

Mark Denman Elementary

February 2018

Theme:

Focus on collaborating about student learning for substantial results.



Mission:

Mark Denman will provide a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment where all individuals will be actively engaged in personal and academic growth.

Special Events:

- ◆ Girls Basketball Practice - Feb. 1
- ◆ Basketball Tournament - Feb. 3
- ◆ Progress Reports - Feb. 7
- ◆ Early Out @ 1:30 - Feb. 14
- ◆ Board Mtg - Feb. 14
- ◆ IPA Student Breakfast - Feb. 15
- ◆ Girls Leadership - Feb. 15
- ◆ NO SCHOOL - Feb. 19
- ◆ Scholastic Bowl Meet - Feb. 20 (at MP)
- ◆ Family Math Night - Feb. 22
- ◆ Feb. Birthdays - Feb. 23
- ◆ Scholastic Bowl - Feb. 27 (at MDE)
- ◆ Early Out @ 1:30 - Feb. 28
- ◆ Board Mtg - Feb. 28

Hello, Mark Denman Families!

MDE Families,

February is upon us, and before we know it, we will be taking our PARCC assessments. All students in 3rd and 4th grade will complete state tests (PARCC) on the computer again this year. Students are practicing and preparing for these assessments each day in class!

We invite all MDE families to come out this Saturday, February 3, and cheer on our 4th grade boys and girls basketball teams. The first game starts at 8:00, with the last game starting at 1:15. Come out to MDE, bring your money for the concession stand, and have fun cheering on the ROCK-ETS!

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 22! We will have our MDE Math Night at 5:00. Join us in the cafeteria for fun family games and food!

Be on the watch for our upcoming fundraiser. Information will be sent home soon. And don't forget to check your child's bookbag next Wednesday for their Progress Report!

With the flu season hitting our area hard, we want to keep the flu from spreading. Please keep sick children at home, fever free for 24-hours without the help of Tylenol or Ibuprofen. Continue to have children wash their hands, cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues or by using the inside of their elbows. Let's work together to not spread the flu germs!

Please remember that school starts at 7:50 a.m., with breakfast at 7:20 a.m. Students need to be in their classrooms by 7:50 to be counted as in school, on time.

Mrs. Pabst, Ms. Richardson and Mr. Day



ATTENTION INCOMING KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS!

Do you have a child entering Kindergarten?

There are important requirements that you need to be aware of before school starts!

- ◆ Until completed, your student will not be able to attend school, and our goal is that EVERY child have all of the requirements completed at registration!
- ◆ Proof of the following is required:
 - 1) Physical exam (must include diabetes screening)
 - 2) Up-to-date immunizations
 - 3) Lead screening
 - 4) Proof of residency
 - 5) Court house issued birth certificate
- ◆ Copies of health examination forms are available in the school office or from your health care provider.

Plan ahead and schedule your child's eye exam and dental exam, too!

- ◆ Proof of an eye exam is due October 15
- ◆ Dental exam by May 15

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's school!



Here's the Grade-Level Scoop!

Hello, Kindergarten Families!

This month we will celebrate 100th Day on Friday, February 2, if no more snow days are used! We will be working on the letters Gg, Dd, Ww and Ll. We will be working on the following new sight words; jump, one, are, have, said and two! Please continue working on reading these words at home. We are becoming good readers in Kindergarten! In Math, we are working on numbers to 100 and we are learning how to add!

Remember to always reread any books that come home with your child or any word list. Thank you for all of your hard work at home! Keep working on all of the flash cards that have been sent home. These are the items your child still needs to master before entering 1st Grade.

If you have not done so already, please sign and return your child's report card envelope. Progress reports will come home next week. Please sign and return the half sheet of paper stapled to the front, but keep the progress report for your records. Please work on the highlighted items each night at home. Thank you for all of your wonderful items for 100 day. This day is always a huge success!

Your K Teachers!

Hello, Second Grade!

Hello from the Second Grade! The second graders have several events coming up this month. On February 13 and 20, the traveling naturalist will be presenting information on herbivores, carnivores and omnivores to the 2nd graders. We will continue working on money and time also some arrays used to add repeating digits. We are working on Unit 6, "What can different cultures teach us?" in reading and will begin unit 7, "How does understanding the past shape the future?" later this month. We will prepare for a field trip at the beginning of March to the Planetarium in Champaign. Watch for permission slips. Money and slips will need turned in by the end of February. The students have begun learning cursive handwriting. They are learning some of the lower case letters and will soon begin learning the capital letters. Please remember it is important for all students to complete and bring back their homework as it gives them practice on material that will be on upcoming tests. Watch for upcoming events on your classroom DoJo!

Second Grade Teachers



Happy February!

Hello from First Grade! Friday, February 2nd will be our 100th Day of School! First Grade will be participating in activities and crafts involving the number 100. We plan on having lots of fun. This month we will be celebrating Black History Month. Children will be learning about different African-American historical figures. Please be looking for notes home about our classroom Valentine's Party as well!

Our First Grade focus for this semester is reading fluency. Your child's ability to read with accuracy and speed is key to their success for the rest of their school years. The only way to improve reading fluency is to PRACTICE. Please make sure your child is reading every night. Continue to memorize the math facts and spelling words!

First Grade Teachers



Cupid, Candy, Cards, and Cupcakes!

Third grade classes are currently preparing their students for the PARCC tests in April; WIN groups will focus on strategies for multiple choice and response writing in addition to covering concepts in Math needed for the test. Continue to make sure your child is reading every night and practicing math facts. This practice will help them with the PARCC and master skills needed to improve their performance in the classroom. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Third Grade Teachers



In the News...

Hello Fourth Grade Families!



Fourth grade is working hard to prepare our students for testing. This year, students will take the PARCC tests in Reading and Math. We are working hard to get our students as ready for these tests! We are continuing to work through our math curriculum, focusing on multiplication, division, and fractions. Please make sure your child is proficient in their basic facts! If they know these, everything else we do will be much easier for them. Make sure your child is reading each night as well. We appreciate your help with this!

These next few months are of great importance. In order for us to teach your child everything he/she needs to know, we need your help at home. **Please reinforce the importance of good behavior at school** so every child has the opportunity to obtain an education. **We need for every child to come to school each day, on time, and ready to learn.** With perfect attendance and great behavior, wonderful things are bound to happen in the fourth grade!

Your Fourth Grade Team,

Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Palinski, Mr. Hightower, Mrs. Benjamin, Mrs. Warren, and Ms. Heeren

Hello, From the Land of Music!

Greetings from the land of music. We have had a wonderful start to 2018. Our students are getting to experience the immersive experience of the integration of technology and music. As the year progresses, our children will have many opportunities to see hear and interact with music. In the coming weeks we will be introducing the students to many instruments from western and non-western cultures. We look forward to seeing the creativity inspired by these experience.

Music Teachers,

Mr. Crow and Ms. Spark

Gym Report:

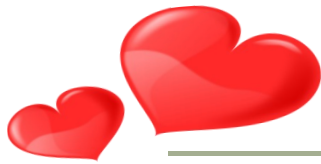
We just finished our basketball unit and Jump Rope for Heart. In February, we will learn some juggling skills and we will start our gymnastics unit. We will learn basic skills and tumbling. Gymnastics is very entertaining and students enjoy every little bit of it. I have to remind you that especially when we do gymnastics, students are not allowed to wear any jewelry and **must wear tennis shoes**. These simple things will keep us safe.

Also, being cold and wet outside, we spend most of our time inside. It is very good to keep exercising. I will give you again a very simple routine you can do with your children: you all can do push-ups, squats, curl-ups, and stretch. According to your level you can do from 10 to 20 reps each and stretch and the end. You should repeat that set at least three times. I hope you enjoy it!

PE Teachers,

Mrs. McKenna, Mr. Dale, and Mr. Murineanu





From Birth to Three

VERMILION COUNTY HOME VISITING

Did you know that there are free home visiting services throughout Vermilion County?

The H.O.M.E. Hands On Meaningful Experiences Program provides home visiting services that offer family-focused services to expectant parents and families with children up to age 3 who reside in District 118. Brandye Kizer and Debbie Plush, Parent Educators offer information about what a child should be doing at each developmental stage, help families to locate needed resources, fun family events, education, support, and free books! In addition to personal home visits and group connections, our Family Store helps supply baby items and household products for H.O.M.E. participants. If you are interested in home visiting services, or even learning more about them, please call Niah at (217) 483-BABY (2229).

What is “Gross Motor Development” and why is it important:

Gross motor skills are larger movements your child makes with his/her arms, legs, feet, or his/her entire body. So crawling, running, and jumping are gross motor skills. ... Development starts at his/her head, and then moves down the body.

Resources:

What: State of Illinois Early Intervention

Provides free evaluations and in-home therapy (if found eligible and sliding scale fee for services) for families who have a child ages birth-3 and are concerned with their child’s language, social, physical or cognitive development. No Doctor referral needed.

Where: CFC #16—Champaign, IL 61820

Contact info to refer: Toll Free: 800-877-1152

Local: 217-693-7958 Fax: 217-693-7967



Upcoming Events in February and March:

February 28:

- Exploring Music
- Mark Denman Elementary Time: 12:30-2:00pm

March 6:

- No Drama Discipline
- Mark Denman Elementary Time: 12:30-2:00pm

March 20:

- Pre-K Transition night (for families with children age 2 years and up in Birth-3 services or Early intervention)
- Southwest Elementary Time: 4:00pm-4:45pm