



Balloons Over Vermilion Host Students Design A Balloon Project

For Immediate Release

Contact: Event co-chairs: Pat O'Shaughnessy - 217-260-6716 or 217-442-0510 or Jim Anderson - 217-304-3032 or Marketing chair Cassie Keister - 217-474-7770.

April 10, 2017

When Mrs. Jessica Alyea's Northeast Magnet School's 3rd graders were invited to be the host class for Balloons Over Vermilion 2017, they learned that hot air balloons have fairly unique designs and that each balloon has a name. They were also told by event co-chair Pat O'Shaughnessy that one of their tasks as a host class would be to assist with the creation of a poster to promote the event.

On Friday, April 7th, Pat returned to the classroom and told them it was time to get started. They were asked to imagine that they are hot air balloon pilots. And just like every other hot air balloon pilot they would need to design their balloon and give it a name. A short narrative of a couple of sentences giving the name of their balloon and how they came up with it will accompany their creation. Pictures of balloons were explored and the multitude of patterns and possibilities were discussed. The weekend homework assignment was for the children to think about what they wanted their balloon to look like and what they wanted to name it. They were encouraged to enlist their parents help to research balloon pictures for their own project.

On Monday and Tuesday, April 10th and 11th from 1:30 – 2:15 the kids will be creating their balloons as a class project.

After all the individual balloons are designed they will be combined into an image by Jeff Summers of Media One Visual Arts to promote the festival. The projects and poster will be put on display closer to the event date.

Balloons Over Vermilion will take place July 14 and 15, 2017 at the Vermilion Regional Airport in Danville, IL. It will feature over 30 hot air balloons in mass ascensions, community flights, airport fly-ins and spectacular nightly balloon glows. For more information go to Balloonsoververmilion.com or contact: event co-chairs: Pat O'Shaughnessy - 217-260-6716 or 217-442-0510, Jim Anderson - 217- 304-3032 or marketing chair Cassie Keister - 217-474-7770.

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