



NORTHFIELD

elementary

RATED EXCELLENT WITH DISTINCTION

Principally Speaking

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS?

Grade One

In math, we are focusing on our math facts for addition and subtraction through 10. Children are learning these facts through math websites and math games. Children are learning how to count and exchange money.

They are also telling time to the quarter hour using analog clocks. Keep up all the hard work in math first graders! In Science we are starting our unit on Forces in Motion, we will be learning about magnets and how they push and pull objects. From there we will be going to Matter, where we will learn about the three states of matter and how they can change or be changed. We will be making our very own snow pals. So be sure to ask first grader what happened when we took our snow pals inside for the day!

In our Writer's Workshop time, children will be writing personal narrative stories using beginning, middle, and end and adding details to their stories. Students are also working hard on creating new poems in Poetry Workshop. You wouldn't believe how quickly they can type their poems in the computer lab! And they love publishing them in their poetry anthology!

We have a lot of exciting events coming up in the next few months with exciting learning opportunities. If you are a first grade parent please be sure to read our weekly newsletters to view all of the upcoming events! ☺

Dear Northfield Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays with family and friends. We have a lot to achieve in the months ahead and request your support in making sure your children are meeting their learning goals in reading, math, writing, science and social studies. The teachers continue to narrow their focus on standard-driven lessons, interventions and preparation for the state assessments coming up in the spring. We are working very hard at reaching our targets for a very successful year of increased student achievement. Please have your children complete their homework, memorize basic math facts in addition, subtraction and multiplication and/or read each night. Just by doing this, you are supporting your child's education and increasing their opportunity to learn! We want you to be involved, attend our school activities and communicate with your child's teachers as often as possible.

During the winter months, please be mindful we go outside for recess whenever the wind chill and temperature allows us to. Please make sure your child come to school all bundled up with their heavy winter coats, gloves, scarves and hats!

Thank you for your continued support in your child's education.

*Sincerely,
Miss Smith*

"Our Northfield Team — built on pride, courage, hard work and me!"

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS?

Kindergarten Update

We are half way through our kindergarten year already! We can't believe how fast time is going and how much the children are learning each day!

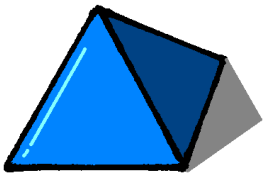
The children have been enjoying stories about friends in Theme 4 of our Houghton Mifflin Reading series. We are just about to begin Theme 5 which is called *Let's Count!* The children will be learning how to do a retelling and they will start to identify events in the beginning, middle, and end of stories. We have been working really hard with our letter sounds so we can blend them to make and read new words! It is so fun to see the excitement when the students realize they are reading!!!

In science, the children are learning about movement. We have discussed how things move in various ways and also that objects are made of parts. The kindergartners are learning about tools and we will use those tools to take apart some broken mechanical things.

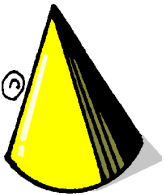
In math, the kindergartners have been working with shapes: comparing and contrasting them as well as counting edges and corners. We also learned about addition and subtraction number stories and have been reviewing how to write the numerals. The students enjoyed a game called "What's My Rule?" which is a guessing game about sorting objects. We will doing a lot with measurement in our upcoming unit and will be introduced to our first math workbooks!

There are so many more exciting things coming up in the near future in kindergarten! We have our 100th Day of School celebration in a few weeks where we will celebrate all our accomplishments in our first 100 days of kindergarten!!! We also will be having a Valentine's Day Post Office to help us learn about the postal service and it will also be a fun way to gather and distribute our valentines.

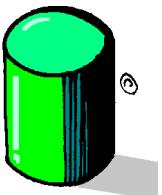
The first half of the school year has been amazing! We will continue going strong from here on out!



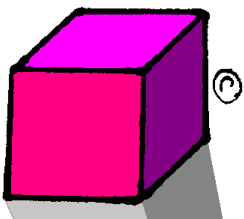
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Grade Two

Can you identify what lunar phase the moon is in right now? Our 2nd graders can! They have worked very hard learning about all eight moon phases, our biggest star – the sun, and how groups of stars in the sky make different constellations. They have truly enjoyed this science unit as much as the teachers enjoyed teaching it!

In social studies, students are learning about economics. They've learned all about what it means to be a consumer and producer and the differences between goods and services. We have also learned how various natural resources (wool, corn, wood, etc.) lead to the production of goods and services and their impact on our everyday lives. Next, we are going to learn about the currencies of different countries and some products they produce.

Got geometry? We do! Second graders know all about making line segments with endpoints and putting them together using a straightedge to make various 2D shapes such as the trapezoid, rhombus, or pentagon. Students have also been learning how parallel lines will never cross or meet and as intersecting lines do. Recently, students began study of various 3D objects (sphere, triangular prism, rectangular pyramid, cube, etc.) by comparing, contrasting, and actual hands-on building of some pyramids out of straws and twist-ties. Boy was that fun! We've also learned about symmetry and how to tell if an object has symmetry.

In language arts, 2nd graders are still reading stories from Theme 3: Around Town: Neighborhood and Community. We've read *Chinatown* which focused on making judgments based on characters' actions, *A Trip to the Firehouse*, which focused on main ideas and details, and *The Big Bushy Mustache* which focused on problem solving skills. To finish up our theme, we'll compare and contrast two new stories to the ones we've read already. Next time you're in, be sure to come down our hallway and check out our lockers to read all the awesome "Winter is..." poems we wrote!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS?

Grade Three

Third graders have been hard at work on our current unit in math on place value. Students have been working with whole numbers through millions and decimals through thousandths. We have been applying these concepts to reading, writing, comparing, and ordering whole numbers and decimals. We have also been using whole numbers and decimals in real-life contexts.

In language arts, we are in the middle of Theme 3: Incredible Stories. This is always a favorite theme with third graders. This theme includes many incredible stories by well-known authors, such as Dav Pilkey, Chris Van Allsburg, and Tomie dePaola. Students have been reading fantasy selections and have written their own stories. Students have been learning to apply different writing techniques, such as dialogue, and use grammar skills including possessives.

We are wrapping up a short unit on careers in science. It is amazing how many careers involve science! On January 25th, we will be having Science Career Day. Students will have the opportunity to listen to different speakers as they discuss their careers and how they relate to science. Next up is our forces and motion unit. Students will become familiar with motion, position, location, and speed. They will also explore different forces, such as pushes, pulls, and gravity. Thanks to our PTA, we had a visit from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and enjoyed a program on forces and motion. It was a great way to introduce this unit!

In social studies, third graders are concluding their geography unit. Students have read maps and located different points on maps and globes. Our next unit is on local history. We're looking forward to learning about Northfield's first settlers, the impact of the Ohio canal, and how our local community, Akron, and Summit County have changed over time.

We are very excited to have started our third grade postcard collection. If your student knows someone who lives out of state or will be traveling this school year, please ask him or her to send your student a postcard to Northfield! We will share the postcards we receive and display them near a world map to mark the destinations.

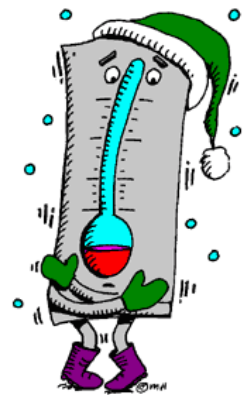
Grade Four

In math, we are just starting to learn division, measuring angles and coordinate grids. We will be moving into our next unit on fractions.

Roads, steamboats, canals and the railroad, also called the "Iron Horse," are the modes of transportation that we are discussing in social studies. The students are learning about the advantages and disadvantages of each new mode of transportation. We are also learning how the new transportation means helped Ohio's economy grow. This is a great way to also introduce economics, which will be our next unit.

In science, the students are finishing up their matter unit. They are exploring the states of matter and physical and chemical changes. The next unit will be weather. They will investigate how water changes from one state to another and describe weather by measurable quantities such as temperature, wind direction, wind speed, precipitation and barometric pressure.

Theme 3, *Amazing Stories*, is underway. We will have a chance to read some tall tales and other great stories that involve fantasy. Very exciting!





Nordia Knight Out with the Monsters!

Saturday February 18, 2012

7:30pm

Monsters vs. Americans

Quicken Loans Arena-Cleveland, OH



Special Offer Includes

- Tickets Only \$17 (\$22 game day price)
- \$5 off game day price!
- Monster's Pillowcase Giveaway (first 5,000 fans)

Nordia Knights Bonus:

- Nordonia Knights will receive a portion of each ticket purchased through this offer
- Nordonia Knights will receive all proceeds from the in-game Chuck-a-Puck fundraiser (visit Section 100 before the end of the 2nd intermission to show your support)

Complete the order form below and return with payment to
 Julia Henderson with Nordonia Middle School PTA
 By February 18, 2012



OR Return By

Fax to 216-420-2550

Mail to Quicken Loans Arena - Attn: Jessica Naderer

1 Center Ice

Cleveland, OH 44115

Please make all checks payable to: Lake Erie Monsters

Questions or to order by phone: call Jessica Naderer at the Lake Erie Monsters at (216) 420-2402.

LOWER LEVEL END ZONES & CORNERS	Total
# OF \$17 TICKETS (\$22 game day value lower level end zone and corner seats)	\$



FLASH SEATS

Flash Seats is the primary method of delivery for seating to Quicken Loans Arena events.
www.flashseats.com

All orders are subject to availability. No ticket required for children under the age of two. Video cameras are not allowed in Quicken Loans Arena. Orders must be placed by mail, fax, or phone. Offer and discounts not available at arena box office. No refunds or exchanges.

NAME _____ DAY PHONE () _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL (REQUIRED- Seats cannot be issued without valid email address) _____

PLEASE CHARGE VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

CARD# _____ EXP. DATE _____ SIG. _____

CHECK/MONEY ORDER (MADE OUT TO THE LAKE ERIE MONSTERS)

Driver's License # _____ State Where License was Issued: _____

METHOD OF DELIVERY:

Driver's license number required with cash and money orders to ensure delivery of seats with Flash Seats.

ALL SEATS WILL BE DELIVERED VIA FLASH SEATS - Just swipe the credit card used to make the purchase at any arena gate to enter with ease and convenience. If paying via check or money order, a valid driver's license can be used as an ID. Flash Seats eliminates paper tickets and prevents lost or stolen tickets.

Jessica Naderer W: 216-420-2402 E: jnaderer@lakeeriemonsters.com



LakeErieMonsters.com

twitter.com/MonstersHockey

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SST-8 PAC Workshops Held at Summit County ESC

420 Washington Avenue
Cuyahoga Falls, OH

All workshops are from 9:30 – 12:30 and include lunch for those who RSVP
Please call Alice Doyle @ 330-929-6634 ext. 511232 to register

January 11, 2012 “Transition Panel Specific to Employment” with representatives from Option 4, Work Study, SST, UDS, Project Search, Summit DD, and Mental Health

February 8, 2012 “How Does Your Engine Run?” - The ALERT Program on Sensory Integration with Becky Mohler, MS, OTR/L

March 14, 2012 “Puberty and Sexuality for Persons with Developmental Disabilities” with Donna J. Bernert, PhD, LSHE Assist. Professor – Health & Education, Kent State University

April 11, 2012 “Parent Rights” with Karen Lyke, Ohio Coalition

May 2, 2012 “What’s Going on in Ohio?” Learn about legislation, scholarships, waivers, housing, and more with Gary Tonks, Exec. Director, ARC of Ohio

January 25, 2012 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Transition Drives the IEP

Participants will gain an understanding of the importance of transition planning for after high school for youth with special needs. Discussion will focus on the requirements under IDEA 2004 for writing a transition plan, when the process should begin, timelines, and who is involved in writing the transition plan. How to encourage youth to express their interests and future plans is presented with the use of transition cards

Location – Nordonia Hills Branch Library - 9458 Olde Eight Road - Northfield, OH

February 22, 2012 ~ 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Whose Idea Is This?

Parents Rights in the Special Education Process

Have you ever read the little blue book that you receive at your child’s IEP meeting and do you really understand it? This training will take you through “Whose Idea Is This” and you will gain an understanding functional knowledge of parents' rights under IDEA 2004. The six components of FAPE will be discussed and explained. Timelines under IDEA, as well as the evaluation, referral and testing process will be covered. Participants also will learn and obtain an understanding of mediation, ODE complaint procedures, resolution meetings and due process procedures.