



Lura Libby School

December Update



A Note from the Principal...

What a busy two weeks it has been. There has been a great deal of anticipation in the air for the upcoming winter break and holiday events. Students have been busy at work here at school but also busy with fun activities. Many of those activities are highlighted in this newsletter. It is hard to believe that winter break is nearly upon us and there is no snow on the ground and temperatures have not yet dipped cold enough to keep us inside for recess. What an unusual December it has been. Typically by now students are wearing ski pants to recess daily and there is evidence of fun with the snow on the playground, such as snow angel prints and partially built snowmen. Instead I see spots of green grass and leaves outside my window. We have had rain rather than snow and temperatures near fifty degrees. It will be interesting to see what the weather brings over vacation. I wish you all a fun and restful vacation spent with family and friends. Enjoy!



Important Dates	
School Vacation	12/23-1/1
Family Movie Night Doors open at 6:10 p.m. Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.	1/8
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No school	1/18
Early Dismissal 12:00 p.m.	1/27

Cookies with Santa, by Janelle Eddy

Lura Libby School held a Cookies with Santa event on Saturday December 19. The Friends and Family of Lura Libby group sponsored the event. The event organizer was art teacher and parent group liaison, Janelle Eddy. The children decorated cookies with frosting and colorful sprinkles, and decorated gift bags with stickers and markers. Children visited with Santa and had their photo taken by Principal Ainslee Riley. Parents and family members enjoyed hot chocolate, coffee, and freshly popped popcorn while the children shopped with our volunteers. Once the children finished shopping they wrapped their gifts in the art room. Many volunteers from Lura Libby School and Oceanside East and West helped to make this a fun family event.



Holiday Concert, by Bev Pacheco

The students of Lura Libby School presented 'The Holidays Are Here Special' on Friday December 18 in the multipurpose room to a wonderful audience of parents, teachers, and friends. Kindergarten's theme was Winter is Here :Get Ready. Musical numbers included *Ring those Bells, On a Wintry Day, and Freeze*. Holiday numbers included *I Have a Little Dreidel, Rudolph The Red- Nose Reindeer, S_A_N_T_A, Santa Claus is coming to Town, and We wish you a Merry Christmas*. Grade 1 and 2 celebrated Christmas Eve with the musical Magic of *Santa Claus is Coming, This Holiday, and Jingle Bells*. *Midnight in the House* (A Nutcracker theme), *UP on the House Top, and Dreams of Harmony*. Their section was complete with a very fun 'Jamin' in my Jammies' number. Grade 3 and 4 celebrated the holiday season with many beautiful numbers including *Silver Bells, Christmas is Here, Hannukkah is Here at Last, and Snoopy's Christmas*. A thoughtful new number, *Beautiful Christmas* brought the reason for the season of Hope and Peace. Concluding the concert was a swinging, Singing number called 'Swing in' in a Holiday Mood.'

My appreciation goes out to the many hands that helped make this concert successful. The students were terrific. I can't imagine the holidays without a student concert.





Frog Exploration

These are some photos of students in Miss Cates' third grade class exploring frogs as part of a science unit they are completing right now.



Focus Class - Grade K, Mrs. Simendinger's Class

The kindergarteners have grown and changed so much since September. We are working on phonics by putting letter sounds together. We know a vowel in the middle will make a CVC word, once the sounds are made, the students are learning to blend the sounds together to make words. We also have over 20 sight words, and are finding and reading them daily. When we put these two skills together we can read. We have had many fun projects for letters and have heard many wonderful books.

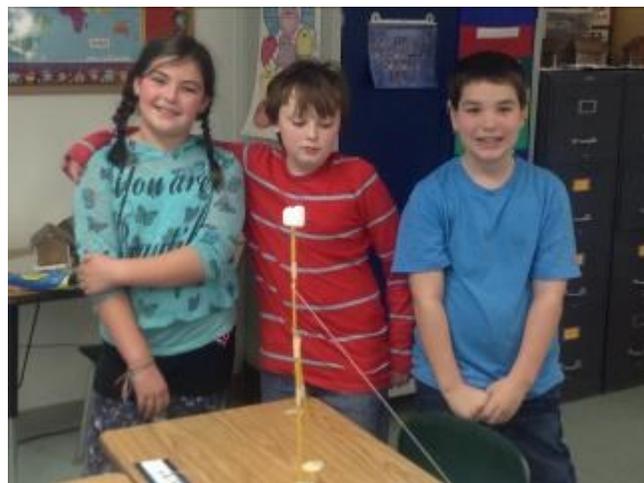
Making patterns in math has been fun. We started off creating AB patterns and in no time at all, there were some very tricky patterns made. We practice rote counting daily. We are up to 50 by 1's with a kindergarten goal of 100.

There's so much to learn and do in kindergarten!



Focus Class - Ms. Richter's Fourth Grade Science

With a very busy daily academic schedule, we have to be creative in making time for science. This past week, we worked on developing engineering skills. Students, working in groups of four, collaborated to build the tallest structure possible using the following materials: 20 pieces of spaghetti, 1 yard of masking tape, 1 yard of string, and a marshmallow. The marshmallow had to be supported at the top of the structure. No additional materials were used! Different approaches were used by each group with varying levels of success. The tallest structure measured 20 inches. The second place structure measured a close 18 3/4 inches. Two structures were unable to support the marshmallow at the top. Science journal notes were completed. Students worked hard and were enthusiastic about the challenge.



Hour of Code at Lura Libby School, by Kristen Gould

Lura Libby students participated in Hour of Code activities in celebration of Computer Science Education Week. From December 8-21, 2015 students used blocks to create code to move either a Fuzz, Lightbot, or a Foos to complete a task in an Hour of Code activity in the computer lab. Mrs. Hatch and Mrs. Gould supported students while they worked at their first coding experience. They learned that coding is the way people tell a computer what to do using instructions that the computer understands. Students said that coding can be fun and challenging. Each student received an Hour of Code certificate for their coding work. They all did an amazing job! If you'd like to learn more about this activity you can search Hour of Code.

