

What's New in K-2 !

The latest Urbana Elementary news for our students in

Grades Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd

Go Little Climbers !

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A Message from your K-2 principal, Mrs. Anders

Although we've had a relatively smooth winter for school days so far, I fear that snow and ice are just around the corner! If school is delayed two hours, students must be at school **by 10:45 am**. Breakfast will still be served on delay days starting at 10:10 am. Please make sure any address or phone number changes are updated with the school so you can receive any Remind messages and/or "all calls" about delays or cancellations. In the event of an early dismissal, please ensure that your child(ren) and the classroom teacher(s) are aware of any transportation changes too. Thanks!

K-2 Events to SAVE THE DATE ...

Friday, January 13: NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work Day)

Monday, January 16: NO SCHOOL (MLK Jr. Holiday)

Tuesday, January 17: 3rd Quarter Begins

Wednesday, January 25: Good Citizens Breakfast (K-5)

Tuesday, January 31: Little Climbers Luncheon Meeting

Monday, February 6: TWO-HOUR DELAY PD DAY

Monday, February 13: K-2 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monday, February 20: NO SCHOOL (Presidents Day)

Thursday, February 23: K-2 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Urbana Elementary Climber Club



THANK YOU to all of our K-2 families who contributed and/or attended our Dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus Night. It was a BIG hit! We sold out of pizza dinners and ran completely out of all of our crafts. The Santa Shop was also a huge success. All of this would not be possible without the support from our families. For all of the latest information, events, etc. about Climber Club, friend us and follow us on Facebook at [UrbanaElementary ClimberClub](https://www.facebook.com/UrbanaElementaryClimberClub).

Newsletter # 6

Counselor's Corner

With Mr. Dorsey

How much time does your child spend watching TV or movies, playing with a Smartphone, computer, or video games? Although some screen time can be beneficial, it's easy to go overboard. The [American Academy of Pediatrics](https://www.aapublications.org/) discourages media use by children 2 years of age or younger and recommends limiting older children's screen time to **no more** than 2 hours a day.

There are many risks associated with children having too much screen time. Those risks include irregular sleep, behavioral problems, obesity, lower academic performance, and undeveloped social skills.

A simple way to start reducing screen time is to establish a "No Electronics Zone" in your home. When any member of your family is in that area of your home, NO electronics are allowed. It's important to include yourself in the expectation. By doing so, you will be showing your child that rules include everyone. An example could be the kitchen table. When eating at the table NO electronics are allowed. This promotes conversation, family togetherness and reduces the time that you and your child are using electronics.

SHOUT OUTS!



Students of the Month - DECEMBER, 2022

Kindergarten-Alexis Auyeung (Mrs. Andreassen)
2nd grade-Skyler Lyden (Mrs. Shelpman)

UES Students of the Month - JANUARY, 2023

Kindergarten-Christopher Agarter (Mrs. Trout's class)
1st grade-Alexandria Kerns (Mrs. Hiltibran's class)

GREAT JOB to our K-2 students and their families for another successful food drive for The Caring Kitchen in Urbana. Everything was delivered to their food pantry and appreciated by our friends at The Caring Kitchen.

Speaking of The Caring Kitchen...stop by and see our K-2 students artwork on display in their halls. This month, **Mrs. Trout's Kindergarten Class**' artwork is featured. **THANK YOU** to our kindergarten students for their creative contribution!

REMINDER...

To all Kindergarten families – there **MUST** be an adult to pick up your child at the bus stop (unless previous arrangements have been made).



PBIS: Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports

Our PBIS teams are doing a book study this school year, **Everyday SEL in Elementary School Integrating Social-Emotional Learning and Mindfulness Into Your Classroom** and sharing our learning with the K-2 staff. This week, teachers practiced eight (8) "Cool Down and Focus" strategies at the staff meeting to use with students.

Here's What's Happening in Our K-2 Classrooms!

Kindergarten: Featuring Mrs. Miesse's Kindergarten



In Mrs. Miesse's classroom, before the holiday break, students have been listening to each others' stories and writing about their friends' experiences. The students pick out one part that he/she liked about a friend's story and he/she then illustrates and writes about it.

Since they've been back from break, students started

to explore story elements and create stories with their imaginations. They use their imaginations to write stories with the help of resources from their writing folder, phonics secrets we have been learning, and kindergarten sight words.

Pictured above is Hendrix looking at his secrets in his writing folder.

First Grade: Featuring Mrs. Pemberton's Class

Mrs. Pemberton's class has been busy during their morning meetings, building their Social and Emotional Skills. During their Read Alouds, they've been reading and discussing the *Little Spot of Emotions* books. From there, they move into Morning Meeting and share strategies they can or have used to help work through their BIG emotions to center on feeling calm and ready to learn. The students are enjoying these books and lessons and are ready to begin putting their POP chart into action. POP stands for Pause, Own it, Pactice. This is how the students are able to identify how they are feeling, accept that feeling, and then put into practice ways to overcome the BIG feelings so they can better focus on being ready for the academics.



Second Grade:

Featuring Mrs. Walters' Class

Mrs. Walters' class has been working on a different STEAM project in their classroom each month. STEAM is an educational approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking. The whole point of STEAM is to inspire inquiry and curiosity: to empower students to ask thought-provoking questions that promote creativity and exploration, and to connect their problem-solving to real world solutions. Students are given specific materials to create a project, either as a group or individually. The seven foundational elements are: Observation, Creativity, Innovation, Planning, Revision, Collaboration and Presentation. Their favorite so far has been *Balloons Over Broadway*. The students had to design a parade balloon!



Now that the holidays are over, are you looking for a place to donate some of your old items to make room for the new ones? Look no further!

The Urbana Elementary and Jr. High PK 8 building has a large,

yellow bin located in the front, south corner of the parking lot where you can donate

items, such as: clothing, textiles, socks, shoes, bedding, towels, curtains, sleeping bags, underwear/bras, books, small electronics, and housewares. Clothing dropped in our bin is sold and reused in developing countries, as well as locally, or repurposed into something new. Proceeds go towards development projects, such as, Teacher Training, Child Aid, and Farmers' Clubs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.



Lovin' Literacy

Mrs. McLoughlin,
Kindergarten Intervention Specialist,
What are YOU lovin' about literacy?

"When I was in elementary school, every Wednesday my teacher would walk us all to the public library to look at books and read us some stories. On Wednesdays I looked forward to going to school so I could go to the public library. I would beg my mom to take me to the library outside of school. The library was a great resource for me to borrow or read books without my mom having to spend a ton of money for me to have books at home! Now, as I have my own kids, I keep the tradition alive by taking them every week to the public library-and they love it just as much as I did! One of our favorite books we like to check out and read as a family is *Brains! Not just a Zombie Snack* by Stacy McAnulty and Illustrated by Matthew Rivera. It is an informational and funny picture book about brains. The library continues to be a GREAT resource for me and now my own family!"

THANK YOU, MRS. MCLOUGHLIN!



Oops they did it **AGAIN!**

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Jacobs **2nd grade** class for winning ANOTHER Champaign County 4-H STEM Classroom Challenge–this time for November! The November project was to create a squirrel proof bird feeder. Feedback received from the 4-H Program Assistant, Kiley Horn: *“I was once again blown away by your creativity and engineering skills! Great work!”*

Pictured to the left is 2nd grader Kileena in Mrs. Jacobs’ class holding up her completed project

Our K-2 Good Citizens for December/January, 2022-2023

Congratulations to our **December/January** Good Citizens! Since December and January are months with fewer school days, we combine the two months for one character trait and one Good Citizen breakfast. All students will enjoy a hot breakfast with our guest speakers, **Judges Reisinger & Gilbert**, on Wednesday, January 25th. The character trait is **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. The goal: *I will try my best to be fair and do what I say I will do.*



Amelia Endres, Kindergarten (Andreassen)
Avery Summerall, Kindergarten (Bowdle)
Katelin “KK” Nease, Kindergarten (Miesse)
Anna Osborne, Kindergarten (Deitrick)
Weston Cox, Kindergarten (Marsh)
Aurelius Justice, Kindergarten (Trout)
Jaxon “Jax” Myers, Kindergarten (Heim)
Jayce Bodey, 1st Grade (Glessner)
Alexandria Kearns, 1st Grade (Hiltibran)
Asrielle Vactor, 1st Grade (Pack)
Olivia Westcott, 1st Grade (Pemberton)
Hank Shuster, 1st Grade (Childs)
Lydia Martinez, 1st Grade (Anderson)
Max Tierney, 2nd Grade (Hower)
Colin Blosser, 2nd Grade (Jacobs)
Blake Cordell, 2nd Grade (Robison)
Aria Puckett, 2nd Grade (Roby)
Henslee Homer, 2nd Grade (Shelpman)
Kalleigh Newkirk, 2nd Grade (Walters)
John Brown, 2nd Grade ESC (Moses)
Jeremy “Jr.” Davis, ESC (Knight)

K-2 Little Climbers Club News

MISSION: to mentor our youngest students by teaching them skills to be successful members of our community.

The monthly Little Climbers luncheon meeting was held on Tuesday, December 13 with guest speaker, **Alexis Kessler of Park National Bank**. She talked to our Little Climbers about respect and trustworthiness. The Little Climbers will continue discussing trustworthiness this month and show trustworthiness by trying their best to be fair and reliable in all of their thoughts and actions.

The next Little Climber luncheon meeting will be held on *Dress for Success* Tuesday, January 31st in the PK8 band room. The guest speaker will be **Stacy Foster of CORS Head Start**.

The topic in February will be **Fairness**. The Little Climber Club advisors are Marcia Marsh and Diane Deitrick (kindergarten teachers), Jaimie Anderson, Macy Calland, Ashton Childs, Kelly Glessner, and Chuck Pack (1st grade), Jenn Chapman and Sarah Nannarone (2nd grade), Cris Dorsey (K-2 School Counselor), and Melanie Anders (K-2 Principal).

Our Climber Code:

BE RESPECTFUL, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE READY