

CLINTON SCHOOLS CELEBRATE READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

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Clinton Park teachers Nikki Beasley, Brooke Adams, Lindsay Smith and Erin Stephens



Clinton Park first grade students Mason Marie Fowler, Ava Montgomery, Cole Smith and Colton Stephens



Mrs. Stephens' first grade class at Clinton Park

By Emily-Kate Ford

Just ahead of spring break, elementary students and teachers from the Clinton Public School District (CPSD) celebrated literacy and Dr. Seuss by participating in Read Across America Week. This nationwide observance typically coincides with the birthday of Dr. Seuss on March 2. Seuss is known for writing children's books.

For CPSD students, the week consisted of fun activities, dress-up days, and guest readers via Zoom. The students also read different books throughout the week and enjoyed snacks that went along with the theme.

"It had to be a little different this year because of COVID-19," said Kelli Pope, Clinton Park Elementary School's principal. "We normally would have green eggs and ham for breakfast one day, but we could not do that this year, since we are not eating in the cafeteria." She also stated that celebrities from the community or parents would usually come to the campus and read, but all had to be done over Zoom this year.

Though they might not have gotten to eat green eggs or experience

in-person readings, the students still had many reasons to enjoy the fun-filled week. The schools' walls were decorated with different characters and themes from Dr. Seuss's books, and they got to dress up for a different theme each day. Even their schoolwork was adjusted for the week.

"Lots of their art and center activities focus on Dr. Seuss," Pope said. "The first graders are working on comprehensive passages and writing things that mimic the style of Dr. Seuss."

For the kids at Clinton Park, the district's kindergarten and first-grade school, Friday might have been the best day of all, when they threw a birthday party for Dr. Seuss and enjoyed cupcakes, party hats, and more.

According to kindergarten teacher Brooke Rodgers, the students cannot get enough of the special week.

"The kids just love this," she said. "It's one of my favorite weeks of the year, and I wish it were longer than a week!"

EDITOR'S NOTE: Emily-Kate Ford, a Mississippi College student, is an intern with The Clinton Courier.



Clinton Park students Amoure' Robinson, Marcus Brown, Luna Mazy, Asher Hudson and Tripp Thomason



Artina Genous, Clinton High School graduate and Mrs. Noble's sister, read to Mrs. Noble's fifth-grade class at Eastside. Also pictured are Gina Robinson, Claire Cohen and Thomas Smith.



Eastside students Suzanne Hoffman, Addie Cronin, Gloria Hopper, Jamilah Williams, Christopher Jones and Kyndall Stevens