

# The Stewart Scoop

## From the Principal

Welcome to the first issue of The Stewart Scoop! We anticipate that this monthly communication tool will assist your understanding of overall happenings in the school and will allow us to share and celebrate the work and successes of all of our students and teachers.

We have experienced an exciting start to the 2009-2010 school year, with a total of 37 school days already completed as of the writing of this article. Students have taken part in a tremendous amount of learning experiences both in and out of the classroom, as you will read in many of the grade level pieces later in the Scoop.

I'd like to draw your attention to a few timely issues for our building. First, all families should have received information last week describing our morning drop-off and afternoon pickup procedures. This information is not new for this year. Rather, it is a review of the procedures that have been in place for several years at Stewart. We continue to evaluate the efficiency of these procedures as well as how to ensure everyone's compliance in order to keep all students, parents, and staff safe. Please read this information carefully and contact the school if you have any questions.

Also, attached to this newsletter you will find important information regarding our Halloween parade and parties scheduled for Friday, October 30. Please read this information carefully and contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

We look forward to continuing to work with you this school year and are excited about the learning and growth that we know all students will experience.

Sincerely,

Brian Graber



## FALL BOOK FAIR

The Fall Book Fair is coming! Be sure to visit the fair in the Stewart library 8:00 AM-3:15 PM Monday - Wednesday (Nov. 2-

4), Wednesday 4:00-8:00 PM, and Thursday (Nov. 5) from 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM. All profits benefit the students and go

toward funding author visits, Read Across America, and the student library collection.

---

John Stewart  
817 Prairie Valley St  
Elburn, IL 60119  
Phone: 630-365-8170  
Fax: 630-365-0651

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 23, 2009

---

### Dates to remember

- ☺ Oct. 23- End of 1st Qtr.
  - ☺ Oct. 26-Board of Education Meeting 7:00 pm
  - ☺ Oct. 30-Box Tops/Tyson/Campbell Labels due
  - ☺ Oct. 30-Halloween Parade 2:15 pm
  - ☺ Nov. 2- report cards sent home.
  - ☺ Nov. 4- Fun Lunch-Hot dog
  - ☺ Nov. 4-Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-8:00 pm
  - ☺ Nov. 5-NO SCHOOL Parent Teacher Conferences 10:00 am-8:00 pm
  - ☺ Nov. 6-NO SCHOOL
  - ☺ Nov. 9-Board of Education Meeting 7:00 pm
-

## KINDERGARTEN IS FULL OF EXCITEMENT

Our excitement in Kindergarten is contagious! Zero the Hero helps us count to 100 each day. Can you believe that we have already been learning for 40 days! Kindergarten friendships are underway and we know our daily routines and structures. The Kindergarteners have jumped

into the learning opportunities that autumn offers as we begin our yearlong investigation of trees. Kindergarteners practice their emerging literacy skills daily through our letter sound books. Do you know who the "H Brothers" are? This month we are

studying the authors Tana Hoban and Donald Crews. We ourselves are authors each day as we illustrate and tell our stories in writer's workshop. We are going to have a fabulous year of fun and learning! Kindergarteners are SMART!

## FIRST GRADE IS OFF TO A BUSY START

Things are busy in First Grade! First Grade classes braved the weather and went on a field trip to Goebbert's Pumpkin Patch last week. Students observed the change in seasons, experienced the workings of the

farm, and picked out their own pumpkins. First Grade is also in the middle of their month-long author study of Mo Willems. They are enjoying some of his amusing books like *Knuffle Bunny* and the *Elephant and Piggie*

books. They are working hard and learning more and more each day!



## SECOND GRADE STUDYING THE HUMAN BODY

During this quarter, all of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes have been studying about the human body. And to make it even more exciting the students have been rotating to different teachers! With Mrs.

Blake, the students learned about the food pyramid and healthy food choices. In Mrs. Doll's room, they learned about the respiratory and circulatory systems. When they visited Mrs. Hensley's room, they studied the parts and

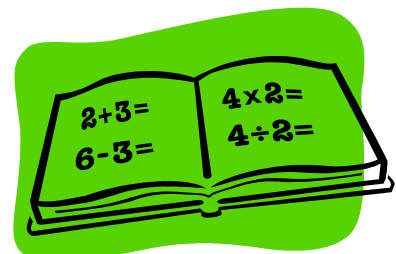
functions of the brain. Mrs. Hill taught the students all about digestion. The students learned about the 5 senses from Mrs. Ogden. As one student said "This is awesome to get to know all the teachers and learn about the

## THIRD GRADE IS LEARNING THEIR FACTS

In third grade we are working on expository writing while focusing on organization and expressive details. In math we are working on measurement and we will be starting

multiplication facts soon. Therefore, addition and subtraction facts should have been mastered by now. We're looking forward to sharing your child's progress

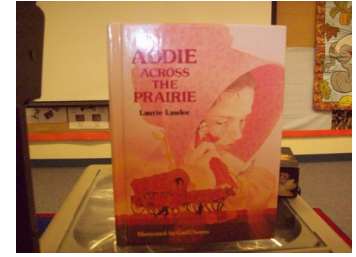
with you at conferences.



## FOURTH GRADE PRAIRIE ADVENTURES

Fourth grade has spent the first quarter exploring the prairie: reading the book *Addie Across the Prairie*, studying the plants and animals that make up a prairie, stewardship, visiting the prairie at Fermilab, listening to the author Laurie Lawlor (who wrote *Addie*), and making a prairie pendant in Art classes. The entire fourth grade, students and teachers, would like to thank the PTN for funding our

prairie field trip. We all had a great adventure learning!



## FIFTH GRADE AT LORADO TAFT

We had another successful adventure at Lorado Taft. The perfect weather helped make the trip an overall enjoyable learning experience. With the addition of Mrs. Root to this year's team, we also found our new "Aunt Millie". Now that we're back and settled, it's

back to business. We have been working hard in writing and students are getting ready to publish their expository essay papers. We look forward to meeting with parents at conferences in November to share these great works.



## ART TO REMEMBER PROJECTS

The Stewart art classes have been busy this fall working on their projects that are sent to the "Art To Remember" program. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade student's studied Vincent Van Gogh's sunflowers, viewed real sunflowers, and then created a watercolor painting of sunflowers. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders viewed two illustrators and created realistic or whimsical fish. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students have cre-

ated birds while they study the color wheel and the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students created farm animals. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade students tried their hand at drawing cats, and the kindergarten students created a snowman.

During the month of November you should receive a package with a magnet displaying your child's art work. You may

choose to purchase it along with other items that you would like to give to family members for the Holidays.

Proceeds made from the sales are used for our "in house" murals and "artists in residence" program.



## What is RtI?

RtI is a systematic, problem-solving model that has been put into full implementation this year as part of the district's reading curriculum. The intent of RtI is to provide ongoing assessment of students' learning and to provide targeting instruction based on this assessment in order to meet the needs of all students.

## How do I find out more about the RtI model and what it means for my child?

If you have any questions regarding RtI or would like to schedule an appointment, please contact Julia Cloat, RtI Facilitator at 630/365-8170 x214 or at [julia.cloat@kaneland.org](mailto:julia.cloat@kaneland.org).

## Meet the Special Service Team

Greetings from the John Stewart Special Services Staff! We are the staff members who work to improve student learning through support in the areas of language arts, math, speech-language, social skills, and behavior. We work with students who have identified delays or disabilities which impact their progress at school. This year, the K-5 staff members are also excited to begin working with the Response to Intervention (RTI) program to help support the reading progress of students within the general education setting through the "Power Half-Hour" structure.

The members of the Special Services Staff are:

Early Childhood: Jan Gramley  
Integrated Readiness Program:  
Darlyne Dwyer

Cross-Categorical Teachers: Nicole Full and Julie Kolzow

Speech-Language: Sherry Beatty, Christine Baldrige, and Heather Weidenbach

Social Work: Melissa Sofia, LCSW and Kellie Stern, intern

School Psychologist: John Warrington

### LUNCH SCHEDULES

**1ST GRADE 11:10-11:30**

**2ND GRADE 11:35-11:55**

**3RD GRADE 12:00-12:20**

**4TH GRADE 12:30-12:50**

**5TH GRADE 12:55-1:15**

---

## Important Reminders

- Please notify the school by 8:30 am whenever your child is absent or tardy. Please call school and leave a message on the absence line.
  - In order to get students to their correct destination at the end of the day, a note must be sent with your child in the morning any time there is a change in your child's after school routine. Students without a note will be sent home their usual way.
  - With the cold weather upon us, please be sure to have your children dress appropriately and please label your children's clothing with their name as our lost and found continues to grow.
  - All parents are encouraged to sign up for the Kaneland Key Communicators Network (KCN). You can do so by selecting the link near the top right corner of the district webpage, located at [www.kaneland.org](http://www.kaneland.org). The purpose of the KCN is to enhance communications between the District and community. An e-mail message will be sent every Wednesday with District information to all participants. The information may include meetings, events, student successes, changes in the curriculum, finance information, and more.
-