percussion instruments and, of course, have been singing. I added a new song to their repertoire a few weeks ago, and I know they can handle it. Our junior high classes are learning how to switch ukulele chords in time with a song. It is my goal that you will get to see some of them play at the concert. We have a few more weeks of practice ahead of us. I can't wait to see the family and friends of SCS at the concert on December 18th, and as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please email me or Mrs Humphrey at any time.

Mrs. Thilkey

Mrs. Thilkey

