



**Discovery  
Elementary**  
BHM SCHOOLS

# The Discovery Connections

A newsletter for parents of Discovery Elementary students

**April 2020**



*Message From Principal-Dr. Mathew Nelson*

## **In all times, “Together We’re Better” resonates at Discovery Elementary!**

Have you ever heard of the idea of having a “Growth Mindset”? On page two you will find a graphic that illustrates the power of a Growth Mindset, which is something all staff at Discovery Elementary believe in and work hard to instill in our students on a daily basis. The graphic to me is an example of a powerful mindset strategy that helps support “The Power of Yet” within our lifelong learning journey and highlights the core of how we want to prepare our students for an ever-changing future.

It is very human for us to feel the way we do and to feel some sadness because we are not able to physically be together every day at Discovery Elementary. So, we can’t physically come to school at Discovery Elementary....yet!! All joking aside, I think it is safe to say that we are all looking ahead to next year.....for me, it will soon be time to begin the process of placing next year’s 1st and 3rd grade students in their multiage classrooms for the 2020-2021 school year. When placing students, there are many factors that are considered and we feel all of our teachers are very qualified and accommodating to individual student needs and that students will do well in any classroom. Even though class assignments are the responsibility of the Principal, with input from the teachers, we recognize that there are instances where a parent has a legitimate reason for a request. Normally, we send out a request form to those that request it, but this year we will adjust and **if you feel you need to make a request, please feel free to reach out directly to me at [mnelson@bhmschools.org](mailto:mnelson@bhmschools.org) or call me at 763-682-8426.**

The deadline for turning requests into the office is **Friday, May 8th.** After this deadline we will not be able to make any adjustments to the classroom placements.

Looking back at February, we wanted to thank you for your support of the Discovery Elementary Read-a-Thon. The event was a huge success in promoting literacy and the love for reading and we also raised over \$13,000!! This money will directly impact Discovery students in a positive way through the purchase of additional books, technology, and to offset field trip costs.

As you know we will continue to engage in distance learning through the rest of the school year and Governor Walz has closed schools this Friday, May 1st, and Monday, May 4th to provide time for additional planning for teachers. So to clarify, there will be **no school this Friday, May 1st, and Monday, May 4th.** I feel like I am being repetitive, but although we all wish we could be together as we know our impact is greater when we are physically in session, **I am also confident that we will continue to make the best of distance learning, together!**

A lot of 5th graders have reached out regarding plans for our 5th grade celebration. I have visited with Mr. Lubben, Principal at Buffalo Community Middle School, and received permission to bus this year’s 5th graders back to Discovery at the end of the day during the first week of school next year for us to have our 5th grade celebration! Also, as we move forward, we are also brainstorming ways that we can safely have a “Drive Through” closure to our school year where we can say “Have a good summer!” to each other, collect materials, and have closure to the school year in June - I will keep you posted on this!

I get emotional when I think about it, but we have such a great thing going at Discovery and I couldn’t be more proud to be a part of the great work we all do, together, for our students.

**"Together We're Better!"**



THE POWER OF  
**YET**



I can't do this...*yet.*

This doesn't work...*yet.*

I don't know...*yet.*

It doesn't make sense...*yet.*

I don't get it...*yet.*

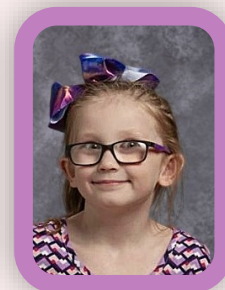
I'm not good at this...*yet.*

# Elementary Students celebrated "COUREAGEOUS" for the month of March

Even though we weren't together to CELEBRATE as a student body, we did recognize these students for the month of March



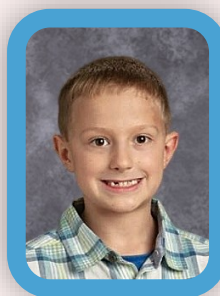
**Norah Mueller Gr. K**  
**Ms. Tacke's Kindergarten**



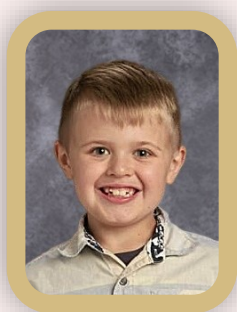
**Adalynn Lux Gr. K**  
**Mrs. Grams Kindergarten**



**Levi Westbrook Gr. 1**  
**Mrs. Schroeder's Gr. 1-2 Class**



**Lucas Abel Gr. 2**  
**Mrs. Samuelson's Gr. 1-2 Class**



**Milo Davison Gr. 2**  
**Mr. Mueller's Gr. 1-2 Class**



**Jackson Holler Gr. 2**  
**Mrs. Schrick's Gr. 1-2 Class**



**Brooke Doggett Gr. 5**  
**Mrs. Swedal's Gr. 3-5 Class**



**Liam Melvie Gr. 4**  
**Mrs. Ericson's Gr. 3-5 Class**



**Emily Klatt Gr. 5**  
**Mrs. Nelson's Gr. 3-5 Class**

**Riley Schmitz Gr. 5**  
**Ms. Nelson's Gr. 3-5 Class**



**Not pictured**  
**Brendan Vizzard Gr. 5**  
**Mrs. Bauernschmitt's Gr. 3-5 Class**



**April Community C is CREATIVE**

These students are recognized by their teachers to celebrate the month of April



**Avery Thompson  
Ms. Tacke's Kindergarten  
Class**



**Keira Lemke Gr. 3  
Ms. Nelson's 3-5 Class**



**Kinslee Kistler  
Mrs. Gram's Kindergarten  
Class**



**Charlotte Eby Gr. 5  
Mrs. Ericson's 3-5 Class**



**Lydia Karkula Gr. 1  
Mrs. Samuelson's Class**



**Wyatt Gustafson Gr. 5  
Mrs. Nelson's 3-5 Class**



**Ava Crone Gr. 1  
Mrs. Schroder's Class**



**Sterling Grams Gr. 5  
Mrs. Swedal's 3-5 Class**



**Gabe Simonson Gr. 2  
Mr. Mueller's 1-2 Class**



**Mee Joo Wachter Gr. 5  
Mrs. Bauernschmitt's Class**



**Autumn Schlink Gr. 2  
Mrs. Schrick's Class**



### Message from Dana Botz, Art Adventure Leader

We have just concluded another great, but odd, year for Art Adventure! Unfortunately, we were unable to complete the March 2020 schedule due to the covid-19 quarantine, but the students did have a great learning experience in November 2019. Our theme for November was How People Lived and we started Let's Celebrate Life in March 2020. We had three volunteers who helped present the posters of art-work from the Minneapolis Institute of Art to the students in grades K-5.

A big "THANK YOU" goes out to those who volunteered as "picture people" in the classrooms: Amy Field Blake, Crystal Hipple, and myself, Dana Botz. Without the volunteers this program would not happen and the students are always excited to see what each theme has in store. We are always looking for new volunteers and welcome you to speak with any of these parents about their experience. If you (or your child's aunt/uncle/grandparent) are interested in becoming a "picture person", please contact the Art Adventure Coordinator, Dana Botz at [dmbotz@gmail.com](mailto:dmbotz@gmail.com) or 612-716-4582 or stop by to see me at the DES Open House for the 2020-2021 school year.



*Are you moving? If you plan to move over the summer months, please contact the Discovery Office at 763-682-8400 with your updated information. Thank you.*

