

# Mark Denman Elementary

October 2019

## 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:**

- ◆ 10/1: IGROW Literacy Group
- ◆ 10/2: Leadership Group—4th grade
- ◆ 10/4: IGROW Trick or Treating @ Temple Plaza
- ◆ 10/8: SpEd to Hogwallow
- ◆ 10/9: 1st to Hogwallow
- ◆ 10/10: 1st to Hogwallow
- ◆ 10/10: Volleyball Scrimmage w/MP @ MDE
- ◆ 10/11: Early Dismissal, 10:50, KDG to Firehouse
- ◆ 10/14— 10:28: Fall Break

## **Welcome Back, Mark Denman Families!**



It is hard to believe that the end of the first quarter is approaching quickly. We completed our Fastbridge testing. Tier 2 groups for grades 1 - 4 will begin October 7. This year, Tier 2 will occur in the classroom by the student's own classroom teacher. Students who were in Tier 3 groups in the Spring of last year will resume Tier 3 on October 2.

One of our goals for the year is to increase student attendance. Last year, our attendance for August and September was 96%. This year our August and September attendance is only 94%. Similar to last year, we will post photos of students on our FB page who receive perfect attendance for the month. Our students

## **Special Events (continued)**

- 10/21—10/24: Outdoor School, 4th
- 10/21: Aikman Wildlife—2nd
- 10/23: SpEd to Fire Station, E/O, 1:30
- 10/24: E/O, 1:30, Parent Teacher Conferences
- 10/24: IGROW Pre-K Open House @ SW
- 10/28—10/31: Outdoor School, 4th
- 10/29: E/O, 1:30, P/T Conferences
- 10/31: Birthday Celebrations & Fall Parties
- 10/31: KDG to Hogwallow
- 11/1: No School

love to have their picture taken as a reward for coming to school on-time and daily. Help us meet our goal of 95% attendance for the month of October.

MDE would love to have more parent volunteers in our classrooms. If you would like to volunteer at MDE, please contact Human Resources at 444-1039 to complete the volunteer process. Educating our students takes a village and you are a part of our village.

Finally, we have Fall break and several early-out days in October. Please note them on your calendar. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We enjoy sharing with you the academic and fun activities occurring at MDE.

If you have any questions, concerns, or celebrations, feel free to contact us.

Ms. Richardson, Mr. Musselman and  
Mr. Hightower

### Welcome to Kindergarten!

What a busy month of September! We had an awesome time on our field trip to Fair Oaks Farm. We learned about cows, visited the apple orchard and picked apples, and learned about crops. Fun was had by all! Our kindergarteners are doing an awesome job following the rules at school, thank you for your support at home. We want to remind you that your child needs to be at school on time every day. It is very important that they get a good night's sleep so they are ready to learn. Also, PLEASE CLEAN OUT FOLDERS AND BOOK BAGS DAILY. THEIR FOLDERS NEED TO COME TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY CLEANED OUT.

We will be working on letters Ss, Tt and Nn this month. We will begin learning how to read sight words. Our words for this month are "the, we, go and see." Please practice recognizing these words at home and learning how to use them in a sentence. It is very important that you reread all words and books that come home. Our theme this month is "Every Story Has Characters." In Math, we will be working on recognizing and writing numbers 0-5.

Please sign and return all permission slips. We will be walking to the Fire Station on October 11. We are looking forward to seeing you at Parent - Teacher Conferences on October 24th and October 29!

### Welcome to Second Grade!



We have been hard at work in Second grade practicing our reading fluency and comprehension skills, as well as, adding within 100 using different strategies. We were so excited to see our fairytale land kick off last week with all the different decorations and lots of fun fairytale activities including our AVID strategies. When the students are engaged and having fun they don't even realize how much they are learning. The conversations overheard during those days were priceless and it makes us so excited about the learning to come throughout the year.

Please continue to have your child practice their spelling, reading, and math for at least 15-20 minutes every night at home. We have conferences coming up in October and we look forward to seeing each one of you. Any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

### Welcome to First Grade!

First Grade is looking forward to a fun filled October! We will be visiting "Hog Wallow Farm". Please make sure to sign and return the permission slip that will be coming home soon in your student's green AVID communication folder.

Please make sure that your child is practicing the weekly spelling and sight words each evening. Spelling words are sent home on Mondays, and spelling tests are given on Fridays.

We are starting math facts. Math fact flash cards will be coming home soon. We ask that you help your child with this exciting skill!

Please make sure your child is bringing home and returning their green AVID folder each day. The "return to school" side will have papers that need to be completed and/or signed and returned the next day. The "keep at home" side should be cleaned out each evening as those papers are for you to keep.

We look forward to meeting with you during the fall conferences, however, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's teacher anytime.

### Welcome to Third Grade!

Attendance is extremely important! Please make sure your student is here on time every day! Start time for Mark Denman is 7:50. Third grade has Math first thing in the morning, so if your student is late, they miss part of their Math core which places them behind. Of course, if your student is not feeling well or has a fever, please call them in to the attendance office. Mrs. Bacys is our attendance secretary. Her phone number is 444-3279.

With the weather changing, it is important to make sure students are dressed appropriately. We do go outside for recess daily. We will continue to go outside during this time unless the temperature drops. Now is a good time for a hooded sweatshirt and pants.

Reading fluency is key to becoming a great reader. Fluency is reading at an appropriate pace and with expression. With those things in place, students will learn to comprehend what they are reading. Please make sure your student is completing the daily homework of at least 15 minutes of reading every night. If your student owes a library fine, please see or call Mrs. Medina, 444-3236 our librarian to make payments so your student can check books out this year.

## Welcome to Fourth Grade

Fourth grade will be embarking on a wonderful adventure this month! We will be heading to Outdoor School at Forest Glen and Kennekuk. Please see your child's permission slip to know which location he/she will be going to. This will be an exciting time for the students as they see nature up close and personal!

We completed our unit on Government and have started our second unit, Characters' Actions and Reactions. In Math, we are working on multiplication and will continue to review rounding as well as addition/subtraction.

If you haven't signed up for Class Dojo yet, please do so! It's a great way to stay in communication with your child's teacher and to see all the wonderful things your child is experiencing in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade!

## Greetings from the Music Department

It has been a wonderful year thus far, and we are enjoying exploring the world of the POWER OF YET in music and in our student's future endeavors. As we enter our second full year of the Quaver music program, we are still finding new ways to grow and improve the musical experience as a district. Our students are working wonderfully on part singing and on meter identification. It is awe inspiring to see how quickly they master these and many other skills.

## News from the Gym

We started our skating unit at the end of September, and we will continue it through the first week of October. We are all having fun learning how to skate better. Our students enjoy this unit every year and we like watching them improve their skating skills.

During the rest of the month of October, we will start working on soccer and football skills. Please remember our fall break and enjoy it!

Jana McKenna, Steven Dale, and Mihai Murineanu, P.E. Teachers

Stay tuned for up to date information by checking us out at

[markdenman.district118.org](http://markdenman.district118.org)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/markdenmanelementary](https://www.facebook.com/markdenmanelementary)

Instagram - [www.instagram.com/mderockets](https://www.instagram.com/mderockets)

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/mderockets>

#gomderockets

#gomderockets



# From Birth to Three

October 2019

## VERMILION COUNTY HOME VISITING

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

D118's iGrow 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, Debbie Plush, Shannon Roberts, and our new Parent Educators Brenda Hays and Adrienne Littlepaige, offer information about what a child should be doing at each developmental stage. We also 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 D118 iGrow participants. If you are interested in home visiting services, or even learning more about them, please

Call Nyah or Katie at (217) 483-BABY (2229)

### Being Safe while Trick or Treating

Everyone loves a good scare on Halloween, but not when it comes to child safety. Here are some tips for being safe:

#### Walk Safely:

Cross at street corners, make sure to look both ways before crossing.

Keep electronic devices down and put away so you can focus on what's ahead.

Watch for cars that are turning or backing up

#### Trick or treat with an adult:

Children under 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision.

#### Keep Costumes both Creative and Safe:

Use reflective tape to decorate bags and costumes

Choose face paint and makeup over masks to ensure proper vision

Carry glow sticks or flashlights so children can be seen by drivers

Costumes should be the right size to prevent trips and falls.

#### Drive Extra Safely on Halloween:

Slow down and be extra alert in residential areas

Enter and exit driveways slowly and carefully

Turn headlights on earlier than normal

### This month's Recipe:

#### PUFF PAINT

1 ½ Cups of shaving cream

¼ Cup of white glue

Food coloring or liquid watercolor

Mix glue and shaving cream together in a bowl, until it looks like thick whipped cream. Divide into separate cups and add different colors to each one. Let the children apply it with paintbrushes, q-tips, or spoons into piles or spread thin. Use cardboard or paper plate. Let it dry for 24 to 48 hours.

### Upcoming Events in October:

#### OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> : Literacy Group

Where: Mark Denman Elementary

Time: 10:30am-11:15am

#### OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> : Downtown Danville's First Friday's

Trick or Treat

Where: Temple Plaza

Time: 5:00pm-5:45pm

#### OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> : Pre-K screenings

Please call to register (217) 444-3266

#### OCTOBER 24<sup>th</sup>: Pre-K Open House

(families in igrow with children ages 2-3)

Where: Southwest Elementary

Time: 4:30-5:30 pm

## **Fire Safety Tips**



*In a fire, every second counts. Having a plan can save your life. Talk with your family about what to do if there is a fire. Use this checklist from the U.S. Fire Administration as a tool to make sure that you and your family are prepared.*

### **Smoke Alarm Checklist:**

- ✓ Check to ensure all smoke alarms are working properly
- ✓ Test smoke alarms every month
- ✓ Ensure everyone knows how to call 911
- ✓ Make sure all smoke alarms are less than 10 years old
- ✓ Everyone in your home should know the sound of the smoke alarm

### **Fire Escape Checklist:**

- ✓ Form a fire escape plan for your home
- ✓ Know at least 2 ways out of every room
- ✓ Practice and review the plan with each household member at least twice a year
- ✓ Ensure everyone knows how to call 911
- ✓ Everyone agrees on the same safe meeting place



