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## Events

\*3/1 WiDA (Writing)  
Grades 1-8

WiDA Windows Ends  
Grade Kindergarten

\*3/3 Spring  
Promo-Picture

\*3/6 Send Conference  
Reminder to Families

\*3/6-10 WiDA  
Make-ups for All  
Subjects Grades 1-8

\*3/13 Tri III Begins

\*3/22-24 Scholastic  
Book Fair

\*\*3/24 Parent/Teacher  
Conference Day  
(10-8pm) (No School)

Last Day of School  
Before Spring Break

\*3/27-31 Spring Break  
(No School)

*"This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider."*

## Kindergarten

Dear Kindergartners and Families,

March is here! Our theme for March is "Animals around the World." Spring break will be from March 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. The Thursday before break we will be sending home a work packet to complete over break. The end of the second trimester is March 10.

In math, we will continue to work on counting and skip counting by 10s, 5s, and 2s. We will continue to work on addition and subtraction strategies. We will continue word problems and POWER math strategies to solve them for addition and subtraction problems within 10.

In reading, we have introduced the Super Kids Club! We will continue to learn new letters, work on reading and writing words and sentences. You can help your child at home by reading with them every night and completing the reading log. Nightly practice is important to build reading skills for success in school!

For science/social studies we will learn about animals around the world and reviewing living and nonliving things. We will learn about maps and globes and make a map of our own neighborhood!

Reminder! Conferences will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am-8pm. Students do not have school on this day.

Sincerely,

The Kindergarten Team

## 1st Grade

Dear Families,

Your child has been working hard learning a lot this last month. We have finished testing for WIDA which is an English Language Learner assessment. We are back to a regular schedule and are continuing to work on Reading Superkids and Everyday Math. Please note conferences are Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-8:00. Mark your calendar for spring break which is March 27-31. A skills packet for reading and math will be sent home. Please make sure it is completed by the time your child come back to school.

In math, we will be discussing 3 dimensional shapes, fractions, and time to the half hour. In this chapter we will be making shapes using straws. Your child will be learning how to split a shape into halves, fourths, etc. At home there are many ways you can help. For example, if you order a pizza for dinner ask how many equal parts are in the box.

In reading, we will learn how to decode word with controlled-R vowels, such as -ar, -or, -er, -ur and -ir. We will also continue to work on synonyms and homophones. An example of a synonym is cold and chilly. They mean the same thing, but use different words. An example of a homophone is bear and bare. They sound like same word, but are used in a different way.

**1st Grade continued...**

As always please let your child's teacher know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

The First Grade Team

**2nd Grade**

Dear Second Grade Families,

We have past our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school and your child is learning a lot! The third trimester begins March 13. We are looking forward to seeing you at conferences on March 24. Conferences will be 10-8 and we will go over your child's growth and their ILP.

We completed our social studies unit on economics. We learned about Nation's trade and the benefits and costs of saving and spending money.

Next we will begin our science unit on matter and simple machines. This will help prepare us for our field trip to the Minnesota Historical Center where we will learn about Minnesota inventions and inventors from Minnesota.

Your child should be reading at an AR level of 2.6 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, writing a personal narrative, continuing spelling, and reading a lot from our Superkids reader and magazine.

Math will be learning about whole number operations and number stories. This includes graphs, comparisons, and adding double and triple digits.

We will not have school from March 27 through March 31 due to Spring Break. Students will be receiving a homework packet to complete over Spring Break. This is a great time to be putting extra time into IXL and AR quizzes. All computer programs our school uses are on the Noble website.

Let your child's teacher know if you are interested in being a chaperone on Thursday, April 6 to our class trip to Minnesota Historical Center.

Have a marvelous March!

The Second Grade Team

**3rd Grade**

Dear 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Parents,

Spring is right around the corner! We are coming up on our busiest time of the year! We have finished up our poetry unit. Our students loved learning about poetry through a reading and writing workshop. We are currently learning about traditional literature. Students will learn about theme, plot, heroes and villains, and good versus evil. In math we are moving towards solving multi-digit multiplication problems. In science we are learning all about characteristics of plants and animals. Throughout the coming weeks we will be spending much of our time preparing students for the MCA tests in April. In addition to everyday classroom activities students will be working in small groups to reinforce skills we have learned throughout the year.

Conferences will be Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to meet with all of you to discuss your child's progress this year.

Spring break is March 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>.

Sincerely,

3rd Grade Team

**4th Grade**

Dear 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Families,

We are currently in the middle of an exciting informational text unit in reading. The students are enjoying looking at text features and delving into books with real life situations. In math, we are wrapping up unit 6 which focused on division and angles. We will be starting unit 7 which includes multiplying fractions and measurement. In social studies, we are doing a unit on geography. We are looking forward to discussing your child's progress at conferences on March 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you all there!

As a reminder, please make sure your child is reading 30 minutes each night, writing 5 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade families,

During February, our theme was "Animals and Habitats". Students classified animals and learned about habitats of the world. In reading, students focused on making connections, noting details, structures of text, theme, and gathering relevant information. In math, students worked on operations with fractions.

This month, we will be focusing on data line plots, multiplying and dividing decimals, multiplying and dividing numbers, and starting geometry. We'll be working and finishing a poetry unit and then start our "Human Body Unit". For science, we will start reviewing and preparation for our MCA Science Test. This will be the first time they will see it and take it. They will not be able to take it again until 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We will be continuing and finishing our interactive notebooks and students will be bringing them home to start studying. Look for it for homework.

As a reminder, there are 2 events in the month of March.

- Trimester 3 begins on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Look for ILP's on the 15<sup>th</sup>
- CONFERENCES & Curriculum Night is Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 8pm
- No School the week of March 27<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> (SPRING BREAK)

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,

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers

**6th Grade**

Dear 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents and Families,

It has been a busy month! Your students have been writing, writing, and writing some more in our poetry unit. This unit has been very helpful for your students' spelling and literacy skills. We have written all kinds of poems, ranging from haikus to "remember when" poems. Ask your students to share what they've written! They have deep and meaningful thoughts to share. We have been very impressed.

In math, we have been quickly moving through our geometry unit. We started with the circumference and area of circles and are moving into volume and surface area next week. Students have been struggling a little with circles so make sure they are using their notes and formulas for homework at home! We will continue to move rather quickly through math the rest of the year so that students have plenty of time to review before the MCAs.

In science, we have been learning about different kinds of energy and will soon talk about how energy is transferred. Some students have moved on to learning about chemistry which is probably something new to most of our students. In social studies, we are moving forward in Minnesota history and students have expressed a lot of interest in learning about the different wars, especially in the 1900s. We are looking into bringing more of that

**6th Grade continued...**

content into our learning that ties in with Minnesota. It should be fun!

This first half of the year has flown by and we know the last half will feel the same, if not faster! Students will be busy with homework and engaging lessons during the day. Please make sure they are getting plenty of rest at home and are held accountable for the learning in their homework. We have so many great students and we want to see them reach their full potential.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns, and Happy March!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Schrempp, [hschrempp@nobleacademy.us](mailto:hschrempp@nobleacademy.us), Ms. Hendrickson, [shendrickson@nobleacademy.us](mailto:shendrickson@nobleacademy.us), and Ms. Morton, [emorton@nobleacademy.us](mailto:emorton@nobleacademy.us)

**Middle School (7th and 8th Grade)**

Hello Noble families!

We're quickly approaching spring break and the final push toward the end of the year. Here are some things that we're proud of from the month of February: Our field trip to the Science Museum was a success. Students were given the opportunity to explore sports science, they observed some unverified science from our past, and view a few different shows about extreme weather. We finished up our practice MCA tests and are happy with the results! It's important that students continue to grow and learn right up until the end of the year. We also completed our yearly WIDA assessment for our English Learner population of the school. This helps us determine English proficiency of the students at Noble. If your student has been at Noble for a long time, there's a good chance they will be exited from the program soon!

In March we have a month of review to look forward to so we can be ready for our MCA's just a couple weeks after spring break. For spring break, expect your student to have homework in all subject areas in order to keep up their skills over break! Thank you for taking an active role in your student's education!

We look forward to seeing you at conferences the Friday before Spring Break!

Sincerely,

The Middle School Team

**Art**

Happy March Noble Families!

It is hard to believe that this school year has been flying by so quickly, but trimester 3 is already upon us! In Art, students are moving into more interpretive and expressive forms of artwork. Fourth grade is working on a weaving project, learning the vocabulary and tools necessary for weaving, as well as a brief cultural context for weaving. Fifth grade is going to begin exploring emotion in artwork with a fun project that includes facial expression in the form of emojis. Sixth grade will be looking at the human form and the way that our bodies can express movement. Seventh grade is moving into a unit that focuses on popular culture and contemporary styles of artwork. Eighth grade will be looking into tools that can be used to create depth and add dimension to their drawings. Our artists here at Noble are enthusiastic about developing new skills and building new connections in their abilities. I love to see what everyone is making!

Have a wonderful March!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wisner

### Physical Education

Hello Noble Academy Students and Families,

In March, our K – 3 students will be exploring their stability skills. These skills include turning, twisting, balancing, weight transferring, jumping and landing. Many of these skills are present throughout the gym obstacle course our students engage in during physical education. Understanding these skills helps in fostering good foundations for the start of many activities and sports which can lead to lives of 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 a game called “Capture The Flag”.

In February, our 4 – 8 students will be developing and enriching their Soccer and Football Skills and using these skills to play and compete in an activity called Speedball. Soccer and football are very popular sports among most students and it is great to see these two sports come together in Speedball. Speedball is an action packed sport/activity that utilizes both football and soccer skills. These sports use skills such as passing, catching, kicking, while also focusing on teamwork. As always, our goal at Noble is to showcase the many different ways and opportunities students can lead active and healthy lifestyles. All students in grades 4 – 8 are now wearing pedometers which keep track of their daily steps. Our goal is for all students to get more than 1,000 steps in every class period. In grades 4 – 8, students also work on improving their personal fitness level through their daily warm up.

**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 Art & Culture

Dear Families,

In kindergarten we are currently exploring patterns and showing the use of patterns in our artwork. We will start experimenting with mixing colors in the next weeks to come. In first to third grade we looked at primary and secondary colors and started studying warm and cool colors (sometimes referred to as happy and sad colors). Each grade created an artwork using those colors. Second graders also looked at the work of artist, Piet Mondrian and used his inspirations of simple shapes and lines with our warm and cool colored art. Third graders viewed a few pieces of optical illusion artwork by Bridget Riley and Victor Vasarely and used the inspiration of op art to complete their warm and cool colored artwork. It's been a joy to see students working hard on their pieces of artwork!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Chang

### Hmong Literacy/Culture

Nyob Zoo!

In Hmong Literacy/Culture, we are working hard learning Hmong Language and culture. In K-3, we are working on seasons, colors, and numbers, then we will take our trimester II assessment. In March, we will continue working on numbers and learning about animals. In 4-8, we are working on double consonants, family, and taking our trimester II assessment. We will continue working on double consonants and learn about animals for the month of March.

**Hmong Literacy/Culture continued...**

As always, please continue to encourage your child with their Hmong's fluency. Our goal is that K-3 students will master single consonants and vowels by the end of this school year. Our goal for 4-8 students is to master double consonants, vowels and tone markers by the end of this school year.

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

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Hmong Literacy/Culture Specialists

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

**Music**

Hello Noble Families,

We're having a wonderful time in music class and I'm thrilled to share what we are doing.

Kindergarten and 1st continues to learn about form/patterns in music. We got out ribbon streamers and a big parachute to show the pattern of the song "Galop" and "The William Tell Overture." These lessons are very fun for the students and even for myself. Often times students will tell me that music class was really fun and they want to do it again. I love hearing that and I'm glad I can make music class a great learning experience for them.

In 2nd grade, we have been working extremely hard. We are currently taking the song "Can't Stop the Feeling" by Justin Timberlake and changing the lyrics to give the students strategies on taking the MCA exams. We plan on performing this song at the end of March and the 2nd graders are very excited to perform it for the whole school. Another thing we have been doing is composing our own rounds. We first learned how to sing the round "One Bottle of Pop." After we learned the song students were broken off into groups and had to compose their own round. I was very pleased with their compositions and plan on hanging them up in the hallway so the whole school can see them.

Third grade is currently working on their yellow belt song "Gently Sleep." The progress they have made on the recorder continues to impress me and I know they will reach their orange belt at the end of this year. We are also learning how improvise on the recorder and performing their melodies to a jazz accompaniment.

If you have any more questions about what we are doing in music class do not hesitate to contact me. I hope you all have a wonderful March!

Sincerely,

Alex Michenfelder

**Music**

Hello Parents and Guardians,

In music, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders have been expanding their recorder skills. We learned about a common pattern that forms songs called the '12 bar blues.' The students learned how to play and follow the blues pattern. We also improvised using the notes that we know on the recorder. They are doing a great job!

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, piano students started to play a song that requires them to play a chord (3 notes at the same time) in the left hand and a melody in the right hand. It was a challenge, but they worked hard at it and made some great music by the end of the week.

Seventh and eighth graders have been learning about how sampling is used in hip hop music. They created their own word composition by 'sampling' pieces of different poems. We also discussed hearing safety and how we can protect our ears. With the abundance of headphones and speakers in their lives I felt that this was an important topic.

Band parents and guardians, just a reminder that our concert is on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm! (It will be here before you know it.)

Best,

Mr. Ethan Wightkin

## **Special Education**

Greetings Noble Parents,

March is finally here. We are excited for the parent teacher conference which will be held on March 24th. Afterwards it will be spring break from March 27th to 31st. This is also an exciting time for teacher and students as they take assessments to show their growth and progress. We are currently working on skills that were identified as needs through the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment practice test in math and reading. Students are able to work on these skills online.

In grades K-2, students are currently working on phonics and spelling sight words. In addition, they are learning digraphs and reading words with vowel combinations such as 'ai' and 'ea.' As for math, the students are working on addition and subtraction. They are practicing math skills such as counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s.

In grades 3-5, the students are applying higher order reading comprehension strategies such as asking questions, identifying how a passage is organized, identifying the main idea and making inferences. The students are learning how to separate parts of a word such as prefixes, suffixes, and root words in order to read words more fluently.

In reading for grades 6-8, students will be focusing even more on writing summaries and paragraphs of passages or stories they have read. Students are using graphic organizers to assist them in writing summaries and paragraphs which include a topic sentence with supporting sentences and a concluding sentence. 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 will be focusing on math story problems and percent, decimals and fractions. 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