

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 2016! Students have been working very hard on their research and feature articles on body systems. In the new year, students reflected on 2015 and set goals for 2016. I'm confident that we will meet our goals in 2016!



Thanks for your support!

Announcements/ Reminders:

- Jan 29 Spirit Day- Favorite Football Wear ☆ *Be sure to check our class website daily*
- Feb 4 Science fair ☆ *Please remember that missing work slips are sent home every other week, showing assignments that haven't been turned in yet.*
- Feb 6 American Gymnastics Night ☆ *A note about valentines is forthcoming, Please do not purchase any valentines with food attached (due to student allergies)*
- Feb 15 No School- Presidents Day ☆ *Please see the attached two pages for information about filling out the 5 Essentials survey. They are due February 29th*
- Feb 16 No School-P/T Conferences ☆ *Please see the attached two pages for information about filling out the 5 Essentials survey. They are due February 29th*
- Feb 18 Field Trip to the Planetarium ☆ *All in-school snacks should be peanut-free.*
- Feb 24 Open House

Reading: We recently finished reading several myths from [A Child's Guide to Greek Mythology](#) and will be reading/performing several readers theater plays in [Greek Myth Plays](#) in our unit on what shapes our world. We spent time discussing how people's views of the world, people, and events have shaped the world we live in today. Soon, we will begin reading [Hoot](#) (a realistic fiction text) and [A Warmer World](#) (a nonfiction text) to discover how our decisions and actions can effect the environment and the world we live in. 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.

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.

Books We've Read: *A Child's Guide to Greek Mythology, Greek Myth Plays, I Feel Better with a Frog in my Throat, and A Child's Anthology of Poetry.*

Writing: Students are currently working on their feature articles on body systems. Students are investigating their body system looking at: the parts of the system, their functions, diseases, and treatments and cures. Students are learning the elements of a feature article, how to cite sources, and how to use a computer to publish their final products in an appealing way.

Speaking & Listening: Students are working on mystery book talks. They should be practicing them prior to January 25th. Students speak in front of the class informally through different cooperative grouping strategies and activities.

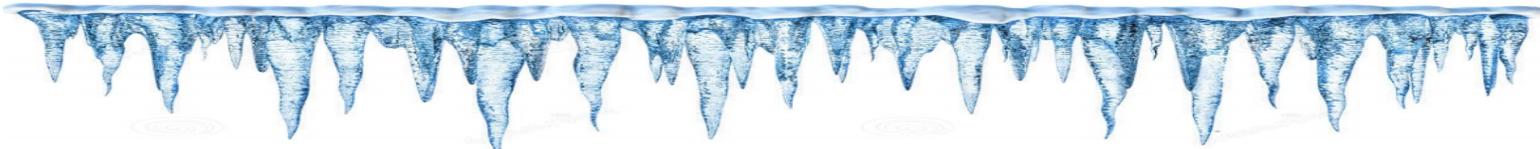
Math (Accelerated): We recently completed our geometry unit on quadrilaterals and geometric solids. Students even performed a rap to help them remember the properties of quadrilaterals! Students are currently working on comparing, rounding, adding, and subtracting, fractions and decimals. Students are working on computations in the context of problem solving. Students will be using their technology with QR codes to practice their skills this unit as well! Our next unit will focus on adding and subtracting mixed numbers and whole numbers.

Social Studies: We are currently studying the Northeast. Students are learning about the economy, resources geography, people and events of the Northeast. Our next unit will be on the Southeast. We will 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 the unit as well.

Science: We recently completed our study of rocks and minerals and will begin learning about the circulatory system and respiratory systems shortly. 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.

*** 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.

-Mr. Sabovik



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

The 2016 Illinois 5Essentials Survey is Here!

Please Complete the Survey between January 18th 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 2016 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.

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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: _____
(Please Print)

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

Parent(s) Signature: _____
