

Laurin Lion's February Newsletter

Laurin Motto

- P** Practice Respect
- A** Accept Responsibility
- W** Work to Succeed
- S** Safety First



School-wide Activities

PAWS Summit: We had our first PAWS Summit on January 17th to gather feedback on Laurin's school culture. Students and parents shared specific things that are positively affecting our school culture including having an effective motto, ability to build strong relationships with each other, and the presence of a positive energy on campus. Students also voiced areas of needed improvement such as longer recesses, bigger classrooms, and more social events. If you were unable to attend this event, please join us for our second PAWS Summit on May 30th from 1:30-2:30 PM. We are looking for more parents to get involved, so be watching for more information to come!

Our SOS (Sources of Strength)

Laurin's Sources of Strength Team is a phenomenal group students and staff! They just finished running the Trusted Adult Campaign with the entire school. Students wrote the name of a trusted adult (family, school staff, etc.) they can



to in a time of need to share positives or struggles. Check out the photo on the right of all of the PAWS that students filled out to identify their trusted adult.



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SOS team presented the Trusted Adult campaign to Superintendent Mark Ross and the Core Management Team for the Aware Grant. They explained what makes this program so successful at Laurin. The mission of Sources of Strength is to increase help-seeking behaviors and promote connections between peers and caring adults. Sources of Strength focuses on strengthening multiple sources of support around young individuals so that when times get tough, they have strengths to rely on.



iReady Results

We want to celebrate the results from our iReady assessment students took in January. Data shows that there was an overall improvement for Math and ELA from Fall to Winter scores. Great job Laurin students! Keep up your hard work!

School-wide Advisory

Kindness & Caring is our monthly theme for February. Students are encouraged to demonstrate kindness by giving a “shout-out” to students and teachers on campus. If you’d like to compliment or encourage your child through a “shout-out”, contact Ms. Coy in the office at coy.sandra@battlegroundps.org.

Resilience was the theme for January. Students painted a rock that will be placed in LOLA (Laurin Outdoor Learning Area). Next time you’re on campus, have your student take you out to the school garden to see their rock!



Laurin Learning

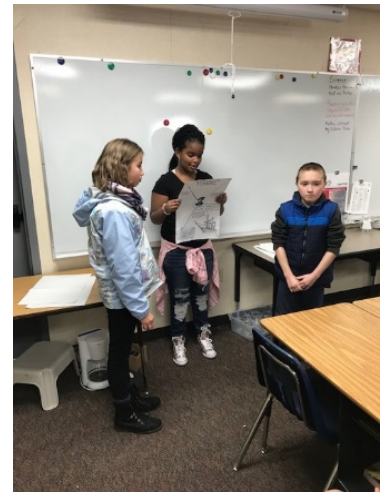
➤ 5th Grade



Mrs. Flach's Class

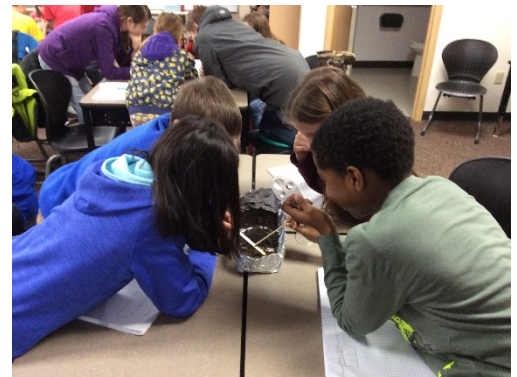
Students in Science have learned about the needs of seeds and plants. They have learned that organisms have preferred environments. In Reading students have worked on sequencing, compare and contrast, and currently cause and effect skills. In History students completed group projects on explorers, are working on presentation and audience listening skills, learned about the reasons immigrants

left Europe and established the 13 colonies and how they prospered. We look forward to learning about water tolerance of plants, food webs, state projects and more.



Mr. Tetz's Class

In math, classes have been working on group projects. Each group is becoming experts on, and then teaching some aspect of fractions to the rest of the class, using games, slides, quizzes, and more.



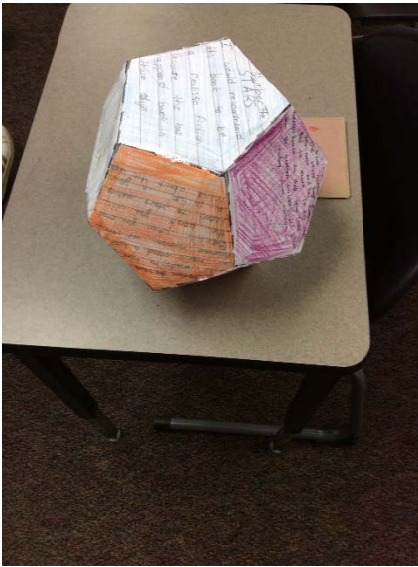
Mrs. Murphy's Class

We wrapped up our decimal multiplication unit with a whiteboard challenge and will be moving into dividing decimals. In history students conducted research and are now in the process of creating a poster highlighting their explorer's impacts and voyages. Students will assemble a Bloom Ball, helping them review for the final test on the novel, *Number the Stars* set in WWII Copenhagen. Students are enjoying the hands on investigations we are conducting with our isopods and beetles. They assembled their bug runs and have been making observations about preferred environmental conditions.

Mrs. Patten's Class

In Mrs. Patten's room, students are dividing decimals. They are practicing concepts in a variety of ways including using whiteboards and task cards. In history, life in colonial times is in full swing. To complement history, in reading they're studying the novel, *The Sign of the Beaver*, which is set in the 1700s. In writing, students are learning to focus their opinions by creating coherent 5-paragraph essays on topics such as year-round school. Finally, our science focus is Environments, and we're conducting investigations with terrariums, beetles and isopods.





Miss Cockrell's Class

The advisory theme, kindness has my students and I thinking about how we can lift each other up with compliments. In Math this month we are working on Multiplication and Division of decimals. In Writing we are working on becoming stronger persuasive writers, by writing about which cookie is better, Oreo's or Chips Ahoy! We are focusing on cause and effect in Reading. We will also be starting a novel study this month on the book, "The Lemonade War," by Jacqueline Davis. In History now that we have learned about each of the Thirteen Colonies we have to figure out how the colonies survived and eventually became states. We will say good-bye to bugs, hello to fish in Science as we continue our Environments unit.

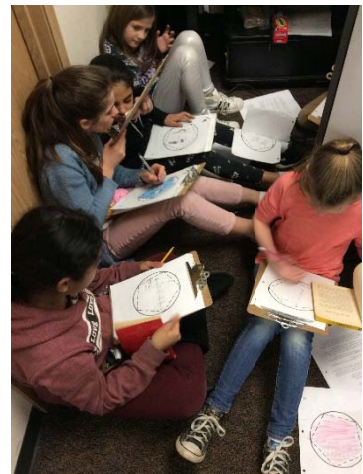
Mrs. Sawdye's Class

In math we are finishing up our unit on multiplying decimals and will begin dividing decimals soon. In writing students are learning how to compose a persuasive essay using facts to support their viewpoint. We just finished our investigation of insects in science and will be exploring ecosystems and food webs. In history we are learning about the 13 colonies and will be starting our state projects as well.

➤ 6th Grade

Math

In math we are finishing up Ch. 4. This chapter covers factors, prime factorization, GCF, Common multiples, converting fractions to decimals, decimals to fractions and adding and subtracting fractions. We will be reviewing this chapter and concluding with our final test.



English Language Arts In Language Arts, the students were studying figurative language in literature, especially poetry. Now, they are working on writing informational texts. We are making use of the Winter Olympics to excite the students to write great essays.



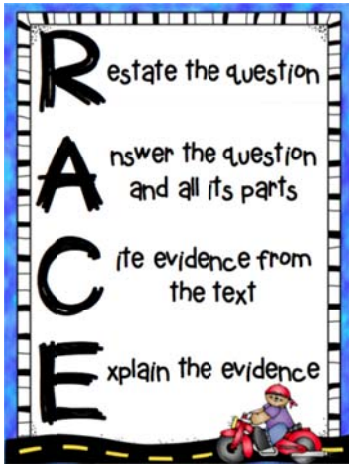
Science

Students have been conducting experiments in groups to learn about the Theory of Plate Tectonics. Don't put any sandwiches or cookies on these plates, as they are already loaded with continents and sea floor, and we've discovered, that like dinner plates, they move!



History

In history students have been creating their own Egyptian art on heavy gage aluminum and then adding color to make their designs “pop”. The Egypt unit of study is always a favorite of students as there are so many interesting burial practices and monuments pharaohs had built. Learning the seven characteristics of Egypt included students in some classes tasting some of the foods Egyptians ate like dates and figs. Students read informational text and saw photos on the finding of King Tut's tomb in the Valley of Kings. Next, we are moving on to study the ancient civilizations on the subcontinent of India and on to China. Students in the picture are working together to build the Great Wall of China.



Reading

In reading class students have been working on using the R.A.C.E. strategy when answering questions on material they read. The R.A.C.E. acronym means; R = restate the question being asked by turning it into a statement, A= answer the question by being sure you know what is being asked (read all questions 2x to be sure you are understanding the question), also be sure to answer all parts of the question, C = cite the source by telling where the information, details or examples are located in the text, E = explain your response giving evidence from the text and add your thoughts. You can help your student by practicing having him/her turn questions into statements. Please continue to have your students read at home nightly!

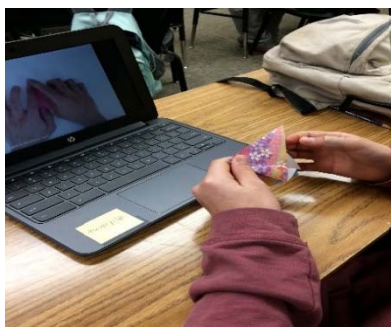
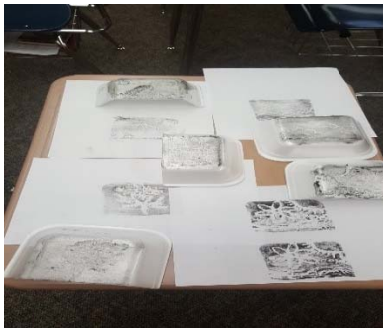
In Mrs. Lashua’s reading class, her students are doing a novel study on the book, “A Long Walk to Water” by Linda Sue Park. This is a great book about a “lost boy” refugee, who must journey all over Africa, looking for his family and safety in 1985. At the same time, the author, Linda Sue Park, shares a more current story about Nya from 2008. Their separate paths are interwoven and finally come together in the end.



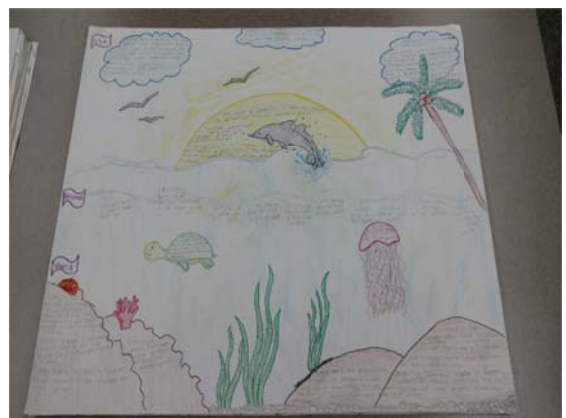
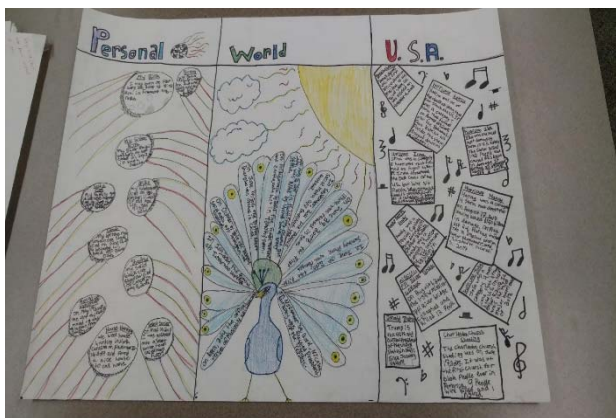
➤ 7th Grade

Kanji and Hiragana with water and paintbrush
 Block Printing original designs
 Origami using videos via Chromebooks
 Zen Gardens sand and rock design





Science: We just finished our unit on electricity and magnetism. The students really enjoyed making temporary magnets, electric circuits, and electromagnets.



➤ 8th Grade

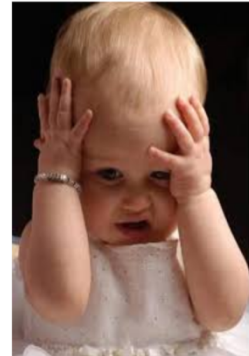
English

- In English, we are currently working on our poetry unit, where students are learning about figurative language and poetic devices, as well as analyzing and composing different types of poetry.
- Examples of Group Poems:



Pet Peeves *Isabella, Sarah, and Jordan*

I never understood why anyone would...
Be careless
And let their fingernails grow out
And talk when others are trying to say something
And chew with their mouth open
And walk slowly when people have places to go
And blame people for their mistakes
And leave misspelled words alone
And smack their gum
And let the door shut in your face
And do things just to drive people crazy
When they could just be a decent person!



- Examples of One Sentence Poems by Fevet, AJ and Cat:

Angel

I never said goodbye, thank you,
hello, or even sorry before you
went away.

One day, we will see each other
again.

But for now, fly high you beautiful
angel



the tunnel

darkness
the only thing
wait
a speck
a speck of light
my focus sharpened
my eyes strained
as the light grew
my fear lessoned
I closed my eyes
when i opend my eyes
the darkness was gone



Dance of Victory

It was the dance of victory
written in features
across her face.

She had fought hard
to defeat it,
and sprinted
every race.

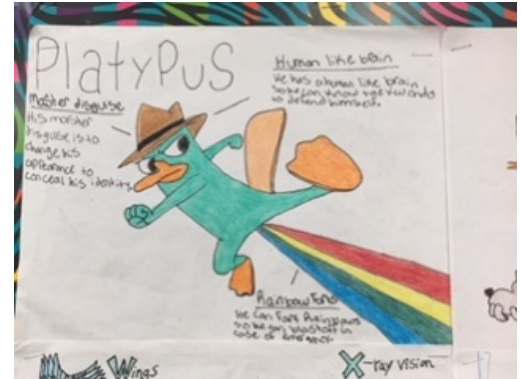


Math

- Piggybacking on our Linear Equations unit, students are now learning how to solve Systems of Linear Equations. They were taught how to find the POI (Point of Intersection) of two linear equations using four different methods: graphing, equal value, substitution, and elimination.
- Up next- Pythagorean Theorem!

Science

- After learning about adaptations in Science, students were asked to choose an animal they'd like to adapt in some way. They could be as creative as they wanted as long as the adaptation helped the animal survive in its environment better. An especially interesting example: a platypus that farts rainbows to blast off and escape predators.



History

- Students learned the geologic history of Washington State. We traveled back 500 million years ago to see that Washington was once mostly underwater. Geologic events were investigated through time to see how present day Washington was formed.
- Students also were given the task of helping out paleontologists from University of Washington, by sorting through samples of microfossils from a dig in Montana.
- We also studied ancient pollen samples from Battle Ground Lake to see how our local climate has changed over time.

Specialists



Mrs. Smith's Science Exploratory

Students were busy...

Designing a boat that will stay afloat with 25 pennies for 10 seconds or more using duct tape, plastic wrap, and straws.

Designing a one piece PFD (personal flotation device) to keep an unopened can afloat for one minute using everyday materials.

Students are using the steps of the Engineering Design Process as well as learning about Marine Engineering/Naval Architecture.



Special Education Department

The Special Education Department has exciting news! We were able to add to our staff! Mr. Bryan Vogel came to us after the year began due to growing numbers in our school. He was originally here half the day

working with 5th grade students and then he would have to travel to Pleasant Valley to teach PE. With our numbers continuing to grow, it was decided that Laurin would benefit from having his position be full time.

The Special Education Department has been busy "reorganizing" responsibilities within the department while maintaining a strong program.

Ms. Bachman's Art Class



- **5th Grade** has been working with warm and cool colors, pattern and repetition creating "Action in Motion"
- **6th Grade** has been using different visual textures, images, text, patterns, shapes, numerals, variety and contrast to create non-color value Letter Designs
- **7th Grade** has been drawing cubes in 1 Point Perspective and just finished painting a Gemstone Collage
- **8th Grade** is busy painting watercolor Birch Trees and just completed a Folk Art Cactus composition using mixed media

• **Laurin Artist** Rayna Gardea's artwork was selected to be featured on Washington Association of Bilingual Education's state conference program and other promotional materials including the conference website. <http://wabewa.org>

Rayna will be honored as "2018 W.A.B.E. Artist of the Year" on Saturday March 24th at the 2018 W.A.B.E. conference in Tacoma, Washington with \$200.00 for her winning artwork. Rayna will also have a vendor space to promote/sell artwork from. Rayna is one of four Laurin Artists who submitted their art for consideration in this state-wide art contest.

Mrs. Zora's Spanish

Students in Mrs. Zora's Spanish class have been learning to write Spanish Valentines. Take a look at the awesome cards!

