ART NEWS FROM MRS SIEGEL:

Second graders created a winter reflection project with watercolor markers, water, crayons, white paint, and metallic markers. Students drew a horizon line on their white paper, and above the horizon line they drew mostly trees, but also buildings, snowmen, cars, and more. The objects were outlined with watercolor markers and only lines and textures were added on the inside. The objects were then painted with water, and then rubbed onto the area below the horizon line to show a reflection! Crayons were used for the sky area and the ice or icy snow area. Students could have added some snow with white paint, too. Mrs. Wolf in the library taught the students about “Snowflake” Bentley in the library, so students added symmetrical, 6-sided snowflakes to their border with metallic markers.

Third graders created a Medieval Portrait for their third grade portrait project. They created a weaving for the shirt of their portrait, and then reviewed how to draw faces in proportion. Students used cut paper for shoulders, crowns, and more. Markers and colored pencils were used for the face and crown details. Third graders used their following direction skills for this project as well as worked on their fine motor skills!

Fourth graders created a clay bobble head! They were excited to work in clay for 2 weeks in a row! They made a clay head from a pinch pot form, and a body from either a pinch pot, a cylinder, or their own creation. Students reviewed how to attach clay correctly. Students could choose either glaze or paint to decorate the clay. Finally, feathers, wiggly eyes, yarn, and more mixed-media objects adorned the clay bobble head. Students were very original in creating animals, cartoon characters, sports heroes, and more!

Youth Art Month
March is youth art month. The North Eastern Region holds their annual art show in January and February. This year 3 Quinney artist’s work is on display at the Bergstrom-Mahler Art Museum in Neenah! Their work also has a chance to move on to the state level in Madison, too! Congratulations to Jack Ullmer (3Ha- Birch Bark tree painting), Olivia Planert (3-De - Grant wood Landscape), and Noah Ritzke (4T- Self-Portrait). Jack and Olivia’s artwork has been chosen to move on to the Capitol in Madison for the Youth Art Month Exhibit during March!!
Looking ahead: Also for Youth Art Month, the art room will again be converted into an art gallery. This year look for an Egyptian Art Exhibit coming during the week of Feb. 29th - March 4th. Our second family night will be held on Thursday, March 3rd, and families can come view the exhibit that evening, too.

MUSIC NOTES FROM MRS. NIMMER
Our birthday composer for the month of January was Phil Collins. All 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students studied about the life and music of this famous modern-day composer. Did you know that he wrote all of the music for Disney's Tarzan movie? We watched an interview in which Mr. Collins talked about how he was inspired to write the soundtrack for this movie.

The 2nd graders are busy preparing for our upcoming concert. You should have received a blue note home with details about the performance. Please make sure your calendars are marked for the following performance times:
Monday, March 14th at 6:30 pm: Homerooms of Owen/McKinnon
Tuesday, March 15th at 6:30 pm: Homerooms of Ebben/Dakins/Ritzke

The 3rd graders have been working on building our vocabulary about the orchestra. We have ten "power words" that we are learning about. We continue to learn new folk songs. Our favorites this month included "Oh Susanna" and "One Bottle of Pop." We could even sing this song in a round! We continue to learn about string instruments, and played a fun game called "Rhythm Toss" to help us practice and memorize our note values.

The 4th graders continue to work hard on our recorder-playing skills. Hopefully you heard what a great start we are off to when your child brought his/her recorder home to practice for his/her first playing test! We are mastering our first three notes: B, A, and G. We finished up our study of the Brass family of instruments, and are now moving on to the Woodwind family. We are enjoying learning about the different instruments that the students will be able to play as a part of the band/orchestra programs next year in 5th grade. A favorite song this month was "Fifty Nifty." This is a fun song that helps us memorize the names of all 50 states!

BUSY BODIES: MISS LOOK
The second and third grades are IN-LINE SKATING, need I say more?!?!

The fourth graders have been working hard in a basketball unit. They have been practicing dribbling, shooting with correct form and improving on passing skills. The unit will finish with a shooting game called Team Shoot-Out. Great job 4th grades. Next up for the month of January, an introduction to Floor Hockey. Games to follow in the month of February.

PLAY BY PLAY WITH MRS. STRATTON
Third graders had to perform a tripod during our tumbling unit! This is a balance on their head! Most worked hard to master the tripod. They also got to climb the ropes, use the spring board to jump and climb across the wall! This unit is my favorite and seems to be the student's favorite also! January we ended our semester and we also had to say goodbye to Miss Weyers! We will miss her so much! She did get a job and will start her Physical education career soon! February we will move to basketball!

LIBRARY NEWS WITH MRS. WOLF
Library Catalog: http://library.kaukauna.k12.wi.us/
Library Web Site: http://kaukaunasd.libguides.com/eq-ndlc/home

Second Grade: Second graders heard the award winning biography, Snowflake Bentley, by Jaqueline
Briggs Martin. Because Wilson Bentley studied snowflakes almost one hundred years ago, we know that all snowflakes are unique and most have six branches!

Second graders also learned how to use the library’s online catalog to search for books. Try it from home!

- [http://library.kaukauna.k12.wi.us](http://library.kaukauna.k12.wi.us)
- Select Electa Quinney and New Directions Learning Community Library
- Click on Catalog tab
- Click on the Visual Search tab
- Select the category

**Third Grade:** Third graders played an online review game created using the web site, Kahoot, to see if they were ready to begin something new in the LMC. They were successful! Third graders also began creating a Google Slide Presentation in which to publish their classroom research comparing two science topics.

**Fourth Grade:** Fourth graders used digital resources to learn more on a famous person they are reading about in their classroom. They learned how to evaluate web sites for quality, readability, appropriateness, and accuracy. They are also used the databases, New Book of Knowledge, America the Beautiful, and Biography for Beginners. Fourth graders created a timeline using the online resource, Read Write Think Timeline Tool.

**NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE**

With childhood obesity on the rise, more and more parents are looking for ways to help cut calories out of their child’s diet. Research has shown that when children are presented with large amounts of food, they typically don’t know when to stop eating. The larger the serving size, the more a child tends to eat even though they’d feel satisfied with a smaller portion. So if you are looking for an easy way to help your child eat healthier, please keep the serving size in mind. How can you better control serving sizes?

- Divide up snacks (including fresh fruits and veggies) into little bags (snack size baggies work well) and keep them handy
- Use smaller plate and bowls for meals and snacks
- For chocolates, cookies, candies and other sweet treat, stick them in the freezer and thaw only the needed servings out at any one time.

By doing the above regularly, research has shown that on average a child will eat approximately 120 calories less each day. That is equal to about 3500 calories/one pound a month. This will not only help your child be healthier but your whole family.

Here is a good recipe that you can make with your kids and place in single serving size bags for their school or home snacks:

**Ingredients:**
1. 1 cup whole grain cereal (squares or Os work best)
2. ¼ cup dried fruit of your choice
3. ¼ cup nuts, such as walnut pieces, slivered almonds, or pistachios
4. ¼ cup small, whole-grain snack crackers or pretzels

**Directions:**
1. Measure out and mix ingredients in a large bowl.
2. Place ½ cup of mix into individual snack bags.
3. Enjoy!

**COUNSELOR’S CORNER: MS. WYDEVEN**

“Our lives are not determined by what happens to us but by how we react to what happens, not by what life brings to us, but by the attitude we bring to life. A positive attitude (high self-esteem) causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts, events, and outcomes. It is a catalyst, a spark that creates extraordinary results.”

Author Unknown

**Update on the 4th Grade Peer Mediation Program: “MEDIATION BUDDIES” (Mediation on the playground)**

**Program Goals:**

Mediation on the playground is continuing to be a helpful program for the students and staff at Quinney; fourth grade Peer Mediators assist all who seek out support with conflicts that arise on the playground @ lunch recess. The Mediators are referred to as “Mediation Buddies”. Their primary purpose is to be a buddy to younger children and help them work out “minor” disputes.
The peer mediators also promote positive behavior choices in terms of following the Quinney ABC's (Act Respectful, Be Responsible, and Come Ready to Learn). Each Peer Mediator is given 1 Character Coupon to give out during their assigned recess time (4 mediators per recess time daily). They will reward one student each with a coupon for displaying positive behavior on the playground. This coupon will then be turned in to the homeroom teacher in exchange for a character coin. The coupon can then be taken home. This is to help encourage the students to be using the Quinney ABC's on the playground. The students are not to ask for the coupon. The Peer Mediators will choose a student that they feel has demonstrated the expected behaviors from the ABC's on the playground (play safely, fairly, problem solve, include everyone, etc.).

The mediators have been trained in the peer mediation process which includes the following problem-solving steps:

“4 S’s”:
1) SAY THE PROBLEM..............................
2) SAY HOW YOU FEEL..........................
3) SAY WHAT YOU NEED..........................
4) SAY A SOLUTION/APOLOGY..................

Quinney peer mediators, wearing brightly colored vests, are available to teach younger students how to problem solve at lunch recess on the playground. Mediators will use the “4 S’s” with the students experiencing a conflict so the students can work it out and then continue to have a safe and fun recess. Students are able to return to play and put closure on problems without escalation or continuation into class time.

Annually, Grades 1 - 4 are taught the “4 S’s” in Classroom Guidance (dealing with conflict resolution) so that everyone understands this process and is aware of the "Mediation Buddies" role out on the playground.

Staff is asked to encourage students to use this style of conflict resolution along with reporting more severe problems/conflicts to adults at school. Together we can make a difference in keeping our schools safe and fun for all!

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**CITIZENSHIP - CHARACTER TRAIT OF THE MONTH**

Our school community will focus on the following concepts about citizenship:
- Do your share to make your school and community better
- Cooperate
- Get involved in community affairs
- Be a good neighbor
- Follow laws and rules
- Respect authority
- Protect the environment

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**The Six Pillars of Character**
This brief article will focus on one of the Common Core Language standards. Listed below you will find Language Standard #6 and what it looks like at a second grade, third grade, and fourth grade.

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<th>Language Standard 6</th>
<th>Grade 2</th>
<th>Grade 3</th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
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<td><strong>Use words and phrases acquired through conversation, reading, and being read to, and responding to texts, including using adjectives and adverbs to describe (e.g., When other kids are happy that makes me happy).</strong></td>
<td>Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined, stammered) and that are basic to a particular topic (e.g. wildlife, conservation, and endangered when discussing animal preservation).</td>
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This standard is a great one to work on at home. Read aloud to your child and point out new and interesting words. Encourage your child to then try to use those words in conversations. The more your family reads and talks, the more new vocabulary words your child will acquire.

**For the young reader:** Read aloud to your child every day. Children learn new words by hearing them. Research has shown that the number of words a child knows when entering kindergarten is a key predictor of his or her future success. Reading aloud = larger vocabulary.

**For older readers:** Expose your older child to new vocabulary words by taking field trips around your community, going to your local museums, or by hearing speakers talk on different topics of interest. Talk about the things you saw and heard. Try to incorporate some new vocabulary words into your conversations.