Welcome to Chippewa Valley Schools!

Our Mission
Inspiring and empowering learners to achieve a lifetime of success

Our Vision
Setting the standard for educational excellence

Language Arts
In Language Arts we use Journeys, by HMH, which is a comprehensive, evidence-based K-5 literacy program.

Student log-in for Journeys:
www-k6.thinkcentral.com

Reading:
In kindergarten students will focus on the alphabet and its role in reading and writing. They will practice rhyming, matching words with beginning sounds, and blending sounds into words. Students will also learn to retell stories in sequence with key details and main ideas.

Writing:
Students will begin to experiment with writing and will be encouraged to use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing letters to share information, ideas, and feelings. They will learn to use a logical sequence and include details in their writing. Students will also learn about using capitalization and punctuation in their writing.

Speaking and Listening:
Students will participate in discussions by listening and taking turns. They will learn to speak audibly, ask questions, and express their ideas clearly.

You can help your child by...
- Reading with them every day
- Talking to them about their day at school
- Encouraging them to write letters or words or draw a picture about their day
- Playing word games and singing songs with them

Handwriting:
All students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade receive handwriting instruction using the program “Handwriting Without Tears.”
http://www.hwtears.com

Popular Books for Kindergarten
One of the most important things a parent can do to help their child is to instill a love of reading in them from a young age. There is a direct connection between the amount of reading children do and their achievement in school. Please take time every day to read to or with your child. Here are some great titles to get you started...

- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin
- Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- Who’s Looking at You? by Stephane Frattini
- Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden by George Levenson
- National Geographic Kids-Frogs! by Elizabeth Carney

http://www.goodreads.com

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” — Dr. Seuss

Clinton Macomb Public Library:
All CVS students have access to the Clinton Macomb Public Library’s online resources! You can download e-books, use research links and access great educational websites like http://kids.mel.org/

Visit www.cmpl.org and enter your student’s Chippewa Valley ID number as the username and the last 4 digits of your phone number as the password.
Science is a way of understanding the world and a pattern of thinking that begins in the very early years. Students will begin developing science and engineering skills by learning to ask questions, using models, planning and carrying out investigations, and analyzing data. Students will be encouraged to obtain, evaluate and communicate their findings orally as they make claims, find evidence to support their claims, and support this with scientific reasoning.

Observation with Senses
Students will:
• Make purposeful observation of the natural world using the appropriate senses

Pushes and Pulls
Students will:
• Describe the location of an object in relationship to another object
• Demonstrate the differences between a push and a pull
• Demonstrate how a push/pull can change the speed and/or direction of an object

Living and Nonliving Things
Students will:
• Sort nonliving and living things
• Describe survival needs of living things
• Describe how plants grow in soil and how they need water/air to grow and survive
• Describe how animals need water/air to grow and survive, and how they need plants for food energy

Chippewa Valley Schools uses **Bridges in Mathematics**, a K–5 math program that will help us meet the new standards and make math meaningful and exciting. In kindergarten, students focus on whole numbers and shapes.

Throughout the year, students will:
• Count and compare numbers to 100, with a special focus on numbers to 20
• Think about joining and separating situations as addition and subtraction
• Sort, compare, and draw shapes
• Combine shapes to make other shapes and complete puzzles

When you are helping your child, the math might sometimes seem unfamiliar or different than you remember, but there are many ways you can help!
• Invite your child to talk about math by asking questions like, “Did you do a problem like this at school? How did you think about it?”
• Focus on the pictures. Bridges uses visual models to make mathematics accessible to all learners. Talking about the pictures is a great way to get started.
• Ask questions like, “What do you notice about this picture? Where do you see the numbers in this picture? Can we use the picture to help solve the problem?”

Get more information and ideas about how to help your child by visiting the websites:

www.chippewavalleyschools.org, click Academics, click Curriculum, click Elementary Math-Bridges
www.mathlearningcenter.org/families/bridges2 click Kindergarten

By being open to learning and talking with your child, you can help your child develop strong skills and a love of math.