NOTES FROM MRS. FRISCHMANN

Spring is just around the corner! With February’s weather it is hard to believe! The month of March brings many great activities here at New Directions! Be sure to look at our website for important things coming up and add those to your calendar. There are many volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved for both students and parents. The end of the month there is another opportunity for you to attend our Portfolio Conferences with the classroom teacher to discuss your child’s progress. During this time the Book Fair will be set up again. Did you know that through purchases from the Book Fair we earn points and are able to earn free books? Every student is given a book for their birthday or half-birthday which is made possible from the Book Fair purchases. **Thanks for checking it out!**

**Reminder:** If dropping off or picking up your child after the bell rings or during school hours, you need to stop in the office to sign your child in or out. If you are visiting the classroom you need to sign in the office also and get a visitor pass. Per our handbook policies on page 10 & 14, it is part of our safety procedures. Thank you for your cooperation.

**ELEMENTARY FLYERS**

Please access this [link](#) to see flyers for community groups/events. Any questions please contact the office. (920)766-6116.
MESSAGE FROM OUR PSC

New Directions' biggest fundraiser of the year is fast approaching Knowledge-A-Thon (KAT). Students will receive a list of grade-specific questions reviewing the knowledge they've gained this year. They also receive a pledge form. While studying their questions, family and friends are asked to honor the hard work of students with a donation to support NDLC. On April 5th, students are quizzed during the Knowledge-A-Thon event at school. Lots of volunteers are needed! If you are available to help on April 5th from 7:40am-11:30am, please sign-up at this link.

Conferences and Book Fair: Keep in mind that with conferences March 19th & 21st, NDLC will also be holding our second Book Fair of the year. Great place to get gifts for upcoming birthdays and Easter (and support NDLC at the same time).

Upcoming PSC meetings: There are only a few meetings left this year! All meetings start at 6pm in the school library.

**March 5th, April 1st, May 6th and June 3rd**

HEAD START REGISTRATION

The Kaukauna Head Start program located at St. Katharine Drexel’s, 112 W. 8th Street, will be accepting applications for fall of 2019. Registration is March 14th from 8-1 pm. Head Start is a federally funded, preschool program serving low-income families at no cost to them. Children must be 3 or 4 by September 1, 2019. Head Start serves families who live in Outagamie, Calumet, Winnebago and Shawano counties. The program operates September through May. For more information or if you have questions, please call our toll-free number at (800) 624-4436. Head Start is not a part of the Kaukauna Area School District.

NEW THIS YEAR FOR YEARBOOKS

NDLC has a new way for you to order your yearbooks with Network Photography. You will be ordering online instead of using the yellow envelope. They still will be delivered to the school in May. Please go to www.networkphoto.net. Click on the Fall Prepay tab. Type New Directions into the space there. Click on New Directions and it will walk you through it. The deadline is March 25th. If you have any questions you may contact Network or our office. Thank you.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK

Mark your calendar for National School Breakfast Week- March 4-8, 2019! Eating breakfast is an important part in helping students achieve academic success.

Be on the lookout for special surprises for those participating in breakfast week... All our menus can be accessed online at Kaukauna.nutrislice.com.
The Wisconsin Forward Exam will be given in schools between March 18 and May 3, 2019. The Forward Exam is a state mandated summative assessment which provides information about what students know and can do in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. Students receive a score based on their performance in each content area.

There are sample or practice test questions available for students. An Online Tools Training (OTT) is available for students at [dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/sample-items](http://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/sample-items) The OTT is intended to give students the opportunity to practice with tools available on the Forward Exam, as well as allow them to familiarize themselves with the testing platform. The OTT is not scored, nor is it intended to provide practice on the test content. Students will be exploring these tools and training at school prior to testing.

The Forward Exam will be administered online and be given to:

- Grades 3-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics,
- Grades 4 and 8 in Science and,
- Grades 4, 8, and 10 in Social Studies

The Forward Exam includes several question types:

- **Multiple-Choice (MC):** Question that has four answer choices, including three distractors and one correct answer.
- **Enhanced Selected Response (ESR):** Question which may contain combinations of MC, short-answer, and technology-enhanced
- **Evidence-Based Selected Response (ESBR):** Question which has two parts. The student answers Part A, then provides evidence in Part B to support answer in Part A.
- **Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA):** Question used on the ELA test. The TDA is a text-based analysis, based on a passage that is read by the student during the assessment. Students must draw on basic writing skills while inferring and synthesizing information from the passage in order to develop a comprehensive, holistic essay response. Students have up to 5000 characters to formulate their response.
- **Technology-Enhanced (TE):** TE questions allow for a more engaging, interactive assessment.

Accommodations and supports for students with disabilities and/or English language learners are built into the system so that the progress of students can be accurately measured.

The estimated time for the test administration in each grade is approximately 2 hours and 20 minutes for ELA, 1 hour and 45 minutes for Mathematics, 1 hour and 40 minutes for Science, and 1 hour and 30 minutes for Social Studies. These are estimated times, as the WI Forward Exam is not a timed test so students work at their own pace.

If you have any questions or concerns about the new assessment, please contact the office.
SUMMER SCHOOL 2019

Please check out this link concerning Summer School this year. This year's information is also on the KASD website under Teaching and Learning. If you have any questions please contact Erin Kape at the District Office at: 920-766-6100 ext. 2002 or kapee@kaukaunasd.org.

KASD REFERENDUM-APRIL 2, 2019

The District is offering two Referendum Information Fairs to ask questions, get answers and to become more informed about the April 2, 2019 Referendum vote.

Information Fair Dates and Time:

March 4, 2019 at River View Middle School in the Cafeteria/Commons area 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

March 13, 2019 at Haen Elementary School in the LMC. 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m

Additionally, please visit the Referendum web page for more detailed information. https://www.kaukauna.k12.wi.us/district/referendum-information.cfm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

4K Screening and Registration

This spring, the Kaukauna Area School District will again initiate a voluntary 4K screening on May 31st, June 3rd and June 4th. Registration packets have been sent home to eligible 4K (those who will be 4 on or before September 1, 2019) students. In order to plan for classroom and staffing needs, it is crucial that we receive this information as soon as possible. Children not yet school age that may have delays or other difficulties are also eligible to be screened at this time to help determine if development testing/special services might be needed. Parents with specific developmental concerns may contact Lisa Sheppard anytime at 766-6150.
Stories Create Smiles

Stories Create Smiles is the next NDLC Service Group project. NDLC will be collecting NEW and very gently used books for Children's Hospital Fox Valley. Books will be collected at conferences on March 19th and March 21st. Families can also donate very gently used books (books cannot have writing, tears, etc). New books are the greatest need as the hospital has a one touch policy meaning once a child touches a book they keep it for infection control purposes.

Books are used at the hospital for 4 different groups of children:

1. NICU - Babies are read to early to encourage early literacy.
2. Inpatient critical care - Children battling serious illness are provided books.
3. Ambulatory care - Children spend 2-6 hours at a time receiving asthma care, infusions, and other medical services. Books are used to help pass the time.
4. Child Advocacy Center - Children are provided books when their parents are part of criminal investigations, children are part of psychological evaluations, or when children are being put in foster care.

The greatest number of children treated at Children's Hospital are ages 5-9. We will be collecting board books, picture books, and chapter books. Gently used books will also be collected in separate boxes. Our goal is to collect 500 books.

Families will be able to purchase new books for this project at the conference book fair. When you purchase books at the book fair, NDLC will earn credits toward purchasing books for our school. Books can also be purchased outside of the book fair.

Money collected from the Penny Wars will also be used to purchase some books.

We appreciate your help in supporting Children's Hospital of the Fox Valley.

Questions can be directed to Kristin McEneny kristin.mceneany@gmail.com

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Upcoming Events

NDLC WEAR EVERY FRIDAY

March 1st:        Dress in Camping Gear
March 5th:        PSC Meeting @ 6 pm in the Library
March 7th:        Grade 3 to PAC 11:30-2:30 pm
March 8th:        ½ Day, 11:30 am Dismissal
March 15th:       Wear Green Day
March 19th:       Badgers Sports Wear
March 19th & 21st: Portfolio Conferences & Book Fair 4-7:30 pm
March 20th:       Governance Council Meeting @ 5:45 pm
March 22nd:       End of the Quarter
March 22th:       NO SCHOOL
March 25th:       Last Day to Order Yearbooks
March 28th:       Brewer Wear

Happy Saint Patrick’s Day
Library News from Mrs. Wolf

Four Kindergarten: 4K heard two fun stories, Silly Doggy and Naughty Kitty, by author/illustrator, Adam Stower. After hearing these fiction books, students read about real bears and tigers on PebbleGo. You can use visit PebbleGo from any device with an internet connection. Try it from home!

http://kaukaunasd.libguides.com/eq-ndlc
- Click on the Database tab
- Select PebbleGo
- User Name: electa
- Password: electa

4K also heard the stories, Dig Dogs, Digs: A Construction Tail.

Five Kindergarten: Kindergartners are reading books by author/illustrator, Keiko Kasza. Students have heard, My Lucky Day, The Dog Who Cried Wolf, and Don’t Laugh, Joe! Kindergartners also watched short video clips about possums. Kindergartners also researched an animal of their choice using PebbleGo. In their classroom, students took notes to help them remember what they read. In Art class, students created a picture of their animal with Mrs. Siegel. Kindergartners then used an app called Chatterpix to record their own voice to make their animal talk.

First Grade: First graders are practicing ABC order, so they can find the books they want in the Everybody section of the library. They even learned how to make their own call number!

Second Grade: Second graders created a Google Slide Presentation to share information on bats. Students then presented their information to their classmates.
**Third Grade:** Third graders have been graphic designers during their library time. They used their digital notes from Google Keep to create a poster using Google Drawings!

**Fourth Grade:** Fourth graders reviewed taking digital notes using Google Keep and the Keep Extension on a topic of their choice. They then published their information in the Google Drawing.

**Grades 2 - 4 Makerspace:** Students from second to fourth grade have an opportunity to visit the library during their lunch recess to participate in a Makerspace. All have the opportunity to explore, create, invent, and be challenged in a variety of centers from arts and crafts to AR/VR, marble mazes and their construction, to coding Sphero Robot Balls and Dash Robots. Our focus is on trying something new.

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**READING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MRS. STEIF**

State testing is coming up, and it can be an anxious time for students and teachers. To help prepare for standardized testing, our 3rd and 4th grade teachers teach a mini-unit on “test prep.”

Our view on test prep is this: just like historical fiction or fantasy, standardized test taking is a genre. The kids will continue to read high-quality novels that they choose in workshop, but minilessons and some small group work will focus on test-taking skills like:

- How to read and understand short text, even when it’s hard
- How to understand what a question is asking
- How to answer multiple choice questions
- How to find evidence of an idea in a short text
- How to answer long and short written responses

The teachers keep the mini-unit fun and engaging, and in the past, students have actually enjoyed it! The unit has helped our more anxious test-takers realize that they CAN succeed on tests.

**What can you do at home to help?**
The most important thing is to keep expecting your child to read chapter books nightly and finish one book at a time. Research tells us that the best indicator of test success is the amount of time a child spends reading a day. Thanks for all you do to support your child’s education and to keep up with reading at home!
Kindergartners learned about the warm and cool colors to coordinate with a classroom animal unit. Students water colored either warm or cool shapes in the background of their paper. They then drew an animal by looking at shapes and lines, outlined it with black India Ink dabbers, and colored with crayons and texture plates. The animal was to be colored in the opposite color family as their background. Kindergarten artists then worked on their fine motor skills in cutting and gluing the animal to their background. Mrs. Wolf in the library will then be working with the students on an app called Chatterpix, to make their animal talk!!!

First graders used their fine motor skills in painting branches that were cropped off the edge of a sky paper. They stamped with green, yellow, and white with a cardboard edge to print the pine needles. Students stamped again with a small, round sponge brush to paint white snowflakes in the background. Finally, after practicing with shapes and lines, students drew one or more cardinals on red paper. Black Sharpies, white charcoal pencils and crayons were used for details and texture on the cardinals. Students also learned about “overlapping” for this project!

Second graders learned about the art of “Henna.” They were disappointed that they could not do the Henna on their real hands, but they did create beautiful designs on paper! Some classes had one art class to work on these creations, and other classes had 2 due to the missed days of school! All students used lines and organic and geometric shapes. Some classes used warm or cool colors for their design, and others used neutral colors. All students were made aware of the negative space around their hand design.

Third graders created a clay heart all out of coils. Students persevered while learning how to make even coils! They first traced a printed heart with a long coil, and then used a variety of coil ideas to fill the heart. The back was blended to keep the coils in place. The hearts were fired in the kiln, glazed, and then re-fired. Some students added holes for ribbon, and others left their hearts to use as coasters or to place on a stand.

Fourth graders drew 2 wavy lines, and then added positive words about themselves inside the lines. The letters were to be capital letters and were to touch the top and bottom of the lines in order to show negative shapes. These negative areas were painted with pairs of complementary colors plus white. Students made darker colors by using the complement and lighter colors by mixing white. Colors were to be repeated to show unity. Black India ink in dabber bottles were used for outlining. Students also created the clay flowers that were sold at the Art Auction!

Doodle for Google contest entries for grades 2-4 are due to Mrs. Siegel by March 12th. A parent signature is required and the whole top of the contest form needs to be completed. We have a lot of creative artists entering!!
COUNSELOR’S CORNER FROM MISS DUDA

CLASSROOM GUIDANCE FUN!!
During the month of March, I will be visiting all classrooms to talk about communication. In each grade level we will discuss the difference and importance of verbal and nonverbal communication. We will also talk about the barriers to communication and how we can overcome them 766-6100 Ext. 3309 or email me at dudaad@kaukaunasd.org with any questions or concerns.

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING
Can be provided on an as needed basis for short term social/emotional concerns. Students may be referred by self, teacher or parent.

SMALL GROUP COUNSELING
We currently have Social Skill/friendship groups going and we will be starting more with different age groups in the weeks to come. If your child is invited to participate in the great opportunity, you will receive a letter home in their take home folder describing the group and our goals!

MUSIC NOTES FROM MRS. KRUEGER

Kindies:
The kindergarteners continued to work on their singing voices. They enjoyed working on some Valentine songs along with some fun movement songs. They also learned Going To The Market and I Like Potatoes, as well as George Washington, The Wheels On The Bus, and My Little Blue Truck.

1st grade:
The 1st graders were introduced to new instruments called hand chimes. They learned how to hold and play them correctly, as well as how to play a whole note and half note. They learned how to play a game called Pay Attention where they could practice their bell, whole note, and half note skills. They also enjoyed learning the songs Be My Friend and Mail Myself To You.

2nd grade:
The 2nd graders enjoyed a Valentine song called When You Send a Valentine. After learning how to sing the song, they also played a game where they had to deliver a Valentine to a friend while singing. The 2nd graders also worked a bit on simple rhythm patterns and their skills to match pitch.

3rd grade:
The 3rd graders took a closer look at the string family of instruments. They also got prepared for the Link-Up program that they will go hear on March 7 at the PAC by learning about the pieces they will hear that day. They will get to participate in the program by singing and dancing. It should be a very fun day, and it is such a great learning opportunity for students to experience a live orchestra performance!

4th grade:
The 4th graders spent much month working on their recorders. We have made it through song #6 of the recorder karate program. There are nine belts total. Please encourage your child to practice their recorder at home. They need this time to develop their skills and to be successful in the program. The 4th graders also started learning about a time signature and key signature in preparation for composing their own recorder piece.
**P.E. PLAY BY PLAY WITH MR. HALLORAN**

As you may have heard, we have experienced some flooding in the gyms and have been combining classes to accommodate all the students. The students have been doing a variety of large group games and activities. They have been excellent at dealing with the unideal situation that the flooding left us in.

If you are thinking about Summer School options, Mr. Halloran teaches a class called ‘Ghost Spartan Ninjas’ that is a blast. Students get to do all sorts of fun activities including obstacle course racing, slacklining, and many more!

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**P.E. PLAY BY PLAY WITH MRS. STRATTON**

We have been working on large group activities with only having one gym for the last month or so! We are very lucky to have two gyms! Classes have been amazing and are still learning and working on skills!

At the beginning on March I am going to be taking out 3rd grade students out to snowshoe. Thousand Islands was so great in letting us use traditional snowshoes, I can’t wait to get classes out there to try it!

1st grade will be in the gym working on throwing and catching skills. We will have a throwing assessment coming up.

4k is going to continue to work on gross motor skills!