SAYDEL

SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Cornell Elementary School

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students
February 2017 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

Cornell Elementary

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

Kindergarten Music Concert, 6:30 PM

FEBRUARY 13, 2017

Professional Development Day, NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 14, 2017

Valentine's Day Parties, 2:45 PM

FEBRUARY 16, 2017

Family Fluency Night, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY 18, 2017

Daddy/Daughter Dance, 6 - 8 PM

FEBRUARY 21, 2017

2nd & 3rd Dental Screening

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

- Cornell Art Show at Ankeny Art Center
- Kindergarten 2017-18 Parent Meeting in Library, 6:30 PM

MARCH 2 & 7, 2017

- Parent Teacher Conferences,
 4 8 PM
- Book Fair in Library, 4 8 PM

MARCH 10-17, 2017

Spring Break; NO SCHOOL

MARCH 21, 2017

Cornell PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM

MARCH 25, 2017

Cornell PTO Carnival, 4:30 - 7 PM

School Hours

CORNELL ELEMENTARY 8:35 AM - 3:30 PM Wed.: 9:35 AM - 3:30 PM

NOTE: Each Wednesday school begins one hour later for teacher in-service.

MISSION: Serving the Unique Learning Needs of Each & Every Student

Principal's Message

t has been another month of learning at Cornell Elementary School. As you will see in the pages to follow, each of our grades and subject specific areas have had exciting things going on. In addition to those events, in January we started the new year with a magician's show to kick off coming back from break. We ended the month with a comedy improv show that our students enjoyed as their monthly celebration for showing all the great ways they know how to SOAR (be Safe, Open Minded, Accountable, and Respectful) at school.



Principal Brian Vaughan

As we begin February, I would like to take a moment to encourage you and your child to attend our Math and Reading Fluency Night that we will be holding at Cornell on February 16 from 5:30-7 PM. We are asking you (as a Cornell parent) to attend this event with your family and learn fun ways to interact with your child at home in the areas of math and reading. We will start the night in the cafeteria where we will be providing pizza for dinner from 5:30-6 PM. At 6 PM, we will split you into groups where you will have the opportunity to learn and implement strategies that your children are developing in their classrooms. Each student that attends will be able to go home with a free book, and we will hold a drawing at the end of the evening for the chance to win another.

This is a great opportunity for you to spend some quality time with your child that demonstrates your dedication to making learning a priority.

Continued on page 2...

want to be a better **READER**? a better **WRITER**? a better **COMMUNICATOR**? **READ!**

Principal's Letter continued from page 1...

We know that the more time a child spends reading with a parent the greater their growth and academic achievements become. Studies show that just 20 minutes of reading with your child a day makes a large difference in their reading abilities and proficiencies.

In closing, thank you to all of you for the trust and support you provide our great school every single day. Our partnership in educating our students goes handin-hand. I hope that you have a great month ahead!

Go Eagles! ~ BE AWESOME TODAY!

Cornell Elementary Preschool News

Preschool students have been busy as they use their creative thinking skills and social skills to become more independent learners. Three-year-old students have been learning about shapes in the world around them, focusing on quantifying objects, and using their fine motor skills as they use paint and glue to create winter crafts. Four-year-old students are working on spelling their name. They were able to practice this skill as they made name snowmen! They have also been practicing alliteration as they learn new letter sounds. All classes were able to engage in interactive stories, *The Mitten* and *The Hat* by Jan Brett as well!



Preschool students in Mrs. Singletary's class were able to act out the story *The Mitten* as they all tried to fit in a mitten shape taped to the floor.

Imagine Learning is a Big Hit with Saydel's ELLs

By Nicole O'Connor, ELL Teacher



As our program for teaching English to speakers of other languages (ESOL or commonly known as ELL) continues to grow, we are excited to be integrating some new technology. The district has purchased a computer software program called "Imagine Learning" and students at Cornell Elementary are loving it!

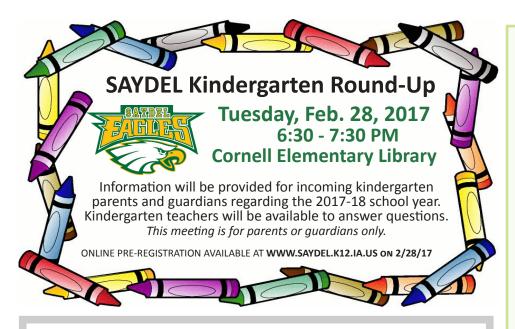
Students have enjoyed spending time on this interactive game where they practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. Students earn "booster bits" for activities they complete and books they read online and then get the chance to customize their character or other fun rewards that are built into the program. The program also has a lot of great built-in features for teachers to track student's progress through the material and keep a portfolio of students' recordings and written work.

We are also excited that this will prepare students for the upcoming ELPA21 (English Language Proficiency) Assessment so they are confident and comfortable recording themselves speak. If your child is an English Language Learner (ELL), be sure to ask them about Imagine Learning!

Thank You for reading the Cornell newsletter.

If you would like to receive the newsletters that feature what is happening at Woodside Middle School & Saydel High School, you can subscribe by emailing newsletter@saydel.net.

Each school pubishes one newsletter per month.
Just let us know which school newsletters you
would like to receive.



Nurse's Notes:

When Do I Keep My Child Home From School Due to Illness?

When should my child stay home from school due to illness?

- Fever of 100.0 or greater, without use of fever reducing products
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- A cough that disrupts normal activity
- Has distracting pain from earache, headache, sore throat or recent injury
- Has yellow or green drainage from eye(s)
- Students must stay home 24 hours after starting treatment for pink eye or strep throat.
- If your child is sent home from school with a fever, they must remain home at least 24 hours and be fever free, without the use of fever reducing products, before returning to school.
- If your child has the sniffles, a mild cough/sore throat/congestion and is not slowing down at home, they are probably able to participate in school activities.



Hand washing is the best way to prevent the spread of germs.

All medications sent to Cornell, including cough drops/ syrup and over-the-counter pain relief, must be in their original container and a parent permission slip must be signed and turned into the nurse's office. Permission slips are available in the office and on the Cornell website.

We have noticed students with head lice. Please be proactive in checking your child's hair frequently. If you find lice, please treat you child before sending them to school. Wash all bed linens, brushes/combs, jackets/hats, stuffed animals and vacuum well. Contact the school nurse if you have questions.

The nurse's office is in need of adjustable waist pants: sizes 5-10.

Saydel Booster Memberships

Thanks to the following businesses and individuals who support the Saydel Athletic Boosters through membership.

BUSINESS PLATINUM EAGLE

Chemorse
Rising Star/All Iowa Stone & Gutter
The Results Group, L.L.C.
Iowa Demolition Inc.
R Rogers Septic LLC
Jason's Lawn & Tree Care
Goode Greenhouses
Tesdell Electric

BUSINESS GOLD EAGLE

Heartland Chiropractic & Wellness Ctr. Capital City Equipment Co. Iowa State Bank Affinity Credit Union

BUSINESS GREEN EAGLE

Struthers Brothers Kawasaki-Suzuki, Inc.

BUSINESS SILVER EAGLE

Walker Construction & Painting John Sandin Painting Decarlo Demolition Company Seth Wicks Construction Schneider Graphics Xtreme Liners of Central Iowa

INDIVIDUAL GOLD EAGLE

Doug & Lisa Wheeler Kevin & Kelly Schulte Roland & Shari Kouski Randy & Joleen Stephenson Kevin Farnsley Doug & Susan Cline Rollie Madison Brett Hersom Ric Powell

INDIVIDUAL SILVER EAGLE

Missy Burr Joshua & Denna Heyer Ruth Kouski

INDIVIDUAL GREEN EAGLE

Roland & Shari Kouski Brian & Diba VanHouten

INDIVIDUAL PLATINUM EAGLE

Corey Myers Scott Myers Kelly & Tana Sprague

STAFF DUAL ATHLETIC & MUSIC MEMBERS

Jerry Young Penny Smith Cheri Tingley Caleb Hales Dia Fenton Melissa Sensor Kyle Luttenegger Julie Rolf

ACADEMIC UPDATE



By the First Grade Team

First graders have been busy showing how much we have learned this year by completing math and reading assessments. We will be sharing these results at your child's next conference. In math, we just completed a unit on measurement where students enjoyed measuring different lengths using multiple measurement tools. We have also been working on telling time to the hour and half hour using analog and digital clocks. In writing, the students have been writing "how to" papers instructing others how to do some of their favorite things.

K-4 Spanish News

By Emily Foster, Spanish Teacher

In Spanish, we have been telling many stories about various characters. Stories help us to repeat important words in an entertaining way. We feel like we are playing a game instead of learning, but I have been so amazed at how much students are remembering. Our students are so talented and special. Students enjoy acting out the different parts and using different props. Pictured below is Mrs. Bramble's class acting out a story about a cat named Darth Vader.



Kindergarten Students Celebrate 100 Days!

By the Kindergarten Team

n January, kindergarten classes at Cornell celebrated the 100th day of school. We counted out 100 snacks, counted to 100 by ones and tens, and we drew pictures of what we might look like when we are 100 years old. Our crowns show that we are 100 Days Smarter. We are looking forward to 80 more exciting days!





Join us for the BOOK FAIR at the Cornell Library!

March 2 & 7 during Parent Teacher

Conferences.

Notes From The Music Room

By Jeffrey Johannsen, Music Teacher

January has gone by quickly in the music room at Cornell Elementary. The third and fourth grade classes have been exploring how to sing, read and write new notes and rhythms. By the end of the year they will be able to create their own songs with the



skills and concepts that they have acquired through the school year.

First and second graders are getting exposure to new rhythms. They are enjoying playing and practicing these rhythms with games and instruments.

The kindergarten classes are preparing for their music night on February 7 at 6:30 PM in the Cornell gym. During music night, the students will get to show their families the concepts and skills they have gained through activities, games and songs.

Second Graders Are 100 Days Smarter

By the Second Grade Team

The second grade classes celebrated the 100th day of school on Friday, January 27. Students created crowns and did reading and math activities related to the 100th day! They went on a scavenger hunt around the room searching for 100 words they could find. It was fun to reflect back on all we have learned this year so far.

In science, students are currently working on designing a bridge that they are gearing up to build. In math, we are using cubes to create buildings and practicing repeated addition. We are looking forward to 80 more exciting days!





Special Guests Visit Fourth Graders

By the Fourth Grade Team

n the month of January we had several special guests. Our first was Ranger Mike from Yellowstone National Park. He taught us a lot about the national parks, the animals that live there, and the famous landmarks. We were able to see real antlers and skins. We were also given free tickets to visit any National Park within the next year.



Our next special guests were the high school basketball players. They read us their favorite childhood stories and gave us tickets to watch them at their Coaches vs. Cancer game. We were very excited to see them!

Finally, in November we entered a writing contest with the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) and in January we found out the winners. There were three winners from fourth grade - Greyson G., Olivia P., Isabella Z. They all received prizes for their writing about what the American flag means to them.

We have also been doing mid-year checks for reading and math and are hopeful that our growth will continue through the end of the school year!

The Promise of Iowa Campaign

Each year as the legislature comes into session and the topic of education funding arises, the media is flooded with information about our lowa Public Schools. Iowa Schools serve over 480,000 young people in 333 school districts. The Iowa Association of School Boards launched The Promise of Iowa campaign to tell the story of Iowa's public education system.

In Saydel and across the state our students achieve at high levels under the supervision of caring staff. The Saydel School Board has signed on to support this effort to tell the true story

THE PROMISE OF IOWA

of our schools and our children. You are encouraged to get involved by finding out more information at www. promiseofiowa.org.



Pictured from left: Olivia Pecina, Isabella Zonona, President of VFW Auxiliary 9662 Linda Jones, Olivia VanZandt, and Karina Carter. Not pictured: Jacob McPherron and Grayson Gregor.

VFW Honors Essay Winners

By the Third Grade Team

In November, third and fourth graders had the opportunity to write essays explaining why they loved America. These essays were submitted to the VFW. Three third graders and three fourth graders were chosen as winners. This was the first year that Cornell had anybody place at the state level! Karina Carter placed sixth in the state. In late January, a representative from the VFW came and presented each student with a certificate and a monetary award. These students are pictured above.

Looking ahead to February, third graders are jumping into multiplication. This is something third graders tend to look forward to, so we are eager to get started! In writing, we've just finished our informational narratives about a president. Be sure to ask your child what they've learned about their president. Third grade students took their final projects and had a mini "wax museum" to share their new learning with their peers. We are looking forward to our new learning in February.

Guidance Focuses on Building Friendships

By Courtney Anderson, Guidance Counselor

The Guidance class focus for January was on friendship and conflict resolution skills. All classes talked about what qualities make a good friend and how they can be a good friend to others. Students practiced how they can talk their feelings out with their friends using "A Bug and A Wish" statements or "I Feel" messages. The first through fourth graders also talked about other conflict resolution strategies to use such as sharing, ignoring, going to another game, compromising, and more. In February, all classes will be talking about kindness and empathy.

LAST LAUGH COMEDY CLUB PERFORMS AT PBIS ASSEMBLY



Students at Cornell Elementary had a PBIS Assembly recently to celebrate the great ways they know how to SOAR (be Safe, Open Minded, Accountable, and Respectful) at school. The Last Laugh Comedy Club from West Des Moines performed an improv act for the students. It was a fun PBIS assembly at Cornell! The improv team included Matt Still, Kim Scarfe, Dirk Sprouse and Josh Chamberlin.









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February 18th, 2017 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Saydel High School

Dad....or Dad-like friends....are invited to bring their favorite Valentines to this memorable fund-raising event to support Saydel's 2017 After Prom Party.

\$15 per couple purchased in advance \$20 per couple purchased at the door \$5 additional fee for each extra daughter

Includes: music provided by a DJ, snack, drink, candy bar, and LOTS OF FUN!! There will also be photos available for purchase.

We encourage pre-order of your tickets. Please mail by February 11th, or you may turn in your order to the Cornell or Woodside Office by Wednesday, February 15th.

Tickets may be purchased at the door the night of the event.

Purchase in advance by filling out the form at the bottom & sending it along with your payment to:

Saydel After Prom Saydel High School 5601 NE 7th

Des Moines, IA 50313 (Checks payable to Saydel After Prom)

REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE MAILED ALONG WITH PAYMENT (No tickets will be mailed- simply check-in at the registration table at the dance)

Dad/dad-like friend	_ Telephone Number
Daughter/School	
Daughter #2/School	
Daughter #3/School	

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

.0	Get Moving Today! Sunday Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	ACTIVITY CALENDAR Saturday
Start today with jacks. Is your h beating faster?	Start today with jumping jacks. Is your heart beating faster?	Silly walking around the house – walk all around your house acting out different emotions – can you walk happy, sad, shy, angry?	Ask others in your family to pretend to be in a parade with you. Each of you can imagine that you are playing a different instrument as you march in a line.	Play the "Mirror Game". Face your parent/caregiver and copy what they do with their bodies as if you were looking into a mirror.	Explore Speed – move fast, then really slow, and now in between. Which one makes your heart go faster?	Time to get outside and take a Nature Walk around your house or neighborhood. Make sure to go with a grown up.
Act out the foom make your hea Be a tiny blueb curvy banana, swimming fish.	Act out the foods that make your heart healthy. Be a tiny blueberry, a curvy banana, and a swimming fish.	Move like things around the house. Can you be a blender? Now be the washing machine. How about a vacuum? What does this do to your heart?	Read a book with someone and act out the words.	Pretend you are floating through the air like a bubble. Your job is to move all through your house without being popped. Try to get really close to things without touching them.	Ask someone to help you make paper airplanes and then work on your throwing skills. Remember to step with the opposite foot.	Make a circle on the floor with a string and practice moving into, out of, around, over and beside. Make a different shape with your string.
Twist, 1 bend - these r differer body. C	Twist, turn, bounce, and bend - try doing each of these movements with different parts of your body. Can you think of other ways to move?	Give away five hugs to make your heart happy and healthy today!	Be a clean machine! Dust – reach high, low, over and under as you work your muscles.	Visit every doorway in your home and when you get there try to do a different balance. Balance on one hand and two feet, or one knee and two hands. How long can you hold each one?	Run like a bear with your hands on paper plates and your feet on the ground. Push the plates through different pathways.	Spread out wash cloths and move across the floor stepping only on the wash cloths. Try not to touch the floor.
Yoga Zoo , your body animal sha and reach shape as y to breathet	Yoga Zoo Animals – put your body into different animal shapes. Stretch and reach and hold the shape as you remember to breathe.	Make your heart healthy today! Lie down and feel your heart then get up and run in place and feel your heart. What happened?	Get outside and work on your jumping skills. Find a rope and lay it on the ground – practice jumping back and forth over it as you sing your favorite song.	Body Ball Roll – using a ball, such as a beach ball, work on rolling the ball around your body. Stand up, sit down, kneel or lay down. Go around the whole body and different body parts.	Place a sheet of newspaper on your tummy – try to run without it falling off.	Wad up balls of newspaper and see how far you can throw them. Remember to step with the opposite foot as you throw. What does this do to your heart?
Play A doing mover bendir forwar As you mover mover mover alread	Play Add-On. Take turns doing one simple movement, such as bending your head forward and backwards. As you do a new movement, repeat the movements that have already been done.	Play catch with someone with a rolled up t-shirt. Can you toss it up and catch it on different body parts?	Sweep the floor, working your reaching and pushing motions.	Using a laundry basket and recycled paper, make a bunch of paper balls and practice throwing into the basket from different distances.	Get outside and work on the idea of BIG and small. Can you take big steps and small steps, big jumps and small jumps?	Read through each day again and repeat your favorite February activity. Enjoy!

Funding for this project was provided by the Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

1900 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191 • 703.472.3400 • Fax 703.476.9527 • info@shapeamerica.org © SHAPE America – Society of Health and Physical Educators • www.shapeamerica.org



Students Enjoy Using Reorganized Cornell Library

By Aileen Meyer, District Librarian

have been busy reorganizing the non-fiction section of our library to make it more kid friendly and easier to find materials. We cleaned up our collection by removing many books that were outdated and hadn't been checked out for a long time. Although we still follow the Dewey Decimal system to organize our nonfiction collection, we added colorful subject labels on our shelves that are of interest to kids. Students are excited to browse the shelves and find new books on topics that are of interest to them. Students pictured from left: Ian Calaway, Allison Dalton, Ryder Vanderpool, Mackenzie Christensen and Deianira White.



Students Learn Hockey Skills in Physical Education

By Matthew Thompson, PE Teacher

Physical Education at Cornell in the month of January consisted of throwing and catching using scoops at the beginning of the month.

We finished the month with students learning the correct hand placement while holding a hockey stick. They also learned the hockey skills of wrist shot and slap shot. Students used these skills in the games Hula-Hoop-Hockey Relay, "Get that trash out of my yard!", and competitive hockey games.

In February, the students will kick off Jump Rope for Heart for the American Heart Association.





Cornell Fourth Graders Discuss Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Ms. Webb's fourth grade class at Cornell Elementary School celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day recently. A discussion was held about how students and adults alike can become allies for equal civil rights. We examined the differences between Dr. King's ideas of negative and positive peace. At the end of the lesson, students wrote action steps to help promote equality within their own community.



By Gary Christensen, PTO Vice President

One-half of the school year is already over....my how time flies! Since Winter Break, the PTO has held a Community Night Event and a PTO meeting. Both were successful events and we would like to thank everyone who attended and made both events possible.

Before Winter Break the PTO held its first ever 'Un-Fundraiser'. An 'un-fundraiser' is a chance to donate to a worthy cause (in this case, new soccer goals for the students) without having to purchase an item or service. As our first attempt, we as a PTO, feel it was a success. We are in the process of selecting and purchasing the goals. The hope is to have them in place by this Spring. As a reward to students participating in the 'un-fundraiser', they were able to spray Principal Brian Vaughan with Silly String during a Welcome Back to School celebration in January.

Artsonia will be this year's spring fundraiser. Ms. Calhoun has set up with Artsonia to allow parents, caregivers, family, and friends the opportunity to purchase artwork created by the students. Artsonia creates an online portfolio that allows ordering at any time. Artsonia often has specials and discounts on products. Please contact the PTO or Ms. Calhoun if you have any questions.

Our February Community Night was on Thursday, Feb. 2 at Wendy's in Ankeny. Our March Community Night is set for Tuesdsay, March 28 at Smokey D's. Stop by and say "Hi" to the Eagle mascot and grab some dinner.

Our next PTO Meeting will be Monday, February 6 at 6:30 PM in the Cornell Library. Childcare will be provided for those who need it. Note the change in usual date. We hope to see you there.

The PTO is here to serve. If you ever have any questions, please get in touch with us. We are on Facebook (@CornellelemPTO) or email (CornellEaglesPTO@gmail.com).

Employee & Family Resources Student Assistance Program (SAP) Service Summary

Employee & Family Resources is dedicated to helping students and their families manage life's challenges so they can reach their full potential.

Licensed mental health counselors and clinical workers are available to assist all students and family members experiencing the stress of life's ups and downs. Services are free and are strictly confidential.

Concerns may include:

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Emotional or mental health
- Family or relationships
- Bullying or peer conflict
- Substance abuse



EFR EMPLOYEE & FAMILY RESOURCES

Convenient In-Person Appointments

Up to three (3) visits per year, per separate issue with qualified counselors. Referrals to additional services if needed. SAP offers services in Spanish and interpreting as needed at no cost to the student or family.

24 Hour Support

For immediate support from counselors, call 800.327.4692 Day & evening appointments are available Monday-Friday

Creativity In The Cornell Art Room

By Jessica Calhoun, Art Teacher







In the Art Room this month, kindergarten has been learning about pre-historic cave art and where and how it was made. We have been practicing drawing like cavemen with a new art material, charcoal!

Second grade has been learning about the painting, Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh, using paint and brush strokes to create their night skies and then paper and shapes to create a city underneath it.







SAYDEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Brian Bowman, Board President Jennifer Van Houten, Vice-President Melissa Sassman, Board of Director Henry Wood, Board of Director Chad Vitiritto, Board of Director Doug Kayser, Board of Director Roland Kouski, Jr., Board of Director

Superintendent: Mr. Douglas Wheeler Board Secretary: Beth Vitiritto



School Board meetings are held at the Saydel District Office on the second Monday of each month at 6 PM

EDUCATION FOR LEADERSHIP; LEARNING FOR LIFE

Cornell Elementary School
5817 NE 3rd Street
Des Moines, IA 50313
515-244-8173 FAX 244-0084

We're on the Web: www.saydel.k12.ia.us

It is the policy of the Saydel Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator, Julie McKibben, Director of Student Services, 5740 NE 14th Street. Des Moines, IA 50313; mckibbenjulie@saydel.net. Office for Civil Rights, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.