

INDIAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home of the Trailblazers

November 2023 Newsletter



Contact us at:

20912 S. Frankfort Square Road
Frankfort, IL 60423

815/469-6993

FAX: 815/806-8352

www.summithill.org

Message from the Principal:

Important Dates in November:

11/6 – SCO meeting (zoom)
11/10 – “Land of Smiles”
presentation (1st & 2nd gr.)
11/16 – 2nd Trimester Begins
11/16 – SCO Treat Day
11/17 – Half day – dismissal
@ 12:10 p.m.
11/17 – Erin’s Law
11/20 – Parent/Teacher
Conferences – No School
11/21 – Parent/Teacher
Conferences – No School
11/22-24 – Thanksgiving
Holiday/No School
11/29 – Hearing & Vision
Screenings
11/30 – Hearing & Vision
Screenings
11/30- SCO Hot Lunch Day



Dear Trailblazer Parents,

It’s hard to believe that we are in the month of November. Time seems to be moving so quickly. As the season of thanks approaches, I would like to thank you for all you do to support our students and staff. Trail would not be the wonderful place it is without the dedication and support of our parents and staff.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

In just a few short weeks, you will be sitting down with your child’s teacher(s) to gain a better understanding of your child’s progress. This is another opportunity for you to ask questions and understand how you can continue to support your child through feedback and collaboration with the teacher. Please watch for an email to sign up online beginning November 6 and the window will close November 17 at noon. Conferences will be held on November 20 (in-person) and November 21 (remote via Zoom).

Weather

As the weather gets colder, we will continue to go outside for recess. It’s important that your child is properly dressed for the weather elements. Please send your child to school with a jacket, gloves, hat, and scarf. While 20 minutes outside doesn’t seem like a long time, it can feel like an eternity to a cold shivering child. Also, please think about having an extra sweater in your child’s backpack, so they have an option if they are cold in the classroom.

Daddy Daughter Dance/Fall Fest

Daddy Daughter Dance and Fall Fest were a BIG hit! Thank you to ITSCO and all the volunteers for organizing, supporting, and making our students smile.

Erin’s Law Presentation

Each year, we are required by law to provide age-appropriate curriculum to address sexual abuse and prevention for children. You should receive an email from our District Office with additional information. Included in that correspondence is a letter for you to return to school if you **DO NOT** want your child to participate. You only return the letter if you **DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION** for your child to attend the presentation. Please return no later than November 15. I have included the letter in this newsletter in the event you do not see the district email.

Thank you,
Mrs. Wright

General Information:**School Office Hours: 8:35 a.m. – 3:50 p.m.****Student Attendance Hours: 9:00 – 3:30 p.m.****Student Recess/Lunch Times: 1st/2nd grades 11:45 a.m.-12:25 p.m.****3rd/4th grades 12:35 p.m.-1:15 p.m.****Absent Notification**

- Please report your child's absence by 9:10 AM the day of the absence.
- Homework requests need to be called in by 11:30 AM for same day pick-up.
- Any school work due to vacation absence will be given once the child returns.

Lunch Procedure

- Please remember to send a lunch with your child daily. Be sure the lunch is labeled with the child's name.
- Your child will need to bring a spoon and/or fork, as utensils are not provided.
- If a lunch is forgotten, parents may drop off a lunch on the cart in the vestibule outside the office by 11:40. Please have the child's name and teacher's name clearly labeled.
- Children will go outside for recess daily. As the weather begins to change, please be sure to send your child with a sweatshirt or light jacket to get them through the fall months.

School Support

- Box Tops for Education, Capri Sun pouches, pop tabs, old plastic gift cards, old cell phones, eye glasses, plastic bags, empty scotch tape and Elmer's empty glue bottles are collected to benefit our school. Please send them to school in a bag with your child's name and teacher's name
- Any new school supply donations, new books, new toys, etc. for our PBIS store are welcome and appreciated all year long.

Communication

- Please maintain regular communication with our teachers.
- Follow chain of command if you are experiencing any concern or issues relating to your child.

Volunteer

- The district has the Raptor Visitor Management System in place at all schools. Every visitor will be instantly screened. You will be screened each time you visit the building to volunteer.
- You will need to show a State ID or Driver's License every time you volunteer.

Indian Trail is a Bully Free Zone

We at Indian Trail EXPECT RESPECT in all areas of the school. We work hard to ensure a safe, nurturing, and positive climate for all students and staff. It is imperative that you help us maintain an environment that is conducive to learning and free from bullying behaviors.

TYPES OF BULLYING

Verbal Bullying-usually consists of teasing, mocking, spreading rumors, lying about others. Bullying comments may focus on outer appearance. But to be bullying it must occur more than one time.

Emotional/Social Bullying- uses peer pressure and manipulation to isolate the target and to hurt their feelings. The victim usually feels that they have no friends, no one to talk to, and no way to escape.

Physical Bullying- Consists of pushing, tripping, hitting, or acting like you are going to push, trip or hit another.

Cyber Bullying – Includes written or electronic communication directed to another to cause fear, emotional, or psychological harm.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- Placing a student in reasonable fear of his/her personal property or
- Causing substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health or
- Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance or
- Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in services, activities, or privileges provided by a school

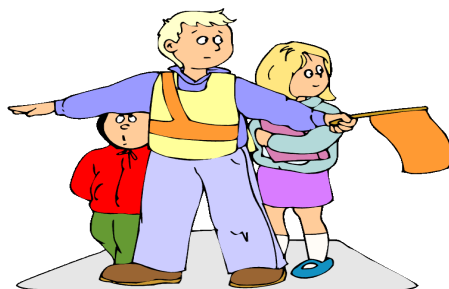


What can we do together to PREVENT bullying behavior?

- Create clearly defined expectations
- Teach social skills and tolerance early
- Foster positive relationships and environments
- Empower students to support and respect each other
- Set the right examples for students to follow
- Consistent and informed communication between home and school

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

- Student Drop-off time is 8:45-8:59 (no staff supervision prior to 8:45)
- Students may not play on recess equipment before school without a parent/guardian present to supervise
- From 8:45-8:59, students enter the school using doors 15 and 11
- Students arriving after the 9:00 tardy bell **MUST** enter the school through the main entrance with an adult
- First Graders exit door 15
- Second Graders exit door 11
- Third Graders exit door 11
- Fourth Graders with their siblings exit door 10 and are picked up in the back parking lot
- Post your child's first and last name on the passenger side of the car
- Always remain in your car while in the circle drive
- Form two lines until you come to the first turn
- You will begin to merge in one at a time (unless staff are there to direct)
- Pull forward as far as you can
- Cell phone use while driving is prohibited in school zones (this includes the school lot)
- If you walk, please stand on the sidewalk closest to the school sign and wait for your child
- Congregating by school exit doors is not allowed
- Follow all directions by the staff
- Be respectful to all Trailblazer students and staff





Indian Trail Student Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Student Drop-off at Indian Trail will be from 8:45-8:59. There is no guaranteed supervision for children arriving before 8:45, so please do not drop children off earlier than 8:45.

We are continuing with our previous practice for arrival and dismissal. Please know the process will take longer in the beginning, but we will work to streamline as the year progresses. Please refrain from planning appointments or meetings around the time of arrival and dismissal. I would not want you to be late for those appointments, as I cannot predict how long it will take for some students to enter and exit the building.

From 8:45-8:59, students will enter the school utilizing doors 15 and 11.

Students arriving after the 9:00 tardy bell MUST enter the school through the main entrance with an adult (by the flagpole). All other doors are closed and locked at 9:00 for security purposes.

Parents will drop off their children in the “circle drive” located on the north side of the building. You must remain in your vehicle at all times while in the circle drive. Your child will remain in your vehicle until 8:45 when staff members exit the building to allow students to enter. You will form two lines until you come to the first turn. There will be a staff member there to merge you into one line. After the merge, PARENTS ARE TO PULL AS FAR FORWARD AS POSSIBLE between the cones to drop off their children. Please pay attention to the staff directing you. Students may exit the vehicle as soon as the sidewalk begins even if they are not right at the school door. The longer you wait to let them out, the later they will be for class. When parents cooperate with staff, we do not have drop-off safety concerns and traffic flow moves seamlessly.

Please post your child’s first and last name in the passenger side of the window for both arrival and dismissal. If your child is a new student to the school, please post “New Student” on the sheet, as well. This will allow us to group your child(ren) with other new students and escort them to class.

At dismissal, you will follow the same procedure as arrival. Your children will remain in the building and will be called to exit the building based on your position in the circle drive. A staff member will exit the building around 3:15 to start calling in the order of names from your window sign. Please have your signs posted clearly on the passenger side and leave them in place until your child enters the vehicle.

If your child walks to school or brings their bike, they must not arrive prior to 8:40. They can lock up their bike and line up on the yellow line prior to entry. Parents are not allowed to congregate by any door. You may watch your child from a safe distance. If by door 11 (near bike rack), parents must stand by the baseball field. If by door 15, parents must stand on the sidewalk furthest from the door. Please note, parking lots will be closed off and you are not allowed to park on school property during arrival and dismissal.

Parents are not allowed to stop along Frankfort Square Road to drop off or pick up their children. The curbs are clearly painted yellow, and signage indicates “No Parking.” The Will County Sheriff’s Deputies informed the school they intend to be regularly present and issue tickets to violators. Most important, it is essential that vehicles do not park or stop curbside in this zone since it restricts driver and pedestrian visibility.

Please also be aware that Frankfort Square Road by the school and the school parking lots are cell phone free. This is state law. The deputies can issue tickets to drivers using cell phones in school zones. We do take down license plates of those not following the state law. This is to protect the students and staff.

Parents are not to use the driveway or parking lot on the south side of building (at Inverary Rd). This is for staff parking and buses only.

Children that walk to school will only cross the street at the Frankfort Square Rd/Acorn Ridge intersection accompanied by the crossing guard. Students are not to cross the street at Hickory Creek/Frankfort Square Rd intersection (in front of the school) without a parent or guardian escorting them.

Please refrain from walking along the sidewalk along the circle drive during our arrival and dismissal process. I need this area clear for students and staff to safely distance from one another, as well as prevent any unsafe conditions.

I understand that your little ones might like to run around while they are waiting, please do not allow them to run through the landscaping or play by the school sign.

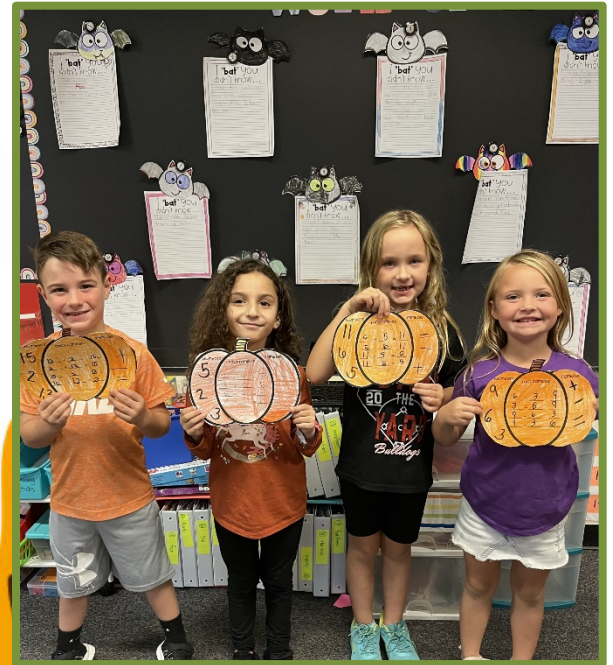
Pets are only allowed on the sidewalk closest to Frankfort Square Road.

Thank you for your understanding. I look forward to an outstanding year with you and your child!



First Grade News

First Grade has been learning so much about having a growth mindset, making good choices, and setting goals. Students were able to reflect on themselves and think about something they'd like to achieve this year. They came up with great ideas like wanting to read more, write neater, learn math facts, make new friends, and stay organized all year. They wrote their goals on a leaf and scattered them around the Fall tree wall titled "BE-LEAF IN YOURSELF." Adding to our Fall wall, students created fact family pumpkins where they used three numbers to write two addition equations and two subtraction equations. This math craftivity was a fun one! Our first grade friends are growing and learning so much already.



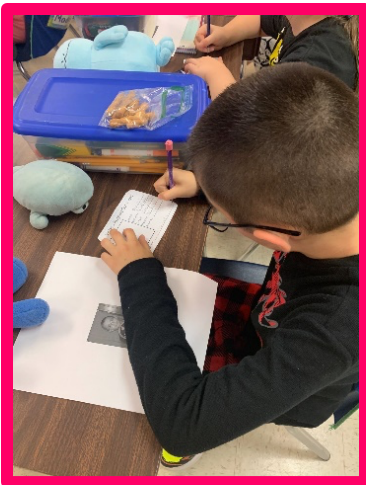
Second Grade News

Second grade is falling in love with writing! As the weather turned cooler, the second graders bundled up and put on their creative thinking caps. They worked very hard on including descriptive details in their writing. They also created incredible artwork to bring their writing to life!

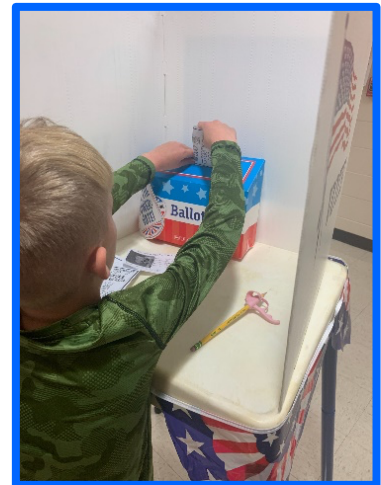
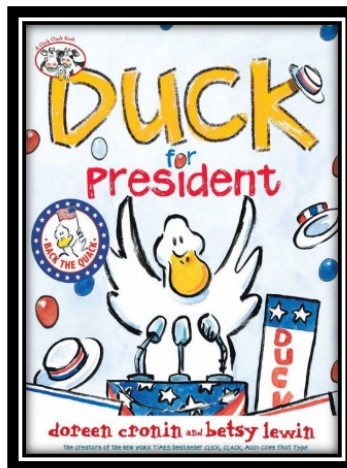


Third Grade News

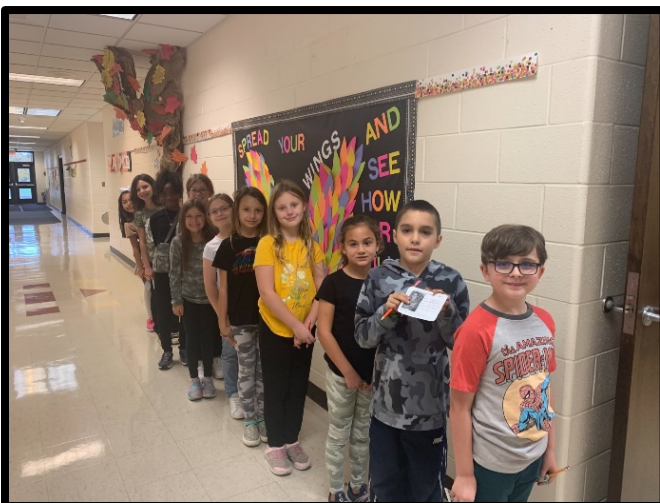
All 3rd grade students got the chance to participate in their very own election! After reading the stories Every Vote Counts, A Plan for People and Vote! by Eileen Christelow from their Wonders reader, it was time to have some FUN! Each class read the story Duck for President by Doreen Cronin and Betsy Lewin. The farm animals in the story hosted an election for the farm after duck felt things weren't very fair. Duck goes on to become leader of the farm, governor, and finally President. After the story students learned about elections, campaigns, and state/federal government. Finally, all students reflected on the story Duck for President and got to vote for who they thought would be the best leader for the farm! The votes are in.... The WINNER IS Duck!!



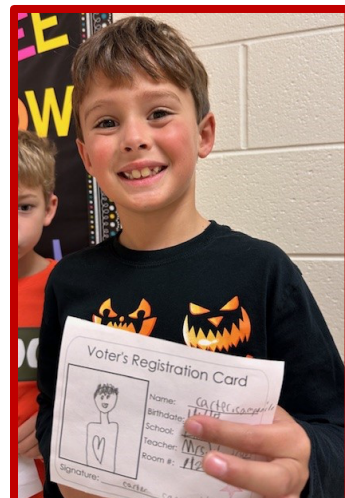
Michael making his registration card to vote in the third-grade election.



Jack in the voting booth!



We are all smiles waiting to vote.



Newly registered voter, Carter.



The polls are open!



Sabina casting her vote.



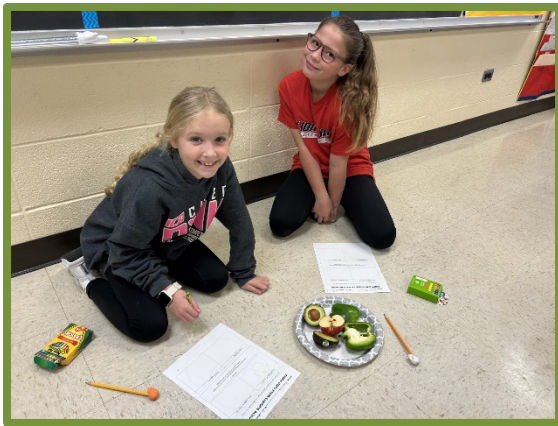
Democracy at work.



Fourth Grade News

"Plant Structures Observation"

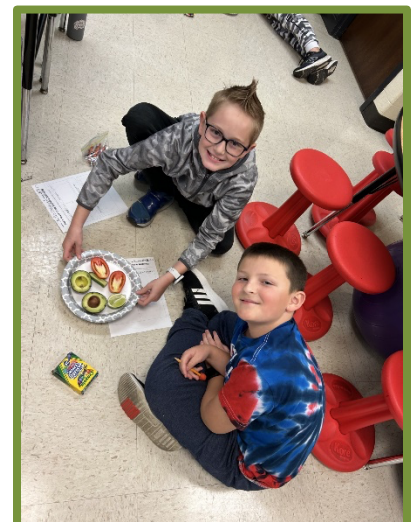
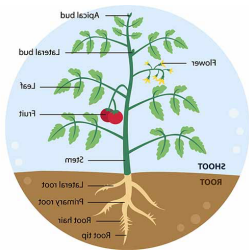
The fourth-grade students are exploring the aspects of plants and animals. The students are studying the internal and external structures of plants and animals that contribute to their survival. The students are also studying how the plants and animals behave and grow in nature. In this observation, the students were given a variety of fruits and vegetables. They were able to examine the internal and external structures of the plants. After the observation, the students discussed why certain plants have structures for survival.



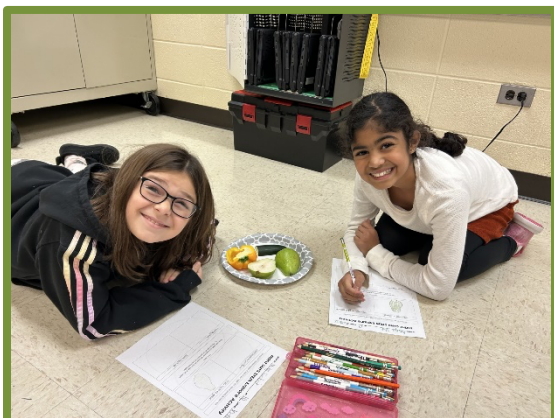
Alexa and Everly



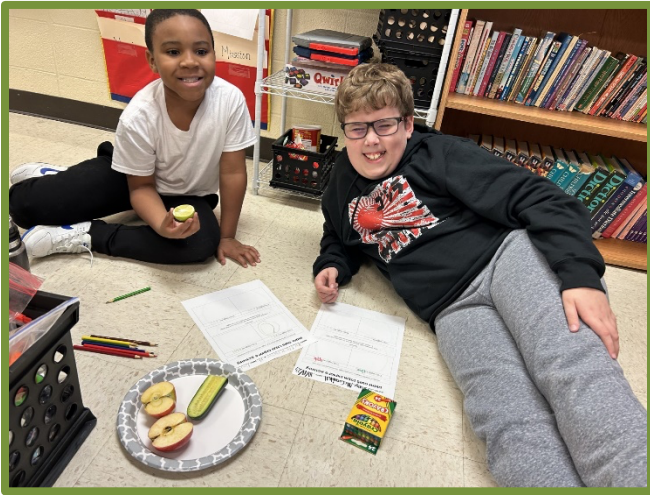
Chieme and Spencer



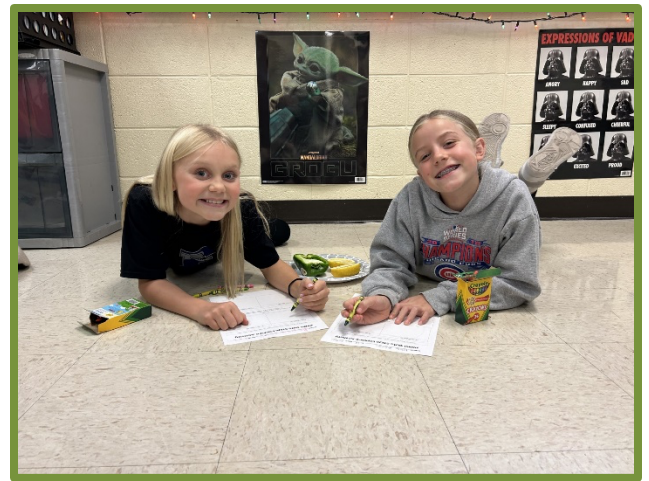
Kenny and Noah



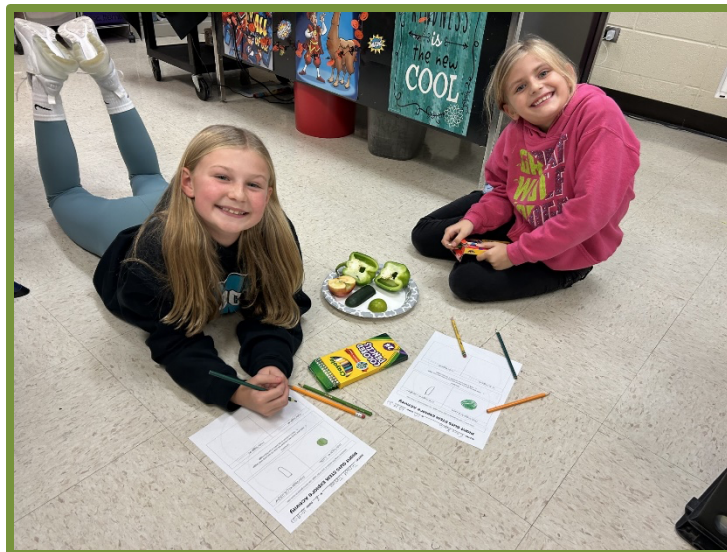
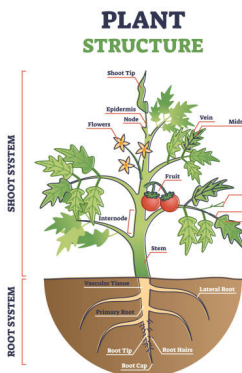
Hailey and Aviya



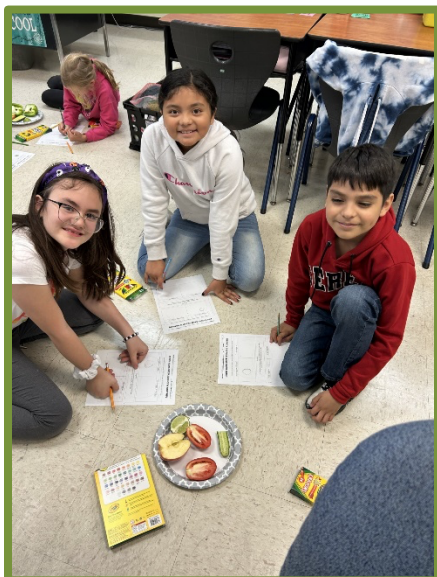
Pierra and Jimmy



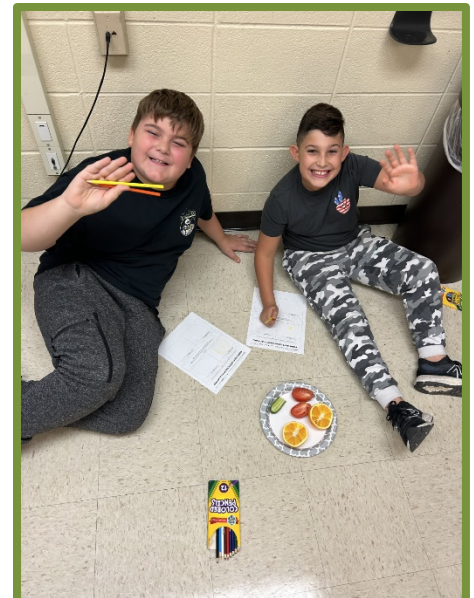
Raegan and Estelle



Tenley and Cece



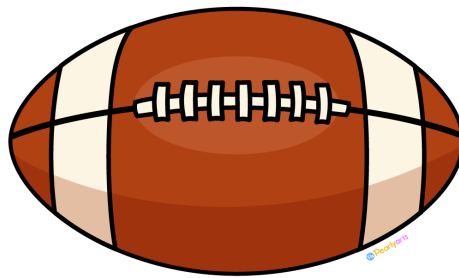
Victoria, Fernando and Aubree



Luciano and John

Indian Trail PE News

In Physical Education Class at Indian Trail School, we introduced our football unit where we learned about throwing, catching, and punting the football. Towards the end of our football unit, we utilized these three skills in a game called Box Football where students would have to work together to score for their team. Box football develops communication skills with their peers as well as working on the fundamentals of football while staying active and having fun.



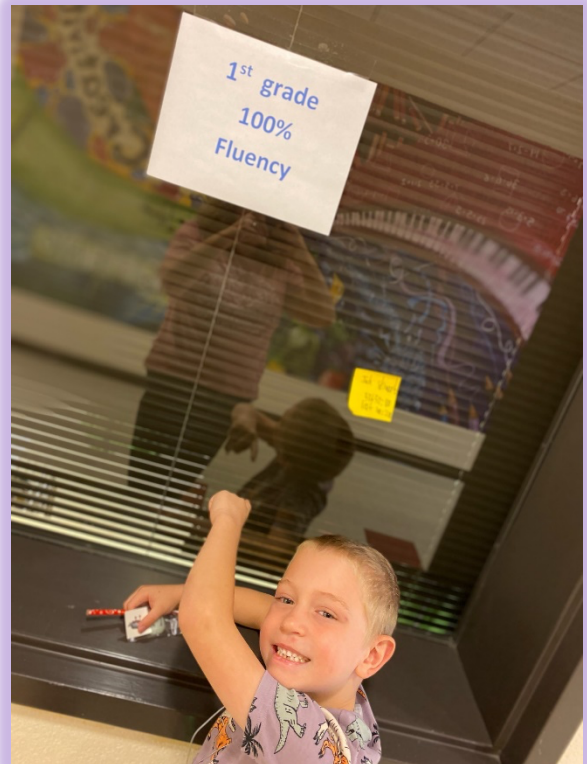
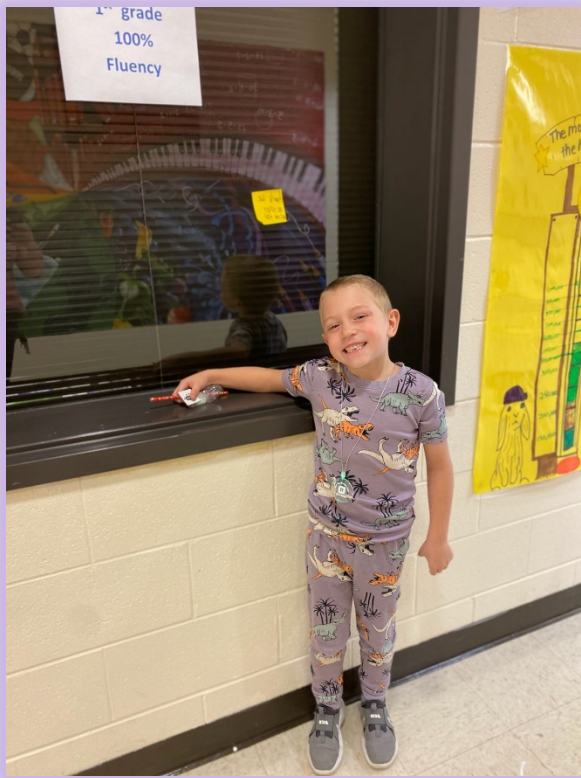
Mrs. Pfeiffer's and Mrs. Aleo's class working on punting the football to a target.

More News

Attention all students! Special announcement from Mrs. Tedeschi:

Congratulations to all students who have made it to 100% fluency on Reflex Math! I am very proud of your hard work. A special congratulations to Jack Schwartz for being the first 1st grader to make it to 100% fluency in addition and subtraction. Our total facts solved as a school is 600,000. We are solving about 100,000 facts a week.

Way to Go Trailblazers!



Indian Trail's

Make A Difference Club

Calendar of Events 2023-2024

Here is our list for the school year of all the charities that Indian Trail supports through our Make a Difference Club. Please feel free to pick & choose your favorite charities or donate to all! It's your choice!

We appreciate your support! More individual details to follow!

All year



Indian Trail Beautification

Indian Trail is asking for donations of seasonal items such as: mums, pansies, haybales, scarecrows, holiday greenery, and spring items to decorate the front of the school. We will be also be sponsoring a "Hats On" day to raise funds for our fall beautification.

October

10th Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest



Bring a can or box of food (or several!) to enter our Decorating Contest. All proceeds benefit the Frankfort Food Pantry.

November



Toys for Tots

Bring an unwrapped toy for a boy or a girl. All proceeds benefit the Toys for Tots Organization in conjunction with the United States Marine Corps.

December

Project Linus



Donate the warmth of a blanket, some fleece fabric, or money to the service club. The club will make tied fleece blankets. All proceeds benefit Local Area Children's Hospitals.



January

Mitten Tree



Bring in new or close to new hats, mittens, scarves to help children in need. All proceeds benefit local shelters.

February



Kid's Heart Challenge

Jump rope and raise money for the American Heart Association. Done in conjunction with the P.E. teachers.

March

St. Baldrick's/Julia's Legacy



Donate money to help Childhood Cancer. See our tech teacher, Mr. Schneider, shave his head!

April



Earth Day Activities

We will be focusing on ways to help our Planet Earth. We will have a garbage free lunch, do an Earth day clean-up, and brainstorm ways we can reduce, reuse, and recycle.

May

Walk-a-thon



Collect pledges for our laps around the school. All proceeds benefit The American Diabetes Association.

Don't forget that Indian Trail recycles as well. We collect old eyeglasses for the Lion's Club and pop-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. THANKS!



Indian Trail School Community Organization (ITSCO) 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

August

- August 31: Curriculum Night Book Fair*

January

- January 12: Treat Day
- January 19: Mother/Son Night*
- January 26: Hot Lunch*

September

- September 21: Activity Night*
- September 25: Unfundraiser Kicks Off
- September 29: Treat Day

February

- February 2: Winter Carnival*
- February 14: Candy Grams
- February 15: Treat Day

October

- October 20: Treat Day
- October 20: Daddy/Daughter Dance*
- October 27: Hot Lunch*
- October 31: Fall Fest*

March

- March 7: Activity Night*
- March 15: Treat Day
- March 21: Hot Lunch*

November

- November 16: Treat Day
- November 30: Hot Lunch*
- November TBD: S&T Fundraiser

April

- April TBD: Scholastic Book Fair*
- April 19: Treat Day
- April 26: Hot Lunch*

December

- December 19-21: Holiday Shop*

May

- May 24: Fourth Grade Party/Awards*
- May 29: Field Day*

Email ITSCO161@gmail.com with any questions.

* Parent volunteers will be needed for this event. Details on how to sign up to volunteer will be sent via email closer to the event date.

Event dates are subject to change.

Revised: 8/23/2023



Summit Hill School District 161

Arbury Hills School ▪ Frankfort Square School ▪ Indian Trail School
Dr. Julian Rogus School ▪ Walker Intermediate School ▪ Summit Hill Jr. High

www.summithill.org

November 1, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may know, Erin's Law requires schools to provide age-appropriate curriculum to address sexual abuse and prevention for children. Summit Hill School District 161 considered best practices and reviewed programs of instruction to address the required Erin's Law presentation (105 ILCS 5/10-23.13).

We are pleased to share that we will continue working with Tom Kress from Hi Esteem Coaching and Speaking. He will visit our schools between November 13-17th to deliver a program on this topic entitled, "**Your POWER Project.**" All Pre-K through 8th grade students will be involved in an age-appropriate session. Teachers and school staff members are present during the assembly-style presentations.

Date	School
November 13	Summit Hill Junior High
November 14	Dr. Julian Rogus Elementary
November 15	Hilda Walker Intermediate
November 16	Frankfort Square School & Arbury Hills Elementary
November 17	Indian Trail School

Tom Kress is a survivor of sexual abuse, a life coach, and motivational speaker. Our goal is for him to implement this mandate in an engaging manner by utilizing his program, "Your POWER Project." This program engages and assists students in being the powerful individuals they were born to be.

More concepts that will be discussed include:

- Knowing what an uncomfortable touch is
- Knowing you have the POWER to say "STOP" and "NO"
- Telling your own personal hero
- Keeping NO secrets
- Knowing it is not the child's fault

Hi Esteem
Coaching & Speaking

Should you wish to review additional information about Tom Kress, please visit his website at: www.hiesteemcoaching.com. Mr. Kress previously created the following video to provide you with an overview of this program. You will be able to see how the content changes at various grade-level intervals. (Please note, although the video references beginning with kindergarten, we will include pre-kindergarten / early childhood students as required.) YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/NKVUcRmU240>

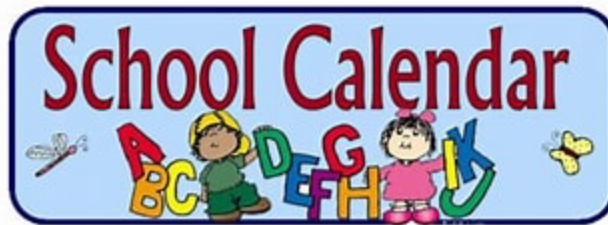
All Pre-K through 8th grade students will participate in this prevention education program. If you prefer that your child opt-out of this mandated prevention education session, please submit your request in writing to your child's teacher using the form below.

Request to Opt-Out:

Date: _____

I DO NOT wish for my son/daughter, _____, to attend the Erin's Law Presentation.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Teacher: _____



Summit Hill District 161
2023-24 District Calendar

August 21 & 22.....	Teacher Institute Days
August 23.....	First Day of School
September 4.....	Labor Day - No School
October 6.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
October 9	Columbus Day - No School
November 17	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
November 20 & 21.....	Parent/Teacher Conference Day - No School
November 22-24.....	Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
December 22.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher Inservice
December 25 – January 5.....	Holiday Break
January 8.....	Classes resume after Holiday Break
January 15.....	Martin Luther King's Birthday - No School
February 16.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
February 19.....	President's Day - No School
March 4	Casimir Pulaski Day-No School
March 25 – April 1.....	Spring Break
April 2	Classes resume after Spring Break
April 24	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
May 27	Memorial Day-No School
May 30	Last Day of School without snow days
May 31.....	Teacher Institute
June 7	Last Day if all snow days are used

Approved: February 15, 2023

