



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

SPREAD CHEER FOR ALL TO HEAR!

3rd Grade Spotlight

In our new Math unit, students use their understanding of place value to round whole numbers and to add and subtract within 1,000. They also solve two-step problems.

Try it at home!

Ask your student to find answers to the following problems using an algorithm of their choice:

$$\cdot 293 + 592$$

$$\cdot 728 - 384$$

Questions that may be helpful as they work:

Can you explain the steps in your algorithm?

Does your answer make sense? How do you know?

Can you round your answer to the nearest multiple of 10? 100?

In our new literacy unit, students read and write narrative texts about frogs. They closely read poems about frogs and develop "why" questions about frogs. They read and write narrative pourquoi tales that answer these "why" questions.

When reading, students analyze the plot structure of a narrative. Students learn that narrative texts have a clear sequence of events that makes sense and is easy to understand.

Specifically, they have:

- A beginning that establishes the situation and introduces the characters and/or narrator
- A middle that describes the central problem and explains how the character(s) respond to the problem
- An ending that has a solution/resolution to "wrap up" the problem and explains the message or purpose of the narrative

How can you support your student at home?

- Talk to your student about the frog poems he or she is studying and the things he or she is wondering about frogs.
- Talk to your student about his or her narrative text and the structure of an effective narrative text.
- Choose sentences or paragraphs in an excerpt of a narrative text and invite your student to tell you the plot structures he or she can identify.
- Read narrative and informational texts about frogs. Watch documentaries about frogs on television.



December Dates

December 8 - No School, Professional Development for teacher

December 18 - PTO has been *cancelled*

December 22-January 1 - No School, Winter Break

January 2 - School resumes

Brubaker Elementary School
2900 E 42nd Street

(515) 242-8405
www.brubaker.dmschools.org

Acknowledging Students at Brubaker

Golden Jump Rope

K – Woods
1 - Allen
2 - Lucs
3 - Kephart
4 - Klages
5 – Grace

Golden Broom

K - Jordan
1 - Bennett
2 - Lucs
3 - Eichmeier
4 - Jones
5 – Grace

Golden Lunch Tray

K - Oelmann
1 - Summerville
2 - McNeeley
3 - Phillips
4 - Leeper
5 - Ira

Attendance Goal Winners

The following classes earned a popcorn party for being Attendance H.E.R.O.s and reaching a 94% attendance rate during the month of November:

1 - Bennett: 94.07%
2 - Doss: 94.14%
3 - Hyde: 97.14%
4 - Scheer: 94.93%, Jones: 94.95%, Klages: 94.01%
5 - Grace: 94.07%



Iowa School Performance Profile

The [Iowa School Performance Profiles](#) were published by the State Department of Education on October 26, 2023. These profiles function as our school's "report card" for the State and Federal government. The state collects information throughout the school year and uses it to calculate a score for our school based on metrics that are required by State and Federal law – for our school, that includes:

- Assessment Participation on ISASP, Average School Achievement on ISASP, Conditions for Learning survey, Growth on ISASP, Percent Proficient on ISASP, Progress toward English Language Proficiency

The information used to calculate the Iowa School Performance Profile this year was collected during the 2022-2023 school year.

Here are a few key celebrations we identified as the result of our school's commitment to student learning:

1. Our English Language Learner's growth outpaced the State's average.
2. Our school systems are set up to ensure that 100% of students participate in statewide assessments for English and Math.

Here are the areas we identified as opportunities for continued improvement at our school:

1. We are continuing to work on increasing our students' growth in mathematics from year to year.
2. We are also continuing to work on establishing a respectful, responsible, and safe learning environment for all students.

Our school always strives for continuous improvement, and this Performance Profile is just one tool in our tool belt for creating an environment where every student at Brubaker becomes their best.