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Mr. Neal Thao, Superintendent
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Events

- * 5/1-5 MCA Math and Reading Make-ups Grades 3-8
- * 5/2 MCA Science Begins Grades 5 & 8
- * 5/4 MCA Science Ends Grades 5 & 8
- * 5/8-12 MCA Science Make-ups Grades 5 & 8
- * 5/15-31 NWEA Grades K-8
- * 5/29 Memorial Day (**No School**)
- * 5/31 Annual Meeting (5-5:30pm)

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Kindergarten

Dear Kindergartners and Families,

The end of the year is almost here! The theme for this month is "Oh the Places You'll Go!" In May, we will be finishing up our math and reading curriculum and preparing for graduation!

For math, we will review simple addition and subtraction using POWER Math, practicing interrupted counting and practice math skills learned throughout the year with plenty of fun games and activities!

For reading, we will review using SUPER 6 strategies, telling the beginning, middle and end of a story, identifying characters and setting, phonics skills, concepts of print, memory words, rhyming words, and CVC words. We will learn the remaining letters in the alphabet with the SuperKids Club. We're so proud of all the progress our students have made in reading!

In science, we will learn about space! We will focus on the planets in the solar system. Students will turn themselves into an astronaut in a fun art activity! In social studies, we will introduce human characteristics of places (human structures, bridges, tower, populations, settlement, patterns, language, ethnicity, nationality, religious beliefs).

REMINDER: We will be taking the reading and math NWEA the third week of May. Please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep, nutritious foods, and exercise.

Sincerely,

The Kindergarten Team

1st Grade

Hello Families,

This month your child will be taking the last NWEA test. This is a state mandated test that is required three times a year. We are aiming for all students to be on grade level. These scores will be sent home with your child after testing is over. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest and a healthy breakfast during this week.

First graders will be learning about life cycles through observing real caterpillars as they transform into butterflies. Ask your child what things they notice as the caterpillars grow and change into butterflies.

For reading this month we will be learning about sequencing the events in stories. For example: what comes first, second and third. We will continue working on synonyms and we will be learning about the "ar, or, ear" words as well as "ow and ou" words. Please make sure your child is reading every night.

In math, we will be reviewing two-digit addition and subtraction. We will continue to work on story problems using POWER math. We will take the end of the year test to assess how much the students have learned throughout the year. Please let your child's teacher know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

First grade teachers

2nd Grade

Dear Second Grade Families,

Wow! It is almost the end of second grade! MAP testing will be in MAY. This will show your child's growth throughout the year. We are anxious to see all they have learned!

We enjoyed our April field trip to the Minnesota History Center. Thank you to our chaperones for spending the day with us.

Your child should be reading at an AR level of 2.8 or above. It is expected that they read 30 minutes a day and take AR quizzes on the books they read. We have been working on grammar skills, continuing spelling, and reading a lot from our Superkids reader and magazine. We will finish the Superkids story to see how second grade ends for them.

The next math unit will be on geometry and arrays. We have begun our unit on plants in science.

The Carnival will be on the last day of school in June! It will be here in no time! We are hoping for nice weather so we can be outside and look forward to seeing you there!

There is still time to enroll your student for the upcoming school year if you haven't done so already.

Have a marvelous May!

The Second Grade Team

3rd Grade

Dear 3rd Grade Parents,

We are done with MCA testing! The students have worked very hard and we are proud of them. In ELA, we are in the middle of our Informational Text unit. Ask your child about the different non-fiction readings they have been doing in the classrooms. Throughout this unit, students will apply what they have been learning about non-fiction texts to write a report about an animal. We are excited to see this report come together.

In math, we are reviewing and re-teaching concepts that students need additional practice with. In science, we are starting a new unit on Light and Sound. This will be filled with lots of fun informational lessons and activities for student exploration.

As a reminder, we will be taking the last of our NWEA testing at the end of the month. We will be testing in Reading, Math, Science, and Language Usage. Students can show how much they have grown from the beginning of the year!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out. We are here to support you and your child!

Sincerely,

3rd Grade Team

4th Grade

Dear 4th Grade Families,

We are currently wrapping up our math MCA testing. We are proud of our students' growth in reading and math this year. We are beginning our final unit in math which includes preparation for 5th grade. We will be reviewing a variety of grammar topics and science before the NWEA assessment in the middle of this month. This will assess reading, math, language and science. We will also be starting an exciting engineering project where students will learn and go through all the steps of the engineering design process.

As a reminder, please make sure your child is reading 30 minutes each night, writing five sentences about what they've read, and completing their math homework. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us!

Sincerely,

The Fourth Grade Team – Carissa Jobe, Destinie Hsu, Ann Ferber, and Sarah Krall

5th Grade

Dear 5th grade families,

Can you believe that it is already May? Just a few short weeks until your 5th grader is a 6th grader! There are many things that we need to still do for them to be ready!

During April and into May, we had our MCA assessments (reading, math, and science). Their scores are not official until MDE posts scores on their website. You can look up your individual child by their Maars number. If your child tells you how they did, it is not official... it is a preliminary score that can change.

During May, we will be doing our Lip Syncing project. This project focuses on the arts (music, acting, dancing, drawing, and/or using PowerPoints). Your child may want to continue working on this outside of school hours.

Fifth grade is going to Valley Fair on May 26th. We do not need any extra chaperones, but if you have had a background check you are able to come with but you will need to purchase your own ticket for \$21.50.

Finally, we will be completing our NWEA assessments this month. This will let you know their growth throughout the year in reading, math, language, and science.

School carnival is just around the corner! It is on the very last day of school, June 8th, from 4-8pm. We are hoping that all families come on that day so we can celebrate our wonderful school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

Please continue to encourage your child to read and complete IXL skills at home!!

Sincerely,

5th Grade Teachers

6th Grade

Hello 6th Grade Parents and Families!

Happy May! We can't believe it's already here. This month is full of exciting things.

On May 12th, we will be heading to Valley Fair for a field trip relating to our science units of force and motion and engineering. Thank you for signing and turning in all permission forms! Lunch will be provided that day, and students will be back in time to go home on their regular mode of transportation.

Students have just finished their MCA Reading and Math tests and will have NWEA testing this month in Reading, Math, Science, and Language. Continue to make sure students are well-rested and eating a healthy meal the night before every test.

In reading and writing, the students are working on writing speeches. We have read and learned about many different speeches. Students will now get to write their own speeches and "perform" them for the class! We are so excited to see how they do.

In math, we have finished our unit on probability and statistics and will start getting into some 7th grade content to give our students a head start for next year. Remember that students need to be showing their work on all math homework problems and we rarely don't have math homework!

Science is at full speed! We are finishing up units on chemistry and properties of matter and are now studying waves and some more engineering in preparation for our field trip. Students are learning to take their own notes and learning to take responsibility for studying them.

We are sad to see the end of the year come, but excited for all our students have accomplished! This year has been so great with all of your students! Now it's time to finish strong.

Best,

Mrs. Schrempp, Ms. Hendrickson, & Ms. Morton

Middle School (7th and 8th Grade)

Dear Families,

The month of April was time for our students to show us all that they have learned this year. We are so proud of the growth that we have seen in reading, math, and science. During the month of May, the middle school students will be going on a field trip to Base Camp. This field trip will teach the students outdoor survival skills as well as teamwork, and cooperation. After our field trip we will complete our last rounds of tests to measure student's academic progress. Scores will be sent home on the student's end of the year report card the first week of June.

Noble Academy is hosting a talent show this year. This talent show will take place on June 7th at 2:15pm.

Families are welcome to attend. Along with our talent show, Noble Academy's annual carnival will be on June 8th. June 8th will be a half day for all students. Buses will be bringing students home starting at 12:30pm. Carnival begins at 5pm.

Graduation for the 8th grade students will be June 8th at 10:30am. Watch for more information coming home soon. We are looking forward to all of the exciting things happening in the month of May.

Sincerely,

The Middle School Teachers

Physical Education

Hello Noble Academy Students and Families,

In late May into early June, our K – 3 students will continue exploring tag games and invasion games. These games are great ideas for activities over the summer. We will also explore skills such as Lacrosse throw or cup stacking which build on their skills of throwing or hand/eye coordination. Many of these skills are good foundations for many activities and sports which can lead to lifelong wellness. Students are always working on their spatial awareness by recognizing safety in the gym and personal fitness through our daily warm up and other various activities. Building on the skills that we have been learning, the students enjoy playing variations of the game "Capture The Flag". We are also working on the post assessment where they will be performing basic skills such as, throwing and kicking. The assessment is based on their knowledge of the sequence each skill is broken down to.

During the month of May, students in grades 4th – 8th will be doing their fitness testing and post assessment. Students always enjoy this time of the year because they get to see how much they have grown as a student. They get to see what new activities they have learned as well as see how they have developed with their personal fitness. Although we are busy getting end of the year logistics done, there still is time to partake in activities and games. In May, we look at our favorite units and play and participate in the all-time favorites. This year was an awesome one, we got to develop and enhance our skills in a wide variety of units and also got to learn many new units. And we also did a first ever, middle school ski trip to Hyland Hills. During physical education our main goal is giving students a variety of ways and opportunities to lead active and healthy lifestyles and this year was nothing short of that mission.

Reminder: All K – 8 students are expected to wear tennis shoes during gym class. Also our 4th – 8th grade students need to wear the Noble Academy Gym Uniform. Thank you for your cooperation!

Sincerely,

Your Physical Education Teachers

Hmong Literacy & Culture

Nyob zoo parents and Noble Scholars!

It is already May and we are getting close to the end of our 2016-2017 school year. We are finishing our projects and taking our trimester III assessment. We will be working on reviewing and taking our posttest. In 4-8, we will continue to finish our double consonants as well.

Parents, please be sure to ask your child to review their consonants, vowels and tones, colors, numbers, animals, vocabularies, and family members.

Please do not hesitate and feel free to give us a call if you have any question or concern.

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Hmong Literacy/Culture Specialists

Mr. Phia Xiong K-3 & Mr. Lue Thao 4-8

Music

Hello Parents and Guardians,

In middle school music, students have been creating their own commercial jingle. We listened to a handful of jingles from popular companies and products and discussed what made a jingle catchy. The students chose a product or company of their choice and wrote lyrics that they then paired with notes on the piano to create a catchy jingle. At the end of this project, students also get the chance to record their jingle with professional recording equipment if they want.

Fourth grade students learned a song called 'Iko Iko' from New Orleans. We discussed the cultural and historical significance of this song and then learned how to play it on the ukulele while singing. They really did a great job with this catchy song, you should ask them to see if they still remember how to sing it!

The Noble Band is preparing for several upcoming performances. We will be performing for a school assembly on April 27th, and the band was invited to perform at an event at Advent Lutheran Church on April 30th! In May, we will also perform at an assembly and then at our spring concert on May 25th at 7pm!

Best,

Mr. Ethan Wightkin

Music

Dear Noble Families,

Here is what we are doing in primary music:

Kindergarten and 1st grade have been studying the four families of the orchestra. First, we have been singing a song "I Am a Fine Musician" which goes over all the families. Students have enjoyed it because they get to pretend they are playing each instrument. Another thing we have played is the game musical four corners. When I play an instrument students have to determine which family the instrument goes in. Sometimes they have to guess and they often surprise themselves when they get it right.

Second and third grades have been playing piano. Right now we are learning the basics like finger numbers and correct piano posture. We have started to play two songs, "Old MacDonald" and "Airplane Ride." The students have been practicing very hard and making huge gains each day. It is quite impressive.

If you have any more questions about what we are doing in music do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Alex Michenfelder

Hmong Art & Culture

Dear Families,

We are currently putting on the finishing touches to our pinch pots. Everyone is using acrylic paint to add life to their sculptures while the first graders get the opportunity to use glaze on their footed pinch pots. All of the classes have just been so ecstatic about their clay projects and can't wait to take it home to show their families! Aside from that, Kindergarteners are working on making art with color and geometric shapes. First graders have been learning about the underwater sea life in their classrooms so we are working on an underwater seascape. Second graders are busy drawing themselves as a superhero, while we learn about background, foreground, and secondary colors. Lastly, third graders are learning about texture and implied texture and are working hard on creating artwork with implied texture.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Chang

Art

Hello Noble Families!

May is here already and the end of the school year is coming up fast! In Art class, every grade is finishing up their final units and preparing for the end of the year summative tests. Our summative tests will cover vocabulary, skills, techniques, and important information from every unit that we have worked on throughout the school year. Students in middle school can spend time reviewing the notes that we have taken during the year in preparation for the test. Each grade will spend a few days reviewing material as a class and then move forward in taking the test. Our students have learned so much this year and developed so many new art skills. I look forward to talking with each class about which units were their favorite and about seeing them show off all of their abilities!

Artwork from throughout the year that has been on display in classrooms or in the hallways will be coming home this month, so be sure to ask your student if they have anything to show you. If you have a student who has not gotten a work of art back from me, they should come to my room to claim it before the end of May.

The most important part of becoming a better artist is simply to make more art, which means that completing unfinished work is essential. I want to thank all of the parents who have worked with me this year to make sure that artwork has been completed and brought in.

I wish everyone a wonderful last stretch of the school year,

Ms. Wiser

Special Education

Greetings Noble Parents,

The school year is coming to a close. We can't believe it's finally May. The students will be continuing to take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) math and science tests. We are continuing to work on skills that were identified as needs through the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) practice test in math and science. Students are able to work on these skills online. In addition, the students in K-8 will be taking the NWEA state test in the middle to end of May. This also an exciting time for students to show how much they have learned throughout the year. In order to perform their best, please make sure your children get a good night's rest and good breakfast each day.

In grades K-2, students are currently working on phonics and spelling sight primer, first and second grade words. In addition, they are learning digraphs (pr, br, tr) and reading words with vowel combinations such as: ou, ai, ee, and ea. As for math, the students are practicing their math facts for addition and subtraction. They are working on word problems that involves telling time and counting money.

In grades 3-5, the students are using reading comprehension strategies to prepare for the MCA such as identifying the main idea, using context clues, making content connections to words and making inferences. In math, the students are working on increasing their math fluency especially with their multiplication facts. In addition, they are learning how to solve one and two step word problems.



Special Education continued...

As mentioned in the first paragraph, we are working on specific skills that were identified in the MCA practice tests students took. Students are able to practice these skills online and work on skills that are specific to their individual needs. In grades 6-8 in reading, students are continuing to focus on writing summaries and paragraphs of passages they have read. We are also working on comprehension questions and strategies. Students are continuing to learn ways to determine main idea and how to use text to answer questions about a passage. Students are also continuing to work on new vocabulary words found in their story each week. We are working on identifying main idea in our stories as well.

In math for grades 6-8, students are continuing to work on math story problems, as well as focusing on the different math skills that were specific to each student. Students are continuing to work on solving more complex math story problems, using graphic organizers to help them solve problems independently and accurately.

We enjoy working with your children and sharing in all their successes throughout the year! Please feel free to call us anytime!

Sincerely,

Jenny Yang and Sue Welle
Special Education Teachers