

First Quarter

School began for us on August 21, and we eagerly explored the bright classrooms and took our place as 3rd graders. As 3rd graders we got to lead the whole school in saying the “Pledge of Allegiance” over the intercom first thing in the morning all year. We also gave a character tip as we emphasized trustworthiness, respect, caring, responsibility, citizenship, and fairness.

Ms. Misty came into our classroom to assist. She checked our homework, read tests to us, reminded us of our late or missing work, and helped us understand problems.

We were also excited to start cursive letters, beginning immediately with some cursive strokes and moving quickly to u, w, t, and i.

In Social Studies we learned that we lived in a community, a county, a state, a country, a continent, and in two hemispheres—all at the same time!

For art we made pretty tissue paper leaves in fall colors and painted trees with leaves falling.

Mrs. Donoho came into our room monthly to teach us about a character trait. We heard stories, did activities, and role-played to try out ideas. She also led us in celebrating Red Ribbon Week. .

When we started the quarter, we were overwhelmed with the Reading Word List, but before long, we used our phonics and suffix/prefix skills to zip right through reading them. Then we were able to concentrate on the 3rd Grade Skills of inference, main idea/detail, summarizing, and interpretations.

We traveled to Mt. Vernon and toured the Jefferson County Historical Village. The Village took us back to the period from the 1820’s to the 1920’s with its log cabin homes, one-room schoolhouse, medical building, and print shop. We were most amazed to watch the talented blacksmith make an iron nail, and to see the display of his artistic work. Then we stopped in Salem to tour the helmet factory to give us some career ideas and to view an assembly line.

We really looked forward to the 2nd Thursday of each month as Mrs. Beth Hays presented a nutritional program on “The Power of Choice” each month and made us a nutritional snack. We thought about good choices for food, exercise, snacks, and drinks.

Second Quarter

During our math meetings we kept talking about how many days would be in a certain number of weeks, but parents were still surprised when the 7’s were the first multiplication facts that we learned!

The new Science books were quite a challenge at first, but we enjoyed the various lessons.

Extra music practices helped us get ready for our Christmas program and we loved the songs. Ms. Harshbarger talked about how great our class was to work with and how great a job we had done. (Others noticed how quickly and well we regularly lined up, too. Yea, Class.)

We exchanged books at Christmas time got to choose the book of our choice from Mrs. Price.

By Christmas time we had learned all of the lower case letters in cursive and began writing spelling words in cursive.

The magician from Alaska was awesome!

Recess time would find us playing basketball or soccer, playing on the equipment, or when it was too cold to go outside at recess, we did usually watched movies, played with Legos, pattern blocks, or Play Do, or drew on white boards.

Third Quarter

We used the tiles to make perfect squares so, again, parents were amazed that we learned about perfect squares and square roots this year. (They probably didn't learn them until the 7th grade.)

We tried a lot of problems where we needed to explain "what we did" and "why we did it". We also did some extra learning about geometry work. This was to help us get ready for the dreaded ISAT testing in reading and math that we took in March. At the same time we were working on writing a five paragraph essay using main ideas and supporting details.

SAFE (Sexual Assault and Family Emergencies) presented a program on body safety. We learned safety rules of "saying no", "getting away fast", and "tell a trusted adult."

For Valentine's Day we used paper plates to make a dog, a cat, or a mouse to hold our valentines. Lacy heart designs were made with special scissors, too..

The PTO sponsored a couple Family Movie Nights complete with popcorn

Fourth Quarter

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation Districts gave white pine seedlings to all third graders. We were able to name many uses of trees. Third graders also received a cabbage plant from the Bonnie Plant Farm Cabbage Program.

Since she is working in a teacher education program, Mrs. Hall came in many days to observe, teach and do some science experiments with us.

Special programs were the piano recital and the chance to hear the 4th and 5th grade band students.

A wonderful program in its second year for the school was the Fruit and Vegetable Grant. The cooks worked hard to prepare things for us. We learned about so many new fruits and vegetables and even got to taste them. We loved our healthy snacks (kiwi, mandarins, spinach, turnip, brussel sprouts, berries, grapefruit) that we had twice a week. Later we had an assembly by Martin's IGA, and they gave each of us a bag with several pieces of fruit in it.

This quarter we worked on learning our multiplication facts and took Rainbow Quizzes to "pass" each number by completing 25 problems correctly in one minute and then 100 problems in 5 minutes. We even learned to divide by 2, 5, 7, & 10.

We learned about our community government and national government. Later we learned how to nominate, make a motion, and mark our ballots. We elected a president, vice president, and 4 representatives. They didn't have time to make many decisions for us, but they represented the class for a few..

Our Reading class practiced some plays and we presented them to Mrs. Miller's class, the second graders, and some parents. We did ones on Clara Barton, Harriet Tubman, and Orville and Wilbur Wright, and used some costumes loaned to us by Mrs. Green. We really enjoyed this!

Our class trip was to Vandalia. We saw the old State Capitol building where Lincoln had served, and we got to sign our names using a quill pen. In the Fayette County Museum we got to hear about the old party-line telephones, saw a slave collar, viewed a tool used by Lincoln, and saw how an old time school room would have looked. We got to see the amazing automated money counters and the vault at the bank. The park was a little wet, but we had our lunch and played a little. We then toured the Kinmundy Library and Post Office. We were amazed at the assortment of books, and it was interesting to see our letters being postmarked. Our last full day was Friday, May 21, and rainy conditions changed our playday some, but we had a wonderful afternoon. We're ready for a nice summer vacation.