



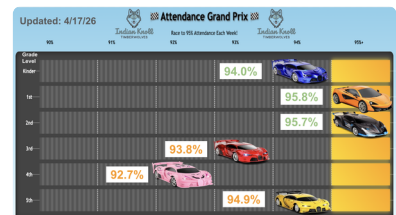
# The Timberwolf Times

April 2026

## A Message from the Principal

We are down to the last 6 weeks of school!

It is crazy how fast this school year has flown by! Even though our weeks are coming to a close, there is a LOT of learning that is still happening. Please ensure your child is at school every day, on time.



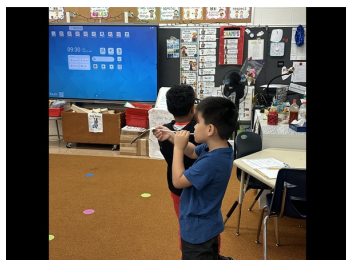
To incentivize attendance, we have a new attendance race happening each week between all of the grade levels. The goal is for the grade level to have a 95% attendance rate. This past week, 1st and 2nd grade won the attendance race, both surpassing the 95% attendance goal! As a result, they will get an extra recess AND some lucky students will get to participate in an RC Car race!!! Congratulations to the 1st and 2nd graders! 3rd and 5th grade was extremely close to achieving the 95% goal! Maybe this week will be their week!!

Spring MAP testing will occur the week of May 11th. These scores will determine whether or not we have achieved our school goals. As a reminder, our school **reading goal is 50%** of students will score at or above the 50th percentile. Our **math goal is 60%** of students will score at or above the 50th percentile. Please ensure your child goes to sleep at a reasonable hour each night and eats a healthy breakfast in the morning, either at home or at school. We want them to take their time and really show us what they have learned this year. We have some of the BEST teachers at Indian Knoll, I know they have learned an incredible amount. This is the student's time to shine!!

Please continue to review the weekly update I send out every Sunday evening. It has important dates and upcoming events listed. We have a lot coming up as we close out the school year and I want to ensure you are all aware of what is coming.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration! I am looking forward to wrapping up the 25-26 school year on a positive note!

## Our Busy Classrooms



### Kindergarten

Hello Kindergarten Families!

During the month of April, we will be working on the following units:

**Amplify Knowledge:**

Students start to work on Unit #8 Seasons and Weather. In this domain, students will focus on using details to describe key concepts in informational texts about Seasons and Weather. Students will create a Weather Diary to observe, record, and predict the weather. They will also use drawing to identify important characteristics of the seasons, and they will complete a sequencing activity to illustrate the cycle of seasons. Students will also present a weather report at the end of the domain. This month we also see Unit # 11 Taking care of the Earth. Students will learn that the best way to conserve Earth's natural resources is to practice the three Rs of conservation—reduce, reuse, and recycle. By studying conservation, students will become familiar with the earth's natural resources and will begin to recognize how people's actions affect the environment in which we live. Students will learn specifically about land, water, and air pollution as well as the water cycle, the journey of trash from its creation to its burial in a landfill, and the steps in the recycling and composting processes. Practical examples of how students can help take care of the earth are included in every lesson.

**UFLI:**

Students are working on Phonemic Awareness, blending, letter formation, letter sounds, letter names, CVC words, VC words, vowels, short vowels and long vowels.

**Eureka Math:**

Students start Math Module #5. In this unit students will work on counting 10 and some ones, Compose Numbers 11–20 from 10 Ones and Some Ones; Represent and Write Teen Numbers, Decompose Numbers 11–20, and Count to Answer “How Many?” Questions in Varied Configurations, Extend the Say Ten and Regular Count Sequence to 100, and Represent and Apply Compositions and Decompositions of Teen Numbers.

In monolingual class for BUF students are working on:

**Unit # 4 Sunlight**

In this month-long unit, students will make observations to determine the effect of sunlight on the Earth's surface. Using what they learn, students will design and build a structure to reduce the

warming effect of the Sun. This will be assessed through the performance task in which students will take on the role of a designer to find a way to keep the playground equipment cool so that kids can play on it. Students will transfer this learning and be able to build or create something to solve a problem.

In our one-way dual classrooms, we are working on:

Lectoescritura:

Students will start to work on Unit #8. In unit #8 students will review the consonant clusters they have learned and read and write words and sentences with these clusters. They will also be introduced to words ending in -r, -l, -n, and -s, and will review words with the letters m, p, s, l, d, n, f, t, initial r, rr, ll, and ch. They will also learn 7 new high frequency words.

The kindergarten teachers,

Ms. Pinto, Ms. Morrison, and Mrs. Calderón



## 1st Grade

During the month of April we are working extremely hard to finish the year strong!

In math we are working on our module 5-Geometry. In this module students will be learning 2 and 3 dimensional shapes. They will sort, analyze, compare, and create two and three-dimensional shapes, and put them together to create new shapes. They will also, as in their work with number bonds and addition and subtraction, examine the part-whole relationship through this new geometric lens. In addition we will be working with fractions- 1 whole,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{3}$  / telling time to the hour and half hour.

During our knowledge unit we are working on Animals and Habitats. Students will learn about living things and their physical environment. Students will also recognize different plants and animals and their specific habitats. In addition, they will classify animals in accordance to the types of food they eat to get a better understanding of the food chain.

In UFLI we are working on: high frequency words, base words, suffixes, prefixes, r-controlled vowels, reading and writing longer words. All of this, in addition to reading fluency and comprehension strategies.



## 2nd Grade

Hello 2nd Grade Families!

During the month of April, we will be working on the following units:  
Amplify Knowledge:

Students will learn about the Human Body: Building Blocks and Nutrition! They will learn about cells, tissues, organs, systems and nutrition.

Eureka Math:

In Module 7, students get the opportunity to apply their addition and subtraction strategies to a variety of contexts, including length, money, and data.

In the monolingual class for BUF students are working on Habitats.



### 3rd Grade

Hello 3rd Grade Families!

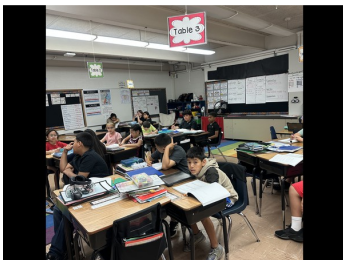
We are currently working in unit 8 of Amplify, Native Americans.

Within this unit we are focusing on the way of life of Native Americans in different regions. Our focus skills are learning how to write a summary, sequencing events, and singular and possessive nouns and pronouns.

In Math, we are finishing up our Fraction unit and will begin Module 7 which focuses on Geometry. Within this unit we will revisit area (length x width) and begin perimeter. We will also review the attributes of different polygons. Please continue to practice multiplication and division facts daily!

In Science, we are learning about weather and climate. In this unit we learn about clouds, how to predict storms, and different weather patterns.

Please remember that we still have MAP testing in the middle of May. It's really important for the students to stay focused. There is still a lot of teaching and learning to do. Please ensure that students are not coming to school with toys or distractions so they can give their full attention and end the school year strong.



### 4th Grade

Hello 4th Grade Families!

In Eureka, students explore decimal numbers and their relationship to decimal fractions ( $\frac{1}{10}$ ,  $\frac{1}{100}$ , etc.), learning to express a given quantity in both fraction and decimal forms. Students build on the work they did with fractions in Module 5, apply the same reasoning to decimal numbers, and set the stage for decimal operations in Grade 5.

In Science, students explore the adaptations of animals and plants. Students investigate how the external and internal structures of an organism work together as an interconnected system that aid in their growth and survival. They also use models to explore how a combination of instincts and memories influence animal behavior.

In Amplify, students will explore the genre of fiction through a classic novel, *Treasure Island*. Students will read an abridged version of *Treasure Island*. This novel chronicles the adventures of the young narrator, Jim Hawkins, who discovers a treasure map when an old pirate stays at his family's inn. Students will focus on character development, setting, and plot as well as literary devices.

They will also discover other relevant aspects of the text, such as geography, pirates, and sailing. Students will also continue to practice the various stages of the writing process. They will write and publish an original adventure story, incorporating character

development and dialogue.



## 5th Grade

Eureka Math Grade 5 Module 5 focuses on volume and 2D figures. Students explore 3D space by packing rectangular prisms with unit cubes and developing the volume formula ( $V = L \times W \times H$  and  $V = Bh$ ). The module also covers classifying 2D shapes (quadrilaterals) based on properties.

Amplify CKLA Grade 5 Unit 8, "Native Americans," explores the diverse cultures, histories, and environments of indigenous peoples in North America, covering their arrival, regional adaptations, and interactions with early European settlers. The 15-lesson unit emphasizes regional geography, oral traditions, and the preservation of languages.

In SS Unit 3: Response to Change: Students will discuss and research the Louisiana Purchase, Trail of Tears, and other current issues as a means of introducing the following skills: investigating the contributing events and factors in reform and historical reactions to laws or policies, investigating the ways in which the movement of people and cultural changes impact a geographical location, and using a timeline to compare and contrast several reactions to laws or policies when determining their effectiveness.



## Primary Cross-Cat

Hello Families! During the month of April, we are working on money and students are learning about how people earn money by doing a job or chore, and how money is needed to buy products and services. Throughout the unit, we will work on our comprehension skills and explore money with hands-on examples using play money.



## Intermediate Cross-Cat

During the month of April, we are working on money and students are learning about how people earn money by doing a job or chore, and how money is needed to buy products and services. Throughout the unit, we will work on our comprehension skills and practice writing about how we earn money, what job we would want when we are older, and what to buy.



## SEL/Health

In SEL/Health Class students are learning about responsible decision making.

K-2: Students are learning about making responsible decisions at school.

3-4: Students are learning to use the decision making process to set personal goals.

In math, we are also working on money and focusing on the dollar bills and coins. We will practice using money to purchase items. Later in April, we will go to Portillo's and practice using our money skills.

In math, we are also working on money and focusing on the dollar bills and coins. We will practice using money to purchase items. Later in April, we will go to Portillo's and practice using our money skills.

5th Grade: Students are learning about making responsible decisions with Corporal Mrkvicka, our student resource officer.



## Art

In kindergarten, we have been learning about collaboration. Students analyzed various examples of how artists work together to create one large piece. Each table worked on their own collaborative drawing. They learned how to share ideas and how to work together.

In 1st grade, we have been exploring Sculpture Center! Students completed a challenge inspired by the cooking show Chopped. Students received a mystery bag full of random materials such as corks, pompoms, toilet paper tubes, googly eyes, coffee filters, and so much more! They did an amazing job using their imagination to create art with materials they are not too familiar with in the art room.

In 2nd grade, students are learning how to weave. Students learned how to prepare a loom. They also learned the weft (under-over) pattern to create their weaving project. Students also learned the expectations of using our Fiber Arts Center.

In 3rd grade, students will learn about printmaking. They will learn how to create collagraphs by cutting and gluing foam sheets to cardboard. These collagraphs are similar to creating their own stamps.

In 4th and 5th grade, students are completing a clay project! In April, we had a practice day where students practiced different clay techniques and figured out what kind of project they wanted to create. Afterwards, we played a Kahoot to review different clay terms and techniques we reviewed. Students also sketched out their clay project as they had total creative freedom for their project. Currently, all 4th and 5th grade students are completing their clay project. Afterwards, they will paint their projects.



## Music

KG is singing high/low, differentiating between high/low pitches they hear, and demonstrating what they hear with their body.

1st graders have been singing about flowers-The Garden Song (Inch by Inch) and A Little Seed. They are learning about how to read Sol and Mi on a two line staff,.

2nd graders have been dancing and playing singing games while learning how to read La Sol Mi on a two line staff. We also learned "Do Re Mi" from The Sound of Music and will bring home a listening map!

3rd graders had a wonderful time learning different instrumental parts for Great Big House in New Orleans. Students played xylophones, rhythm sticks, wood blocks and triangles while singing. So impressive!

4th graders and 5th graders have been playing recorder and composing. Their assessment included writing a 4 measure composition using the pitches we play on the recorder and performing it for Mrs. Kimmel. Amazing work!

Chorus is sounding beautiful and we will sing a concert Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the IK gym. Hope to see you there!



### **P.E.**

3rd-5th Grade will be finishing fitness testing and timed runs outside. 400 meter, 800 meter and 1600 Meter runs. 5th grade is also preparing for the District 33 Track meet in May.

K-2nd grade are learning the fitness test events for the future and they are also running the 400 meter run outside. They will be working on teambuilding activities as well.

## **Upcoming Events**



- May 4th-8th- Staff Appreciation Week!! Help us celebrate our WONDERFUL staff at IK!!
- May 11th-14th- Spring MAP testing
- May 14th- May PTO Meeting @ 5:30 (Virtual)
- May 15th- NO SCHOOL (SIP Day)
- May 22nd- 5th Grade Track Meet at WCCHS
- May 25th- NO SCHOOL- Memorial Day
- May 27th- Cougars Game (4th and 5th grade only)
- May 28th- Indian Knoll FIELD DAY!!!
- May 29th- NO SCHOOL- PD Day
- June 1st- Academic Accolade Ceremonies:
  - 1st and 2nd grade- 9:00-10:00am (for invited families only)
  - 3rd and 4th grade- 10:15-11:15am (for invited families only)
- June 2nd- 4th Grade Field Trip
- June 2nd- 5th grade Ceremony- 9:30-11:00 (ALL families invited)
- June 3rd- 5th grade step-up day at LMS
- June 3rd- Kindergarten Ceremony- 9:30-11:00 (ALL families invited)
- June 4th- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (dismissal at 11:30am)



**Whitnie Del Toro**

Principal, Indian Knoll Elementary School

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