



## February 2019

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### News from our Home Interventionists:

*Dane, Katie, Kara, Sarah, and Becky*

The Home Interventionists have some exciting things planned! We had our second Girl's Lunch on 1/24. The girls brought their own lunch to participate in Milk and a Masterpiece. Katie lead the girls in doing a super cute snowman painting that they took home. For February, we will have a topic prepared for them

and will be providing lunch!

We also finished our first parent group on Wednesday 1/16. The purpose of the



parent group is to provide parents support (from both the school and each other), help them with

resources, and discuss any topics that they would find helpful. The parents did an awesome job for their first group! We discussed what they would like help with and what they're hoping to gain from coming to parent group. They came prepared with some awesome ideas. We had 5 different sets of parents come with a mix of grandparents and parents, as well as a mix of Challenges and Traditional. We will have our next parent group on 2/20 from 11-12:30.

### Hammitt School Staff

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Academic Director: Dr. Rhonda Howard

Principal: Melody Donnelly

Supervisor of Program Services: Nancy Stevens

Intake Coordinator/Supervisor of H.I's: Dane Mooney

School Psychologist: Dr. Kelli Brown

School Nurse: Nicole McDonald



### Important Dates

Feb 14: Valentine's Day

Feb 18: President's Day—NO SCHOOL

## CON 224: Kelsey, Amy Berchtold, Albert, Simona, & Amy Barlin

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A group of our students are reading *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* while others are reading realistic fiction. We are excited to continue the story as we learn more about imagery and symbolism.

In math, students are all working at an individual pace covering multiplications, money, multiples, and factoring.

We have completed many science experiments as well! This Friday we are attempting to



grow crystals and are VERY excited!!

Students are going to the planetarium to begin our upcoming unit on space. It is a surprise so staff are excited to take them!

We have also been studying the United States' government. Students worked hard to create posters on the different branches and levels of government. They are using these to study for their upcoming test!

## CON 125: Billy, Robin, and Cheryl

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We are starting off the year with learning about geometry in math. Students will be learning about shapes, angles, and sides.

We are also learning about the five senses!

We are continuing to read a weekly current events article to stay on top of what is going on in the world!

We are excited to welcome a new student into the classroom. We're excited to have



him join our Connections 125 family! We are also welcoming 2 ISU Practicum students who are learning to become teachers.

We are looking forward to playing in the snow when

we can and going on our community outing to explore what our community has to offer!

Other upcoming fun activities include bowling and going out to eat!

## CON 137: Katie, Bambi, Ramona, and Josh

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Our major focus in math, for the 'time' being, is TIME! The kids are playing lots of games, using technology, and small clocks to grasp the concept.

In Unit we are venturing out into Space and learning all about the lives of astronauts, what space is (other than planets), and what scientists are learning these days

when they send people/cars up there!

For our class timeline, we have discussed the first TV and computer, World War 2, MLK Jr., and the first video game!

We enjoyed our trip to the Planetarium with Connections 224. The kids were fascinated by all that is out in the universe!

## MW 141: Emily and Erik

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We are loving our new jungle classroom! We are learning about each other and creating a friendly and positive classroom environment. The students are coming up with their own classroom rules such as, "Try to see the good in everyone". We are learning about the jun-

gle and the different animals



that live there such as the cockatoo, turtles, tigers, and snakes! We are reading about how to help animals, like the turtle, survive by decreasing pollution and waste.

We are looking forward to spending more time together as a new class this semester!

## PW 133: Bailey and Kristi

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In ELA we are finishing up our EasyCBM winter benchmarking and starting our unit on non-fiction, where we will be learning about all the different text features such as the table of contents, glossary, index, and much more!

In Math, Bailey's group is working on subtraction strategies and problem solving while Kristi's group is getting used to daily math warm ups and working on Prodigy math.

We have had a lot of changes in our room and are excited to see some students moving into new classrooms and new faces joining ours! The kids are loving learning about each other during our class meeting and being in the 'hot seat'. Our new favorite weekly activity is Cosmic Kids Yoga every Monday, which is free on YouTube to try at home!

We are looking forward to Valentine's Day and will be having a class party on the 14th. Students are welcome to bring val-

entines to share but we will have extra in the classroom to share. Feel free to contact your HI if you have any questions!

*STRIVE FOR  
PROGRESS, NOT  
PERFECTION*

## PW 129: Suzy, Pat, Grace, and Haley

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We have had an awesome start to 2019 with a new student, a new teacher assistant, Grace, and an ISU student, Haley, all joining our room. Grace is a float position here at Hammitt, working in all of the classrooms in our Traditional program. We are all very excited that she is here!

We also had the opportunity to celebrate the 101st day of school as we only had one of our students present during our actual 100th day. Kids made crowns, did dab art, and counted many different ways to 100 AND did things about 100 in PE as well. The kids loved it!



## CHL 139: Linda, Stacia, and Kate

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We are learning about the 5 senses in the Unique Learning System. We are learning where our eyes, ears, nose, and hands are and how to use them to help us learn at school and to be safe.



We had a meeting for Jack and everyone is so proud of him for making a lot of progress on his goals this past year! Way to go Jack!!!

Our Teacher Therapist Assistant, Tia, is leaving our room and the Hammitt fam-

ily next week. She has joined the Peace Corps and will be moving to Tanzania, a country in Africa. In Tanzania, she may see the plains of Serengeti National Park and Africa's highest mountain. She might have elephants, lions, and rhinos near where she lives! We will miss her so much, but we know she will be helping people there like she helped all of us here!

## CHL 202: Rachel, McKenna, Jane, and Jaide

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In the month of January, we covered current events topics including Remembering 2018, Yoga, and Personal Hobbies.

We will finish our adapted science unit on states and begin a history unit about cultures during the month of February. This unit will help our students explore and understand the changes in cultures and how everyone they meet is unique!



Also in January we had a service dog join our classroom full time to assist one of our students. All of the students have done well adapting to the change in environment and in being respectful of the rules of having a service dog in the classroom!

## CHL 102: Carol, Tracy, Bonnie, & Bobby

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Our classroom welcomed a new ISU field-based student, Allyson. She brings her enthusiasm and her love of learning to the whole group. Though we said goodbye to Gina, we will have a new staff person, Bobby, join us in February.

Our February theme is "Cultures

of Change". We will be learning about specific people who made a difference in their world like Abraham Lincoln for ending slavery in the United States. Our News to You current events will get us pumped up for the Super Bowl and then focus on famous musicians.

We will also celebrate one February birthday as a student turns 10 years old!

Our classroom is looking forward to the Valentine's Day party too for the treats, fun, and games!

## UW 217: Morgan and Sheila

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We are doing a book study on *The One and Only Ivan*, which is a fantastic book that is inspired by the true story of a captive gorilla known as Ivan. This illustrated novel is told from the point of view of Ivan himself and is a story of friendship, art, and hope. Such a great way to teach empathy!

In Math, some of the kiddos are learning double-digit multiplication and others will be learning single-digit multiplication facts.

In Science, we will be learning all sorts of cool things from Scholastic's Super Science magazine which is geared toward 3-6th graders. We'll learn about things such as plate tectonics, shrinking forests, and types of chemical elements

The classroom has been running quite smoothly this year! All the kids are working hard throughout the day and are using great social skills while interacting with each other.

When a problem arises, the kids have done well using their coping skills & taking breaks to calm down. This is the first time in my 13 years when I have felt like we have a 'public school' classroom. Such a great feeling!!!!



## UW 220: Lauren and Curt

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In math, we are learning some fun games to do on the SmartBoard that allow us to learn and practice new math skills as well as practicing working together as a team and supporting our classmates.

Curt has been doing some cool

science experiments with the students involving sound! It is crazy to think about sound as something we can see as well as hear.

*Be the change you want  
to see in the world*

We had a pizza party to celebrate the end of EasyCBM testing! Yay! Everyone worked really hard to do their best work with zero complaints about having to test!

## UW 214: Vee and Anna T.

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We are embarking on a new literary adventure using the book, *The Paperboy*. *The Paperboy* is about a young man who has to move past his disability to be a responsible citizen in his city.

The story is set in Memphis, Tennessee so we are going to have a party full of southern fa-

vorites! We will be having fried chicken, red beans and rice, sweet potato pie, and sweet tea!!

Leah Roberts and Damien Barger made the honor roll this quarter!!!



**HAMMITT ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL@THE BABY FOLD**

Hammitt Elementary  
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To reach our school switchboard or to discuss picking up your child early, please call (309) 452-1170. DO NOT leave a voicemail or call the attendance line for early pick ups.

If your child is sick or needing to be absent, please call our attendance line at (309) 451-7227.

## *P.E. With Mark and John:*

*We are going into our Hockey unit! We will play build-up games like pin knockdown and work up to full hockey games.*

*We are working on getting the local hockey team to make a visit to Hammitt Elementary!*

*We are looking forward to the baseball unit and planning our field day!!*



## **CHL 113: Ashley, Jess, Mellie, and Noah**

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Challenges 113 has welcomed a new student and with that comes some new staff assistance. Noah Bigley has been working as needed to help out in our classroom and we are happy to have him!!!!

The students in 113 are working on identifying parts of their bodies by using Mat-Man. Mat-Man uses music to help the students visualize their

own body parts.

We are looking forward to



this cold weather being over and a chance to be back out on the playground.

