

Effimia Reutov's Newsletter

Kachemak Selo School, November 2019



*Picture: An interesting fog rose up from the bay. I call this picture: **The fog.***

Greetings to all parents.

Upcoming

Dates to remember:

November 1, parent conferences, no school for students

November 4, Holy Day, Inservice for teachers, no school for students

November 19, Title 1/Migrant Parent and Family Event starting at 12:30.

November 21, Holy Day, parent conferences, no school for students

November 26, Holy Day, No school for teachers or students

November 28-29, No school, Thanksgiving Day

Also, please see included calendar.

Update for HS and MS Russian class.

Чтение: Журавль и цапля.

Песня: Горит фонарь в землянке тих.

The District is moving towards a more personalized data driven learning model, and I have been racking my brains as to how I can implement this model using my limited Russian resources.

I not only don't have a lot of resources for teaching, I really don't have any set exams or testing programs that will give me data as to where the students are and what I need to teach them in order for them to be confident readers, writers, and speakers.

This is year I have decided to do things differently from what I have done in the past years. My idea is to have all students work, at their own pace, on skills that they needed to improve on, based on last year's observations.

I am currently using two books as a base to teach. One is geared more for speaking correctly, and the other is more about grammar. At the start of this year, since I have had no real data for guidance, I have been meeting with students individually and then letting them pick which way they prefer to go. Some students have had to be gently guided into making the right choice but I believe it's been working out pretty good, so far.

As a teacher, I still longed to have a way to show hard data to the students and help them use their time with me more effectively by making data driven decisions. I am happy to say that I have come up with a way of gathering data and triangulating it, which is not a hundred percent true, but, still shows a consistency on what the students need to work on.

My measures are: dictation samples, free writing samples, and tests (that I have come up with myself, which are a work in progress) to see how well they have mastered the skill they were working on. I have spoken to the students about how this will work and how they may have to repeat a skill if they don't show mastery in all three or at least two of the measures.

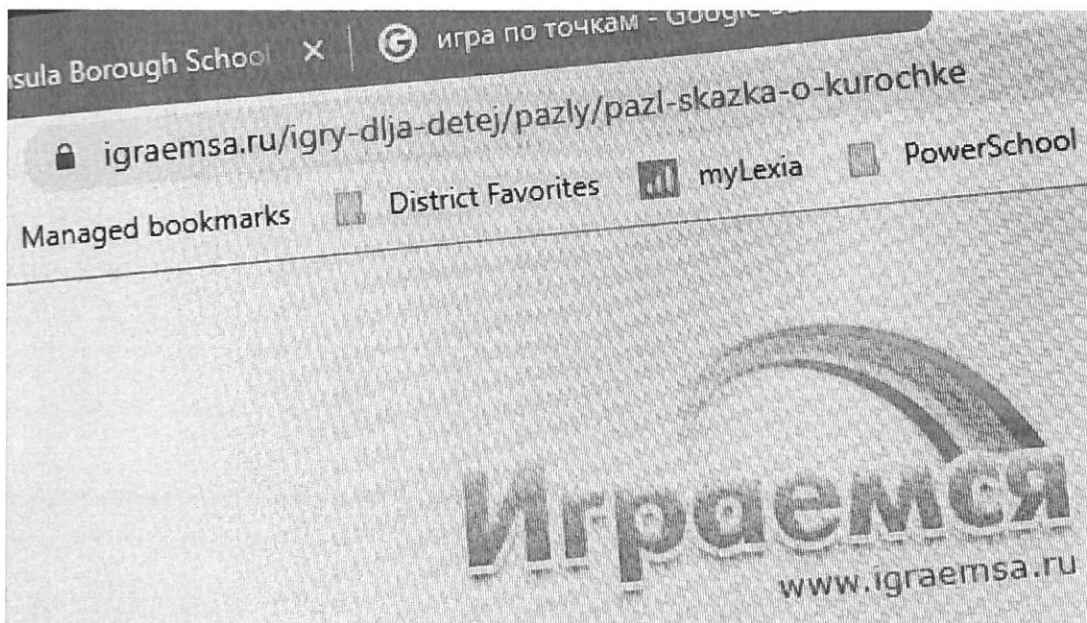
Currently the skill that is stumping most of my students is the soft consonant. There are several facets to the soft consonant that students need to keep in mind and, just plain memorize! It's been an uphill battle with this, but students are now getting it. Unfortunately it's only the ones that are coming to school on a regular basis.

Thank you to the K-2 parents:

--Interventions with K-2. Interventions happen in the morning from 8:30 to 11:00. The K-2 students that do not come to school in the morning, and/or are late to school, miss out on awesome learning opportunities. Students **have been** arriving to school on time this past month! Yay!

Something fun for the kids to do at home that is in Russian:

This is a site has games for children.



Health tip:

Recently, K-4 students have been having bouts of crying in the classroom. Crying students means that they are not happy and/or are experiencing anxiety in general and, it may also mean that they may be bringing some sort of baggage from home, like; didn't get enough sleep, missing their parents who may be away, didn't get to wear a favorite dress/shirt, etc.

I have recently read an informative article that I am sharing a few parts here. Here's the site address if anybody is interested: <https://www.comfortinganxiouschildren.com/essential-oils-anxious-children-2/>

Ladies, I have lots of empty bottles that I will give for free and if you need a roller and don't have it, I will be happy to give you one. Please let me know.

Make a roll-on of one or two of your child's favorite oils, that they can apply to their pulse points as needed.

Izabella's recipe for a Calming Roll-On:

10 ml roll-on bottle	2 drops of Mandarin
2 drops of Vanilla	2 drops of Silver Fir

Fill the rest of the bottle with a carrier oil of your choice.

Another way to use essential oils throughout the day is to give your child a spray bottle blend of essential oils that they can use on themselves, like a perfume, in their rooms or on their sheets.

Here's a spray with a fun name like Happy Spray or Make Bad Feelings Go Away Spray. You can also make up your own name. Allow them to smell it first to confirm they like it.

Izabella's Recipe for Happy Spray:

2 oz. distilled water	1 Tbsp. of grain alcohol
6 drops of Lavender	6 drops of Mandarin

Shake vigorously and test by spraying it on an inconspicuous area of fabric prior to full use.

Encourage children to use Happy Spray or Make Bad Feelings Go Away Spray after school, at transition times, or whenever their energy is low and anxiety and negative emotions are high.

Depending on your child's age, you can also give them essential oil diffuser necklaces or personal inhalers. **This way they can take their favorite essential oils with them wherever they go.**

"An inhaler," Izabella says, "is a tube with a cotton pad or fabric that you drop essential oils into. You can take the personal inhaler out and have the child do deep breathing exercises while inhaling it to reduce stress."

Mrs. Sorensen's

Newsletter

November 1, 2019

ART CORNER



Students have created geometric shapes while learning about design techniques. We have also begun to learn about the color wheel, as well as how to mix paints using acrylics. Paintings to come, and a big art show in April. We are excited to see some of the great works of art to come out of these winter months.

LANGUAGE ARTS

High school students are currently reading *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros. It is written in short vignettes that the students are then using to write their own short pieces. We continue with Membean as vocabulary acquisition and analyzing non fiction using Newsela, as well as grammar and literary skills with daily bell ringers.

Middle schoolers are practicing analogies, which show relationships between words, concepts, or designs. We have begun a unit on grammar which includes writing several times per week. All students are either working at their own speed in Lexia or Membean, depending on whether they need more vocabulary or reading practice. I have seen some increases in reading comprehension among the younger students, which should be confirmed with December's MAP testing.

GOVERNMENT

High school students are continuing to learn about aspects of U.S. government and the role media play in our society. We are now researching types of governments around the world and comparing rates of literacy, life expectancy, and quality of life.

Important Dates

November 4 - Inservice, no school

November 21 – Parent Conference- No School

November 26 - Holy Day

November 28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 4 - Holy Day

December MAP testing

Mr. R's Log

October 31, 2019

Quote of the Week:

"Attendance has been in the dumpster. Get up, suit up, show up."

-Jen Sorensen

Word of the Week:

Attendance—Reduces failure by as much as 100%.

In Science:

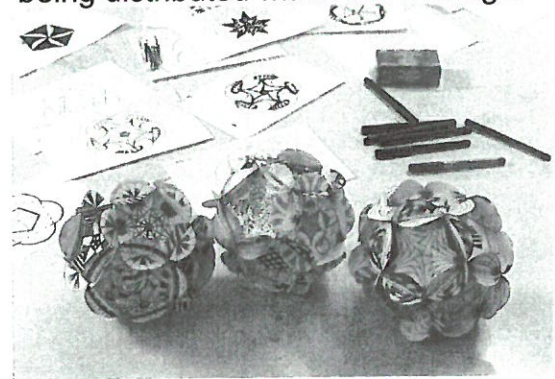
- We have been measuring discharge rates of both Swift and Fox Creek in gallons per second.
- We have been mapping groundwater pollution seepage, and predicting

Special Projects:

- The middle school built a permanent volleyball court.
- Planes and drones are still in progress, nearing completion.
- Scrap Arts will begin in December. Students will pick a project, and make something useful.

In Math:

- We have been creating fine art through precise measurements. Students have been constructing perfect pentagons using tools such as rulers, protractors and compasses.
- We are continuing our work with Homer area taxable value. This research will show how resources are being distributed within the borough.




Special Dates:

- November 4—Inservice Day
- November 21—Conference Day
- November 26—Holyday
- November 28-29—Thanksgiving



NOVEMBER 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Daylight savings time ends— 1 hour back	4 Holy Day Workday for teachers	5	6	7	8 8 Parent teacher Conferences No School	9
10	11 No Preschool	12 Budget Meeting 6pm Homer Middle School	13	14	15	16
17	18 No Preschool	19 Title 1/ Migrant Parent & family Event 12:30	20	21 Holy Day Workday for teachers Parent teacher Conferences	22	23
24	25 No Preschool	26 Holy Day	27	28 No School	29 29  No School	30

