

## **Sand Creek Elementary Panther Pluses 2024-2025**

### **Literacy is alive at SCE - by Pamela Eggeman**

Throughout the 2024-2025 school year students continued to grow in their literacy skills. All students were involved in daily Science of Reading groups where individual needs were addressed and students were able to make progress in the fundamentals of literacy. A designated SoR classroom was set up for grades K-2 this school year and it was a great success! Teachers and paraprofessionals established expectations and procedures for this room and students came ready to work and grow their reading skills. It has definitely been a team effort with great communication between teachers, paras, the literacy coach, and administration to ensure that these fluid groups continuously met the needs of our students. It has been wonderful to watch so many students achieve so many successes in reading!



## Club Days & Community Involvement - by Kate Gray

With much excitement, our students participated in Club Days throughout the year. Giving our students the opportunity to try out a wide range of skills and activities they may not otherwise have appreciated, we were able to expose them to new experiences and opportunities. Cooking Club, Chess Club, Flower Club, Art Club, and Gardening Club ( just to name a few) were met with eager students wanting to learn and explore. We were even blessed with community members coming in to spread their knowledge. What a great experience at SCE for all involved!





## **Integrated STEM - by Samantha Low**

In the 2024-2025 school year we continued to work toward our goal of becoming STEM certified by the state of Indiana. Students have completed numerous projects using Project Lead the Way, Picture Perfect, EIE/Yes curriculum, and teacher created 5E Lessons. In the classroom, teachers worked to integrate STEM into everyday instruction. Students continued to work in collaborative groups to brainstorm, communicate, plan, and create in all subject areas. This integration of STEM has led to additional guest speakers/virtual field trips as an extension to student learning. Students have been able to see the connection between their work with STEM and how STEM is integrated in careers they may want to pursue in the future.



Purdue Extension: Captain Cash 3rd Grade

Indiana State Fairgrounds: Ag in the Classroom 3rd Grade



1st Grade: Pizza Ovens



6th Grade: Ancient Greek Chariots



2nd Grade Animal Habitats



K Apple Unit



1st Grade: Will it float?







AIMS: EIE Playdough



Mrs. Hatton's K-3 Plant Unit



## 4th Grade Egg Drop Challenge

### **Academic Success/Increased Rigor (IXL Challenges)**

Excitement is in the Air at Sand Creek Elementary!

Sand Creek Elementary is raising the bar for excellence! With a powerful commitment to high expectations and rigorous instruction, our teachers have fully embraced explicit phonics instruction and are emerging as true leaders in the Science of Reading. Through the consistent implementation of ULFI whole-group lessons and targeted small-group skill instruction, we're meeting every student's reading needs with precision and passion.

Our students' writing is soaring to new heights! Hallways are filled with outstanding writing samples that reflect the tremendous growth happening across all grade levels. With every new activity, our young authors are growing stronger, thanks to our focus on explicit writing instruction using Top Score and writer's workshop methods.

Professional collaboration among teachers is at an all-time high. Staff have continually deepened their knowledge in the Science of Reading (SOR), STEM, Writing, Classroom management, and PBIS. This shared learning culture is transforming classrooms and enriching instruction across the board.

We've also added more excitement and engagement through school-wide motivators and friendly competitions to boost participation in Accelerated Reader (AR) and IXL. These initiatives have inspired students to reach higher and stay fully engaged in their learning journey.

The energy and dedication at Sand Creek Elementary are evident, and it's paying off. Our end-of-year data reflects the impact of our collective efforts. We're not just aiming for progress—we're building a culture of excellence where every student is empowered to grow, thrive, and achieve their full potential.



**Mr. Jack St. Clair JCSC Teacher of the Year &**



**Mrs. Yolanda Harrigan our Classified Staff Member of the Year**

Annually, Sand Creek Elementary nominates a Teacher of the Year and a support or classified staff member of the year to represent our school. This year, Mr. Jack St. Clair and Mrs. Yolanda Harrigan were two Cyclone Teachers that represent the heart of SCE. They are both student focused and driven by student success in all they do here at SCE. Yolanda Harrigan, a true asset to our Special Education AIMS (Achieving Individual Milestones) program, serves students of all abilities in one of our self-contained classrooms. She gives fully to help assist and meet the needs of the students she meets with and beyond. Her smile is contagious for both students and staff. The joy of learning, growing and providing the best experiences for the students in the classroom in which she works is clearly evident in how she celebrates daily student achievements.

Jack St. Clair, a veteran teacher, yet still new to SCE, joined us nearly 3 years ago. He has made a huge impact in his short time here at SCE, serving not only as classroom teacher of 3rd and 4th grades but also as a basketball coach and Math Bowl Coach. He builds strong relationships with his students and their families that help impact their great improvement in his classroom. Jack not only received our SCE seal of approval for being Teacher of the Year, he also was chosen this year to be the JCSC Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Jack and Yolanda represent a building full of amazing staff members and Teachers passionate to make a lasting difference on the success of students at Sand Creek Elementary.



## Attendance

**2023-2024 - Average Daily Attendance = 91.5%**

**2024-2025 - Average Daily Attendance = 94.1%**

## Cyclone Athletics

The 5th and 6th grade boys and girls basketball teams had seasons full of growth and determination. While the boys didn't have a winning record, they fought hard every game and made incredible progress. The girls had an undefeated season but finished third overall, showing both strength and perseverance. Both teams started with limited experience and ended up playing like champions, thanks to the dedication and spirit of their amazing coaches.



Boys Basketball



Girls Basketball