Greetings!
A note from Tishia Wilson

We have passed our 100th day of school! So many things have occurred at Stony Point since our last newsletter. Monthly School Wide Morning Meetings have become a vital part of our community. They have provided our grade levels an opportunity to connect as a greater community and to showcase some of what they are learning in front of their peers. Connected to the school wide morning meetings and so far this year, students have explicitly discussed and practiced Perseverance, Kindness, Gratefulness, Resourcefulness, and now Empathy.

We have many exciting things planned as we move in to the third quarter of the school year. Our second session of free after school clubs has begun and our drama performance, Seussical the Musical, is coming up at the end of February. We also have the Festival of the Book, the Stony Point Talent Show, and our second and third grade chorus concert all coming up in March, in addition to various field trips and the amazing learning experiences that will take place in our classrooms.

As a staff at Stony Point, we have been working to build community through the development of unified expectations, practices, and a shared vision, as well as through our communication. Included in this has been staff professional development centered around Professional Learning Communities and the Responsive Classroom Approach. Through this work, we desire to create a safe and welcoming environment where all students and staff members have experiences that result in learning and growth.

In our effort to make Stony Point a great place for staff and students, we also want to make it a great place for our families. I would love it if you would take a few moments to complete a short survey in order to provide some feedback at this midway point in the school year. You can access the survey by clicking here. You may also access the link by typing: https://bit.ly/2Glb6gC. I look forward to receiving your feedback!

Thank you!
Tishia Wilson

Mark Your Calendars

Seussical the Musical
March 7 @ 6:30 pm
March 8 @ 8:30 am

Festival of the Book Week
March 18-22

Talent Show
March 22 @ 6:00 pm
April 12 @ 6:00 pm
(weather make-up date)

Second and Third Grade Chorus Concert
March 27 @ 6:30 pm
April 28 @ 9:15 am
Students dismissed @ 11:30am
March 28

No School for Students
March 29

Spring Break
April 1-5
Our library was filled with colorful balloon creations this past quarter! Students learned the story of Macy’s Parade float inventor Tony Sarg and then collaborated on their own ‘float.’ Other library work this quarter included fairytales and retelling stories, for Preschoolers and Kindergarteners; stories and activities on “wants” versus “needs” for First Graders; creating timeline books on communication and transportation for Second Graders; using our FactCite database to research keywords and ancient civilizations for Third Graders; using books and databases to research famous African Americans for Fourth Graders; and analyzing web sites and resources for Fifth Graders. Be reminded that families can access our ebook collection from home using the link on the library home page, with the username and password “media.”

Music Notes

Fourth and fifth graders gave a beautiful concert in January celebrating the winter season. It truly was a magical night full of gorgeous sounds! In the upcoming weeks students will be learning the notes on the staff in preparation for playing the recorders. We are so excited about playing recorders!

The second and third graders have been singing seasonal songs, dancing and playing instruments. We have also learned a game song in Chinese, called “Run the Scarf Around.” In the third nine weeks students will be preparing their spring musical called, “Pirates!” We are having a blast learning this music!

Kindergarten and first grade have been identifying the difference between high and low sounds. We have also been exploring songs with different types of melodies!

Drama Club will be performing their musical “Seussical the Musical” on March 7 at 6:30 pm and March 8 at 8:30 am. Come join us for this free event sure to entertain you!
Preschool

There has been lots of excitement and joy in the preschool room! We have made many friends and enjoyed dancing, playing, and reading with them. We learned about a lot of holidays and their traditions including Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas. Our families joined us for a Thanksgiving Feast and helped us decorate Gingerbread Houses. As we came back to school after the winter break, it was helpful to have some winter weather to help reinforce what we were learning about winter in the classroom.

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners were very busy in January. They read a variety of Jan Brett books. One of their favorites was *The Mitten*. Students made a mitten modeled after the story. All of the animals were placed inside, including a huge bear and a tiny mouse, stretching the mitten to enormous proportions!

In Science, the students had fun exploring with magnets. Through various experiments they learned: magnets can attract and repel, they magnetize through some materials but not others, and the force of a magnet can move something without actually touching it. We have lots of excited scientists in Kindergarten!

First Grade

First grade has enjoyed learning about coding. We have explored Ozobots and Code and Go Mouse. In this digital age, basic coding knowledge is another literacy skill that kids will need to succeed. It also encouraged the kids to work in teams and co-operate.

We also enjoyed our Hibernation Day. The kids loved eating pancakes, hibernating with a good book and thinking about what animals are doing to survive during the winter. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen.

During our exploration of the Earth's relationship to the Sun, we made Sundials. First graders used flashlights to simulate the sun casting a shadow and tried to make their clocks show the correct time.

First Grade also sent homework boxes home. We are so grateful to the PTO for funding this awesome project and are excited to hear how the kids are using them.

Second Grade

Second graders have been busy exploring the world this past quarter. They studied United States geography, the continents, oceans, hemispheres, Prime Meridian, and equator. Students participated in a world market where they bartered the goods they created.

As mathematicians, we practiced using various strategies to solve story problems. We compared and contrasted 2-D and 3-D shapes. We also explored various fractions.

In language arts, we discussed the use of questioning before, during, and after reading. We are currently discussing character traits as we read books in our classrooms. We will soon be learning how to summarize stories.

Students are excited about our future performance of *Pirates! The Musical* by John Jacobson and Roger Emerson. The dates of our performances are Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30 and Thursday, March 28th at 9:15.

Third Grade

Third grade had a wonderfully busy second quarter!
The structures we put in place throughout the first quarter helped us remain productive through the snow days, holidays, and teacher workdays! We are excited to be back in school for steady stretches and are hard at work on some fun projects.

In math, we completed two more units of study: addition and subtraction as well as, geometry, including measuring the perimeter and area of 2D shapes.

Students also had a blast participating in our Stony Point Third Grade food drive!

In reading and writing, we read about the Mary Celeste and held a debate to defend our theories about what happened to the ship. We have continued to learn about different literary features including plot and setting. In social studies, we began researching ancient civilizations, including ancient Mali, China, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Finally, in science we learned about the water cycle.

During this quarter, we had our first field trip as we traveled to the VA Science Museum and we also had a visit from the Charlottesville Ballet! Everyone has become very comfortable in our community and we are continuing to build strong relationships.

Fourth Grade

We have been having a blast in fourth grade! From cheering our Hoos on at the basketball game to gazing at the stars at the JMU Planetarium; our days have been filled with learning and adventure. We created models of the solar system, worked collaboratively on a Minecraft challenge, and created the moon phases out of Oreo cookies! Be sure to ask your fourth grader about all of the fun design challenges we have been doing!

Fifth Grade

This past quarter, students have been working hard towards preparing for middle school. Guidance counselors from both Burley and Sutherland have come in to speak with them and kids were excited about making their elective choices! In addition, we have done a number of projects in the classroom, such as when we collaborated with Ms. McGill to read the book Potato Pants, design our own potato fashion lines, and write stories about what our potatoes did when we weren’t looking. Moving into third quarter, we are excited for students to begin their research projects on the Civil War and begin studying sound and light waves.
Counselor’s Corner with Mrs. Moriarty

Throughout the second quarter of our school year, students continued with classroom lessons twice a month. We continued to emphasize our school wide character traits of kindness and perseverance as we learned and practiced different ways of demonstrating these skills. Our younger students in K-2 used storytelling to meet many different characters who struggled to find ways to persevere and demonstrate kindness, and together we explored new ways for our characters to be successful. We also began our learning about the CARES program (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy, and Self-Control), which we will focus on throughout the third quarter.

The upper grades 3-5 continued to learn more about perseverance as they explored the significance of the power of yet, the development of growth mindset, and mindfulness. Fourth graders are beginning to discuss goal-setting, friendships, and decision-making as they explore how to be successful at school and home. Our fifth graders had the opportunity to visit with middle school counselors to learn more about their planning and transition to sixth grade. We will continue to talk about study skills and organization as they prepare in the coming months for this transition.

Thank you Truslow family for the money spent on shipping and thank you to all who donated supplies to help this school in a time of need!

Helpful Tips for Treating your Child’s Cuts & Scrapes

Did you know?

- Leaving wounds open-to-air to heal is no longer the best practice
- Leaving wounds open-to-air causes wounds to form scabs, which make it more difficult for the wound to heal, can trap bacteria inside, and are more likely to form a scar.

Here is the current best practice for treating a wound:

- Wash daily with soap & water
- Apply Vaseline or Aquaphor
- Apply a bandage
- Repeat these steps daily until the wound is healed
- Keeping wounds covered and moist helps them to heal faster.

Ms. Butler’s first graders building a Lego project together as they tackle a team goal for “Cooperation,” as part of CARES