

HARRISON'S HEROES

Note from Mrs. Harrison

STEWART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

It was great meeting so many of you during Back-To-School Night last Thursday. If you have any follow-up questions please feel free to email. I have entered all the names and email addresses I received into a group email for our class. You should now all be receiving this letter electronically. If you are not, but would like to receive this letter via email, please send me your email address and I will add you to the list. I will also send a hard copy home as well so that you can refer to it throughout the week.

If you would like to contribute to our class parties this year please send in five dollars. Thank you.



NWEA/MAP Testing

On Tuesday morning students will be taking the Reading MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Test in the computer lab. Students took the Language MAP last week and will be taking the Math MAP next Tuesday. These tests take approximately one hour for the students to complete. During Parent/Teacher Conferences I will be sharing your child's results with you. I've attached an informational page that explains these tests in more detail.



Students had fun meeting their kindergarten buddies from Mrs. Dail's class.

Note from Mrs. Harrison Continued:

The posters I sent home with parents at Back-To-School Night are due this Friday. These posters will be used to feature your child when he/she is our Hero of the Week.

Book Orders are due this Friday.

Harvest Hoopla is Friday, Sept. 20. Thank you for sending in gift cards for the third grade basket raffle.

Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or concerns. My work number is 428-1418 ex. 6112 and my home number is 428-5179. My email address is jharrison@lakeshoreeps.org.

This Week's Spelling Words:

Unit 1, List 3

- all
- bay
- pail
- ray
- plain
- tray
- trail
- May
- braid
- sway
- gray
- plays
- paint
- snail
- great
- safe
- globe
- rice
- BB aviation

Spelling Web Site
<http://www.spellingcity.com/harrisonheroes/>

Class Website:
<http://harrisonsheroes.weebly.com/>

Specials:
Monday-Art
Tuesday-PE
Wednesday-Guidance
Thursday-Music
Friday-PE

Constitution Day

Tuesday is Constitution Day. I am very proud of all the students and the effort they are putting forth to learn the Preamble. To help us celebrate this special day Mrs. Kuntz will be reading to the class a special book about the Preamble. Representative Pscholka will be visiting the class next Monday to talk about the Constitution. A reminder that all the students are encouraged to wear red, white and blue on Tuesday. A fun site to checkout for Constitution facts and activities is: <http://www.constitutionday.cc/>

Sneak Peek at the Week Ahead

Math:

Concepts the students will review this week include counting money, skip counting, elapsed time, and finding differences.

Homework:

Mon. 1-10

Tuesday 1-11

Wed. 1-12

Thursday 1-13

Language Arts

Reading: Whose Habitat Is It?

Strategies: Summarize

Grammar: Identifying the subject of a sentence, how to use a dictionary

Writing: Six Trait Writing Skill- Organization, Author's Purpose- persuade, inform, entertain

NWEA Informational Page

At Lakeshore we are continually looking for ways to strengthen our monitoring of student progress and academic achievement. Last year we started a new component as we planned for your child's success. In the winter of 2013, each Lakeshore student in **grades 2-8** took the **MAP (Measures of Academic Progress)** tests on a computer. They are produced by **NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association)**. The MAP tests measures your child's academic growth from year to year in the areas of **Mathematics, Reading, and Language Usage**. Each of the tests takes about one hour to administer. There are a couple of great advantages to participating in this testing program. A student is first given a question with a difficulty level that a "typical" student at his or her grade level might be expected to know. If the student answers correctly, the questions become increasingly more difficult. If a student answers incorrectly, an adjustment is made to lower the difficulty of the next question. Because of this, the test becomes **individualized for each student** and gradually determines the student's level of educational performance based on his or her personal abilities. We will also obtain the results within a week after testing is completed which will allow teachers and parents to respond to the learning needs of students in a timely fashion. In contrast, the MEAP tests give all students the same questions so it does not determine the personalized educational level of performance for each student nor give the results *quickly*.

Teachers have been trained and schedules created for test-taking sessions in the computer lab. In addition, teachers will be preparing students to take this new type of test by emphasizing the following: basic computer skills (scrolling, dragging, clicking on an icon, etc.), that no student will be getting the same questions at the same time (individualized format) and that the questions will be challenging since it is measuring their own skill level. Individual teachers will be informing you of the schedule that your child's class will be following in their regular communications with you. **These tests (taken in the fall, winter, and spring) are normed tests which mean that the scores of our students will be able to be compared to large samples of students across the country.** Over time, this will allow us to see how each child has grown annually and make adjustments to instruction or learning as needed. Following each testing period, parents will receive reports that will indicate each child's academic progress during each school year. The tests are aligned to the Common Core objectives that students are to be taught in the subject areas.

MAP testing serves as a tool to support collaborative efforts of staff, parents, and students to maximize student achievement. For more information: <http://www.nwea.org/support/article/930>