

Arthur E. Canty School

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Telephone #: 773.534.1238

Website: www.cantyschool.org

February 2020 Newsletter

A Note from the Principal

Dear Canty Families,

2020 is off to a great start! All of our students 1st-8th grades have completed the middle of the year NWEA testing. These results are being used to support the learning for students the remainder of the year. Students will receive their NWEA progress reports with report cards distributed on February 7th. Please review grades with your child and talk about goals for them to be successful throughout the spring. Valentine's Day is approaching, any candy or non-healthy treats will be sent to school will be sent home and not distributed. Please consider non-food treats. The healthy snack list can be found on the Canty website.

Absences and early dismissals are on the rise and a growing concern. Research shows that students with 95% or better attendance are the most successful academically over time and that elementary school attendance is a predictor of success in high school and beyond. To achieve 95% attendance students can only be absent 8 times over the course of an entire school year. This is for all absences regardless if they are excused. If your child does miss school a note with a signature must be sent to school for the absence to be excused. Vacations will never be excused absences. Also, many times the school is unable to reach families due to voicemail boxes being full resulting in being unable to leave a message if you miss a call from Canty.

Reminder about outdoor recess, please send students prepared to be outside for recess when the temperature with windchill is 20 degrees or warmer. Students must have a coat and are strongly encouraged to have a hat and gloves. Dismissal is at 3:00pm, if a student is not picked up on time, come to the door one and you will be directed where to pick up your student and sign them out.

Social Media can be a great way to connect, however sometimes it can be used in negative ways. Parents, we are encouraging you to monitor your child's social media accounts. If interactions on social media impact school in any negative way we will address it at school following guidelines in the Students Rights and Responsibilities. Sharing any concerning content from social media with school administration requires screenshots of the entire interaction. We are unable to address issues that are based solely on hearsay or rumor. We also are unable to address situations that are not impacting students while they are at school.

Please review report cards and reach out via email to teachers with any questions or concerns. Actively checking Aspen is a great way to stay up to date.

When in doubt, just reach out!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rath

Principal

jprath@cps.edu



Student Attendance days
(Work Stoppage Make-up days)

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Thursday, June 18, 2020 (Last day of School)

LSC Elections for the 2020 to 2022 term

Serving on a Local School Council (LSC) provides a unique opportunity to become engaged in your school community and play an active role in making policy decisions affecting your school. LSCs are critical to ensuring positive student outcomes and a dynamic school environment. LSC members are elected every two years by parents, community members, and school staff.

Members serve two-year terms. The 2020 LSC elections will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 for elementary schools from 6am to 7pm. Forms can be obtained by coming to the school office or going to the LSC page at <https://cps.edu/lscrelations/Pages/LSCelections.aspx> All forms are due to the school office by Thursday, March 5th by 3pm.

If anyone wishes to serve as a **LSC Judge** for the upcoming LSC election, please apply before March 12, 2020. All applicants must complete an application form, located in the main office. The LSC election will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 (Report Card Pick-Up). Judges will receive \$180 for the day. If you are interested or if you have any questions please contact Canty School.

School Fee

The Local School Council has set the School fee of \$90 dollars. The School Fee helps Canty School buy additional curriculum materials like novels, magazines and online educational materials. The website to pay online is <https://magic.collectorsolutions.com/magic-ui/Login/Cps22541-arthur-e-canty-es>
(The website link is at www.cantyschool.org under the Quick Start tab)

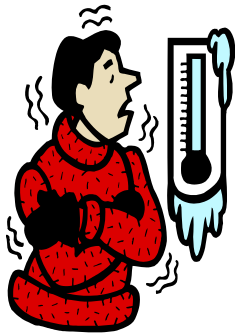


Medical Forms

Dental Exam for students: *Kindergarten, 2nd and 6th grade* ~ Due by 5/15/20

School Website

* Please check out www.cantyschool.org for more information and useful links about Canty School!



Recess

Please send your child prepared to go outside for recess with warm coats, hats and gloves. Students will be outside for recess everyday the temperature with wind chill is above 20 degrees. Students have the option to play on the playground or the field. The field is muddy at times and students may become dirty during recess. They can choose to play on the playground instead.

Friends of Canty

Friends of Canty is going GREEN! In order to conserve paper, Friends of Canty will no longer send flyers home. Instead, we'll always post news and events on our Facebook page. Please follow us at "Friend of Canty"! We will also be sending email blasts from Canty.

Valentine's Day is around the corner! Drop off your kids from 6pm to 8pm, on Friday, February 7th and we'll keep them busy with fun while you go on a date with that special someone. Registration will open online this week.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 10th at 3pm in Room 113. The Friends of Canty email address is friendsofcanty@gmail.com. We'd love to hear your ideas, too! Everyone is welcome!

Grade Level News



Rooms 125 and 127 are busy with their Unit of Study on Clothing. They will be investigating pennies, nickels, and the seasons of Groundhogs, Valentine's and President's Day. They will also be studying letters Pp, Qq, Rr, and Ss. Room 126 will be exploring letters L, V, and W along with identifying quarters and pennies. Please continue to watch the weather. If we have 3 inches of snow send mittens for snow play.

Wow, we can't believe that we are halfway done with the school year. The Kindergarten students have been working very hard. We have an exciting event coming up in February, we will celebrate the 100th day of school on February 27th! This is always celebrated in grand fashion in the Kindergarten Classrooms with a BIG party. We are looking forward to many exciting 100th day activities. We are asking each child to complete a 100th day project. In Language Arts, we will continue to work on letters, letter sounds and decoding words, please work with your child on their 3rd quarter sight words, knowing these words makes reading easy!! We are becoming great writers and have been working on expanding our writing to include details. In Math, we are exploring teen numbers, which requires us to learn about place value. Students will be bringing home their 2nd quarter report cards, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's report card, please contact your child's teacher.



The first grade students finished the first semester strong! We are all very proud of how much the students have grown thus far. We have reached the half-way point of the school year and will be celebrating the 100th day of school this month. The students will be working on their 100th day projects at home and presenting them to the class. We are continuing with our Non-Fiction Units in Reading and our Numbers to 20 in Math. In Social Studies, the kids will continue studying important people in our history. We strongly encourage you to use Raz-Kids to practice on-level reading and Happy Numbers to practice math skills at home. These programs are both available for you to use at home. Please contact us if you need your login credentials.

We are working hard in second grade! In Math, we will officially be ending our multiplication unit, but encourage parents to work on fact fluency while at home. (2's, 5's, and 10's). We will begin our measurement unit soon. In Reading, we are continuing to read an assortment of books that focus on different themes. Raz kids is always encouraged to practice at home. We are starting a new unit in Science which will engage students in the properties of different materials. In Social Studies, we will learn about democracy.



3rd Grade

In **Math**, third grade is continuing to work on the memorization of multiplication facts. Remember, multiplication facts can be practiced anywhere, including car rides :) We will continue working with multiplication of two and three digit numbers. We will begin working on division with remainders. Students should continue working on the memorization of their multiplication facts using their flashcards and IXL. We will begin working on bar graphs and line plots toward the end of the month. Has anyone ever told you that you have your mother's eyes or your dad's hair color? Well, in **Science** this month we will begin our unit on Inheritance and Traits to find out why! We will start by investigating the similarities and differences between different organisms and how to identify their traits. In **Social Studies**, we are continuing our unit on map skills, focusing on the Map Key and Map Scale. We will also be reading and discussing the novel, "Take a Stand, Rosa Parks!" In **ELA**, we are having a BLAST reading Bunnacula! This is a great story about a bunny that the other pets THINK may be a vampire bunny! We use this story to help us understand point of view and perspective! Students are writing a diary from the bunny's point of view after every chapter! We will also write a Diary of a Snowman for a writing project! When the novel is finished, we will jump back into our next issue of StoryWorks Jr.

Wow, we can't believe how fast the 3rd quarter has arrived. It is with great pleasure that we welcome Ms. Ahmed to the 4th grade team. She will be taking over Mrs. McLean's position for Reading, Writing, and Social Studies. In **Math**, students will be working on fractions. This would be a great opportunity to have your child assist you with cooking and baking. In **Science**, we will continue working on Energy Conversion. Hopefully, by the end of the month we will begin a new unit on Light and Vision. In **ELA**, we will dive deeper into using context clues to determine the meaning of words. Additionally, we will begin work on using constructed responses when responding to literature. If possible please read with your child for at least 30 minutes a day. Report cards for the second quarter will be sent home, if you have any questions, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

4th Grade

5th Grade

In **Room 239 Math**, we are finished with Chapter 3 and are moving forward into Chapter 4. We will be working on multiplying and dividing fractions. Please remember to continue practicing these skills on IXL. In **Room 239 Science**, we are concluding our space unit and will begin our unit on matter. In **Room 238 Science**, we are starting Chapter 3, still working on our astronomy unit with stars and constellations. Students will learn about what constellations are visible at what time of the year. They will also learn how to do a systematic scientific investigation. We had a lot of fun doing all the science experiments live in the classroom. All the students did a great job! In **Room 238 Math**, we are finishing ch. 9 on multiplication and division of fractions, and we will move on to decimals. The chapters on decimals we will learn how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. This is a perfect time to use receipts from the stores and let your child add them up or subtract items from them to practice. Another activity could be to practice ordering decimals in correct order from least to greatest. Please keep practicing IXL every night. In **Room 216 ELA**, we have finished our animal themed book; our projects will be collected on February 6th. Our next independent reading is a fictional peer issue book based on "Coming of age". Please use these novels and the themes to discuss issues about growing up. Your child has really grown and matured before our eyes. Keep reading to use as a bridge to communication. In **Room 216 Social Studies**, we are learning about our country's path to freedom - The American Revolution unit. It was an exciting time for our nation and formed many of the values we still use today. Discuss the events and American values with your child. Please use the many stories related to this time period in American history to enhance our classroom learning and discussions. There is so much knowledge out there, please join your child on the adventure. Stay warm during February and bundle up with some good books.

In Science, Sixth grade medical interns did a great job evaluating available evidence to determine if an elite bike racer had been blood doping. They are now transforming into engineering interns to design a health bar needed to provide relief to a natural disaster. After researching and designing their energy bars, they will write a proposal, including information about taste, cost, and the metabolic needs of the target population. Then, we will move forward with our next unit, traits and reproduction- the genetics of spider silk. In Social Studies, we have wrapped up our Atlas & Almanac issue by creating our own maps. In our next Junior Scholastic article, students will read, discuss, and write about the use of child labor on farms in the U.S. In Math, Sixth Grade has been diving deep into Algebraic Expressions. After Expressions, we will be focusing on interpreting and solving Algebraic Equations. This will be the first time sixth graders will balance an equation, rather than moving from left to right, to find an unknown. From there, we will apply what we have learned about Expressions and Equations to our work with Ratios and Rates. In ELA, we are finishing up our Argumentative Essay which we completed piece by piece. We learned terms such as claim, evidence, transitions, counterclaim, bridge, and rebuttal. We will continue with short stories that help us understand first and third person point of view, make connection to the story, make predictions, characterization and visualize using description.



seventh GRADE

Welcome to the 3rd quarter! Great news... ALL 7th graders have passed the Federal and State Constitution test!!! In Social Studies, we will continue to use our Junior Scholastic magazine to help us develop our curriculum. We will also be applying the knowledge we gained from the constitution to real life situations. We will be talking about what it means to be a citizen in today's society and what obligations you have as a US and IL citizen. In Math, we are finishing up our algebra unit and soon moving on to geometry. In geometry, we are finding angles theoretically, without the usage of protractors. After that, we will be moving onto finding surface area and volume of 3D shapes. In Science, we are wrapping up our regular unit on Plate motion and will be doing our first "internship" with Amplify, Plate motion engineering internship. This is where students will be working on tsunami warning systems, learning, researching and designing. I am really looking forward to this next unit!

In 8th grade Math and Algebra, we will be continuing to learn about linear equations and systems of equations and going in depth in the study of functions. In ELA, we will continue to work on our Social Justice Poetry books, *Indivisible*. *Indivisible* is a poetry anthology that provides the opportunity to combine teaching poetic devices and poetry writing with the themes of American Identity. As students examine the poems and their meanings, students will examine word choice, imagery, syntax, creative punctuation, and repetition give meaning and unity to the poem to support their understanding of poetry. In Science, students are continuing to learn about evolutionary history while applying concepts they learned previously about natural selection. In the second half of the year the focus in class will shift to physical and space sciences.



The ACCESS test will end on February 7th for all EL students. I wanted to thank all the students who participated in taking this test for their effort in answering about four language domains: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. I also wanted to thank all the teachers who assisted with the ACCESS test. The results will come in June and we are already looking forward to the results. I strongly believe a lot of our students will receive a score of 4.8 which is the exit criteria score. Did you know that students who learn another language, whether it is English or any other language, master the listening and reading skills first? Speaking and writing come much later. If you know a bilingual student, please keep that in mind. Provide assistance whenever possible. Helping each other means we are part of the same team!



Diverse Learner Information

The end of quarter two is upon us. Please look out for IEP Report Cards coming home with Academic Report Cards. If you have any questions, please contact your child's case manager. Oral health and cognitive function are closely related, so keep your pearly whites clean and your brain sharp! Need a friendly dentist to help? Try Sprout Pediatrics on Northwest Highway. They work with children who have autism, sensory processing disorder, and much more!



February is...National Children's Dental Health Month

Counselor's Corner ~ Mr. Beach ~ jbeach@cps.edu ~ 773.534.1257

I am pleased to share that I have begun pushing into classrooms to deliver social-emotional learning lessons. Since just before, and after, winter break, I've visited all middle school (6th, 7th, and 8th) grades to talk about stress and anxiety. During February and the beginning of March, I will be visiting K-5 classrooms to talk about life skills such as respect, problem-solving, tolerance, and resolving conflict.

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind families the importance of student attendance; not only as a statistical metric, but more importantly the evidenced-based correlation between student attendance and future academic success.

Have a wonderful second semester Cougars!



Happy Valentine's Day

