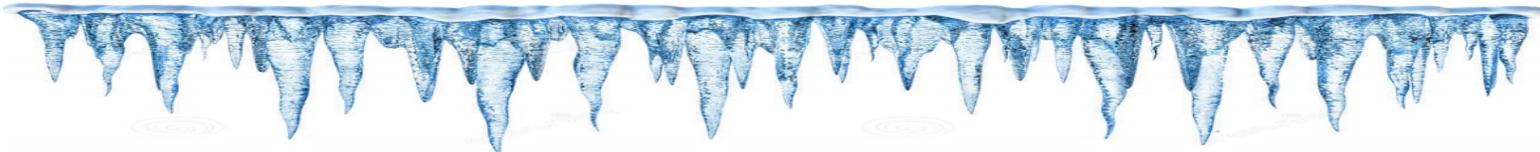


I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and got to enjoy their time with family. We certainly had a blast at our winter party. I'm looking forward to the many learning opportunities that await us in 2015! Students have been working very hard on their research and feature articles on body systems and are learning about important inventors and inventions that have impacted their daily lives. In the new year, students reflected on 2014 and set goals for 2015. I'm confident that we will meet our goals in 2015!



Thanks for your support!

<p>Announcements/ Reminders:</p> <p>Feb 5 Science fair</p> <p>Feb 11 Talent Show</p> <p>Feb 13 Spirit Day- Wear red, pink, and white</p> <p>Feb 16 No School- Presidents Day</p> <p>Feb 18 Field Trip to the Planetarium</p> <p>Feb 26 Parent/Teacher Conferences</p>	<p>☆ Be sure to check our class website daily</p> <p>☆ Please remember that missing work slips are sent home every other week, showing assignments that haven't been turned in yet.</p> <p>☆ A note about valentines is forthcoming, Please do not purchase any valentines with food attached (due to student allergies)</p> <p>☆ Please see the attached two pages for information about filling out the 5 Essentials survey. They are due February 28th</p>
<p>Reading: We recently finished reading <u>Timeless Thomas</u> (a biography of Thomas Edison) and <u>Noah Webster: Weaver of Words</u> (a biography of Noah Webster) in our unit on what shapes our world. We spent time discussing how people and events have shaped the world we live in today. We have also just begun reading <u>Hoot</u> (a realistic fiction text) and <u>A Warmer World</u> (a nonfiction text) to discover how our decisions and actions can effect the environment and the world we live in. Students continue to learn reading strategies such as: "questioning" and "identifying cause and effect relationships". Students continue to enjoy Daily 5 time. Many students are working on original compositions, listening to reading, or using the time to read books of their choice.</p>	<p>Math (Accelerated): Prior to the end of the quarter, we completed our geometry unit on quadrilaterals and geometric solids. Students are currently working on comparing, rounding, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions and decimals. Students are working on computations in the context of problem solving. We've used our technology with QR codes to practice our skills this unit as well! Our next unit will focus on analyzing and displaying data and converting between units of the metric and U.S. standard systems.</p>
<p>Word Study: At this point in the school year, students have learned 4 syllable types (closed, vc-e, r-controlled and open) and have identified them in multisyllabic words, identified exceptions, and are learning other targeted patterns. Additionally, students are also learning homophones, homographs, and Latin roots. We are using stories, games, word sorts, and other activities to reinforce our learning.</p>	<p>Social Studies: We've completed our study of the Northeast and will be starting our study of the Southeast shortly. Students will be learning about the economy, resources and geography, and people and events of the Southeast. We will also spend time learning about the civil rights and women's rights movements. Students will participate in an Underground Railroad simulation and a Trail of Tears simulation as a part of this unit.</p>
<p>Books We've Read: <i>Timeless Thomas, Noah Webster: Weaver of Words, Hoot, A Warmer World, Click Clack Moo: Cows That Type, and Animal Heroes</i></p>	<p>Science: We recently completed our study of rocks and minerals and have begun learning about the circulatory system and respiratory systems. We will be learning about the various parts that make each system, how they function, and healthy habits to promote circulatory and respiratory health. We will be doing several "hands-on" labs to learn more about our hearts and will even be learning a rap to help us remember the parts and functions of the circulatory system. We will be learning about magnets and electricity after our current unit.</p>
<p>Writing: Students have recently completed their feature articles on body systems. Students investigated their body system looking at: the parts of the system, their functions, diseases, and treatments and cures. We are currently working on writing feature articles on people that have made the world a better place. Students are learning the elements of a feature article and how to use a computer to publish their final products in an appealing way.</p>	<p>*** 2nd quarter report cards are available for viewing on home access. If you are having any problems accessing or navigating the site, please let me know . I am happy to help or get you in touch with someone that can help.</p>
<p>Speaking & Listening: Students are working on mystery book talks. They should be practicing them prior to January 26th. Students speak in front of the class informally as well.</p>	<p>-Mr. Sabovik</p>



It's Easy as 1-2-3-4-5

The 2015 Illinois 5Essentials Survey is Here!

Please Complete the Survey between January 12th and February 28th

Teachers, parents, and middle and high school students across Illinois have the opportunity to participate in the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey was designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school from the perspective of teachers, parents, and students.

As a parent, your voice is essential to help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. The Illinois 5Essentials Survey is administered online by the University of Chicago, on behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education. The state will provide survey results for individual schools only if a school has at least 20 percent of parents take the survey. Owen's goal is 50% or more. If you have children attending more than one school, we ask that you complete the survey for each school. All survey responses will be kept confidential.

The survey should only take about five minutes and the valuable information you provide will help our school maintain standards and compliance with the State, but more importantly, it will provide me and the staff important information on how well we are doing in certain areas, and also what areas we can continue to improve in. A summary of the information will also be included in the 2015 School Report Card in the climate section.

Sit down and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea while you complete the survey at home or you can use a computer at school when you stop in to volunteer or drop off your child's lunch. Please remember that once you start the survey you need to complete it in one sitting. You can't start it, stop, and then return to it later. Both parents may complete a survey.

***THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
THANK YOU THANK YOU***

Please read the back for directions.

It's Easy as 1-2-3-4-5

1. Visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/survey/parent/login>
2. Type and then select DuPage as District 204's County location. This is the county associated with the district, not the location of an individual school.
3. Type Owen Elementary into the School field and then select our school.
4. Take the survey.
5. Complete the information below.

Have your child return the signed page to his/her teacher.

The grade level with the most parent participation will earn an incentive.

All students' who return this page signed will also have their name put into a drawing for prizes.

Student: _____ Class: _____

Yes, I completed the Illinois 5Essentials Survey for Owen Elementary School.

Parent(s) Signature: _____
