

## Super Kids

Gracie Mahurin	Marcus Sydnor
Horizon Hutchison	Michael Lynch
Sammy Midyett	Will Hogarth
Bobby Garrison	

## Good Citizens

Makinzy Mainieri	Josie Horne
Anthony Bange	Chelsea Toeniskoetter
Brittney Taubig	Anthony Peterson
Devin Hartley	Paul Brickey
Hallie Vombey	Alex Boedeker
Kristen White	Wayne Holland

## Kindergarten

The kindergarteners have studied all 26 letters and all of the sounds in the alphabet, but we are not finished yet. We will be continuing with the digraphs and long vowel sounds. We learned a rule that a vowel not followed by a consonant makes the long sound or says its name. We are still faithfully reading our weekly word lists and our emergent readers. We are also increasing the number of sight words on our word walls (Don't forget, we need to know all 50 sight words by the end of kindergarten!). Writing is still a daily ritual. Mastering beautiful writing skills is now our goal. In math, we will be finishing up our unit on shapes, symmetry, and counting greater numbers 10-31.

## First Grade

Wow, it's hard to believe we're in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter with only 34 and 1/2 days of school left! First graders have developed into very good readers. Most of the students have improved their writing skills, but there is still room for enhancing sentence structure and making sense out of what is written. We will continue working on this area until the end of the year. In math, we will be studying time and measurement. Then move on to geometry, fractions and two-digit adding and subtracting. Continue memorizing math facts and counting money! Many students need much practice with these important skills. In science our units will consist of the study of weather and the study of

seeds and plants. We will be growing our own plants and doing some experiments to learn more about how they grow. We have learned to correctly spell over 100 sight words plus phonics words. The students are responsible to spell these words right in their writing.

## Second Grade

April will be a very busy month for second-graders. We will be reading two chapter books, Nate the Great and Cam Jansen. We will finish up our phonics series and will be reviewing the many sight words and skills we've learned this year. In math, we've started our unit on geometry and later in the month we'll move into telling time. We will finish up our science unit on the earth and begin our unit on dinosaurs. Native Americans will be our focus in social studies. Second graders are really excited about the warmer days and being able to be outside more!

## Third Grade

Third graders are achieving great success with their academics. We are so very proud of them. They have been working hard to prepare for the MAP test. The students will be working on the MAP test the first two weeks of this month. We will begin with Communication Arts and then we will do Math the next week. We will begin wrapping a lot of curriculum up in the next few weeks. Plants will be our focus in science. In math, fractions and division will be our main focus. In English we will study dictionary skills. In reading Mrs. Niffen's class will be reading a story about four runaways living in a boxcar, Mrs. Hagemeyer's class will be reading about a boy with a chocolate touch and Mrs. Ogden's class will be reading about a family living during the pioneer era. The last weeks of school are going to be full of many things still to learn.

## Fourth Grade

April in the fourth grade can be so stressful! We have MAP testing, and that's enough! Although that may not sound like much, the students have to remember such a large amount of information in

math and communication arts. It is extremely important that they get a healthy breakfast and plenty of sleep during these times. We encourage the students to do their best and take their time. With spring in the air and the end of the year approaching so quickly the students are getting anxious for school to be over, but we hope all parents will take the time to encourage their children to stay focused a little longer. Fourth grade will have several big events approaching, like the Civil War Re-enactment with the fifth grade, our field trip to Missouri's first state capital in St. Charles, along with that we will visit the Lewis and Clark museum. We will be offering, once again, a reward trip to a roller skating rink for all students that showed exemplary behavior and effort during MAP testing. April will be very busy for fourth grade!

## Computer Lab

During March, all classes investigated the importance of health, fitness, and nutrition in their daily life. These interactive activities are sure to help the children pave the way to a healthier spring. Please visit the Nutrition links at home. We also brought literature, letter writing and technology together for a quick look the various ways people communicate with each other through letter writing. We examined the parts of a letter, writing addresses, state abbreviations, zip codes, post cards and other correspondence that may arrive in the mail. During April, students will need to decide on the topic for their PowerPoint presentation revolving around Health, Fitness, and Nutrition. Please talk to your child if they need help deciding on their topic. They love using PowerPoint and these presentations always turn out great. Please feel free to check out our School Website at <http://www.elsberryschools.com> –go to Elementary and click on the Computer Lab to visit our favorites at home.

## Art

Spring is a busy time for art students. We will focus on the difference between bold and pastel colors and learn how to make them. The boys and

girls will have fun as we paint using spray bottles, sponges, their fingers, and much more. On warm days you may even find us out on the playground drawing with sidewalk chalk. Remember, art projects foster creativity, and can pass the time on a rainy day.

## Library

Students in 1st-3rd grade voted on their favorite Show Me Reader, and Police Cat by Enid Hinkes was the winner. Fourth-sixth graders chose Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan as their favorite Mark Twain Award nominee. The Children's Literature Festival at University of Central Missouri was exciting, with students meeting authors Vivian Vande Vlede, Teri Sloat, Kate McMullan, and Patricia Hermes. Several Elsberry students are pictured on [www.vivianvandevelde.com](http://www.vivianvandevelde.com) in a picture with the author! April is poetry month, so we will be reading and writing poetry, as well as studying the work of Cheryl Harness. April 12th is National Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) day, so please spend half an hour reading with your child on this Saturday.

## Important Dates

- 4-8 1:00 dismissal for teacher training
- 4-9thru 4-11 Kindergarten Registration  
7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. all days  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on 4-10-08
- 4-22 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Choir Concert  
7:00 in the Elementary Gym

**SAVE USED CELL PHONES AND INK CARTRIDGES FOR MR. CLEVELAND!**

**WE ARE ALSO COLLECTING BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION AND CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS.**

