

From Mrs. Smith's Desk

Dear Families,

I hope you and your family had an awesome start to the school year. I can not believe today is October 1! The month of September flew by. Your children had a busy first month of school participating in activities to get to know their classmates both in their homeroom classroom and in their grade level. Teachers planned engaging activities that



gave students the opportunity to work together to problem solve and learn about one another. Students also participated in an Everyday Math pre assessment for unit 1, so that each student could be placed according to the skills that they needed for the unit. The picture on the left shows students participating in an activity that incorporates physical movement while learning about rounding in their math class. When movement and learning are connected it helps students retain the information learned.

NWEA and DRA Assessments

Students have completed the NWEA and DRA assessments to help guide their teacher's instructions to that classroom activities and lessons can be tailored to meet your child's needs. Students deserve a round of applause for their effort on these assessments.

Attendance Update



This month our average attendance rate was **97%**! Thank you for your help. All of the staff at Williams appreciate your support with our goal of increasing student attendance and decreasing the percentage of students tardy or dismissed early. Research shows that missing 10 percent of school, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month. I will continue to update you on our progress.

Congratulations to Our First Eagles of the Week for the 2018-2019 School Year!

Grade 3 - Leah Adams

Grade 4 - Ross Trask

Grade 5 - Isabella Stratton

3rd Annual Apparel Impact Winter Coat Giveaway

Where: Alford Youth Center

When: October 6,
10:00-12:00PM

Leave with a jacket, boots, hats and mittens. **FREE Lunch too!**

While supplies last.



JOB OPENINGS

We are in need of substitute teachers and a duty monitor (11:30-1 and 2:30-3:00). If you are interested in either position, please contact Melanie Smith at 465-2965 or msmith@rsu18.org.

NOTES TO THE OFFICE

When sending notes to the office please remember to include your child's last name and all important information. Thank you.

Special Event Happening This Month

We will welcome Maine author/illustrator, Kevin Hawkes, to Williams Elementary School on Wednesday, October 24th! Each grade level will participate in a presentation with Mr. Hawkes. He will share about his life as an author and inspire our readers and writers! Each child will receive an autographed copy of Weslandia! Thank you to our incredible PTA for this amazing opportunity for our students!! We will be hosting an author event at Williams Elementary School for all families from 6-7PM on the 24th. Shelly Moody will be sending out an invitation about this event.

Introducing Mr. Parisi

Hello parents,

My name is Chad Parisi, and I am new to Williams this year officially hired as the school social worker. My credential is that I am a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) and have served in various roles in community mental health over the 19 years. I feel so lucky and honored to be able to work here, and of course with your children. I am working with each classroom on a weekly basis, using a curriculum to help students learn empathy, conflict resolution, and problem solving skills. I am also available to meet with students individually and in groups to address simple problems, as well as determining when there is a level of need that is outside the scope of what can be provided at the school.

Two areas that I am passionate about this year are helping students address obstacles that are impacting attendance and working on improving kindness among one another. Attendance is crucial in education. Teaching and learning will not stop whether children are in school or not. I believe that the lessons and strategies they are learning in school will serve them in life, however we can't instruct students if attendance is an obstacle. Further, kindness helps everyone, and by improving how we treat all people, we will also improve how we are treated.

Please feel free to reach out to contact me by calling 465-2965. I am available at Williams, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7:45 until 3:00 PM, and can be available by appointment on any of these days. I am excited for the opportunity to be here and am grateful for the opportunity to work with your children.

Sincerely,
Mr. Parisi

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 4:** Flu Shot Clinic
- October 5:** NO SCHOOL - Teacher Comp Day
- October 8:** NO SCHOOL - Columbus Day Observed
- October 17:** School Board Meeting - 7PM at MMTC
- October 24:** Kevin Hawks - Author Visit at WES
- October 30:** WES rehearsal grades 3 & 4

