

# SIEGEL EAGLE NEWS

ERMA SIEGEL ELEMENTARY

December/January

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Hello Parents,

What a wonderful first semester we have had! We have had so many exciting things happening in our building the past few months. To name a few, we've had: Open House, a Solar Eclipse Party, an assembly with Lisa Spencer, daily morning meetings over the 3R's , the kickoff of our garden and greenhouse with Farmer Viktoria, Reading in the Schools, Spirit Days, themed dress up days, DARE, Little Buddies, Basketball, Cheerleading, Band, Book Fair, Parent Conferences, Special Olympics, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Word Parade, Student Council Elections, the Apex Fun Run, a canned food drive, Running Club, Science Club, the MTSU Basketball game....and this doesn't even include all of the daily learning that is happening in our classrooms.

Thank you parents for your continued support. We couldn't do the things we do without you! From all of us here at Siegel, we hope you have a safe and happy holiday season! We will see your children back on January 8, 2018.

Sincerely,

Emily Spencer

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## Upcoming Events

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### December 5

MTSU Basketball Game  
District Wide Field Trip

### December 15

DARE Graduation

### December 21

Tacky Sweater Day  
½ Day for Students

### January 8

Students return from Winter  
Break

### January

Siegel Spirit Day

### January 15

No School

### January 17

Report Cards go home

### February 1

½ Day for Students  
Hat Day



## OPERATIONS

**Student Council** had their Annual Canned Food Drive during the month of November! They collected over 2,200 cans. These were donated to the Rutherford County Food Bank. Way to go, Eagles for bringing in cans and helping others.

In October I (Ms. Viktoria aka Farmer Lady) gave every third, fourth and fifth grader a tour of the **ESE Greenhouse**. In November, students learned about the nutrition benefits of kale and pumpkin during cooking lessons. Students received a hands on experience of how various crops (kale, cabbage and broccoli) can grow, even in the winter!

Students take care of the ESE Greenhouse under the direction of the Farmer Educator and under the supervision of teachers who so graciously dedicate their time during and after school hours. ESP students planted winter crops in the ESE Greenhouse over Fall Break. These will be enjoyed before winter break. For more details on how Farm2School has been incorporated at ESE, please email Ms. Harris in 5<sup>th</sup> grade or Ms. Pepper in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Our **Running Club** members have participated in several races including, but not limited to, the Tryboro, Borodash, Siegel Middle Run, and the Nashville Turkey Trot. We have had several members place after the races in their age division. We will continue to enter races coming up in 2017 and 2018. During running club practices, we have been becoming faster as a team and breaking our own personal records. Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Davenport could not be more proud of the ESE runners.

The **Science Club** is in the process of finalizing invention ideas and writing proposals. These proposals will be submitted for participation in the Regional Invention Convention. The students are working hard! The ideas they have come up with are very impressive.

## 3R's

### Respect, Responsibility, Right Thing

This month for our Goal of the Week we will be focusing on Safety. The whole school has started the Second Step: Child Protection Unit lessons on personal safety. The teachers have been able to teach the first two lessons to their classrooms. After Winter Break, the school counselor will be going into the classrooms to teach the remaining four lessons. Please be on the lookout for the Homelinks that will accompany these lessons. This document will be on the class website, emailed, and/or provided as a hardcopy from your child's teacher. The Homelink sheet lets you know what your child learned in their safety lesson and give you some ideas about how to discuss it with them. It is our hope that you will sit down with your child and go over this sheet. We want to work together as partners to keep your children safe inside and outside of the school building! Have a wonderful, and safe, holiday!

**BE\$ONE**  
the difference maker – the voice – the change – the friend

## GRADE LEVEL NEWS

**Preschool:** We will be reading The Gingerbread Man and will be talking about holiday customs around the world. In January, we will read The Mitten by Jan Brett and will be learning about animals that live in the arctic. We hope to have snow in our sensory table.

**Kindergarten:** A HUGE thank you to the Discovery Center for coming to share with our kindergarteners. In literacy, we are reading—sight words, CVC words, and simple sentences! We're also writing up a storm. We are working on writing words and pictures in both narrative and informational writing—in fact, we will be researching and writing about nonfiction topics such as polar animals. Kindergarten has been working hard on number sense with numbers 0-10, counting, writing, and comparing. Next, we will be adding and subtracting numbers within 10! We also count to 100 every day by 1's, 5's, and 10's. In Social Studies, we have been learning about where we live, culture, holidays, needs, and wants. As it changes to winter, we will explore weather and seasons in Science. We are looking forward to the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on January 22, IF there are not any snow days!

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** First grade is full of winter fun in December and January. We will be working on setting and events and key ideas and details in literature. In informational text, we will be going over asking questions and main idea and details. We will also be describing connections. We will be working on comparative endings and compound words. We will be reading and writing words with r controlled vowels (ar, er, ir, er, or, ur) and y as a vowel (daddy and my). In Math, we will be adding numbers greater than 10, making a 10 to add, adding three numbers, and understanding tens. In Social Studies, we will go over the US map and the 3 grand divisions of Tennessee. In Science, we are covering goods and services and matter.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Time flies in second grade! In December, we will learn about winter holidays around the world, complete a Jan Brett author study, continue working on learning about animal habitats, and start our inventor research projects. In January, second graders will learn about famous people through biography studies, begin working on three digit addition and subtraction, and celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This is the most festive and fun time of year, and spending this season with boys and girls in our grade is always very special! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Second Grade Teachers!

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** In the month of December, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will be studying the continent of Antarctica. They will also be researching the animals found on this continent. Groups will be making posters to display the information they discover through their research. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will also be studying holidays and customs around the world in the month of December. They will make a booklet with information about these holidays.

## GRADE LEVEL NEWS (cont.)

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 4<sup>th</sup> grade students have been busy learning about the differences between poetry, prose, and dramas. Along with identifying the text structures of various passages and articles. In Math, our focus has been multi digit multiplication and division. Students learned how to show their thinking using traditional algorithm, an area model, and partial products. We are excited about beginning fractions! Science has been focused on changes to Earth's surface by weathering and erosion and the water cycle. Social Studies has been learning the history behind the 13 British colonies, and we are beginning the causes that lead to the American Revolution. We also earned the reward of making kale smoothies with Farmer Viktoria. Students had mixed reactions. 4<sup>th</sup> grade is looking forward to all the excitement that December brings. We hope everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable break.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students are learning so much! In Reading, we've been doing novel studies and reading Social Studies content. In Math, we have learned to add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals. Now, we are starting operations with fractions and using our Big Inch manipulatives. In Science, we are wrapping up Earth Science concepts. In Social Studies, we are learning about the Civil War. 5<sup>th</sup> grade students enjoyed making pumpkin bread and kale smoothies with Farmer Viktoria. They earned it as a reward for the highest participation in the greenhouse tour. This holiday season, several classes have service projects they are doing where they adopted a child or a family for Christmas. We are excited to help others. We will have DARE graduation on December 15. The guest speaker will be David Skidmore. He is the youth minister at North Boulevard Church of Christ. We hope everyone enjoys the holiday season, and we look forward to seeing everyone in January.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade** (submitted by Cadence and Harlie): In 6<sup>th</sup> grade we are doing interesting things. We've been doing things such as reading the best-selling novel Wonder. We started a unit on biomes. After winter break we are starting literature groups.

**Sped:** We will be learning about holidays around the world.

**Special Area:** I am happy to announce that 6<sup>th</sup> grade will begin printing the linoleum blocks next week! A linocut is a printmaking technique, in which a sheet of linoleum is used for a relief surface. After 6<sup>th</sup> grade made their designs, they started carving into the linoleum surface with a v-shaped chisel. They used this method to take away parts of the linoleum where they didn't want to leave white on their papers. Everything they didn't carve away will be printed in black. I am very proud of this group! Their designs are very creative and they are all using their chisel tools safely and responsibly. I can't wait to see how their prints turn out. Great job, 6<sup>th</sup> graders!

# PHOTO GALLERY

