Dear Families,

This week our practicum teachers began working with students. We have a talented group of teachers in our classrooms this block and are excited about the learning taking place. Kindergartners sampled their geometric foods today, after they charted and graphed them. First grade ventured to Garrett Strong today to visit with professors about animals as they continue their animal unit. Third graders worked with first graders on reading strategies. Sixth In PE, rollerskating is out and gymnastics are in.

During Governor Nixon's State of the State Address on Wednesday, he talked about Project Lead the Way. A few quotes from his speech:

"We know that the fastest-growing, highest-paying jobs in the global economy are in science, technology, engineering and math."

"But not enough schools are using Project Lead the Way at the elementary level. We need to ramp that up dramatically."

Horace Mann teachers are receiving this training and implementing PLTW strategies in classrooms. We are working with the Regional Professional Development Center and Missouri PLTW. Helping our students extend their learning and understand that science, engineering and math can be fun and engaging is our goal. Technology Night will be Tuesday, February 17. Students will be able to try our Scribblers, Scratch and Scratch Jr. A technology panel will discuss the challenges and opportunities for students exposed to technology in the K-12 curriculum.

New activities at Bearcat Club: Bearcat Club is our afterschool program that is available from 3:15-5:30 Monday-Friday. The following activities are scheduled to begin Monday from 3:30-4:00 p.m. More activities will be added.

Mondays-guitar lessons
Tuesdays-Chess Club (Missouri Academy students)
Thursdays-Science Club (Missouri Academy Students)

Upcoming events:
February 2  No school-Horace Mann Bearcat Club is available from 7:30-5:30 (Students will need to bring a lunch)
February 6  Pastries with the Principal-join me in the Cafe from 7:15-8:00 a.m.

February 13  Grandparents Day at Leet and Horace Mann

February 17  Technology Night 5:30-7:30 pm Supper provided in Horace Mann gym followed by panel discussion and breakout sessions for students.-see attached information

    I am so excited about this event and know the students are going to have a great time.

February 19  Conscious Discipline Parent Night-Child Assertiveness and Positive Intent 6-8 pm, child care available(contact Leet Center to arrange 562-1542)

Have a wonderful weekend. Thanks for sharing your children with us!

Sincerely,

Sandy Seipel