



École Saint-Landry

Le journal des lions

Issue No. 26 | le vendredi 22 décembre 2023



Joyeux Noël et bonne année!

This is our last newsletter for 2023! In this our third year of operations, we are grateful to you for being a part of our every-growing school family. Applications are rolling in for the new school year and plans for the expansion continue. As we enter the new year, we are excited that you are on this journey with us.

We always receive a lot of community support, whether it's free lunches from local restaurants for Teacher Appreciation Week, local families and businesses dropping their recycling in our bin, donations for the success of our school and students, and more. This holiday season, however, thanks to the help of Mrs. Jessica and some extremely generous donations from our school families and members of the community, we are overwhelmed with gratitude to be able to provide some of our school families with the merriest of Christmas joys, toys and bikes.

We wish you a warm and happy holiday season with your children, family, and friends, and we look forward to seeing you back at school on January 9th, 2024.

École's Christmas Card

This year we asked 3rd graders in Mr. Kirby's class to design a Christmas card for us. Many students turned in beautiful work, and it was so hard to choose the one that won! The winning drawing was sent to the printer, and you'll receive one at the address we have on file for you. However, we wanted to show you some of the other really cute designs.



These runners up to the winning card design were by, clockwise from top right, Violet A., SJ C., Bree M., and Remi C.



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3rd Grade's Got the Blues

Thanks to a special grant from Hohner Accordions, and to Grant Dermody of the Blown Away on the Bayou harmonica festival, Monsieur Kirby's students each received their own Hohner harmonica and an hour-long lesson. They'll have one more lesson before the school year is over to see how well they've learned their songs and learn a few more.



Metamorphosis

We are grateful to the Acadiana Center for the Arts to have been able to host Hobey Ford and his one-man puppet show, Metamorphosis, in December. Mr. Ford lives in North Carolina and has been making puppets and performing with them for over thirty years now.



He partnered with Jim Henson's family to make "Ichabod: Sketches from Sleepy Hollow," available on Amazon Prime, and there's also this PBS documentary about his craft that you can watch on YouTube, "[Master Puppeteer Hobey Ford Leaves Audiences Enrapt in Wonder.](#)"

The show we got to see, Metamorphosis, is mostly about a caterpillar becoming a butterfly, but we also see a tadpole become a frog, get to meet a heron, an eagle, an otter, two whales, and three dolphins, and learned a bit about how Mr. Ford makes his puppets. You can see [a clip from that show here on YouTube.](#)



And if your child expressed interest in getting some Peeper Puppets like Mr. Ford designed and patented, you can [grab them here.](#) He showed us lots of ideas on how to use them!



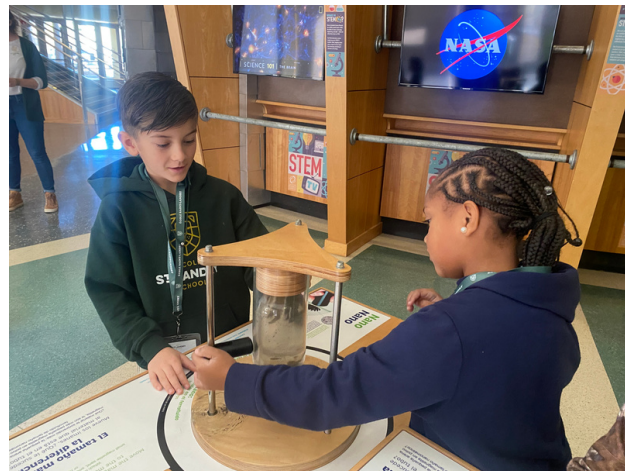
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UL Science Museum & Planetarium

On December 6th our 1st graders enjoyed a field trip to the UL Lafayette Science Museum and Planetarium. They watched "Accidental Astronauts" at the planetarium, a film about two young space explorers and their dog discovering the Earth, sun, and moon, even bouncing along the lunar surface with them and dodging a solar storm! After the planetarium show, students learned about dinosaurs, electricity, and other cool scientific subjects through hands-on activities.

Our lunch service provided packed sandwiches, carrot sticks, and milk, and the weather was still warm enough to enjoy a picnic in the park.



Learning at Home

Have you checked out the monthly "Helping Children Learn" newsletter on our website? This is a great resource, available in both English and Spanish. If you go to our website under "News" and click on [Helping Children Learn](#), you can then right-click (command-click on Mac) to open the latest edition.



There is also a helpful Daily Learning Planner full of ideas to connect with your child in fun, educational ways. While we only post the elementary version of the two periodicals, many of these tips work for all ages and may even inspire you too.

École?

We get funny calls to school asking if they've reached EE-cole, Ee-COLE-ay, or, worse, E. Coli (an awful bacteria you don't want to reach you, ever), so we thought it might be helpful to let everyone know that in French, when you see the letter É with an "accent aigu" (the one that's lower on the left side and higher on the right side), it's pronounced like a long A sound, "ay," like the word "beta."

When the accent goes the other way on an Ê, higher on the left and lower on the right, that's called an "accent grave" and it's pronounced like a short E sound, "eh," like in the words "bet" or "met."

So please tell everyone that your child attends ay-COLE ([here's a video to hear the pronunciation](#)) and that we are not a horrible bacteria, but rather the best school in St. Landry Parish.





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SEL in December

This month in SEL with the second and third graders, we have been talking about and implementing responsible decision making. Throughout the classes, we set some goals for learning more about how we can be responsible with our decision making in the new year:

SEL Themes for the Month

- Using positive self-talk
- Anticipating and evaluating consequences based on the decisions we make at school or at home
- Empathy and cooperation
- Sharing and taking turns

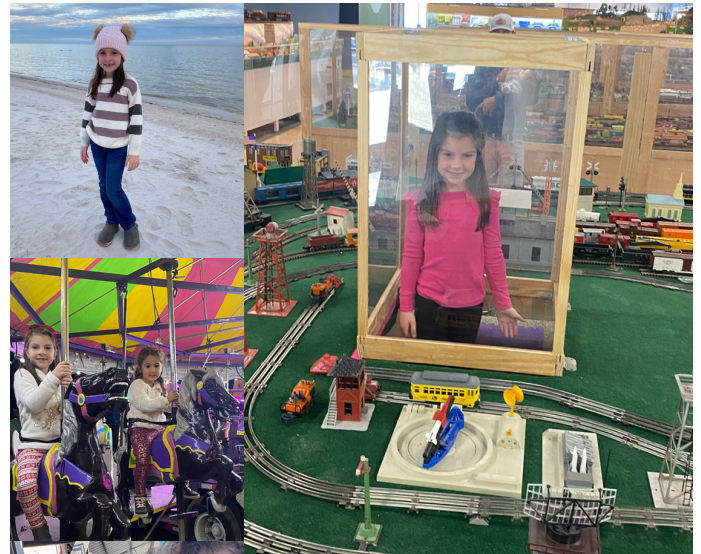
In Kinder and 1st, I am promoting social emotional development as a class. The teachers and I are working on the following to promote positivity in the classroom:

- Asking a lot of questions
- Reviewing rules
- Being a good role model (even outside of school)

We also began talking about how important it is to make friends at school and meeting new people at our school can be fun. New people help us learn new things about life.

I also want to share that the SEL curriculum we use is called Move this World.

Fait maison*



Paisley went on a trip to Biloxi, MS, to see the Gulfport Harbor Christmas Light Festival and visited the Traintastic Museum in Gulfport while she was there.

Keilan visited the Barnhill Preserve in Ethel, LA, where he got to meet a capybara and enjoy pancakes with Santa, who has a baby kangaroo friend.



*Fait maison means "homemade" in French



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A Special Visit!

We had a special visit from Père Noël on this last day before the Winter Break. He delivered cupcakes and had a brief visit with each student before posing for a class photo.



Les événements du mois

Spirit Week 12/18-12/22

Holiday class parties & early dismissal 12/22

Winter break 12/23/2023-1/8/2024

Lottery priority window for new applicants, 1/1

Students return to school Tuesday, 1/9

Les anniversaires du mois de december

Ryan P 12/1
Raegan W 12/2
Thomas G 12/3
Lucas T 12/6
Juliana L 12/12
Karter J 12/15
Karson J 12/15
Vanessa R 12/16
Tré S 12/16
Dylan D 12/16
DaNova H 12/21
Violet A 12/21
Willa R 12/21
Jacques B 12/22
Jaxson T 12/24
Lillian M 12/29
Ronin M 12/30

