

Ross Local Schools

MORGAN ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

February 2020

Our Mission:

Morgan Elementary School exists to help each unique child reach his or her full potential. We aim to equip all children to:

- Make responsible contributions within their communities, their country, and the global society
- Function productively in the world of technology and the world of work
- Lead richly literate lives
- Continue to grow in understanding and respect for themselves and others



A message from our principal, Mr. Tom Perry:

The second quarter ended, and report cards were distributed on January 10th. If your child did not bring home a report card, please check with his/her teacher.

The Third Graders took the State Fall Reading Test on Monday, October 28th and Wednesday, October 30th. The official state copy of the parent reports will be sent home, along with your child's

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Find Morgan on Twitter → [@MorganRossRams](https://twitter.com/MorganRossRams)

progress towards the 3rd grade guarantee promotion status, with progress reports on Friday February 7th.

As we continue to provide a safe and secure environment for the students at Morgan, the staff would like to remind you of a few procedures that will help ensure school safety and security: All volunteers and visitors must enter the front doors of the Building except for the end of the day dismissal.

- If someone other than the parent/guardian wishes to eat lunch with a Morgan student, we need a note beforehand giving permission for someone other than the parent/guardian to join your child for lunch. As before, you will come to the office and sign in, where you will be given a visitor's pass. You or the guest, and your child only will be able to eat lunch at a separate table in the cafeteria.
- No parking the fire lane in the front of the building.
- No parking in circle drive during morning drop off. If you want to walk your child to the door, please park in the back parking lot.
- Student drop off is between 9:00 and 9:15 A.M. The doors will unlock at 8:50 A.M. and lock at 9:15. Please do not drop off students before 8:50 A.M. If you try to drop your child off after 9:14 A.M. (cones will already be out at the turnaround and students must enter the front door of the building).
- **When picking up your child after school, please send in a note. If you call after 3:00 P.M. we may not be able to notify your child that they will be picked up.**
- When picking students up at dismissal time, parents need to park in the back parking lot and enter Door 12 in the back. The doors will unlock at 3:25 P.M.
- No animals are permitted in the building without prior permission from the principal.

Third and Fourth grade state achievement tests will be administered during the weeks of April 12th - April 30th. The following test schedule will help you avoid testing conflicts when scheduling any necessary appointments for your child. If you know of a conflict, please contact your child's teacher ASAP.

Grade 3: 4/15, 4/17, 4/23, 4/28

Grade 4: 4/14, 4/16, 4/24, 4/29

Progress reports will be sent home on February 7th. Parent-Teacher conferences will be held on February 18th and February 20th for grades Pre-School – 4, with an additional Parent-Teacher conference for Kindergarten students on February 25th and February 27th. You should have received information to go online and set up a conference time with your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call at 738-1986

Important Dates: February

Feb. 6	PTO Meeting
Feb. 7	Progress Report #3
Feb. 12	2nd Grade Music Program, 7:00 P.M. at RHS
Feb. 13	Valentine Parties (only registered parents can attend)
Feb. 14	No School - Inservice Day
Feb. 17	No School - Presidents Day
Feb. 18 & 20	Parent-Teacher Conferences Grades Pre-K - 4
Feb. 21	Bookmobile
Feb. 25 & 27	Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences

Beginning of March

March 6	PTO Meeting
March 12	End of Third Nine Weeks
March 13	No School/Inservice Day

Students of the Week for January

Week of January 6: Axton Kendel, Wren Martin, Piper Wahoff, Alice Taggart, Molly Garrow, Lizzy Miller, Tucker Elliott, Logan Smith, J.P. Schneider, Ellie Parrott, Bailey Cole, Lane Harding, Baxter Ziepfel, Julia George, Trace Gognat, Dominic Rumpke, Emma Williamson, Emma Ehrman, Kendel McFarland, Zachary Ramstetter

Week of January 13: Anthony Howard, Emmy Meyer, Kameron Westendorf, Colton Stidham, Faith Gill, Aubrey Charles, Luke Hesselbrock, Maeve Berry, Henry Craig, Elijah Armstrong, Jacob Anderson, Maddox Williams, Landon Hatfield, Owen Wilkins, Lukas Leidenbor, Jacob Hesselbrock, Dylan Baum, Maggie Dillingham

Week of January 21: Kenzi Kelley, TJ Drennen, Zoe Ramstetter, Chloe Eilerman, Harper Carroll, Abel Monday, Sam Burwinkle, Brantley Taylor, Keaton Middendorf, Jesse Donley, Lilly Hartman, Oliver Allen-Day, Aria Robinson, Gabriel Kandil, Kane Barnett, Liz Baker, Bentley Acree

Week of January 27: Riley Fehring, Colin Rolfsen, Lucas Vickroy, Anthony Sunderhaus, Kenley Bulach, Kendall Sizemore, Reid Harding, Scarlet Love, Sophia Taylor, Oktober Phelps, Sophia Banfield, Hunter Burwinkel, Owen McKean, Hunter Wurzelbacher, Henry Deck, Chloe Armstrong, Anabel Johnson, Olivia Hesselbrock

4th Grade Second Quarter Honor Roll

High Honors

Baxter Ziepfel, Makenna Vangen, Isla Schnell, Chloe Meyer, Anabel Johnson, Cooper Baum, Julia George, Riley Latimer, Willow Gorman, Dylan Emery, Blake Owens, Camryn Mueller, Emily Albrinck, Anna Kelley, Jessa Smith, CJ Miller, Carly Marcum, Lukas Leidenbor, Aubrey Black, Emma O'Connor, Lauren Brudzinski, Nolan Rice, Louise Schuler, Samuel Foss, Avery Werling

Honors

Colt Thoman, Xavier Frazier, Killian O'Connor, Caleb Tabler, Landon Aller, Corey Jones, EL-Leigh Shoemaker, Ryan Bailey, Wynter Wagers, Madasyn Marino, Brayden Way, Garrett Duncan, Dylan Woedl, Alyvia Cole, Cooper Hampton, Josie Tompkins, Noah Kirkendall, Rylie Gentry, Liz Baker, Delana Eschenbach, Carter Doherty, Hunter White, Greyson Kelley, Alexis Wyant, Cortney Schenk, Mikey Criswell, Evan Vangen, Landry Voegele, Henry Deck, Dean Morrissey, JayLynn Kendel, Molly Garrow, Cooper Holmes, Collin Baker, Bryan Butterfield, Zoe Ramstetter, Skylee Towe, Kayden Barrett, Olivia Stayton, Wyatt McEldowney

News from Preschool (Mrs. Byron and Ms. McClanahan)

This year has been flying by. We can't believe it's already February. In February, we will be studying exercise, healthy eating, Valentine's Day, and teeth. Preschool will be finishing up collecting math, literacy and cognitive data for conferences that will be held toward the middle of the month. Please check your emails for the signup link for Valentine's Day parties as well as the Conference signup link. The Valentine's Day parties will be held on Thursday February 13th Am: 10:55 and Pm: 2:55. Our room parents have been extra busy planning these parties for our students. A special thank you to them!! School is closed on Friday, February 14th for Inservice and Monday, February 17th for Presidents Day. Have a great month!

News from Kindergarten (Mrs. Lomax, Mrs. Shoemaker)

The 100th day of school was celebrated on Monday, Feb. 3. The students had so much fun dressing as if they were 100 years old. We spent the day counting, drawing, grouping numbers and making a 100 foot paper strip of our 100 creations. The month of February comes with much activity: Valentines Day, Presidents Day and dental health. We will express our friendship towards each other at our Valentine Party on Thursday, Feb. 13. Please have your child sign his/her name on each valentine. Do not address them to other students. This will help make it less confusing and time-consuming for the students when passing them out. Mrs. Lomax has 21 students in the AM and 20 in the PM class. Mrs. Shoemaker has 21 students in the AM and 21 in the PM class. We will also be learning about some of our Presidents, including George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. We will learn about "Symbols" that

represent the United States of America. We're looking forward to meeting everyone once again for conferences on the evenings of February 18, 20, 25 & 27. Conference sign ups will be online and available on the Morgan website. If you are unable to sign up online, please contact us at 513-738-1986. We're very excited to share with you the progress your child has made thus far, as well as address any needs. - Your Kindergarten Team!

News from 1st Grade (Mrs. Bittner, Mrs. Hughett, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. VanNatta)

February is here which means Valentines, Groundhogs, 100th Day and President's Day. It also brings the second half of the school year. In math, first graders will be learning about graphing and how to collect data to make a graph. We will look at picture graphs and bar graphs. We will continue to use checklists to help us with making sure our writing includes all the parts it needs to be a good teaching piece. We will be doing some animal research to help us write an informational piece about an animal we learn about. In science, we will venture into learning about solids, liquids, and gases. We will learn how these states of matter can change in different ways. In reading, first graders are working hard on looking beyond the text to make connections. We are also working on inferring meaning when the author doesn't tell you everything. We are still retelling and using our strategies. We are also learning these same types of reading skills in non-fiction books as well! Don't forget to sign up for conferences. We would love to see and talk to you all about your child's learning. We thank you in advance for your help with classroom parties.

News from 2nd Grade (Mrs. Broering, Ms. Dorsey, Mrs. Hindery, Mrs. Morehead)

We have made it to 3rd Quarter! Wow! Time has flown on by! Second grade finished up learning how to tell time and count money. We moved right along in to multiplication and our second graders LOVED this unit. :) We explored repeated addition, equal groups and arrays. Our next unit of study is Data and Graphing something that we have actually already explored through our Business Truck Benefit Project Based Learning (PBL) project. We thank all of our families for supporting this project and the reasons behind the project! We will further develop our skills in collecting and reading data using multiple formats such as bar, line, and pie graphs.

In reading, students dived right into nonfiction text features learning all about Sharks. We reviewed identifying text features in isolation as well as in an article. We will continue to use nonfiction text features to gain more information when reading nonfiction texts as well as determine the main idea of the whole text and individual paragraphs. Throughout the month of February we will explore MANY biographies including Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Amelia Earhart, Michael Jordan and many more leading into March. This sets us up for our annual Wax Museum! Be on the

lookout for more information after conferences.

We will be exploring Force and Motion this month with hopes of incorporating new STEM activities such as building race tracks, catapults, or bringing in elements of robotics. Fun times coming in second grade!

Thank you in advance for all your donations and help with the Valentine's Day party! Your kindness doesn't go unnoticed! :)

News from 3rd Grade (Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Lanham, Mrs. McEldowney, Mrs. Smith)

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the third quarter of the 2019-2020 school year! Third graders are working hard in writing on opinion pieces. They chose topics that are important to them, and had to give a catchy lead, strong reasons and details for their opinions, as well as a solid conclusion. Students will also be exploring other genres in the rest of the quarter, which is always fun!

In math, we are working on a large unit on fractions. Students have learned to partition shapes, figure out unit fractions (one piece out of a total), and also solve for fractions of a group. Precision and modeling are very important in this unit. Chapter 9 will lead us into comparing fractions.

Students will be celebrating their monthly AR goal accomplishments sometime next week. We are proud of those students that diligently worked to reach their goals. Please be sure to touch base with your child once or twice a week regarding the books he or she is reading, as well as how they are doing on their goal progress.

News from 4th Grade (Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Miller, Ms. Williams)

Hearts will be in the air this month as we have our Valentine's Day parties on Thursday, Feb. 13th. This is always a fun party that gives us a break from the gloomy days of winter.

As we continue the second half of the school year, you'll begin seeing some increase in practice for the AIR tests that will be coming up. The fourth graders will be testing in Language Arts and Math. All testing will be administered on the computer. The testing will begin in April. You can help by encouraging your child to use good spelling and sentence structure on any assignments that require these skills. Please encourage your child to practice typing skills. Extended responses and essays will have to be typed. Also, be sure that they are showing their work on Math homework.

In STEAM we have been learning about internal and external changes on Earth. We will use this knowledge to study landforms and begin looking at how living things change with the environment. We are also stepping back in time to explore the early settlers and how Ohio became a state. We are looking forward to celebrating Ohio Statehood day in March.

Mathletes continue to investigate fractions. The fact practice that your student has been doing nightly is once again helping us with these investigations. Students have been moving up on the fast 50 facts and their practice is really paying off! It is important that your student work diligently to complete the nightly homework. Like soccer or baseball practice, it is essential to the building of skills we will need to demonstrate on the upcoming AIR and MAP tests. When our fraction unit concludes we will be reviewing as well as heading into Geometry.

News from Art (Mrs. Beyersdoerfer) Music (Mr. Thatcher) P.E. (Mrs. Steigerwald)

ART: Save the Date!!! The ART SHOW is Friday March 20th 5pm-8pm. Every student will have artwork displayed!

MUSIC: Upcoming Music Concerts:

Second Grade Concert: February 12th 7:00 p.m. RHS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

As we patiently wait for the sun and warmth of Spring...the students will finish up skills in the gym related to the parachute, volleying, tumbling, dance, and fitness testing round 2. I will be comparing students scores from the Fall to these scores. Students will also be in the Media Lab at the end of the 3rd quarter due to the gym usage for other school wide activities. Fourth grade will be working on a PBL activity related to Field Day. Third grade will be working on a PBL activity kid's cookbook. Grades 1 and 2 will be working on health related activities in regards to their Circulatory system, Muscular and Skeletal systems.

News from Title I (Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Shumate, Mrs. Volker)

We're already into our second month of 2020! Reading at home continues to be a crucial element in order for students to become awesome readers. Thank you for taking the time to read with your child each night!

In Kindergarten, we are reviewing the reading strategies that we have been learning all year. Using the pictures helps us to understand what is happening in our story so we can always read with meaning. Now we not only use our beginning sounds, but stretch out whole words. We are using letter sounds to read and write words. Reading sight words quickly is essential as we are getting into harder books.

Thank you, parents, for continuing to work on sight words at home and listening to your child read every night!

First grade students are continuing to review hunks and chunks, blending sounds, and applying those skills to reading and writing. Along with these skills, we are also applying our reading strategies that students have learned in the classroom (i.e., Flippy Dolphin, Stretchy Snake, Chunky Monkey, and several more). We are reviewing the setting of the story, characters, retelling, and genre. Comprehension is also an important element as we work on fluency. Our comprehension tends to improve as our fluency improves. We continue to write words and sentences using hunks and chunks, short and long vowels, blending, and sight words. Keep up the great work, first grade!

In second grade, we are focusing on vocabulary. We are not only learning the meaning of the words we read, but also how to use them properly. Parents can help by using unfamiliar words as they speak and encouraging students to use them when they write. When a student stumbles upon a word they don't understand, encourage them to use context clues to find the meaning. After they have grasped it, see if they can make a sentence using the word. In addition, students are learning to inference. This concept is difficult because it requires a deeper understanding of a text. We like to call it, "reading between the lines." Be sure to ask your students questions throughout their reading each night. Why do you think the author wrote that? What do you think she means when she says....? How do you think that made the character feel? Way to go second grade!

Third grade students are reading biographies, memoirs, and chapter books. We are paying attention to point of view when we read. We are noticing the differences between first and third person. Ask your student to show you examples in their favorite book!. Third graders are using their writing skills to give vocabulary definitions and they're using them properly in a sentence. Don't forget punctuation! Reading and writing go hand in hand. Great job third grade!

News from the Office (Mrs. Kohlman, Mrs. Gentry):

YEARBOOKS - Don't forget to order your 2019-20 yearbooks. Students love to have them for yearbook signing day at the end of the school year! We have flyers in the office to help you order online or send to school in the yearbook envelope. Call the office if you need a flyer envelope (738-1986). Deadline is March 23rd.

Student Council News:

Pennies for Patients will start on February 24 and will run through March 12. Student Council is also collecting pop can tabs until May 1. The tabs are counted and then donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

Notes from the Nurse: 'Tis the season for the nasties. Please be mindful of handwashing, covering your mouth, and staying home when you are ill. Students and staff should not attend with fevers of 100 and above and must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications and should also remain at home for 24 hours after illness with vomiting/diarrhea. Help us keep everyone healthier!

Counselor's Corner

Each Grade level is doing a great job earning Ram Cards for being Respectful, Responsible, and being good Problem Solvers. Congratulations to our AM and PM sections of Preschool and Kindergarten for reaching their first goal with earning cards. The other grade levels are very close to reaching theirs as well.

SECOND STEP UPDATE:

We are continuing to teach kids how to manage their emotions in the *Second Step* program. Emotion management is an important skill for several reasons. Students who can recognize strong emotions and calm down cope better and are less prone to aggressive behaviors. The program teaches students proactive strategies that help prevent strong emotions from escalating into negative behaviors. Calm students are better able to use other skills, such as problem solving, to help them get along better with others and make good choices.

We teach students that it's okay to have strong feelings. But when they have strong feelings, it can be hard to think about what to do. They can get back in control by calming down. The first step is to use a stop signal to catch their own attention and to tell themselves to stop. They might say "Chill out!" "Stop!" or "Relax!" Next, they will use their feeling detective skills to name their feeling. When they recognize their feelings, the thinking part of their brain can start to manage them and help them calm down. Encourage your children to practice these 3 calm down steps!

Morgan PTO Newsletter

2019-2020 PTO Officers

PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY
Danielle Ruskaup Sara Schoenecker	Randi Hale Melissa Mason	Kelly Berry	Kaitlin Fliehman

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb 4th	Big Bul's Dine to Donate - ALL DAY
Feb 6th	February PTO Meeting @ 6:30 Media Center
Feb 8th	Skate Night @ Miami
Feb 13th	Valentine's Parties
Mar 5th	March PTO Meeting @ 6:30 Media Center
Mar 16th - 20th	Book Fair (BOGO)
Mar 18-20th	Grandparents' Day
Mar 20th	Ice Cream Social, Art Show and Variety Show

DINE TO DONATE @ Big Bul's **Tuesday, Feb 4th - Big Bul's**

How it works - you will need to present the flyer while ordering your food during their regular business hours, then the PTO will earn 10% of the net food sales. Flyers will be sent home with students, and can be found via the link above. If you forget it that night - you can show it to them at the register from your mobile device and they will have copies to attach to receipts.

We will be taking the profit from this fundraiser and providing it back to the school to use towards miscellaneous items that may have been overlooked during the insurance inventory after the "flood" that closed school for 2 days in November.

The Eli's Dine to Donate Night we netted a profit of over \$300 - thank you to everyone who participated!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will be needing volunteers during the upcoming Spring Book Fair, the Grandparent's Day festivities. Be on the lookout for sign-ups on the facebook group, and via final forms.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL, VARIETY SHOW and ART SHOW

Come see your first through fourth graders are on display, as well as enjoy a scoop of ice cream topped with your favorite toppings while enjoying the Variety Show. More to come next Month!

NEWS From The Cafeteria

There's always something fun cooking in the school Cafeteria. February 3rd is our 100th Day of School Celebration. On Monday, February 10th the Menu is Miss. Williams, 4th Grade Class Lunch Picks. The Menu for that day was totally planned by the winning 4th Grade Class. As always, We encourage the Students to Eat Lunch with us each day.

Parents, please keep checking your Child's Lunch Account to avoid Lunch Charges. Money can be put on Account by going to Payschoolscentral.com for a fee or Checks and Cash accepted at School. Please Write your Check out in Blue or Black Ink. No Sharpies or Gel Pens.



If your child turns age 5 on or before August 1, 2020
and resides in the Ross Local School District
Please save-the-date and join us for

**Ross Local School District's
KG Enrollment Event**

For Elda Elementary AND Morgan Elementary

**March 25, 2019
Ross Middle School
5 - 8 PM**

Registration packets will be available at both elementary schools, Ross Middle School, and the Administrative Offices starting February 18, 2020. They will also be available the evening of March 25th.

If you have any questions, please contact Tonja Curry, the district registrar, at 513-868-4504 or tonja.curry@rossrams.com, or Tracy Wright, the district Instructional Specialist, at 513-868-1253 ext 2913 or tracy.wright@rossrams.com

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