

Classroom NEWSLETTER

Seneca Elementary School | Where Your Future Begins!

Mrs. Durych's | Grades K-2

Week of October 28, 2024

Classroom Highlights

This week was all about pumpkins! Our classroom



was filled with pumpkins and gourds of all sizes, and the students had an absolute blast. They spent the



week moving pumpkins around the room, loading and unloading them from a



wagon, decorating our nature science table, and even creating their own pretend farm. The fun



didn't stop there—they also set up a store, played the roles of sellers and buyers, and practiced money as their

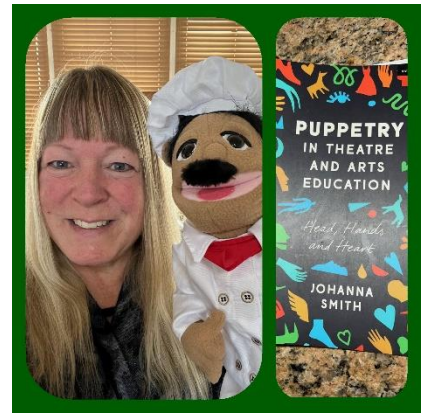


These pumpkins traveled from wagon to wagon and even

became part of our building block creations, coloring, and painting projects. It's been a week full of hands-on pumpkin fun!

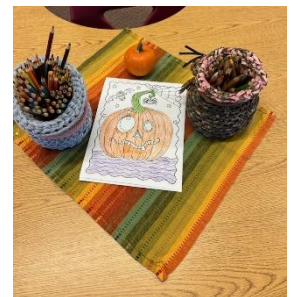
Teacher Spotlight

I'm having such a wonderful time teaching our kindergarten through second-grade class this year! One of my big professional development goals is to enhance learning and fun through storytelling and puppetry. I'm currently reading *Puppetry in Theater and Arts Education* by Johanna Smith, and I'm also excited about an upcoming conference that specializes in storytelling and puppetry. I can't wait to bring even more creativity and excitement into our classroom, building on the fun we're already having!



Language Arts & Math

We've been focusing on listening to stories and remembering the details in the order they were told. The students are practicing recalling events as they happened and working hard on decoding words by breaking them down letter



by letter with their corresponding sounds. In Math, we've been having fun with addition and subtraction, focusing on concepts like Paddy Plus and Minnie Minus. The students are learning how adding and subtracting zero works (e.g., $4 - 0 = 4$), and we're also practicing doubles, like $3 + 3$ and $4 + 4$. They've especially enjoyed learning how to find numbers that are one more or one less than a double!

Upcoming Dates & Events

- **Monday November 11th No School**
- **Friday November 15th Required School Day**
- **Tuesday November 26th 1:00PM Thanksgiving feast**
- **Wednesday December 18th / 6PM: Our annual Christmas Program – We can hardly wait to share the joy of the season with all of you!**

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

This week, we are shining the spotlight on **All Three + One New Kindergartner!** They have such incredible energy and creativity. Wesley, Severin & Hannah bring so much joy & life to our classroom, and their love for learning is contagious. Stay tuned for next week's newsletter where we will introduce our new kindergartner!



A friendly reminder on the power of imagination! Our students tap into their creativity every day, and reducing screen time during the week can help them reach even deeper. We encourage you to consider reducing or eliminating technology—like TV, gaming, and iPads—from Sunday night through Wednesday night. This tech-free time can help our students develop their imagination and bring even more creativity into the classroom!

The were thrilled to our nature fort this day, they



students absolutely transform table into a week! Each would clear

away the carefully organized pumpkins, gourds, and placemats, adding blankets and pillows to enclose the table in a cozy hideaway. Inside the fort, the pumpkins found a new home, where they became

part of the fun. Daily, pieces and parts of the fort were carted around in the wagon as the students played an airport, garages, racing



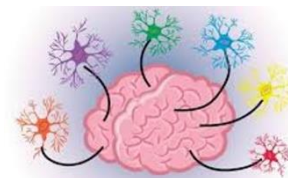
farming, ran built parking and held

competitions. Their creativity knows no bounds!

Then Lacey brought in her pet lizard for show & tell – the kiddos loved it! see the little have to make this



You can barely photo big!



Fun Facts & Brain Boosters

This week, we're inspired by an article from Parenting Guide Magazine that highlights the benefits of multi-age classrooms like ours. The real world is filled with people of different ages and backgrounds, making our multi-age setting a perfect mimic of life outside school. In this environment, students gain exposure to a range of skills and interests, building confidence as they collaborate across age groups. Just like in diverse workplaces, younger students learn from their older peers, while the younger ones bring fresh perspectives. This experience builds valuable skills that our students will carry into future careers.



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Warm regards,

Mrs. Durych

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...IN THE CLASSROOM?

We're excited to dive into our new science curriculum, Twigs! Our classroom received multiple totes filled with hands-on science experiments, and we can hardly wait to get started. This new curriculum promises engaging, interactive learning experiences that we're thrilled to explore with the students!

*I wish everyone a safe
& Happy November!*



Reminders & Friendly Notes

As the weather turns colder, we'd like to remind families to start bringing in (or leaving in the classroom for convenience) waterproof rain pants, snow pants, and boots. Even if it's not raining, the slides and grass often stay wet, leading to damp shoes, socks, and pants. Having these items will help keep our students dry and comfortable during outdoor activities. Thank you for helping us prepare for the season!

