# CRAFTON CORNER

Community, Excellence, Character

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we gear up for the holiday season amid the cold and snowy weather, it's crucial to be prepared for possible closings and delays. Stay informed through the parent link system and the district website, where we'll notify you of any schedule changes. Ensure your contact information is current in the office. In case of unexpected delays or early dismissals, have an emergency childcare plan in place for your child. Additionally, stay tuned to local radio and news stations for updates.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season from my family to yours. Enjoy the break, and we look forward to seeing you in the new year! School resumes on January 3, 2023.

## WRITING THAT MAKES SENSE

As your children first learn to write, their stories may not always make sense to others.  Help his/her writing flow logically with these two ideas:

1. Even if your youngsters are not writing sentences yet, they can tell you stories.  As they describe the new class pet or something funny that happened at lunch, you can jot down their tales.  They will practice relating events in a logical order, and that can help when they put their thoughts and ideas down on paper themselves.

2. Let your children read their stories to you.  Ask questions to encourage them to add information ("What did you do with your friends at recess?") or to clear up a confusing part ("Who said, 'Let's go home'- you or your brother?")

Reading Connections

# CRAFTON ELEMENTARY IS PROUD TO OFFER COUGAR CLUBS FOR

Crafton Elementary is proud to offer Cougar Clubs, a vibrant program designed for students in grades 3-6 to explore a variety of interests related to both potential careers and character education. These clubs convene approximately once a week, providing a dynamic space for students to delve into subjects they are passionate about. The diverse range of activities sparks enthusiasm among participants, fostering a love for learning beyond the traditional classroom setting. Cougar Clubs not only empower students to discover and nurture their interests but also contribute to the development of well-rounded individuals with valuable skills and character traits. It's a testament to our commitment to providing enriching experiences that extend beyond academic curriculum, ensuring our students have the opportunity to explore, grow, and thrive.

## REMINDERS

**Dismissal**— Dismissal time can be a very hectic time of the day.  Safety is our number 1 priority.  Please do not make your child cross the busy street by themselves.  The students should use the crossing guard at the corner.  Crossing between busses and into traffic is a scary situation for students and staff.  Also, the alley should not be used to park cars.  Please find a parking spot or use street parking.

**Drop off**—Please remember that Drop Off time in the morning is a busy time.  There are many cars and buses that are moving along.  Please use Cougar Way/Alley behind the school to drop your child off in the morning.   Be mindful of all of the other parents that are waiting patiently behind you.  Be respectful and keep the line moving so all the parents receive the same type of courtesy.

**Lost and Found**—Our lost and found is overflowing with jackets, gloves, and hats.  We hang these daily to see if students will claim them.  Unfortunately, the pile is getting larger.  Please  encourage your child to look through the lost and found for any misplaced items.  Parents, feel free to come in and look through the items during non-school hours.  To help in the future, please label all bags, coats, and hats.  Any unclaimed items will be donated at the beginning of the new year.

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# HOUR OF CODE COMES TO CRAFTON

Hour of Code is a massive campaign to introduce more than 10 million students to computer science by having them do an hour-long online tutorial during the week of **December 4th**.  It is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to  demystify "code" and show that anyone can learn the basics to be a maker, a creator, and an innovator.  Computer science provides a foundation for virtually any career.  Everybody can benefit from learning the basics.  Each grade level at Crafton is participating in different activities.

**Kindergarten**—The students will use tynker.com and code.org to explore various coding activities.

**First Grade**—The teachers will explore Hour of Code activities on code.org with students.  Students will have the opportunity to try some of the activities on their own and with their Study Buddies.  We will also code with Bee Bots in our classrooms.

**Second Grade**—Students will be inspired through Hour of Code videos on code.org.  They will be able to participate in a variety of programming activities.  In the process, they learn to solve problems, design projects, and express themselves creatively on the computer.

**Third Grade**—  The students will visit code.org to explore various coding activities that spark their interest.  Choices include: Poem Art, NASA's Space Jam, Plant a Garden, and many more!  Students will complete their Hour of Code and receive a certificate. Students will have the opportunity to create their own Google Logo, or read various books about coding from their classroom library or Epic Books!

**Fourth Grade**—  Throughout the week, students will have opportunities to explore www.code.org and www.tynker.com.  Mini lessons will guide the students through adding a stage, sprites, music, and movement in Dance Party or take them on a  journey through Minecraft using code.  Students will "Be A Super Digital Citizen" and reflect on the characteristics that make someone an upstanding digital citizen.  They will recognize what cyberbullying is and show ways to be an upstander by creating a digital citizenship superhero comic strip.

**Fifth Grade**—Students will  participate in the hour of code using www.code.org.  Students will watch the tutorial and complete the Minecraft or Dance Party activity, in which they will use coding to program dances and adventures.

**Sixth Grade**  - The students will Code a Joke-Telling Talkbot.  They will use code to write a program in Apps Script to create a joke-telling Talkbot.  The purpose of this lesson is for students to understand the purpose of code, identify a conditional statement, and execute code to create a web app.  During this lesson they will answer the essential question: "How can I create a web application from scratch?"

They will use the site Google for Education Applied Digital Skills to complete this task.  Along the way, they will watch videos to guide them through the process.

**Autistic Support Classroom**—The students will use Tynker.com and play Puppy Adventure.  With this, the students can program a puppy to do different types of movements such as bark, run, and fetch.  The activity gradually increases in complexity.

**Physical Education**--Students will engage in interactive coding activities by being thrust inside the video game. In the world of Fic-Craft, "Programmers" will be responsible for guiding their "Villagers" safely through the grid landscape, avoiding other clans and obstacles along the way.

**Library/STEAM -** K-2 will get time with the Bee Bots and Code and Go Mouse.  Grades 3-6 will get to code with the Bee Bots, Code and Go Mouse, and Dash robots.

**Music** will continue to work on reading staff notation, using sequencing software to create original projects and translating music concepts into various types of notation.

# STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

| November | Name of student |
|---|---|
| K | Krista Stello<br>Raelynn Miller<br>Eleanor Herring |
| 1 | Marshall Dix<br>Ellie Crawford<br>Ava Williams |
| 2 | Eva Zober<br>Charlotte Hough |
| 3 | Mia Schaffer<br>Seth Reagan |
| 4 | Gavin Trosky<br>Lennon Nitti |
| 5 | Max Dewhirst<br>Dylan Blevins |
| 6 | Charlotte Johnson<br>Noah Bahr |

## DECEMBER NEWS FROM THE PTA

◊ December 15th—Silly Sock Day

◊ December 19th and 20th—Jingle Bell Junction

◊ December 22nd—Holiday Classroom Parties

◊ December 25th - January 2nd—No School for students