The Koback report

(Sept. 28 – Oct. 16)

Welcome to the latest Koback Report that is loaded with INTENSE learning moments from the past few weeks! The students remain dedicated to their learning and with each new day we see students do more…achieve more…and believe more! And that is what we call…”Making An Impact!” I could only hope that every individual puts forth the exertion in their daily work as these 23 children put into their daily grind. Be proud mom and dad!!! Reminders: TONIGHT – GES Fall Frolic; TOMORROW – Boyertown Fall Festival @ Boyertown Community Park; Thursday, Oct. 29th Fall Fest Math Activity (Mrs. Williams will be in contact shortly with further details); Friday, Oct. 30th – Half-day for students and last day to order from October Scholastic Book Club. And now, I’d like to introduce to you…”The Top Ten Reasons Your Child Attended Mr. Koback’s Class this Week!”

10. Mrs. R, a representative from PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies), continues to visit our classroom each Thursday with the intent to teach the PATHS curriculum, which is designed to improve student behavior, reduce classroom disruptions, and increase academic engagement and achievement! The PATHS program is grounded in social and emotional learning as it helps students resolve conflicts peacefully, handle emotions positively, empathize, and make responsible decisions. Ask your child what they have learned from Mrs. R???

9. In Social Studies, the students continue to learn about the most metropolis area of our country…the Northeast Region! Your child should be able to name all of the states in the NE Region along with all the oceans and continents of our world! They should be able to tell you the importance of commerce and its value to our local economic growth! They should also be able to explain the importance of our abundant natural resources and the value of local quarries. Ask them about the Erie Canal and its importance to the NE Region??? Ask about the current season and foliage as well!

8. In Math, the students continued to explore rounding and estimation…they discussed what happens to a place value number as it moves left into higher place values. They also went on a quest to connect with suitable addition solving methods such as: adding with partial sums, adding with an open number line, or the traditional addition algorithm. They then used their prior knowledge to learn subtraction using the open number line and algorithm as well! Ask your child what strategy they liked best and for an extra treat…ask them to solve an addition problem and explain their solving using a place value chart…remember to take groups of tens to the next higher place value! If you forget…hop on our website and re-watch the math videos!!!

7. A huge THANK YOU goes out to our local Gilbertsville Fire Company and its volunteers!!! Last week was Fire Prevention week and we had some special visitors! In fact, one officer came to our room to teach and discuss the importance of fire safety and smarts! Did you change those smoke alarm batteries yet? Does your family have a meeting place outside the home? Most importantly, does your child know your home address and a parent phone number? If not, that’s homework for you all!

6. In Writing, your child continues to learn the difference between story writing and explosive moment writing!!! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! That’s what it sounds like during our writing session as students EXPLODE their moments! They attempt to take a moment out of their story and dig-deeper to explode that moment by detailing a second by second emotion, feeling, thought, or event to “hook” the reader within 15 seconds. They are learning to write the climax first and then build the story around it! If you want to read some explosive moments, please log onto [www.storybird.com](http://www.storybird.com) and read some of our students’ stories!!! I promise that you’ll read some pretty explosive terminology as well! BOOM! BOOM!

5. Kahoot! Don’t worry, no need to say “Bless you!”… I didn’t sneeze…I wrote…Kahoot! If your child didn’t share what Kahoot is with you yet, please ask them about this interactive fun way to assess their learning!!! And if you wanted to make your family game nights a bit more enjoyable, please check out the Kahoot website to design your own games!

4. R-E-S-P-E-C-T…The Respect Committee continues to meet every Friday during lunch to relax and enjoy one another’s company in the classroom!!! Ask your child if they attended the past few committee meetings? And if so, could they name the month of September’s Student of the Month???

3. The students had some very special visitors attend our morning math sessions and an afternoon ELA session…do you happen to know these exceptionally YOUNG at heart ☺ members of our society? Well, believe it or not…it may have been YOU!!! A huge THANK YOU goes out to all parents that were able to attend GES Parent Visitation Day!!! It was truly a pleasure to have all of you join our great learners and have an idea of what it would be like to be a 4th grader in Mr. Koback’s classroom!!! I hope you enjoyed your time with us…I know the students appreciated your visit!!!

2. Congratulations to Natalie Frey!!! She has earned the title of September Student of the Month!!! Voted upon by her peers, Survivor Series style, Natalie outlasted her competition by receiving the most classroom votes! Her leadership as a former Ms. Impact and her motivational personality inspired her classmates to excel her to a high-level of achievement! Congrats once again…be very proud of yourself and your dedication to learning!!!

And the number one reason…

1. To congratulate the following “Impact Students of the Week!”…Ms. Natalie Frey, Ms. Mary Ann Leshinskie, and Mr. Anthony Famularo!!! These students have EARNED the title of “Mr./Ms. Impact” due to the leadership qualities that they possess on a daily basis within our classroom and school. Natalie can usually be found searching through a thesaurus for the next best term to use in one of her many Storybird explosive moments. Mary Ann can be seen taking a cautious approach to her learning as she puts forth a lot of thought, especially into her writing pieces and in answering open-ended responses. Anthony is usually the only one that gets Mr. Koback’s corny jokes (and for that I am thankful), however he is just as witty when it comes to his dedication to learning, especially the time he takes to FOCUS and assure himself of his learning goals!

Ps…Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya…Austin Leahy!!!

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend!

Mr. Koback