

Prescott Press

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Volume 9 Issue 2 Winter 2017

From our PTO President.....

Happy New Year! 2017 is sure to bring many exciting events to the Prescott School. Thank you to all the families who attended the Celtics Night. All the children had a great time! If you would like to be part of our Prescott Family Sports Nights please join us at the Providence Bruins game March 19th and/or the Red Sox game June 27th. We also have several fundraisers coming up to help support the school. Be on the lookout for the cash March Madness calendars, coming home soon! Drawing to be held the month of March. Family Fun Day and Color Fun Run is Sunday June 11th! This is are most successful fundraiser! We will need lots of volunteers so, please consider helping out with either the planning, prep or the day of the event. We are still looking for volunteers to serve on the PTO board for next year.

Please see Mrs. Killion if you are interested in a position. She would be more than happy to discuss what is involved with each position. Parents can make such a difference in the overall school experience for a child!

Amy Pfingston

**Box Tops need
to be back to +
school by
February**



Upcoming events....

Breakfast with the Stars NHS 9-11am

PTO Meeting January 30th 7pm

January 19th All Town Orchestra Concert

January 36th All Town Band Concert

February 1st Winter Walk at School Day

February 2nd Math and Science Night
6:30

February 8th PD Day 12:30 dismissal

February 9th Author Visit

February 15th 3rd Grade Wax Museum

February 16th PTO 7pm

February 20 - 24 Vacation

March 3rd - Third Grade Dance

March 30th 5th Grade Pasta Supper

vacation!

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is very important if you have a change to any of your information to let the office know. That would be phone, email, emergency contacts. I have been sending weekly email updates to families so if you have not received one, we would need an updated email. I also use "Remind" a texting tool that you can access @ <https://www.remind.com/join/prescottfa>

We are very happy to let our families know that our seismograph is back online and recording earthquakes around the world. We have been able to re-establish this with the Boston College/Weston Observatory program that will bring the seismologist back to our building in March. She will be working with third and fourth graders. This was through a grant we received from the Blue Hills bank last spring for \$3000.00!

I have also received word that we have been awarded grants totaling \$4400.00 from the PPG Innovative Classroom Grants foundation. This money will be used to restore the outside classroom, procure a classroom kit of Ozobots to expose our students to computer coding and problem solving, purchase three Root robots to use in the library makerspace and monies to fund two enrichment activities; Mad Science at math and science night and a materials engineering program for grade TBD. We are in the process of waiting to see if we were awarded a grant Masscuc to update our makerspace in the library and from Lowes to have a kitchen sink installed in the teacher's room. It is great to be able to take advantage of grants that are available to schools.

We welcomed our new student council this month. They are excited to begin working. Their first project will be to organize the box tops so that we can get them ready to send in by March 1st! If you are still collecting please send them into the office by that date.

We would like to do our 100th day food pantry collection. We ask each grade to bring in 100 of an item. Here is the list:

Grade 1 - Mac and cheese

Grade 2 - Peanut butter or jelly

Grade 3 - Boxed pasta

Grade 4 - Soup



January 2017

GRade 5 - Tuna

Don't forget math and science night is on February 2nd. Come and play some math and science games with your teachers! It is always a big success with our students. More details coming.

From Donna Twohig

School Nurses



These last few months have been busy ones in the Health Office. It has been wonderful getting to know all of the children in the Prescott School!

All vision and hearing screenings have been completed. If I have sent a letter home indicating that your child requires further vision or hearing screening with your physician, please share the results of that follow up so that I may update your child's teacher regarding vision or hearing concerns in the classroom.

BMI screening for First and Fourth graders will be done the first week in February. Please check your student's backpack for a letter regarding this important screening.

First and Second Grade students have participated in a "Wash your Hands" lesson to help improve cough and sneeze hygiene and reduce the spread of germs.

Please continue to keep me posted regarding any changes in your child's health status.



From Mrs. Miller.....The NYRA program (for 4th and 5th grades) is winding down. Voting will take place on Feb. 2nd and 3rd and votes across town will be tallied. The winner will announced before Feb. vacation. Our students did well with the reading and a few even read all 12

books! The class that read the most will receive an extra recess sometime this spring.

1st grade is working on researching Bats and learning all sorts of interesting facts. We are reading non-fiction, using databases, and reading some fiction books to see what is true and what isn't. 2nd grade is working on maps and learning about nonfiction conventions. 3rd and 4th grade are reading and discussing biographies. 5th graders are starting a coding unit. All students are listening to our all-school read: *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate. The 3-5th graders are also blogging about the book. Ask your child about it - Ivan is a great character and they should be able to tell you all about him. After reading the novel, classes will read the nonfiction partner text and compare it to the novel.

All grades have been using the newly created maker-space area, either just sitting and reading or actually creating something. The space is good for both activities. We will be starting duct tape art and circuit activities soon.

Enrichment Update

by Maria Brewer
& Regina Sisk

The Prescott school experienced the most unique enrichment program to date with Brain Challenge: Presidential Trivia Game Show! On November 3rd the whole school was involved from all the students to the teachers. They were quizzed on presidential facts and history in a fun and exciting game show. The audience was energized throughout the show by the game show podiums, buzzers and lights as well as the interactive games in between

rounds! It got the entire school community interested and involved in our country's history and made the election process fun!

On December 8th the PTO also brought the amazing talent of Chhandika Kathak Dance with Anjali Nath. She is an educator and performer that specializes in the imaginative art of this Northern Indian dance form. She demonstrated and taught the students how Kathak is a form of storytelling. She invited some on stage and showed them how their movements can tell a story. It was a moving and fun performance!

Her performance was supported in part by a grant from the Norwood Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



Upcoming on February 2nd Ms. Money will bring her exciting program to our 1st and 2nd graders to learn all about money in a way that's relevant to them! Then on February 9th Richard Sobol, "The Travelling Photographer" brings his dynamic image driven presentations to the Prescott! Please be sure to ask your children what they think of the performances! We are fortunate that our PTO is able to provide these educational and exciting opportunities for our children! We appreciate

your support through all of our fundraisers!



News from First Grade...

The new year has started off great in first grade! In reading, students have been working on a character analysis unit. We have been reading picture books aloud and discussing character traits. Students will start to take the mid-year reading, spelling, and sight word assessments. Just a reminder that students should be reading every night (reading or being read to). We are all participating in the All-School Read The One and Only Ivan.

In Math, we are currently in Topic 7: Extending the Counting Sequence. Students are

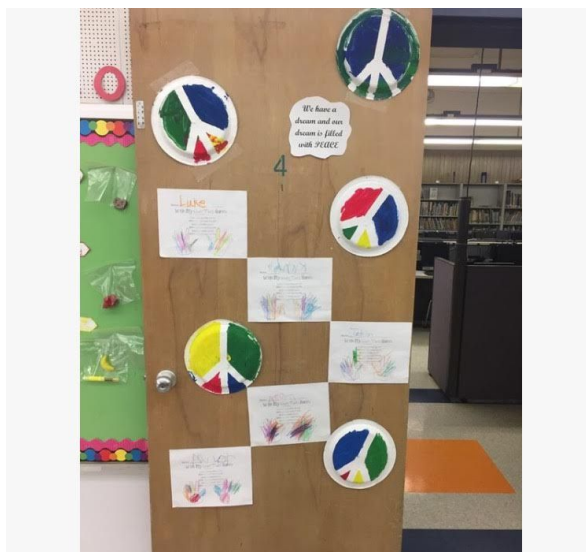
practicing counting to 120 by 1's, 5's, and 10's. Math Fact Hall of Fame is now open to students to try out for. They will be tested on addition and subtraction facts within 10.

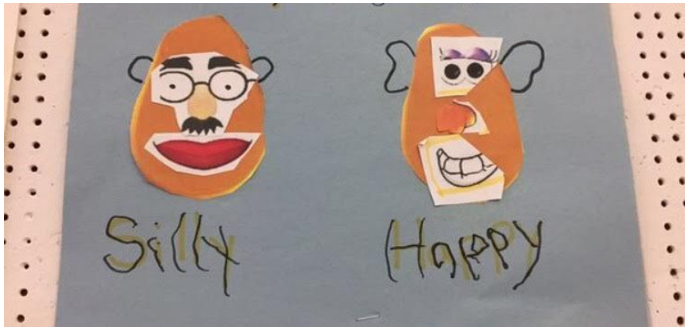
In Writing, students learned about How-To Writing. They learned about transition words, like first, next, then, last. They wrote a paragraph on how-to build a snowman. Students also wrote their own how-to's. One way you can learn about how-to's at home is to read a recipe and try it out!

Coming up: Valentine's Party is on Tuesday February 14th. A notice went home about each party. Also in February, the 100th day is coming up. A presentation from Ms. Money will be seen. Math and Science Night, Walk to School, wow what a busy month!

News from the PACS class...

We have been working hard on identifying Martin Luther King Jr. and discussing his ideas of peace and acceptance for all. Students have also been using many different resources to read facial cues to help identify emotions we all encounter every day. To keep ourselves busy we have been working with numerous different sensory materials for projects, focus and calming down. Recently the PACS room has started our unit on 1:1 correspondence, mixing in classic stories and hands on activities.





News from Second Grade



Mrs. Bell and Ms. Connolly are happy to announce their 2017 Student Council members. Congratulations to John Walenton and Xavier Ryan! These students have shown great leadership skills in the classroom.



The second graders have been working hard on their Changes in Animal Habitat Unit. They have learned about changes in the desert, Arctic, and are now focusing on Antarctica. They will also learn about the ocean and the rainforest habitats, as well as animals found in those habitats. Some of the language skills we have been working on includes alphabetical order, guide words, and other skills needed to use dictionaries. We will also be reviewing their understanding of nouns and verbs.

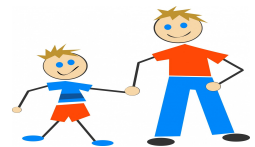
Second grade mathematicians have been working hard on adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. The students have learned several strategies to subtract including regrouping, open number line, hundred chart, breaking apart numbers, compensation, and place value blocks. They are also working on solving one and two step word problems. Students were taught how to use a bar diagram and should have an understanding of a part-part-whole relationship. The next topic in math will focus on solving both addition and subtraction problems.

Students will be diving into a rigorous social studies curriculum and will be expected to name, identify on a map, and spell the seven continents and the five oceans (yes! That's correct 5 oceans). A 5th ocean has been identified as the Southern Ocean, just north of Antarctica. In addition to the geography of continents and oceans, second graders will learn several patriotic songs and information about America. Stay tuned for an upcoming "Save the Date" where students will have the opportunity to share and perform for their families, their newfound knowledge about our country and the world they live in.

Information about valentines will be going home within the next week. Please be on the lookout and ensure your child provides a valentine for every student in the classroom. Your room parents will be contacting you about the plans for our Valentine's Day party.

News from Third Grade...

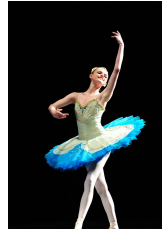
Mrs. Condon's students have been learning about several different types of poems. This month we practiced writing Cinquain poems. Our first attempt was based on penguins, inspired by our mentor text Mr. Popper's Penguins and Admiral Drake- our classroom mascot. Here are a few other selections.



<p><i>Dolphins</i> <i>Blue, Fins</i> <i>Swimming, Eating, Loving</i> <i>You can ride and feed dolphins</i> <i>Animal</i> <i>by Abigail F</i></p>	<p><i>Polar</i> <i>Fluffy, white</i> <i>Swimming, hunting, playing</i> <i>Polar bears are good hunters</i> <i>bears</i> <i>By Ava Amato</i></p>	<p><i>Bears</i> <i>Scary, large</i> <i>Eating, hunting, hibernating</i> <i>Sleep all winter long</i> <i>Carnivor</i> <i>By Caden</i></p>	<p><i>Cats</i> <i>Cuddly, Furry</i> <i>Scratching, Purring, Chasing</i> <i>Like to play with toys</i> <i>Kittens</i> <i>By Jordan Shea</i></p>	<p><i>Father</i> <i>Funny, helpful</i> <i>Loving, Sharing, Helping</i> <i>Good to have around</i> <i>Freind</i> <i>By Annie</i></p>
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<p>BIRD Small, beautiful Flying, playing, chirping Birds are very nice. Cherp By: meghansavilia</p>	<p><i>Penguins</i> <i>Colorful, beautiful</i> <i>waddling, swimming, Eating</i> <i>leopard seals eat</i> <i>penguins</i> <i>Bird</i> <i>By Fritz</i></p>	<p><i>Penguins</i> <i>Sleek, messy</i> <i>Slide, waddle, swimming</i> <i>Baby penguins are gray</i> <i>Birds</i> <i>By Nishant Bommu</i></p>	<p><i>Weasels</i> <i>Cute, playful</i> <i>Eating, Playing, Sleeping</i> <i>Great pets to have</i> <i>Friends</i> <i>By Vidar</i></p>	<p><i>Neceta</i> <i>Cute, cuddly</i> <i>Liking, silly, crazy</i> <i>She is there when I need her</i> <i>Kitten</i> <i>By Chloe</i></p>
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<p><i>Penguins</i> <i>Sleek, Plump</i> <i>Swimming, Waddling, Sledding</i> <i>Birds Of The Cold</i> <i>Arctic Birds</i> <i>By James Botelho</i></p>	<p>Penguins Sleek, loud Sliding waddling eating Leopard seals eat penguins Birds By Christian ketchel</p>	<p><i>Ballet</i> <i>Dance, graceful</i> <i>leaping, twirling landing</i> <i>Elegant and beautiful dance</i> By: Diya bhandari</p>	<p>Sealions Cute, sleek Barking, swimming, rustling They live in pears whiskers By : Noe Ilis Tavarez Jourdain</p>
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In rooms 7 and 8, we have been busy working on opinion writing. The students are learning how to compare and contrast, use transition words, and use evidence to prove their opinions. Ask your child about some of their opinion pieces. We have been focusing on great introduction, reasons, examples and conclusions. Ask your child about the OREO. Below are a few examples.

DO you like colors ? Many people think christmas is the best holiday but I strongly believe that holi is the best holiday in the world.

One reason why love holi is that holi is colorful. We make colored powder and then we throw them on our friends and family. After we throw colored we have water gun fights to wash of the powder on your face. Most importantly after all that our T-shirts look so colorful. Your T-shirt will look more colorful that tyde. Holi is so colorful and fun.

Another reason is we make pictures out of of colored powder. We draw by hand . To me that is cool. When do it you can be so creative with your imagination. After the adults are done kids always put dark red powder in the middle. We draw flowers and animals for good luck. It is a very good way to use imagination on Holi.

My favorite part is our traditional food that we eat. me and my mom always makes sweet chapatis wich is like a sweet taco roll. I ussally make laduo which is basicly a ball of flour, milk and suargar . For ladou we Use our great grndma's resipe that has been passed doown many years. My favorite food ,pani puri which is a hollo eteble ball then you spicy water and put sweet water too.

I strongly believe Holi is the best holiday. Traditional food, colors and powder drawings make holi the best holiday ever!

Christmas

By Minghao Majumder

Do you like holidays with fun traditions, yummy foods, and cool things to make? You may be thinking about Thanksgiving, but no, it's Christmas! Christmas has all of those things, and Thanksgiving doesn't. I strongly believe Christmas is the best holiday.

One reason I love Christmas is because I like the tradition. Every Christmas I like to decorate the house and tree. I'm really excited this year because I'm going to get presents from my friends, family, and Santa. I also think writing letters to Santa about the toys I want is fun, too. I love Christmas tradition.

Another reason I love Christmas is because of the yummy foods. Every Christmas I get to eat SO much candy! We also get to have a lot of relatives come over so we can have Christmas dinner together. Sometimes I even get to try new foods. I love Christmas foods.

Christmas is also fun because I get to make things. If it snows, I can make a snowman. I can also make a snow fort. Occasionally, I can make a gingerbread house. That's why I like making things.

To summarize, Christmas is the best holiday. Traditions, food, and making things all make Christmas fun and special to me. This Christmas, try celebrating it with friends and family!

Pluto Is a Planet

By Reegan Pritchard

Pluto is not a planet any more. But I think Pluto should still be A Planet. Here are reasons why Pluto should still be a planet.

Pluto does have moons. In 1978 scientists found Charon (Pluto's moon). This means it has gravity.

It makes kids sad that Pluto is not a planet anymore. Kids are sad that the littlest planet Pluto is gone. Pluto was the kids favorite planet. Pluto was the most popular planet for the kids.

Pluto still orbits the sun. Pluto orbits the Sun with Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune and those are all planets. Those are my reasons why pluto should still be a planet.

Wampanoag vs. English Village in 1627

By:Brayden Moynihan

If I was alive in 1627, I think it would be better to live in the Wampanoag village.

The Wampanoags had smoke holes so their home didn't get smokey. For example if they were cooking with fire it would get smokey, but they had smoke holes so the smoke would be outside the wetu/long house.

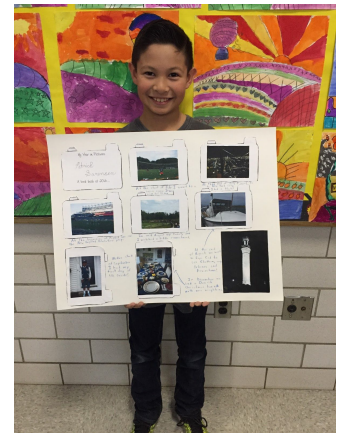
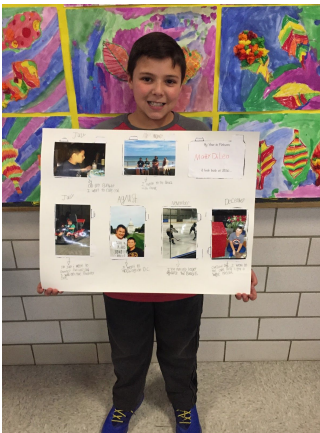
Another reason is the Wampanoag clothes is better. For example if it was summer the Wampanoags had short sleeves and shorts and if it was winter the Wampanoags had long sleeves and long pants. They'd have the right clothes for summer and winter.

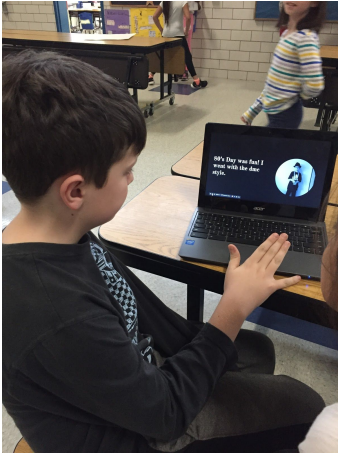
Another reason is the Wampanoags houses are better, for example if it was summer the Wampanoag would live in a cold wetu and if it was winter the Wampanoag would live in a warm long house. So the Wampanoags would have the right house.

In conclusion the Wampanoag village is better than the english village with these reasons.

News from 4th Grade...

Happy New Year! The Fourth Graders created a "Year in Pictures" for 2016. The students created their timeline of 2016 on paper using photos, drawings, or online using Google Slides. The timelines are being showcased in the cafeteria for all to view.





News from 5th Grade...

The 5th grade participated in the National Geography Bee on Friday, December 16th. Congratulations to Jason Le who was awarded Prescott's representative after winning the school competition among 16 of his classmates. All the students did an excellent job. Good Luck to Jason as he moves forward to the next round competing against 5th-8th grade students nationwide.



2017 Geography Bee



Final Round Finalists: Andrew, Jason, Joy and Timmy

2017 Student Council Representatives:

We'd like to congratulate our new 5th Grade Student Council members. From Mrs. Belanger's class- Kileigh Gorman from Mrs. Bishop's class- Gavin Grant, and from Mr. Marshalsea's class- Tricia Wladkowski. We know they'll do an awesome job!



5th Grade Curriculum News:

To start off the New Year we are kicking off our Water/Weather Unit in Science. This is an exciting new unit that the Science Center purchased from the Museum of Science. The students are learning about challenges with pollution and scarcity of freshwater on Earth. This unit will culminate with students working in groups to design and build their own Water Filtration System.

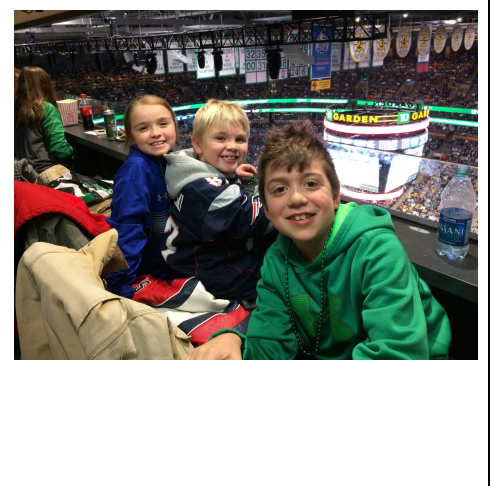
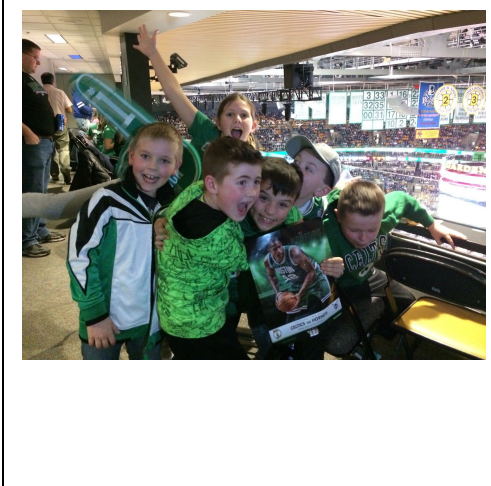
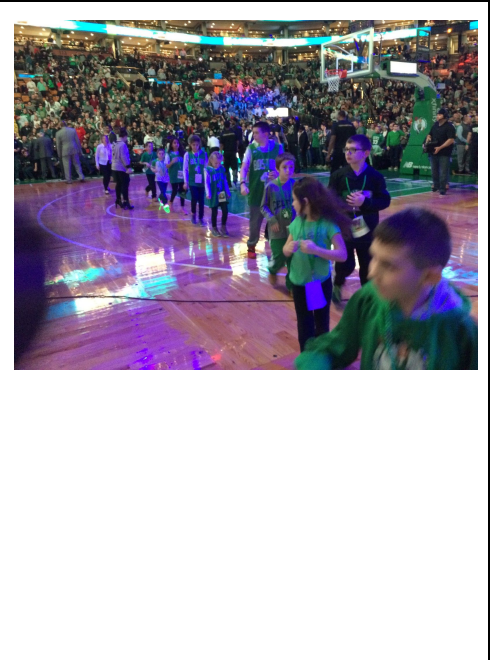
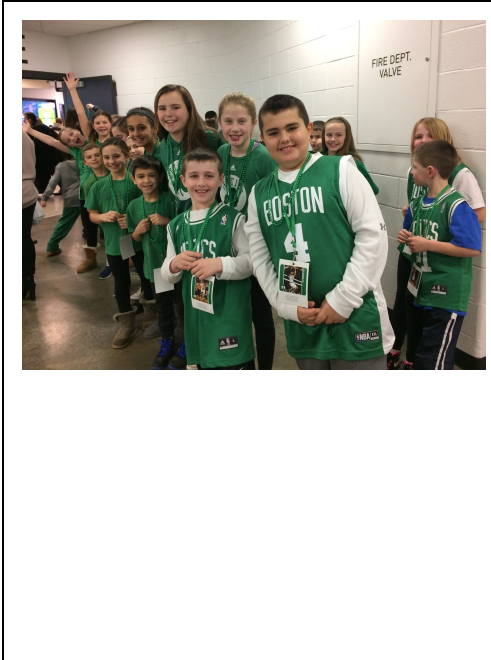
In Reader's Workshop we have just finished our study of fictional texts, and the Six Signposts of Reading Comprehension. Mrs. Thornton is leading us in our new unit, exploring Text Structures and Informational Texts. All of these lessons aide in preparing our students for the upcoming MCAS 2.0 this spring.

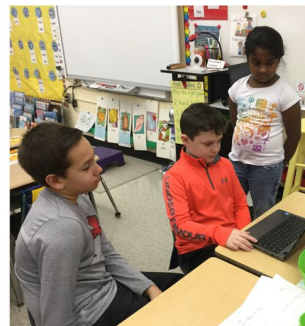
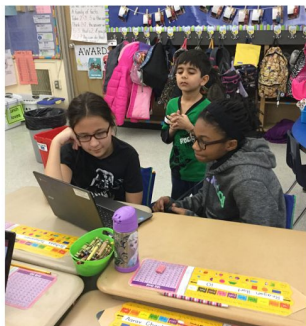
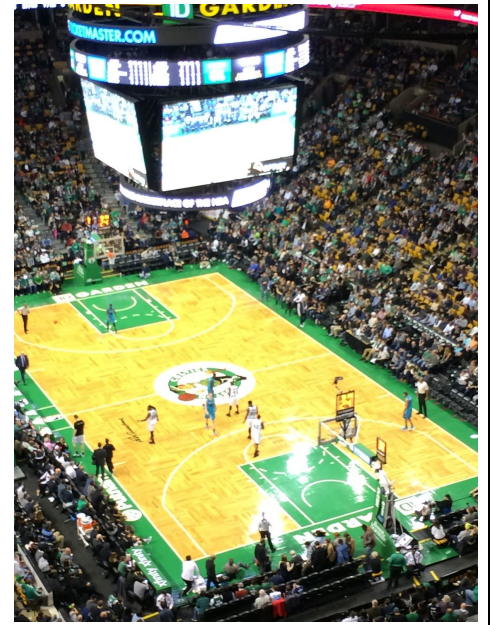
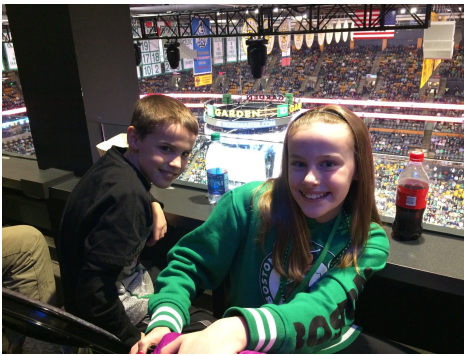
Our 5th graders have taken the plunge into Fractions and Mixed Numbers with our enVision Math Program. They have been working hard, and doing great mastering some very challenging concepts. The enVision program has excellent ongoing Common Core review practice embedded in each of the topics/lessons, which again is helping our students to prepare for the mathematics portion of the MCAS in the spring.

The inauguration of our new president has provided a great backdrop for our students as they learn about the foundation of government and democracy in the United States in our Social Studies Lessons.

The 5th graders are not only gearing up for the state assessments that are coming this spring, but also for some other fun events that will be coming as they move through the second half of the year such as the 5th grade Pasta Supper, a field trip to Patriot's Place, and practicing for their end of the year Music show. More info on all these events to come!

1 Photo Gallery





5th graders presenting their weather slideshows to the first and second grades. These were done in Mrs. Miller's library class, using the Chromebooks and Google slides.

