



Liberty Patriot Stars Stara



December



Students Return to School
on January 4th, 2021

January

- 4—Students Return to School
- 15—End of Quarter 2
- 18—No School - MLK Day
- 19—PTO/SAC Meeting @ 3:30pm
- 25—Report Cards are sent home

February

- 14—Valentines Day
- 15—President's Day—No School
- 22—Progress Reports go home

March

- 2—SAC/PTO @ 3:30pm
- 8—Book Fair

Spring Break

March 15 through March 19

- 22—No School-Teacher Work Day

T'was a Month Before Christmas 2020

T'was a month before Christmas, and all through the town,
People wore masks, that covered their frown.
The frown had begun way back in the Spring,
When a global pandemic changed everything.

They called it corona, but unlike the beer,
It didn't bring good times, it didn't bring cheer.
Contagious and deadly, this virus spread fast,
Like a wildfire that starts when fueled by gas.
Airplanes were grounded, travel was banned.
Borders were closed across air, sea and land.

As the world entered lockdown to flatten the curve,
The economy halted, and folks lost their verve.

From March to July we rode the first wave,
People stayed home, they tried to behave.
When summer emerged the lockdown was lifted.

But away from caution, many folks drifted.
Now it's November and cases are spiking,
Wave two has arrived, much to our disliking.

Frontline workers, doctors and nurses,
Try to save people, from riding in hearses.

This virus is awful, this COVID-19.

There isn't a cure. there is no vaccine.

It's true that this year has had sadness a plenty,
We'll never forget the year 2020.

And just 'round the corner - the holiday season,
But why be merry? Is there even one reason?

To decorate the house and put up the tree,
When no one will see it, no-one but me.

But outside my window the snow gently falls,
And I think to myself, let's deck the halls!

So, I gather the ribbon, the garland and bows,
As I play those old carols, my happiness grows.

Christmas ain't cancelled and neither is hope.
If we lean on each other, I know we can cope.

Copyright-Shawna Hickling

By: Shawna Hickling, Calgary, AB, Canada

Mrs. Ward's Third Graders



Prodigy Battles!

Talking Time

by Joan Brown



Thinking Styles

What kind of a thinker is your child? What kind of a thinker are you? There are many types of thinking which result in many kinds of learning.

Literalists: Look for all kinds of exact and specific answers and information.

Fuzzy Thinkers: Provide vague, ambiguous, or trite answers.

Left fielders: Come up with unpredictable ideas that seem to have no real connection to the topic.

Politicians: Use slogans or utterances that sound meaningful but are not very deep.

Dodgers: Change the questions and then answer the new one.

Authors: Create their own story line and provide lots of details.

Minimalists: Provide no elaboration but just answer briefly.

Knowing how we think can help us compensate for the weaknesses in our thought processing. We can teach children to expand their ideas beyond the first thought that pops into their heads.

My Dad Would Like To Be Santa

His belly's getting bigger,
And his hair is turning white.
His eyes shine and sparkle
Like the stars on Christmas
night.

He couldn't fit down chimneys
When he can just fit through a
door.
One mince pie would never do
He'd only ask for more.

He likes a nip of brandy;
It sets his cheeks aglow.
When he forgets the words to
carols,
He just shouts Ho, Ho, Ho.

He hasn't got a reindeer
That runs silently through
space,
But his car is Eco Friendly
And could beat Rudolph in a
race.

He can't afford a new red suit
With boots and matching belt,
But his smile is warmer than the
sun
That can make the snow tops
melt.

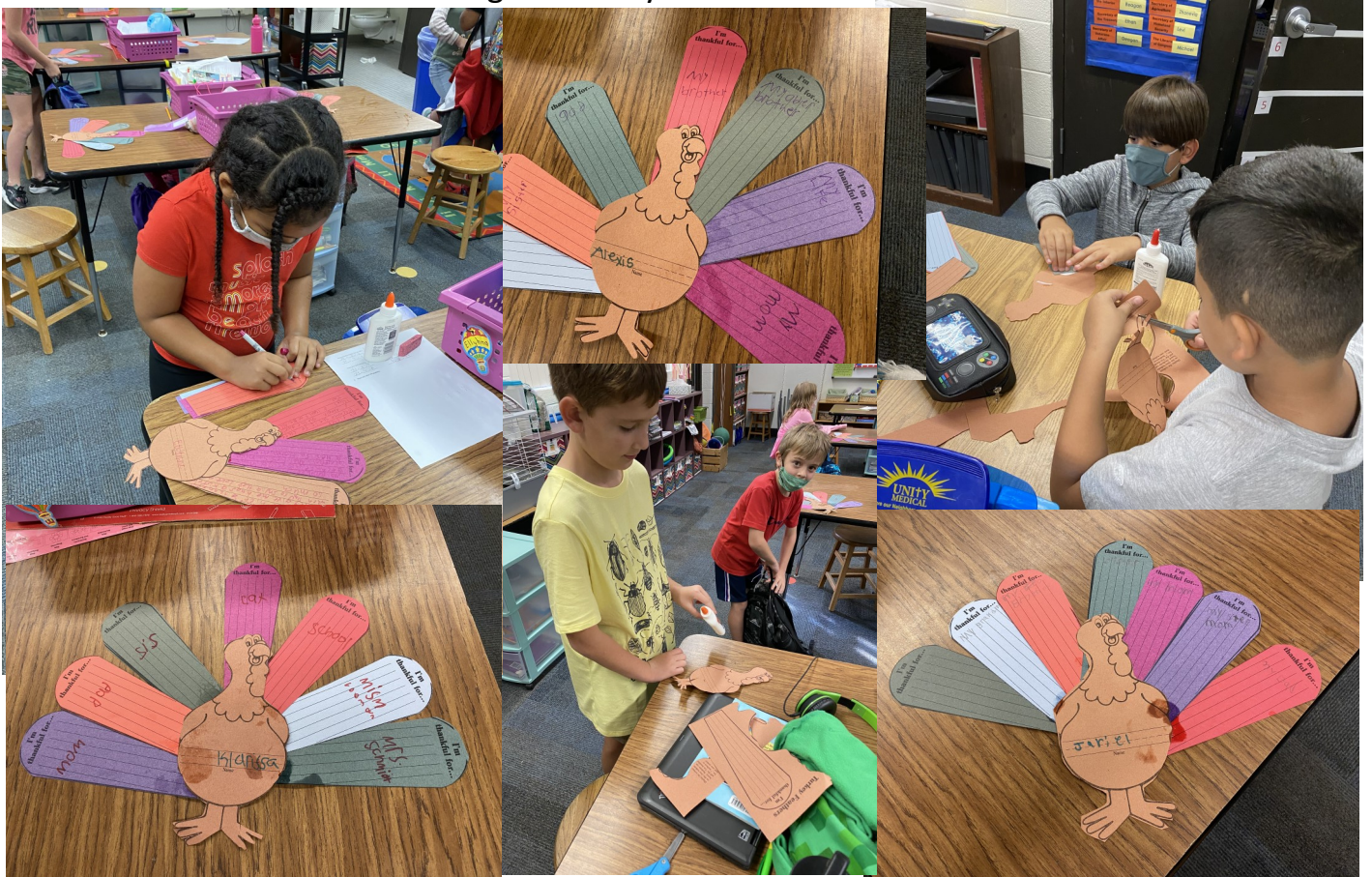
My dad would like to be Santa
And fill the world with glee,
So until they advertise the job,
He'll give all his love to me

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/my-dad-would-like-to-be-santa>

Have a Safe and Merry Christmas

Mrs. Schmidt's ~ Third Graders

Made "Thankful" Turkeys to take home to their families for Thanksgiving. On each of the feathers the students wrote things that they were most thankful for.



Look what's happening in Family Engagement

Santa is coming!!!

As you drop your children off to school on Thursday, December 17

Santa will be welcoming them with a wave and a Candy Cane!

Your child will also receive a free book.

Due to Covid, we will not be able to stop and take pictures, but we look forward to seeing the excitement of the season on the kid's faces!

SEE YOU THERE!!

Math with Cards

Check out the online tutorial for a fun way to learn math using a deck of cards! The link is posted on the Liberty Elementary website.

After you have viewed the presentation, please fill out the short evaluation form.

If you need a deck of cards for the games, you can request them at the bottom of this form.

HAVE FUN!!

Request for a deck of cards:

Name _____

Teacher _____

Return to Ms. McGill by Dec. 14



inspiring girls to be healthy and confident

The Girls on the Run Team ran their 5k on Thursday, November 19th. Although their race looked a little different this season, the girls used their skills and strength that they had been practicing all season to really rock this race! We are so proud of our GOTR girls for letting their star shine bright as they crossed the finish line.

Great job girls!!!





All of our online programs can be accessed through our county CLASSLINK portal. Once students are logged into their Classlink account, all of their websites will be available as icons.




To log into CLASSLINK at home:

1. Go to the LES homepage.
http://www.edline.net/pages/_Liberty_ES
2. Click on shortcuts
3. Click on Classlink
4. Enter username and password.

username _____

password _____

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 schooldays, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Nagy and Eberhart, 1987.)

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

Accelerated Reader



Accelerated Reader is a program that allows students to earn points for reading and comprehending books. In order to earn points, a student needs to read a book and understand what the book was about. Then log

on to AR using the account provided by their teacher, to take a quiz on the book. Most picture books have 5 questions, and most chapter books have 10 questions. If the student receives a 100% they will earn full points for the book, however if they receive less than a 100% they will receive a portion of the points. Most picture books are worth 0.5 points and chapter books vary in point value based on difficulty. **Quizzes can only be taken at school during school hours**, but we encourage students to read their AR books at home. Kindergarten students will begin taking AR quizzes when they master 100 sight words. You can find out if a book has an AR quiz by visiting www.arbookfind.com.

So how can students celebrate these points?

Each grade level has a point goal to reach by the end of the school year. If they reach that goal, they will earn an AR t-shirt and an ice cream party. As students earn points, they will have opportunities throughout the year to purchase items at the AR store using their points.



Reflex helps students of all levels to develop fluency with their basic facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Math fact fluency is the quick and effortless (automatic) recall of basic math facts. This makes learning new math skills much more attainable for students.



Adaptive and individualized instruction



Engaging games that keep students coming back for more



Intuitive and powerful reporting for educators

Students can earn a **Movie and Popcorn party** twice a year if they achieve and maintain 100% fact fluency on Reflex. Students login and practice math facts through colorful interactive video games. Once they have answered enough facts correctly for the day, they will earn a green light. This should be **done at least 3 days per week**.