

# Eugene Brooks Intermediate School

## June Newsletter 2019



### The Principal's Corner - Mr. Lynch

I'd like to wish everyone a happy summer. I'm sure we will all enjoy this extra time with our family and friends outside of the school walls. Please challenge your children to keep their brains fresh with reading, problem solving, and iReady individualized lessons. They will feel much better returning to school next year and will be set up for more success after having dedicated some time to these things. Equally as important, encourage your children to go outside, disconnect, and be kids! We often lose sight of the value that comes from connecting with nature and other human beings face to face. I look forward to seeing you all in September!



## 4th Grade:

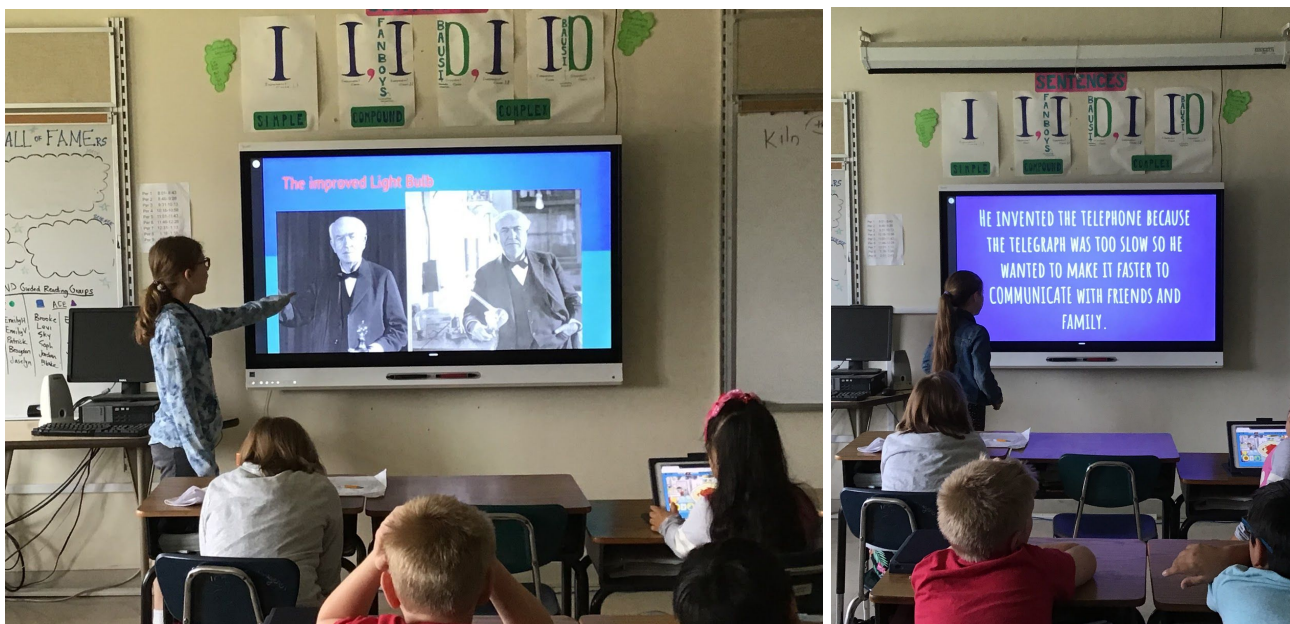
-We went to the New York State Museum in Albany this month! We learned about the history of New York State, along with the creatures that are indigenous to our area of the world. Ask about the Cohoes Mastadon skeleton we saw! ...and how fun the old carousel was to ride. :)

-June was also the month for the New York State Science test for 4th (and 8th) graders.

-ELA ended with our final performance task: a research essay on The Redwood Forest and its importance to the ecosystem.

-We had 3rd grade orientation for the incoming 4th graders up at EBIS. We toured the school and we did a math origami task to understand symmetry, see what a 4th grade classroom looks/sounds like, and to have a fun 'barking dog' to play with afterwards!

-Students in Mrs. Mahaffey's class learned how to use Google Slides and did a final Science/Social Studies/Technology cross-curricular slideshow about either an invention or inventor as part of our American history lesson/science discovery.





**5th Grade:** We had a great time on BOTH our field trips!

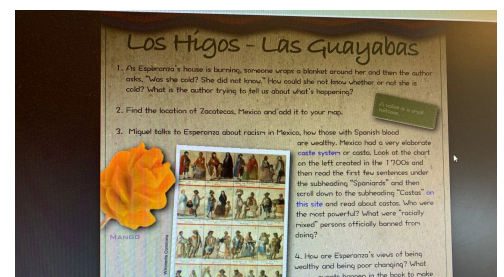
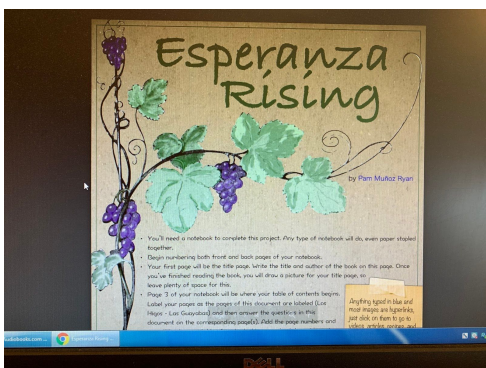




- In Ms. Simon's Science class, students are debating! We are researching "hot" topics including smoking being banned, extra recess, no summer vacation, etc. Students are then using their research to argue their points! In Social Studies, we are researching different careers and creating goals for our futures with vision boards.
- During Math and ELA Blend periods with Ms. Simon, Mrs. Langton and Mrs. Murphy, are having iReady conferences and playing math games!

- In Ms. Raffaele's ELA class, students are reading

Esperanza Rising and working on their hyperdocs. Here the students answer comprehension questions along with labeling their map of Mexico and exploring the



various links to enhance their understanding of the story. The students are really enjoying the story and can't wait to see what will happen next.

- In Mr. Sullivan's Math class students are preparing for G6 math by reviewing prerequisite skills related to G6 standards. Drawing relationships between fractions, percentages, and decimals will enable students to enter their 6th grade year with a strong understanding of the skills needed to succeed!

## **6th Grade:**

### **Math/Science - Mrs. Brennie:**

- Our 6th Graders are happily awaiting the birth of Baby Boy Brennie number 3! All the best Mr. and Mrs. Brennie and boys!

### **ELA - Mrs. Conway:**

- We have successfully completed 25 lessons in Journeys including our End of Unit writing pieces. They were quite a bit of work, but students worked hard, stayed focused and got the job done. Now we are reading an informational text from lesson 26, titled "Space Trash" as well as reading some very enjoyable "Shape" poems.
- We have started reading a fabulous book titled The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan. It is loaded with Greek mythology, as well as many relevant connections to 12 year olds and our own Hudson Valley. Students can't stop reading this book!

### **Social Studies - Mrs. Conway:**

- We are just wrapping up a fascinating unit on Muslim inventions and discoveries in ancient times. Students have learned about many inventions and discoveries that we now know some Muslims invented much earlier in history than the Europeans did.
- We are also learning about the different cultures that clashed in the series of wars known as the Crusades. We are discovering that each brought their own unique perspective to the conflict.

### **iReady - Mrs. Conway**

- We will continue to work on iReady for the remainder of the school year. Students are making GREAT progress in their reading levels!
- Please remember that iReady is available to students (on their own devices) right up through August 31, 2019. Then iReady will need to do updates and it will not be available until the start of the new school year.

- Make sure that you have seen student's "Take the iReady Challenge!" sheets that I have recently sent home. I have conferenced with your child to review their level of growth from Fall to Spring, in the areas of vocabulary and reading comprehension (both literature and informational). Talk to your child about their growth, and what they did well this year to help them grow.

### Summer Reading- Mrs. Conway:

- Please remind your child to plan to read some books this summer! They will be amazed how enjoyable it can be to grab a good book and get lost in that world. Following are a few ideas for summer reading: 3 Books by Christopher Paolini; *Eragon*, *Eldest*, *Brisingr*. *Sea of Trolls* by Nancy Farmer. *The Ender Series* by Orson Scott Card.
- Look for a printed "summer Reading Packet" that Miss Garofalo shared with me to send home at the end of the year. Please be aware that the packet is an assignment that must be turned in for a grade when you return to school in September.
- Please also keep a list of all of the books that you read this summer (titles and authors). 478901 This will be added to your portfolio for 7th grade.

Thank you parents for all of your hard work and support! Happy Summer!

### 7th Grade:

- 7th grade science students are finishing up the Human Body Systems Unit. See pictures of students attempting to do finger mazes- using only their sense of touch to navigate the maze.



- The Grade 7 students learned about the Age of Reform and the causes of the Civil War in social studies.
- In Miss G. and Mrs. Hoke's 7th and 8th grade ELA Blend classes we have been completing a word of the week review to conclude the school year. We have also conferenced about the Spring iready scores and housed the score sheets in our portfolios. Please remember

to do your summer reading assignment! Additional summer reading info:901

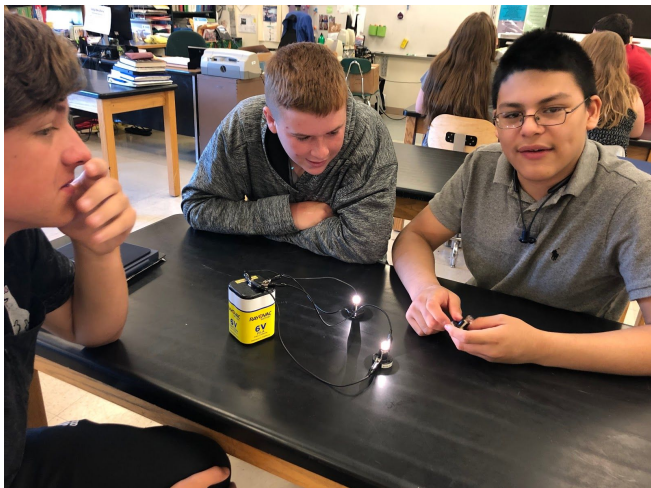
<http://www.summerreadingnys.org/>

- <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/myon/>
- In math class the seventh graders have been working on a few projects. First they worked on a statistics and data collection project, titled, Dear Data. Next, they worked on a math/community service project called, Small Change for a Big Change. The positive change our students brought to our local community while using their math skills were amazing! As we finish out the year, students are practicing their algebra skills in preparation for next year's math class. Over the summer, your child should continue to work/play on the Prodigy website. This should help prevent the summer slide in an enjoyable way. If you are interested in more ideas for summer, just ask!



### **8th Grade:**

- 8th grade science students are wrapping up the year with science review and hands on exploration. We recently built series and parallel circuits to demonstrate paths of electricity.



- In Accelerated Biology 8th grade students have been finishing up their last unit on Ecology, looking at how organisms interact in ecosystems, and the outside impact humans have on our environment.
- The Grade 8 students learned about the Vietnam War and the 1970s in social studies.
- In Miss G. and Mrs. Hoke's 7th and 8th grade ELA Blend classes we have been completing a word of the week review to conclude the school year. We have also conferenced about the Spring iready scores and housed the score sheets in our portfolios. Please remember to do your summer reading assignment! Additional summer reading info: <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/myon/>
- <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/>
- In Miss G.'s 8th grade ELA classes we are finishing the year by writing an essay about Unbroken. We will also watch the movie to compare and contrast it to the book. Students will make a movie trailer about their 4th IR book. Please remember to do your summer reading assignment! Additional summer reading info: <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/myon/>
- <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/>
- In math class, students are solidifying their algebra skills. Graphing and polynomial skills are our final focus. Students are also using the graphing calculators they will be using next year (TI84 graphing calculators). They are surprised at the capabilities the technology offers! If you need more information about purchasing this calculator for next year's algebra course, ask your child's teacher. Over the summer, your child should continue to work/play on the Prodigy website. This should help prevent the summer slide in an enjoyable way. If you are interested in more ideas for summer, just ask!

### ***Music:***

- We kicked off June with our grades 4-6 concert, the last concert of the season. Congratulations on a fine performance by our grades 4-6 Music Warriors! Thanks to everyone that came out to support us!





- Webutuck Warrior alum Julia Butts visited our 7-8 Chorus and treated us by teaching the students part of a choral arrangement she has been writing. It was awesome, made even more so because it's a song that a student had been wanting to sing that had no choral arrangement available! Thank you Ms. Butts for your thoughtfulness.



Thank you to everyone that supported our Music Warriors this year! You've:

- Nurtured their passion for Music
- Gave them encouragement, especially when things got tough
- Attended events and made sure that students could get to rehearsals, concerts, shows, parades, etc...
- Contributed to fundraising efforts for equipment for the Music program, auditorium sound system, and Webutuck Drama Society Musical
- Volunteered your time, resources and skills to make the Musical and PTA sponsored Talent Show happen
- Followed us on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook and liked, shared and gave encouraging comments
- And much more!

Even as we're bring this year to a close, we're looking ahead to great opportunities for our students. Here are a few:

- The Arlington Summer Band program is a great six week summer music camp for students in grades 4-9. Register early for a 25% discount. Runs July 2 - August 8. <http://www.arlingtonsummerband.com/>
- Music Mountain Summer concerts - now free for Webutuck students and their parent/guardians. Now through September 22. [www.musicmountain.org](http://www.musicmountain.org)

- Want to learn an instrument? Students in grades 4-8 in the Fall are eligible to learn a band instrument in school. Look for more information soon.

Thank you for a very musical school year. See you at the 8th Grade Moving Up ceremony and High School graduation. We hope that you have a happy, healthy and musical summer and look forward to seeing you in the Fall.

***Mental Health:*** Practical Tips for Summer Parenting:

:Schedule fun- Create a list of activities to do over the summer with your children. Maybe a trip to the local zoo, or set-up weekly library visits, state park trips, festivals,...

:Connect- Set aside time each day to try and connect with your child. Maybe go look at the stars, have a picnic dinner/lunch, read together, take a walk, go fishing,....

:Something New-Encourage your child to try something new this summer. New activities encourage brain development and build focus and creativity.

:Limit technology- AAP recommends no more than 2 hours total screen time per day.78901

:Keep routines and structure- Bedtime might change slightly but still maintain the need for one. Chores, personal hygiene routines, and daily reading time are just some of the activities that should still be a part of a child's day during the summer months.

***Library Media Center:***

Summer Reading needs to be done!

NO Books?

NO Problem.

Log into the Webutuck Webpage. Go to the departments tab. Click on the Library Services tab. Click on your school. [Now the fun begins!](#)



Click on this icon. Click on the black arrow and find your school. Now....

Enter your firstname and lastname. (janesmith)

Enter your student number(900001234). Hint: this is usually your lunch number which is the last 4 digits.

Choose your book,

download it,

and begin an amazing adventure!

***5th and 6th Grade Home and Careers:***

The 5th grade sewing class enthusiastically shows off their projects.



In their final unit on food safety, the 6th grade home and careers class learned about the 4 core practices for safe food handling.

47890147890101901