



From the desk of Ron Swier:

Smarter Balance Testing -April 25 to May 3. Grades 3-8 and grade 11. All students must have ear buds or head phones (not Bluetooth). Have your child eat a good breakfast, get a good nights sleep. Talk to your child a encourage them to do their best each and every day on the test.

April 3rd-- **Douglas County Hospital Career Fair** --10th grader's 9:00 to 12:00

April 8th-- **Freshman Impact day** at Armour—9th graders—8:00 to 3:00

April showers bring May flowers

Taking
Shape



Title I Tidbits

*Spring
Has
Sprung!*



It is hard to believe that the calendar says April already. We are thankful though as we look forward to warmer weather! This month we are gearing up for the **South Dakota Math and English Language Arts Assessments, formally known as, Smarter Balanced Testing**. No matter what your personal feelings are on high-stakes testing, there is no escaping the reality that these assessments will be an important part of your child's academic experience. Every parent wants to see their student to experience success in the classroom. So, what's the best way to help your child prepare for high-stakes tests—and keep a healthy mindset while doing so? Here are some simple tips for parents to help your child be at his or her best on testing days.

1. Make sure your child gets a **good night's sleep** and **eats a healthy breakfast** on testing days.
2. Try not to put too much pressure on the student. Reinforce that as long as they work hard and do their absolute best you will be proud of them.
3. Keep a **positive attitude** about testing in general around your child and emphasize their ability to demonstrate what they have learned.
4. Remind the students that the **test is important and it is important that they try their absolute best**.
5. Encourage your child to stay focused on the test, even if other students finish early. Remind them they don't have to be done just because the students around them are finished. **Take your time and do YOUR best work**.
6. Remind your child to listen carefully to the instructions from the teacher and to read the directions and each question carefully. **There is no reward for being the first one done!**
7. Remind them to answer all questions even if they are unsure of the answer. Remind them to do their best and make the best guess as needed.
8. A **positive attitude** goes a long way! Help your child **feel positive** and **confident** about taking the test and doing their best.

The assessments will be given to students in grades 3-5 beginning the week of April 10th and ending on April 26th. The students will be testing from about 8:45 a.m. till about 10:30 a.m. each day. Please if at all possible, try to schedule appointments around this testing schedule. Attendance is so important during this time period. **Each individual teacher will be sending home testing information in the days to come**. Thanks for your support in making this a positive stress free testing month.

Sports Roundup

GBB- The Jags ended their first season under head coach Kyle Wiczorek with a 7-12 record after losing to #2 seed- Avon in Round 2 of Region 5B play. (44-65). They will lose two seniors, Jacey Kemp and Ashlyn Lefers.



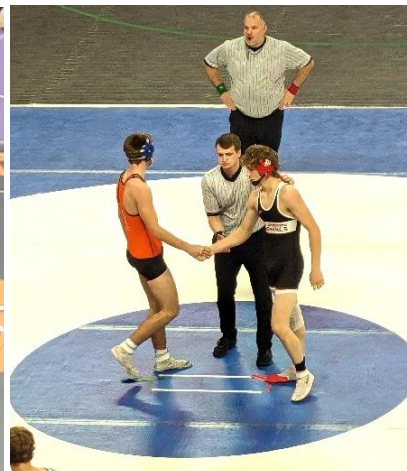
BBB-The Jags ended their season with a 13-9 record. They defeated #4 seed- Marty 61-56 in Round 2 of Region 5B play. Then lost to the #1 seed, Wessington Springs in 3rd round play at the Corn Palace. (35-52). The Jags will lose 7 seniors: Carter Wright, Tye Hosman, Braxton Vander Wal, Jonathon Nichols, Lincoln Bruinsma, Austin Krogstad, along with foreign exchange student, Luca Catapano.

Wrestling-Tate Tolsma finished his wrestling season as a state qualifier/ participant with second team honor for big east conference. He enjoyed his season, spent his time mentoring the younger wrestlers at tournaments as well as helping at youth practices. He is optimistic of placing at state next year!

Below: He is pictured with his teammates that also made it to state: Aiden Novak 285 lb from Plankinton and Daniel Dorsey 120 lb from Mt Vernon.

Tate Tolsma 2024 wrestling schedule:
 4th—Howard Invite
 2nd—MVP Tourney
 5th—McCook Central Invite
 5th—Bandit Invitational- Miller
 4th—Little B Tourney-Parkston
 3rd/State Qualifier—Region 3B Tourney-Parkston
 Participant in State Tournament in SF
 Big East Conference Honors-Second Team

Orange and black throwback MVP youth stampede singlet.



Corsica-Stickney 2024 PROM

Corsica-Stickney High School Junior-Senior prom is scheduled for Friday, April 5th. All prom activities will be held at the Corsica-Stickney High School Gymnasium. Prom decorations follow the Vegas Casino theme, and CS Entertainment from Coleman, SD will provide the music for the dance. Mark's Photographic Images of Armour, SD will be providing professional photographs. Professional class and couple photos will be taken prior to the banquet. Junior-Senior banquet will begin at 7PM. Grand March is at 8PM, admission is free. Activities will continue with the crowning of 2024 prom king and queen.

King candidates include: Cody Keizer, Brock Hinker, and Jarrett Olawsky.

Queen candidates include: Saylor Lefers, Shaylyn Myers, and Paige Timmermans.

Following the Grand March, photos with the public will be taken. The public is asked leave promptly at 9PM so that the dance may proceed. After-Prom party activities will take place from 12:30-2:00AM at the Corsica Elementary building.



Elese Gerlach and Cassidy Woerner, members of the Corsica-Stickney FCCLA chapter, held a hygiene drive and collected items to be donated to the Sanford CASTLE in Sioux Falls. The items will go towards helping families with children that are in the hospital. They collected items such as toilet paper, body soap, shampoo, conditioner, laundry soap, and more! The Stickney youth group made laundry soap and donated it to this FCCLA project. Cassidy and Elesse worked with the National Honor Society to make tie blankets to be donated to the CASTLE as a comfort item for children. FCCLA would like to thank the students and community members who donated to this project!





Music

On February 28th, Corsica-Stickney High School Band members participated at **Instrumental Contest** in Gregory, SD. 32 Students performed in 4 different group ensembles. Percussionists played **Thunderer on the Bay** to start the day. Next, we had our Woodwinds play **Chorale from Jupiter** followed by the Trumpets performing **This Train**. The last group of the day was the Low Brass performing **Spring from the Four Seasons**. The Percussion group was 1 point away from a Superior (I) ranking. Woodwind, Trumpet and Low Brass groups walked away with a Superior Rating (I).

Percussion Group

Paige Timmermans, Connor Strid, Tanner Bartelt, Myles Hosman, Jayden Feenstra, Gyver Vanden Bos, Caden Baumiller, Waylon Bolle

Woodwinds Group

Braylee Bordewyk, Brooklyn Bosma, Macayla Gerlach, Karen Go, Mya Schelhaas, Claire Gerlach, Ashtyn Feenstra, Cali Vanden Hoek

Trumpets Group

Saylor Lefers, Sophie De Lange, Presleigh Lefers, Cadyn Plooster, Miley Wiczorek, Sawyer Schmidt and Garrett Gerlach.

Low Brass Group

Quinton De Vries, Jaxson Muck, Peyton Denning, Dawson Timmermans, Aiden Clites Jett Kemp, Daryan De Vries, Max Plooster, and Connor Wright.





The Corsica-Stickney School District has selected Title I and Elementary Computer teacher, Michelle Koch as this year's School District **Teacher of the Year**. This is the 7th year the district has participated in the South Dakota Teacher of the Year program. Mrs. Koch has been teaching for 30 years in the Stickney School District, and now here at CS Elementary. She was nominated for this award because of her outstanding commitment to elementary education. Congratulations to Michelle Koch Corsica-Stickney 2024 Teacher of the Year!



Michelle's husband, Joe and son Matthew and his family Ciara and Axel were able to make it to the surprise presentation. Students congratulated Mrs. Koch as well.

Congratulations



K of C Hoop Shoot

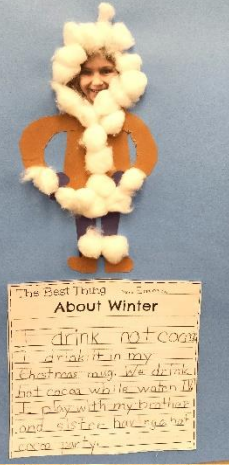
Matt Koch of the local Knights of Columbus presented these local winners with a cash prize. Pictured above are the local hoop shoot winners that were able to go to Regions in Parkston, winners there were able to advance to State competition in Chamberlain. Local students that placed there were:

Tryton Wentland 2nd (22 out of 25) and
Jacobly Plooster 2nd (24 out of 25).

READ ACROSS AMERICA

The Elementary campus observed Read Across America Week by celebrating Dr Seuss with crazy dress up days, reading several of his books, and even acting out a Reader's Theater and even a visit from the Cat in the Hat!





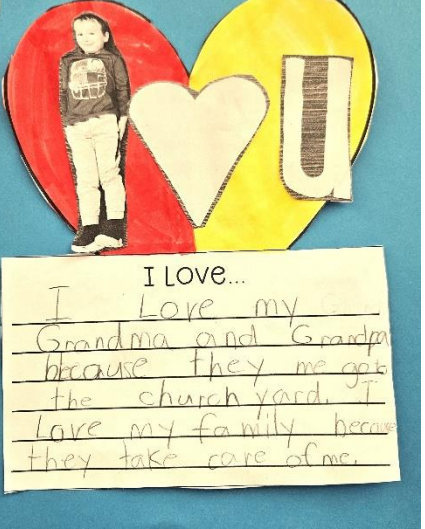
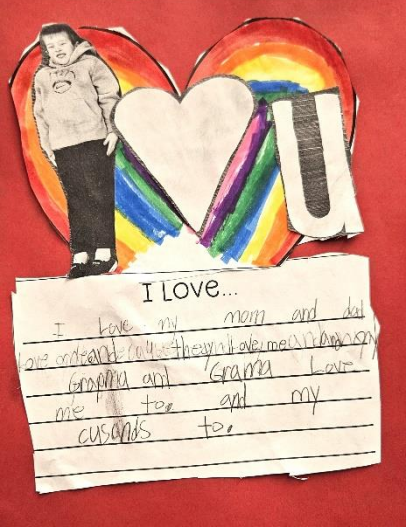
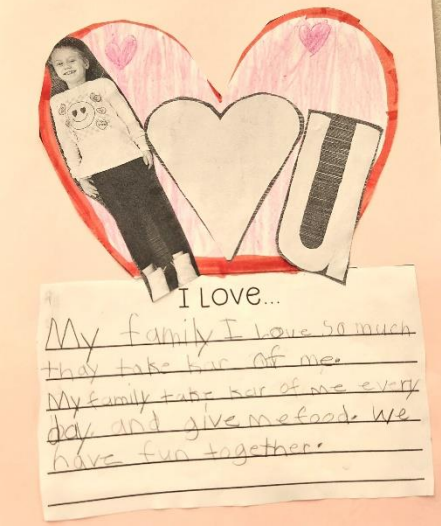
The Best Thing About Winter
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa
 I drink hot cocoa



The Best Thing About Winter
 The best thing about winter is playing
 and snow. I like playing and snow
 building a snowman. I can have a
 snowman ball with my brother
 and sister. I can make a snow
 man. I love playing outside in the
 winter.



The Best Thing About Winter
 The best thing about
 winter is the snow
 I can play with my
 brother you can jump
 in it. We can make
 a snowman I love
 the snow because
 it is so fun in
 the winter.



The Best Thing About Winter
 The best thing about
 winter is that my family
 is in winter. I get birthday
 presents and Christmas
 presents. I get to spend
 out with my Dad
 and get a new book
 celebrating my birthday.



Remington

Texas

Have you ever thought about going in a new state? Well I'm going to tell you about 1 state "Texas"! Texas has all neat things and I'm going to tell you about some stuff in Texas. I'm going to tell you about Geography, Animals, and Selena Gomez.

First I'm going to tell you about some Geography about Texas. Texas is in the south west region. In this region Texas tends to be flat, however they have mountains and rivers. Texas also has a desert called Chihuaha Desert. It is west of the Peco River. Texas has a mountain called El captain. 8,064 people have climbed it. It also has the highest peak.

Geography was fun but moving on to animals! There are 3 animals I will tell you about. First the cougar. The cougar is known as a puma. It looks like it's ready to eat lunch. It is looking old because it has gray hair. Moving on to white tailed deer: this deer looks cool to me. It looks like it has a skinny body. The horns look fluffy and soft. It looks like its ears are pure white. Texas long horn: Its eyes look orange and red. His horns are really tall. The tail looks like it has fluffy and curly hair at the same time. Its nose is red and black. They are my 3 animals I picked.

That was cool! Moving on to my famous person Selena Gomez. She is from Grand Prairie. Her career is on a children's show. She is also a singer. She was also in a movie. She played Alex Russo Disney channel. Selena had a business at the age of 9.

That was all fun about geography, animals, and Selena. I hope that helped you learn a little bit about Texas.

Brecken

Minnesota

Do you know which state is called the land of 10,000 lakes? Did you know a state that it became a state on May 11, 1858? I am going to tell you all about the state of Minnesota.

Minnesota is located in the Midwest region. The bordering states of Minnesota are Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Today I am going to tell you about the natural resources, and interesting facts about Minnesota.

Minnesota has 10,000 lakes that provides water as a natural resource. There are many trees in Minnesota. Both its lakes and trees are nature resources. Soil is a natural resource. People use it to grow crops. Fish is another natural resource. People like to catch fish in the many lakes of Minnesota.

Minnesota size and in square miles is 86,943. There are 5,707 million people in the state of Minnesota. Minnesota's state capital is Saint Paul. Minnesota's largest city is Minneapolis. Minnesota's state nickname is the North Star state. Bob Dylan, was born Robert Zimmerman in Duluth in 1941, and raised in Minnesota. He attended a year at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. The Minnesota Vikings are a professional American football team based in Minneapolis. They compete in the national football league as a member club of the national football conference north division.

That's what facts are in Minnesota. That's what nature resources are in Minnesota. That's what interesting facts are in Minnesota. That's what I am going to tell you about Minnesota. Did you know that the Vikings are from Minnesota?

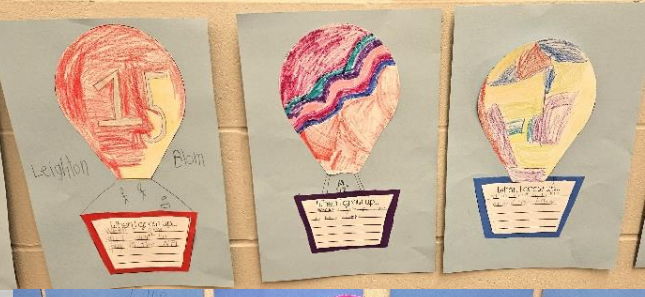


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BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

Stick notes with various messages like 'I CAN DO IT!', 'BELIEVE IN YOURSELF', and 'YOU ARE SPECIAL' are scattered around the main text.





*You can shed tears that he is gone,
or you can smile because he has lived.
You can close your eyes and pray that he'll come back,
or you can open your eyes and see all he's left.
Your heart can be empty because you can't see him,
or you can be full of the love you shared.
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.
You can remember him only that he is gone,
or you can cherish his memory and let it live on.
You can cry and close your mind,
be empty and turn your back.
Or you can do what Brey would want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.*

Brey Van Gorp

July 6, 2018 - March 10, 2024

Obituary

Brey Van Gorp, 5, passed away on the farm doing what he loved on Sunday, March 10, 2024. Funeral services will be at 10:30 AM Friday, March 15, at Stickney School Gym. Burial will be at Silver Ridge Cemetery in Stickney. Visitation will be Thursday from 5-7:00 PM at the Stickney School Gym with a 6:30 PM prayer service. Arrangements by Bittner Funeral Chapel.

Brey Kallen Van Gorp was born on July 6, 2018, in Mitchell, SD to Blake and Ashley (Tilberg) Van Gorp. Brey was a preschooler at Corsica-Stickney School, and was a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mitchell.

Brey was a very happy, fun, loving little boy who always had a smile on his face. Brey loved going to school to see his friends: Truett, Dawson, Carter, Lincoln, AJ, and Collin. He loved cooking/baking with Mom. He was quick to put puzzles together or win at a game of matching. Loved to go camping and riding bike and fishing with Papa. Brey loved being outside, helping with cows, driving the skid loader, or working in the shop with Dad. Loved his little brother "Riddee" so dearly and made sure to show him the ropes.

Brey is survived by his parents, Blake and Ashley Van Gorp; brother, Ridley; fur-sister, Meke, Stickney; grandparents, Merle and Ruth Tilberg, Mitchell, SD, Steve and Julie Van Gorp, Stickney, and Shannon Van Gorp, Neosho, MO; uncle, Alex Tilberg, Mitchell, SD; aunts, Brittany Tilberg, Sioux Falls, Ashley Gunnels, Neosho, MO, Kayleen (Mike) Green, Neosho, MO, and Taryn Van Gorp, Nashville, TN; cousins: Allyson & Tyson Tilberg; Konnor, Liam, Rhinnlee & Kingston Gunnels; Halee, Kate, Deklan Green; and numerous great aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by Kevin in Heaven, Gordon and Norma Van Gorp, Robert and Shirlee Mac Taggart, Ted and Eva Tilberg, and Virgil and Gertrude Loneman.

The family invites everyone to make the gym joyful and colorful by wearing colorful attire.

A memorial fund is being established for memorials in lieu of flowers.