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January, 2020

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# North Mac Elementary

231 West Fortune Street, Virden, IL 62690

[www.northmacschools.org](http://www.northmacschools.org) (under the Elementary Tab)

T: 217-965-5424

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Dear Families,

Welcome to 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester, 2020! We are looking forward to great learning here at school all the way to the end!

How proud I was of the students and staff for a wonderful Holiday Program, as well as the performances at the Senior Citizens Luncheon and Sunrise Skilled Nursing Care Center. The kids certainly brightened the holiday season for many this year!

We encourage our students to set and work toward goals, and hope, as parents, you are doing the same with them at home. It is very rewarding to work toward, and obtain goals. Breaking big goals into smaller parts helps children ultimately reach their final goal. The new year is a great time to reflect and renew our determination to be the best we can be!

January is a great month to encourage your child to really practice math facts and read, read, read at home during the long, chilly evenings when they can't get outside! Making crafts, doing projects, and playing games as a family are also great ways to keep using their creative and higher level thinking skills.

Remember to look for Report Cards this Friday, January 10. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call and schedule an appointment to discuss your child's progress!

Work hard, be nice, and do great things! It takes **Everyone, Every Day!**

**Michele Cimarossa, Principal**

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## Upcoming Events

**January 10 – Report Cards go home**

**January 14 – P.T.O. Meeting – 6:00** at the Elementary School

**January 15 – Build a Snowman Lunch Day** (students will build marshmallow snowmen)  
**1:20 dismissal** for School Improvement

**January 20 – No School** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**January 22 – Blood Drive** at the High School  
**1:20 dismissal** for School Improvement  
**6:30 – Board Meeting** at the High School

**January 27 – StarLab** at the school this week

**January 29 - 1:20 dismissal** for School Improvement

**January 31 – Backward Day** at Lunch

A black chalkboard with a white border containing a quote in white chalk. The quote reads: "People with goals succeed because they know where they're going." Below the quote is the signature "~ Earl Nightingale".

People with goals succeed  
because they know  
where they're going.

~ Earl Nightingale

GREAT MINDS THINK FIT™

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## REPORT CARDS

Report Cards come home Friday, January 10. Please check them over carefully, and call with any questions. Your child's teacher will be happy to review any information with you.

Remember, a general guideline for the reporting scale on the report card for the academic indicators (4, 3, 2, 1) are generally as follows:

**4 – MASTERED:** The student consistently and independently meets the grade level standard and consistently understands and applies the concept/skill learned.

**3 - PROGRESSING:** The student independently meets the grade level standard, demonstrating secure understanding of the concept/skill and its application with a minimal number of errors.

**2 - BEGINNING:** The student demonstrates a basic understanding of the concept/skill, but application is inconsistent, and the student regularly needs support from the teacher.

**1 - OF CONCERN:** Limited or no understanding of the concept/skill taught, and requires substantial support from the teacher.

**N/A - NOT ASSESSED:** N/A or left blank indicates that the concept/skill has not been assessed at the current grading period.

### Attendance in December

During the month of December, we had 145 students receive their attendance charm for their story necklace. These students missed 0 or only 1 day of school for the month. Mrs. Winslow's class had the best attendance percentage for December, and her class has earned a pizza party! We encourage our kids to come ON TIME, EVERY DAY, but certainly understand the need to be absent when they are truly sick!

**ATTENDANCE** (from the American Academy of Pediatrics/  
[www.healthychildren.org](http://www.healthychildren.org))

Missing just two days a month of school—for any reason— can be a problem for kids. **Children who are chronically absent in Kdg. & 1st grade are less likely to read on grade level by 3rd grade.** For older students, being chronically absent is strongly associated with failing at school—even more than low grades or test scores. When absences add up, these students are more likely to be suspended & drop out of High School, and can be linked with teen substance abuse and poor health.



## In the Community

### **BOX TOPS**

This program is changing – information came home this week. Remember to download the Box Top app, and scan receipts to help our school!

### **CAPS TO PARK BENCHES**

We collect plastic caps and deliver them to the city office in Girard. Caps are being collected to recycle and turn into park benches!

### **PRAIRIE FARMS CODES**

Prairie Farms milk caps have codes on them that we can input into the computer for money for our school. Please send any Prairie Farms caps with your child. We need volunteers to help us input codes! Contact Michele Cimarossa for details!



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