



# WEEKLY E-BLAST

**February 9, 2024**

**Kindness Week 2024**

**Monday 2/12 - Making Monday** (every class during WPT makes a heart- we collect & hang on the giant heart in main hallway)

**Tuesday 2/13- WE LOVE MG (wear spirit wear) & Thank-a-Teacher-Day** (Every student should bring a note to a staff member they appreciate)

**Wednesday 2/14 - Wear Red/Pink/Heart Gear**

**Thursday 2/15 "Dreaming of Kindness" Pajama Day**

**4th Grade Music Program Details**

What: Music Program, "Rumble in the Jungle"

When: Wednesday, February 28th, 2024

Where: Mechanics Grove, Big Gym

Student Attire: Please dress nicely! Avoid sweatpants, leggings, and shirts with large logos.

Times: See Below

Orlyk, Strong, Doss, Buttita, Huddlestun, McKeown

Report Time-5:40 PM, Concert Time-6:00 PM

Hoftiezer, Juarez, Schumer, Traveseras

Report Time-7:10 PM, Concert Time-7:30 PM

**Leader in Me Connection**

At MG, students show leadership by taking an active role in our classrooms and school. Here are some ways you can incorporate leadership roles at home!

English Version:

<https://www.leaderinme.com/resources/leadership-roles?language=en>

Spanish Version:

<https://www.leaderinme.com/resources/leadership-roles?language=es>

**Read Across Mundelein**

Please join us as we celebrate reading as a whole district!  
See the attached flyers below.

### **We need help in our Discovery Den**

Do you have an hour or two to help out in the Discovery Den? We have a large order of books that need labels added before they go on the shelves. Any time you can volunteer will be appreciated. If interested, please email Mrs. Washburn at [rwashburn@d75.org](mailto:rwashburn@d75.org)

### **MG Talent Show**

The MG Talent Show is back!! Please see the flyer that came home. IT is also attached below.

### **A Note from our EL Teachers**

In the cold winter months we often cook a lot more. One way to engage your child in language activities is to have them create your shopping list in both English and your home language. Then they can go to the store with you and shop for the items. This allows them to use both expressive (writing and thinking of words) and receptive language (reading words on the shelves). The more the students are able to write and speak in English and their home language, the easier it will become for them. Once you are home the same things can be said for reading recipes and cooking as a family. There are great vocabulary words that are automatically used when cooking (types of measurements, lengths of time etc). The best way is to have your child read you the directions and then check to make sure you have done the measuring correctly.

### **Project Challenge Update (February)**

Math games, logic puzzles, and math puzzles are a great way to challenge students to think outside the box. Just playing a game of [Sorry](#), [Sequence](#), or [Yahtzee](#) will challenge students to strategize next moves and plan ahead to win the game. Logic and math puzzles encourage students to persevere and try new strategies. This is called productive struggle. More often than not adults want to step in and help before that struggle happens. Productive struggle encourages perseverance and flexible thinking. Math is not always about getting the correct answer, but the struggle to get the correct answer. Trying new strategies, willing to make mistakes, and learning from those mistakes are the benefits of productive struggle. Here are a few puzzles that will encourage productive struggle for any grade.

[Math Logic/Puzzles](#)

### **Specials Updates**

Art:

In art class, 3rd graders are designing the covers of their large portfolios that will soon hold the pieces of their "shape robots" made out of cut construction paper. Students are learning how to use creative lettering and how to incorporate the 3 C'S in art: (creativity, composition and craftsmanship) in their design.

In 4th grade, students are experimenting with different painting methods like mixing and blending, dripping, and scraping to create 2 different tempera paintings that will be eventually woven together to create one final abstract painting.

The 5th graders have had a lot of fun during our sewing unit inspired by the movie "Ugly Dolls". Each student has been designing and creating their original character. They get to design and cut out pieces of felt, assemble them, stuff them and sew them together. Many of the 5th grade

students were surprised at how easy sewing can be after going through a detailed sewing tutorial. I am excited to see their final projects!

#### Music:

In music, 3rd grade began 2024 by adding music to a book called "Here Comes the Aliens." We added a bass xylophone, alto xylophone, and soprano xylophone part along with singing and movement. 3rd grade also learned the song, "Ickle Ockle." This song is helping us practice our half notes, and is also introducing us to a new low pitch that we have not learned yet. 4th grade has spent January hard at work for their upcoming music program on February 28th. This year's theme is "Rumble in the Jungle." Our program will feature singing, movement, xylophones, and even recorders! Check your student's backpack or your email for additional information! 5th Grade spent January preparing for their music program, "A Journey to Outer Space." The 5th graders rocked their performance last week! We are so proud of all of the work they put into their performance. As we move into February, 5th grade will be exploring two new genres of music: Blues and Jazz. We can't wait to see what else February will bring in the music room!

#### PE:

In January students were introduced to gymnastics! This unit proved to be extremely beneficial as it guided students in learning about flexibility, body control, and core strength. They got hands-on experience with equipment utilized in the Olympics, including the pommel horse, balance beam, vault, and parallel bars. Participation in gymnastics provided students with an additional opportunity to enhance their physical fitness and engage in exercise! Our collaboration with Action Martial Arts based right here in Mundelein is set to start shortly. Students will engage in four distinct lessons over the upcoming months, focusing on essential themes such as sportsmanship, kindness, confidence/self-esteem, and respect/anti-bullying. We are thrilled about providing students with this opportunity, aiming to inspire them to explore new and exciting avenues for enhancing their fitness!

#### Discovery Den:

Since Thanksgiving, there have been many new non-fiction books added to the Discovery Den. Students spent time looking at a selection of these books to know what is available when they come to check out books. They have been practicing the skill of alphabetizing words. This is an important skill, since fiction books are organized alphabetically by author's last name. We are also learning about the Caldecott awards, which are given to outstanding American illustrators. Next, the students will be learning about digital citizenship, including what to share, what to keep private, being kind online, and understanding their digital footprint.

#### **Important Dates**

2/13- Wear MG Spirit Wear and bring a note to your teachers for appreciation

2/14- Wear Red, Pink, or hearts

2/15- Pajama Day

2/15- Early Release (students dismissed at 11:05am)

2/16- NO SCHOOL

2/19- NO SCHOOL

2/21- PTO Meeting (7:00pm at CSMS)

2/22- Family Leader in Me Night (6:00pm at MG)- See flyer below

2/28- 4th Grade Music Concerts at MG (details above in the text)

3/1- Report Cards come home

### Follow Us....

1. Follow us on our facebook page: Mechanics Grove School
2. Twitter handle @mg75wolves
3. Follow us on our instagram page: mechanicsgroveschool
4. Follow us on Tik Tok @ [principal.be.kind](https://www.tiktok.com/@principal.be.kind)

**Thursday, February 22, 2024**

**6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Mechanics Grove Elementary**

### LIM Family Night Flyer - February 22

[docs.google.com](https://docs.google.com)

### MG 2024 Talent Show.pdf

Download

77.4 KB

**CELEBRAMOS  
LEER A TRAVÉS DE MUNDELEIN**

PORQUE...LA LECTURA TE LLEVA A LO MEJOR  
*aventuras!*

**Lunes 2/26**  
"La lectura construye comunidad" use su ropa espiritual MG o D75 violeta

**Martes 2/27**  
"Formar equipo para leer" usa tu equipo deportivo favorito

**Miércoles 2/28**  
"Leer te hace brillante" usa gafas de sol y colores neón

**Jueves 2/29**  
"Me quito el sombrero ante la lectura" usar un sombrero

**Viernes 3/01**  
"Leer es relajante" usa tu pijama o sudadera favorita

ROAD TRIP

**LET'S CELEBRATE  
READ ACROSS MUNDELEIN**

BECAUSE... READING TAKES YOU ON THE GREATEST  
*adventures!*

**Monday 2/26**  
"Reading Builds Community" Wear your MG spirit wear, or D75 purple

**Tuesday 2/27**  
"Team Up For Reading" wear your favorite sports gear

**Wednesday 2/28**  
"Reading Makes You Bright" wear sunglasses and neon colors

**Thursday 2/29**  
"Hats Off To Reading" wear a hat

**Friday 3/01**  
"Reading Is Relaxing" wear your favorite pajamas or sweats

ROAD TRIP

## Scholastic Book Fair.pdf

[Download](#)

4.8 MB

## 2022-2023 End of Year Report.pdf

[Download](#)

2.7 MB

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[Lunch Menus](#)

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[MG Calendar of Events](#)

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**Principal Mrs. Fergus**

Contact Information- [tfergus@d75.org](mailto:tfergus@d75.org)