Hello Families and Caregivers,

I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful fall weather we are having. In the last newsletter I said enjoy the fall weather but I didn’t realize it would be this easy to do. I hope you and your students are settling into the school routine. It is a great feeling when kids show they are happy and into learning new things.

Testing
Many of you may have heard your students talk about some of the testing that is going on at school so I wanted to give you some information about it. Our K and 1st grade students are doing a state test called PALs that looks at literacy skills, our 3rd – 5th grade students finished MAP testing in Reading and Math, K-3 are looking at students guided reading levels and the 3-5 are getting ready for the WKCE. All of these measures are designed to give us the clearest picture possible about how a student learns. We then take that information and deliver instruction that meets their needs.

Parent/Teacher Conferences
Some of you already had your conferences and some have them coming up. What’s most important about Parent/Teacher Conferences is the ability for home and school to communicate. Please feel free to communicate with school/teachers so we can help meet the needs of your students.

Sincerely,

Mike Pisani

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**Upcoming Calendar Dates**

- Nov 1  End of First Quarter
- Nov 9  Fall Fundraiser Pickup
  9-11 in LMC or Step Room
- Nov 12  PTO/PAC Meeting 6:30
- Nov 27-29  No School

**Market Day Sale Dates**

**Upcoming Sales**

- November 21
- December 19
- January 30

**NEW TIME!!**

4:30-5:30 p.m. - Gym

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**SP Newsletter is Online!**

We are going paperless! We have sent an email reminder for you to view the newsletter online at our website. A few paper copies will be available in the office for parent pickup if needed.

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**Lost & Found**

Please check our lost & found for any missing clothing items. Bins are located in the hallway outside the Multipurpose Room. Any lost & found clothing still in our bins at Thanksgiving break will be donated to a charity at that time.
**WKCE Testing**

Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be taking the standardized test, the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination, (WKCE) in November.

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**Have you moved?**

If you move during the school year, please call Ms. Perez in our school office to notify her of your new address. The Verona Area School District requires 3 forms of proof of residence including a copy of your mortgage or lease and two utility bills indicating your new address.

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**Think Pink!**

‘Tis the season to be harvesting those Yoplait yogurt PINK LIDS! For many years, Stoner Prairie families have been sending their lids to the lunchroom. At the end of the school year, we will submit our collection to the company and Yoplait will donate 10 cents per lid to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. In past years, we’ve sent along as many as 1200 lids--quite an accomplishment! Updates will appear here in the newsletter. We'll save lids to save lives!

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**Please Use our Online Resources**

- Visit the District Website at [www.verona.k12.wi.us](http://www.verona.k12.wi.us)
- District Calendar
- Lunch Menus
- Electronic Copies of this Newsletter

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**Join our Equity Team!**

Any parent or guardian that would like to be a part of the Stoner Prairie Equity team, with the goal of reviewing how various groups in our school preform academically and behaviorally and developing plans to respond to that information should contact Ms. Freiss at friess@verona.k12.wi.us or Mr. Pisani at pisanim@verona.k12.wi.us. Our first meeting is Nov 4th at 3:00 PM at Stoner Prairie and there will be 4-5 total meetings for the year.

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More information about this test and your child’s testing schedule will be sent home soon. While well-balanced meals, plenty of rest, and good attendance are always a part of the daily school routine for children, they are especially important during testing.
UPCOMING ELL TESTING

English

The annual testing of all limited English proficient students will be taking place between Dec. 2, 2013 - Feb. 7, 2014. In Wisconsin, and 29 other states, the instrument used for this assessment is called ACCESS for ELLs®.

This test is used to measure the English proficiency levels of all limited English proficient students attending a school district as required by NCLB. ACCESS for ELLs® is a standards-based, criterion referenced English language proficiency test designed to measure English language learners’ social and academic proficiency in English. It assesses social and instructional English used within the school context as well as the language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies across the four language domains. The ACCESS for ELLs® assessment is conducted during this same testing window in school districts across Wisconsin.

Spanish/Español

Los exámenes de evaluación anual para todos los estudiantes con un desempeño/dominio limitado del idioma inglés están programados para el periodo de tiempo comprendido entre el 2 de diciembre de 2013 y el 7 de febrero de 2014. En Wisconsin, y en otros 29 estados, la herramienta o prueba de evaluación utilizada para estos fines se llama ACCESS for ELLs®.

Este examen se usa para medir los niveles de desempeño/dominio del idioma inglés de todos los estudiantes de inglés como segundo idioma que asisten al distrito escolar, según lo requiere el programa federal NCLB/No Child Left Behind (Que Ningún Niño se Quede Atrás). La evaluación ACCESS for ELLs® es una prueba básica estandarizada de criterio de referencia de dominio/desempeño del idioma inglés diseñada para medir si el alumno de inglés como segundo idioma es competente en las áreas social y académica de dicho idioma/lengua. La misma evalúa el uso del idioma inglés al socializar y en el aprendizaje dentro del contexto escolar así como su utilización asociado a las asignaturas básicas de lenguaje, matemáticas, ciencias y estudios sociales en las cuatro categorías de competencia del idioma. Esta prueba de evaluación ACCESS for ELLs® se realiza/imparte exactamente en el mismo lapso de tiempo en todos los distritos escolares del estado de Wisconsin.

John A. Schmitt
Director of Community Services
Verona Area School District
700 N. Main Street
Verona, WI 53593
Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you might have regarding our classes.

ART - Jayne Baitinger-Peterson 608-845-4276  Jayne.Baitinger-Peterson@verona.k12.wi.us
PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Jill Thronson  608-845-4248  Jill.Thronson@verona.k12.wi.us
MUSIC - Leanne Stucki 608-845-4279  Leanne.Stucki@verona.k12.wi.us

Thank you all very much for your donations of supplies!

ART NOTES from Ms. Baitinger-Peterson
Children receive art instruction in the ART room for 60 minutes once per week

Third through fifth grade students completed a school logo design. The designs are now off to the PTO who will organize the selection and voting process. The next step will be the ordering process, look for information from the PTO soon! The student designs are very creative, I'm glad that I don't have to choose! The 4th and 5th graders are transitioning into a lesson on the Elements of Art. The famous artist, Piet Mondrian completed many paintings in red, yellow and blue. He worked with squares and rectangles, painting some with the primary colors and leaving some white. We are applying his concepts to a 3D designed Mondrian inspired primary colored cube. Look for these in the display case soon.

Third graders are also working with the primary colors. Rather than working with geometric shapes as Mondrian, their compositions are more free form. Their names are the focus of a primary colored flowing design in cursive letters.

After completing their primary colored, Mondrian inspired owls, second graders are working on a fall leaf design. The beautiful fall colors in our part of Wisconsin are inspiring some beautiful oil pastel compositions.

First graders are learning about another famous artist, Alexander Calder. Calder is known for creating mobiles. His mobiles have great lines, balance and shapes. We are taking the design inspiration from his work and incorporating the secondary colors into our compositions.

After reading “Mouse Paint” by Ellen Stoll Walsh, kindergarteners experimented with the primary colors to make the secondary colors; just like the mice in the book. Their “experimental painting creations” were all process! Lines will be our next focus when we incorporate more secondary color work into a line composition.

MUSIC NOTES from Ms. Stucki
Children receive Music instruction in the Music room for 30 minutes twice per week, for a total of 60 min. per week

If your child is in Kindergarten they have experienced the "Musical Adventure Of The Meadow." Students moved like bees, birds, flowers and butterflies to classical music. Rhythm instruments were played for frogs, chipmunks and grasshoppers while different sized rain sticks provided the sound of the stream. The song Peanut Butter and Jelly sounded great with silverware, chopsticks and fruit shakers playing the beat along with the students singing.

First Graders read a book called Chuck’s Band. This book was a great review of orchestra instruments that students learned about last year. There is a twist at the end of the book when the cat in the story creates her own jazz band. We explored a fun app called A Jazzy Day-Music.

Students wrote in their Related Arts Notebook about their favorite music from the book. Thanks for providing the notebook with your child’s supplies. The notebook will be used in Art, Music and PE for journaling, vocabulary and self-evaluation. The notebooks are available for families to look at during conferences and are a wonderful possession when the student completes fifth grade.
Second Graders are enjoying using song sheets with lyrics and learning about the musical staff. Students learned a fun fall song called “Apple On A Stick”. Everyone enjoyed the whistling part. A classic story called Tubby The Tuba found the tuba looking for a melody to play instead of his ommpah part. Students reviewed orchestra instruments that Tubby met along the way on his melody search.

Third Grade students are whacky! They have started playing boomwhackers. Boomwhackers are plastic pitched tubes that students tap on the floor, their knees or hands to play songs. Playing boomwhackers is a fun way to work on note reading. You may have heard your child singing an infectious happy tune called I Love Apples. Students started with a song sheet with lyrics and then moved on to singing the song that included the staff and melody. The repetition helped students to quickly learn to follow the written music.

Elvis has been seen in the music room! Grade 4/5 students traveled back in time by reading a book called Shake, Rattle & Turn That Noise Down! How Elvis Shook Up Music, Me and Mom. Black and white TV and the lack of technology had many students “All Shook Up”! Students visited an interactive web sit on the SmartBoard called Backstage with Elvis 1969. The web site included concert clips, radio and TV Ads and information about clothing that Elvis wore while performing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NOTES from Ms. Thronson

Children receive Physical Education instruction in the Gym for 30 minutes twice per week, for a total of 60 min. per week

We have been learning and practicing many new skills, games and activities in Physical Education. The kindergarten, first and second grade students have worked on throwing, catching, kicking and punting skills through a variety of activities and games. The third, fourth and fifth grade students practiced football and soccer skills such as throwing, catching, punting, dribbling and kicking. They learned new games that incorporated these skills. The book fair will be set up in half of the Gym the week of October 14th and all students will be jumping rope, juggling and writing in their Related Arts Journals.

All third, fourth and fifth grade students will begin Fitness testing next week. Please read the paragraph below for more information.

FITNESSGRAM

This year, Stoner Prairie will be using the FITNESSGRAM physical fitness testing program for students in grades 3-5. This program tests students in the areas of aerobic fitness (PACER test), muscular strength/endurance (Push Ups and Curl Ups), and flexibility (Back saver sit and Reach). Students will do a pre-test and then set goals for how much they want to improve in each of the different areas. In the spring we will do a post-test so that the students are able to see how much they improved and if they were able to achieve the goal they set for themselves. Although we will plan activities throughout the year to help improve in all areas of physical fitness, we will be putting our emphasis on improving aerobic fitness. This will be done using the PACER (Progressive Aerobic Cardiovascular Endurance Run) Test. The PACER and the rest of the FITNESSGRAM program were developed by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) and are endorsed by the National Association of Sport and Physical Education (NASPE).

The FITNESSGRAM is a quality assessment for three reasons:

1. FITNESSGRAM establishes a baseline of a healthy fitness zone from which students can set goals and check progress to maintain and improve their fitness level.
2. FITNESSGRAM provides recommended activity program ideas that will help students reach healthy fitness zones in areas they would like to improve.
3. FITNESSGRAM is non-competitive. It does not compare students to other students. Results are only shared with individual students and their parents/guardian.

Look for Related Arts Notes in upcoming family newsletters!
Notes from your School Nurse

IS YOUR CHILD WELL ENOUGH TO BE AT SCHOOL?
It is not always easy to decide if your child is sick enough to stay home or well enough to be in school. Children who come to school are expected to participate fully in school activities including recess and physical education. A doctor’s note is required for any activity restriction.

Here are some guidelines that might help in decision making:

1. **Fever**: A fever of 100 degrees F (37.7 degrees C) or more signals an illness that is probably going to make a student uncomfortable and unable to function well in class. Your child should stay home until he/she is feeling better. Keep your child home until his/her fever has been gone for 24 hours **without** medication.

2. **Vomiting, Diarrhea or Severe Nausea**: These are symptoms that require a student to remain at home until a normal diet is tolerated the night before and the morning of school.

3. **Infectious Disease**: Diseases such as impetigo and strep throat require a doctor’s examination and prescription for medication. Contacting the doctor and using the medication as directed for the full recommended length of time are necessary. Once the medication has been started (at least 3 doses) and the child is feeling well, he/she may return to school.

4. **Rashes**: Rashes and patches of broken, itchy skin need to be examined by a doctor if they appear to be spreading or not improving. We may require that a rash be covered while your child is in school.

5. **Injuries**: If a student has an injury that causes continuous discomfort, the student should not attend school until a doctor checks the condition, or it improves. Injuries that interfere with class participation need medical evaluation. If participation in physical education classes is not recommended, a physician’s excuse is required. Any pain medication that is required MUST be brought in by a parent/guardian.

Megan Marten RN, BSN
School Nurse
Stoner Prairie/Savanna Oaks/VAIS
(608)845-4215/(608)845-4015

Thank you to our parent volunteers!

We appreciate all of the hard work of our parent volunteers who help us with Back to School Night, Lunchroom volunteers, fund raising programs for the school and picture day helpers just to name a few.

We appreciate the generous gift of your time!
Can you Help with the Berbee Derby?

In the past two years, we have received $10,000 from Berbee Derby to support technology integration and purchasing devices. As a give back, our school has organized a team to run the race as well as those who don't want to run the race are being asked to consider being a volunteer to show our thanks to this organization.

If you are interested in being part of a race team that will run the race, you can do a 5K, 10K or 5K walk. Please register and select the team name of Stoner Prairie Elementary.

If you don't want to run the race, please consider volunteering. All information for the race can be found on the Berbee Derby website - http://www.berbeederby.com

All School Photograph for Sale!

Last chance to purchase an all-school photograph through the generosity of Paul Toepfer Photography. Orders will be place the first week of November, so if you are still interested in purchasing this picture for your family, please have your student pick up another order form in the office.

Pictures are displayed outside the office in the glass display case.

Looking for Donations of Zippered Sandwich Bags

Sandwich bags are used daily as ice/warm packs for students in our Health Office. If you are able to donate sandwich bags please send them to the Stoner Prairie office.

Thank you!!!
Dr. Schaar was with us last year in December and we are pleased to have Dr. Schaar come back to join us this year. This interactive workshop will focus on the interplay between cognitive, social, and emotional factors for advanced learners in grades 5-9. If you joined us last year in December, please join us again as new information will be shared.

Take-aways include knowledge of common stumbling blocks and topics to address with your student while keeping health and well-being in mind.

If you have questions please contact Donna Behn, Director of Instruction 608-845-4311 or behnd@verona.k12.wi.us
Cumplir las Necesidades Sociales y Emocionales de los Estudiantes Súper Dotados

¿Cuándo? 14 de noviembre de 2013
¿A qué hora? De 6:30-8:00 de la noche
¿En dónde? El step room de la Escuela Secundaria Badger Ridge

Presentadora: Dra. Sue Schaar

La Dra. Schaar estuvo con nosotros en diciembre del año pasado y nos contenta poder invitarla de nuevo este año. Este taller interactivo se centrará en la relación entre los factores cognitivos, sociales y emocionales para los estudiantes dotados en los grados 5-9. Si vino a la presentación en diciembre, por favor venga de nuevo, ya que la doctora presentara información nueva.

Los padres/tutores participantes aprenderán sobre los obstáculos y los temas que deben tratar con sus hijos mientras tengan en cuenta su salud y bienestar.

Si tienen alguna pregunta, deben comunicarse con la Sra. Donna Behn, Directora de Instrucción al 608-845-4311 o en behnd@verona.k12.wi.us
In response to parental requests, and the generosity of Paul Toepfer Photography, we are able to offer an *all-school photograph* for sale as a fundraiser for Stoner Prairie Elementary. This high-quality, color photograph is available for purchase in three sizes, 5x7, 8x10, and 11x14. There is a sample in the display case outside the office.

Please return the order form, with cash or checks made payable to Stoner Prairie, to your child’s teacher or school office by Tuesday, October 29nd. Thank-you for your support!

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Parent Name ____________________________________________
Student Name ____________________________________________
Teacher Name ____________________________________________ Grade __________
Check or Cash ____________________________________________

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**Español**

En respuesta a la solicitud de algunos padres, y a la generosidad de la compañía Paul Toepfer Photography, podemos poner a la venta la *fotografía de toda la escuela*; de esta manera, recaudaremos fondos para Stoner Prairie. La foto es de alta calidad y a color, hay tres tamaños disponibles para elegir: 5x7, 8x10, y 11x14. Hay un ejemplo en la vitrina de exhibición fuera de la oficina.

Si desea comprar una foto, por favor, mande el dinero en efectivo o un cheque a nombre de Stoner Prairie al maestro/a de su hijo/a antes del martes, 29 de octubre.

¡Gracias por su apoyo!

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Nombre y apellido/s de uno de los padres: ____________________________________________
Nombre y apellido/s del alumno/a: ____________________________________________ Grado: __________
Maestro/a: ____________________________
Efectivo o Cheque: ____________________________