



Nate Mack Elementary School

NOVEMBER 2014

Nate Mack Elementary Newsletter

PAGE 1

Message from the Principal

Happy November! This is a short month that is broken up by a number of non-school days and holidays. It is a great time for family and friends to catch up and spend time together. Your child will benefit academically if you continue to focus on learning by discussing what goes on at school and monitoring homework. Teachers will send home progress reports on Friday, November 14, but please remember that you can get up-to-the-moment information on your child's progress at any time by logging on to the Parent Portal from your computer or smartphone. We will be scheduling parent-teacher conferences for all families next month and we look forward to reviewing your child's progress and setting goals for their individual growth.



November is also a great month to slow down and give thanks for all of the important things that make our school community a great place to work and learn. Thank you to all of our Nate Mack families who volunteer at school and support their children's learning from home. Because of our work together, Nate Mack Elementary School is a safe place where students are growing socially and academically, every day!

Mrs. Heavey

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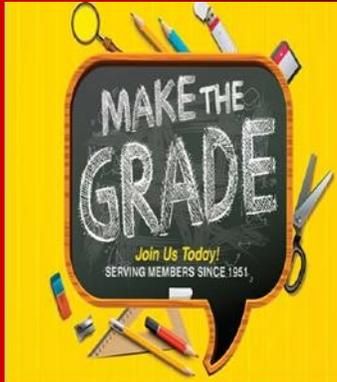
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American Share Insurance insures each account up to \$250,000. By members' choice this institution is not federally insured.

Mountain Lion of the Month

We would like to acknowledge our October Mountain Lion of the Month winners. Students who exemplify the Life Skills are chosen by their classroom teachers and/or peers to represent their class for this monthly incentive. A shout out to McDonalds located on Green Valley Parkway for providing lunches for our monthly winners! You can show your appreciation by patronizing this location. Congratulations to the following students for the month of October:

Mrs. Andersen: Mia Marroquin Franco
 Ms. Delzeit: Chance Scott
 Mrs. Giunta/Lederer: Brenan Behm
 Mrs. Leggett: Yazmine Moreno



Mrs. Baugh: Raydon Michaels
 Mrs. Cooke: Anthony Delgado
 Mrs. Reifenheiser: Gavin Hanisko
 Mrs. Swank: Cy Adams
 Mrs. Swatch: Joe Philavanh



Mrs. Austin: Brooklyn Koressel
 Mrs. Chumakov: Brianna Saucedo
 Mr. Garretson: Mathan Villanueva
 Mrs. Musa: Sophia Demelo
 Mrs. Peña: Piper Carver-Coons



Mrs. Haney: Brian Horner
 Ms. Juliano: Rykin Martin
 Mrs. LoBue: Ryan Taack
 Mrs. Wright: Ella Drakulich



Mr. Hayden: Hunter Navage
 Mrs. Hinton: AJ Hutchinson
 Mrs. Rozgay-Miller: Anna Koss



Mrs. Colbrook: Breanna Rivas-Valle
 Mrs. Marsh: Amanda Flowers



Kindergarten News

November is a short month for us here at Mack, which means we will be working extra hard to fit all of our learning into an already packed schedule! Here are some things we will be focusing on in the month of November:



Language Arts and Writing:

Kindergartners will continue working on becoming independent writers. Our focus this month for writing instruction will be in the area of opinion writing. Students will work on the kindergarten standard W.K.1. Students will be asked to form an opinion about a topic (ex: What is your favorite book?) and write about it. You can help at home by encouraging your child to clearly articulate what they want to write before they begin writing, and have them sound out the words that they want to spell, rather than spelling for them. For example, "apple" may be spelled "apl" which is appropriate for this time of year in kindergarten. If your child has not yet been able to identify all letters and letter sounds of the alphabet, we will continue working on this standard as well.

Math:

Kindergarten students are continuing to review two and three dimensional shapes. We will also be working on larger numbers (11-20). Students should be able to write numbers 0-20, match objects to the correct numeral, and find numbers that come before and after that number.

Science/Social Studies:

In Social studies, we will be learning about Thanksgiving and the significance that it plays in our lives today. We will also continue working on our lifeskills here at Nate Mack. The lifeskills for November are: effort and friendship. In Science, we will continue to focus on seasonal changes and patterns in the environment.

Reading:

We are super excited to see our little readers grow! Many students in Kindergarten are beginning to decode simple cvc words (consonant-vowel-consonant) in their emergent reader books. Throughout the month of November we will encourage students to use their knowledge of letter-sound correspondences to read simple words (ex: bus, cat). Our whole-group reading instruction will focus on making meaning of what the student is listening to. For example, students will be asked to identifying the setting, characters and main idea of the book. We will also compare and contrast stories while reading a variety of texts (poems, storybooks, magazines, etc.).

Thank you for supporting our Kindergarten classes each day! We ask that each parent/guardian review their child's homework with them and check for important notes that go home in their homework folders. In addition, our class websites are constantly being updated so be sure to check back often for important information!

First Grade News

The first grade team is excited to announce that in the month of November all the first graders will be working on the Thanksgiving Play. The performance will take place on the 26th of November at 9:00 a.m. in the MPR room. All parents and family members are invited to come enjoy the play. We hope to see everyone there!

Also, all of first grade will be going on a field trip to the Nevada Heritage Museum on December 3rd. The museum features a modern exhibit hall with a timeline exhibit about southern Nevada from pre-historic to modern times and a collection of restored historic buildings that depict daily life from different decades in Las Vegas and Henderson. Please make sure to turn in all the required forms, i.e. permission slip along with \$4.00 so your child is able to attend.

First Grade team,

Mrs. Baugh
Mrs. Cooke
Mrs. Reifenheiser
Mrs. Swank
Mrs. Swatch

Second Grade News

Currently, second graders are working on their nocturnal animal reports and projects. Everyone chose an animal and has been researching to find all the facts they need for a well-done report. We will continue this project for the next few weeks as we go through the entire writing process. Students are learning how to conduct research, take notes, and write an informational essay.



In math, we have been learning various place value skills from regrouping (bundling) to skip counting, writing number words, and expanded notation. During the next couple of weeks, students will take the early place value concepts they've learned and apply them to adding and subtracting with regrouping.

Second grade has been focusing on strategies for locating and using key details in both fiction and nonfiction text. They have been practicing their new skills in various ways and with various texts such as Scholastic News articles.

If you have any questions about what your second grader is doing this month, please contact their teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Austin
Mrs. Chumakov
Mr. Garretson
Mrs. Musa
Mrs. Peña

Third Grade News



The third graders have been working hard in reading and language arts to understand how stories, plays, and poems are structured. They have also been working on their language skills using plural nouns, abstract nouns, pronouns, and verbs correctly in their writing. The students just published their second piece of narrative writing. *Time For Kids* has been a wonderful resource for social studies and informational reading.

In science, the students have been studying and participating in hands-on investigations with rocks and minerals. They have compared, tested, measured, and recorded data in a science notebook.

Our math focus this month has been measurement focusing on grams, kilograms, milliliters, and liters. The students have measured mass and volume, and solved word problems using liquid volume and mass.

Third graders enjoyed the harvest festival and we thank all of our parents who donated items for our baskets, and who donated their time helping in our booths. The Halloween Parade was amazing. The students really enjoyed the day wearing their costumes. We're looking forward to our next buddy breakfast and our field trip to the Springs Preserve.

Please continue to support your children with their nightly homework. Most of our students are utilizing ScootPad and enjoying the experience using the computer.

Third Grade Team,

Mrs. Haney
Ms. Juliano
Mrs. LoBue
Mrs. Wright

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Fourth Grade News

The fourth grade students continue to work on Fictional Narratives in writing. They are using sensory details, transition words and practicing the writing process to become a more efficient writer. In the next few weeks, we will transition over to Expository Writing and Science. We will be experimenting with electricity and magnetism.



Students recently finished their first Reader's Theatre. We performed a piece about the history of Nevada Day in which each student had a speaking part. We learned about the complex series of events that eventually led to Nevada's statehood being granted on October 31, 1864.

In our book clubs, we have been discussing initiating conflict, climax and resolution as part of plot. Students are reading to the end of the book so we can discuss it. We will be talking about theme as well. In November, we will read several more books in book clubs and students will be in different groups. We will be able to complete reading and projects at a much faster rate now that students understand what is expected in 4th grade reading.

In math, the students are continuing to work on the power of 10s and are going to make a model of place value using cups. The cups will show that for each place value to the left, it is increased by 10.

Fourth Grade Team,

Mr. Hayden
Mrs. Hinton
Mrs. Rozgay-Miller

Fifth Grade News

Fifth grade had a busy October with movie night, snack sales, a parking lot sale, and Harvest Festival. Parents, thank you for your contributions of time, supplies, money, and support. We couldn't do it without you!

Families should be on the lookout for Cookie Dough packets to come home soon. This is a great way to raise some money for your individual student's SeaWorld trip.

Fifth graders have continued their hard work in all subject areas. In writing, students are working on fictional narratives. Some students chose to write fantasy while other stayed in the realm of realistic fiction. In reading, students are finishing novel groups. They are continuing to analyze stories for the story elements and identify figurative language. In math, students just took their first major test where nearly half the students earned As and Bs. Great job, fifth graders!

Fifth Grade Team,

Mrs. Castleberry
Mrs. Colbrook
Mrs. Marsh

Primary Autism News

Fall is in the air in room 4. We are having fun learning about the change of seasons, including how things grow and change and the holidays that take place in fall. We will be thinking, discussing and writing about what we are thankful for this month. We are working on first and second grade standards in reading, writing and math, but most of all, we are learning how to be better students. Every day we review how to get along with others by sharing, taking turns and being patient. We continue to review and practice good listening skills and speaking respectfully to others. We are excited to have so many extra days with our families this month. We hope to be able to practice our reading and other academic skills, as well as our social skills, while we are at home and spending time with our friends and families.

From all of us in room 4... we hope you have a thankful Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Pleggenkuhle
Mrs. Rowe-Maramaldi
Ms. Aronsky

Pre-K/Kids News

We can't believe November is already here! The fall weather is finally upon us and we are going to start talking turkey! We will be learning all about fall weather, turkeys, Thanksgiving, and of course, food! We will be having another awesome Parent/Family Involvement Day on Friday, November 21st. We will be sending home details soon.

Mrs. Herrald
Ms. Horne
Mr. Thomson



Resource News

The Primary and Intermediate Resource teachers would like to encourage their students to read daily, including on weekends and over holiday breaks. Students in the resource programs continue to work on a combination of their IEP goals and Common Core Standards.

Tips from Primary Resource:

1. Fun Ideas for Sight Word Work
2. Sky Writing - spell the words in the air.
3. Chalk - write on a mini chalkboard, on the sidewalk, or on the driveway.
4. Hands On - use Wiki Stix or Play Dough as a fun way to spell words.
5. Finger Writing - write the words using your finger in sand, fingerpaint, or shaving cream.

Intermediate Resource's Theme: "Around the World in 180 Days". So far, we have read the following books in class: Deep in the Ocean, Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Tsunamis, focused on key ideas and supporting details. We are currently reading The Hollow, focusing on the setting: where and when the story takes place.

As cold and flu season gets underway, the resource programs would like to remind parents that we will happily accept donations of tissues, hand sanitizer, and hand wipes. Thank you!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. We are thankful every day for all our hard working students!

Mrs. Cowley
Mrs. Lopez

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Specialist News

Do you like *prizes? Ribbons? Awards? Raffles??* The Nate Mack Turkey Trot, hosted by your Specialist: Gate, Art, PE, Music, & Library, will be held on Friday, November 21, 2014. Students will be participating in Turkey Trot activities & fund run during their class specials. Students will have an opportunity to collect donations for Specialist school supplies, while having fun and exercising!

- “Turkey Tango” with Ms. Minger
- Turkey Trouble with Mrs. Overlien & Mrs. Harris
- Headbands/running cards with Mrs. Hermann
- Turkey Trot laps with Coach Spencer & Mrs. Leah
- Concession sales with Mrs. Bichsel

Please keep an eye out for more information and a donation envelope.

Thank you for continuing to support your Specialist!

Nate Mack Library Newsflash!

Students in 3rd through 5th grade will be putting the Encyclopedias to good use...they will be reviewing how to use reference books in preparation for doing research. Your child can also use an online encyclopedia such as World Book Encyclopedia: <http://worldbookonline.com>. The username is ccsd2 and the password is ccsd2.

The first Accelerated Reader Event will be November 18th at 10:30 am. Students need to have their AR points by November 17th. Pumpkin pie with whipped cream OR apple slices with caramel dip will be available plus a really cool reading bracelet for each student to keep. The following points for each grade level is as follows:

- 1st grade – 3 points
- 2nd grade – 5 points
- 3rd grade – 15 points
- 4th grade – 30 points
- 5th grade – 50 points

A huge thank you to all the students and parents who made our Book Fair a success! We grossed \$7000.00 and netted a profit of \$1900.00 for the school use to purchase new books.

The library is open every Monday Wednesday and Friday for students to complete AR quizzes. Early bird hours start at 7:40 and end at 2:30 on these three days.

Any questions, please call Mrs. Overlien, the librarian at 702-799-7760 X4026 or aoverlien@interact.ccsd.net.

Art News



All grades participated in the school wide year book contests this year's theme is: **Focus**.

Stay focused, be focused, focus on your goals, success, future, dreams, focus on life skills, target, etc.

Most classes drew shape bodies, focusing on proportions and realistic anatomy.

Enduring Idea: Nature

Mrs. Hermann

Counselor's Corner

Magnet Schools

It is time once again for 5th Grade students interested in attending a magnet middle school to submit applications to any of the schools which they might be interested in attending. Students will be receiving more information on the various magnet schools in the upcoming weeks. The deadline for submitting applications is Jan. 8, 2015 at 3:00 PM. Applications must be in the office of the respective schools by the deadline date and time in order for the application to be considered so submit them early.

The Magnet School Programs include:

1. Academy of Math, Science and Technology at Jim Bridger Middle School
799-7185 <http://magnet.ccsd.net/middle/bridger.html>
2. International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program at Roy Martin Middle School
799-7922 <http://magnet.ccsd.net/middle/martin.htm>
3. Academy of Science and Mathematics at Hyde Park Middle School 799-4260
<http://magnet.ccsd.net/middle/hyde.html>
4. Academy of Creative Arts, Language and Technology at K.O. Knudson Middle School 799-7470 <http://www.ccsd.net/schools/knudson/> James Cashman Middle School Academy of Engineering Studies at James Cashman Middle School 799-5880 <http://ccsd.net/schools/cashman/>
5. Robert O. Gibson Middle School Dual Language Immersion Magnet School at Robert O. Gibson Middle School 799-4700 <http://www.gibsonreaders.com/school/>
6. Kenny C. Guinn Middle School Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics at Kenny C. Guinn Middle School 799-5900
7. Academy of International Studies at Walter Johnson Junior High School 799-4480
8. Academy for the Performing Arts at Thurman White Middle School 799-0777

Applications may be done online at: <http://magnetapp.ccsd.net>

For more information on the various programs, you may contact the school directly or you may call the Counselor, Ms. Joyce, at Nate Mack, (702) 799-7760.

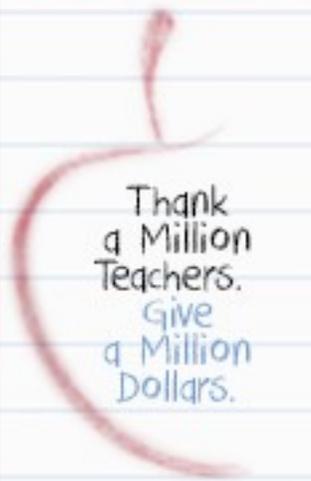


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Nate Mack Recycling Company

“Where EVERY Day is Earth Day!”

3rd Grade GATE

We recycle:

- plastic bottles
- aluminum cans
- newspapers
- magazines
- cardboard
- e-waste (old laptops, cell phones, digital cameras, etc.)



Open Dailey

No Glass Please!

20 recyclables = 1 MM

Reminder: Please have bags CLEARLY labeled with student’s name and teacher’s name to receive class credit and Mack Money.

N.M.R.C. Recycling Contest

Congratulations October Winners!

Kinder	Mrs. Leggett	200 recyclables
1 st Grade	Ms. Swank	1,921 recyclables
2 nd Grade	Mrs. Austin	860 recyclables
3 rd Grade	Mrs. LoBue	1,052 recyclables
4 th Grade	Mrs. Hinton	2,840 recyclables
5 th Grade	Mrs. Castleberry	623 recyclables

Entered into the year-end pizza party drawing!

Monthly Prizes:

1st Place 20 MM Class Check

2nd Place 15 MM Class Check

3rd Place 10 MM Class Check

TOP recycling class will earn a year-end class pizza party!

Total School Recycling to date: 18,028 recyclables!

Nate Mack Pony Express

“The Mail MUST Go Through!”
4th Grade GATE

Writing supplies for Sale:

- Envelopes 2MM
- Stationary 2MM
- Pencils 1MM
- Erasers 1&2MM
- Stamps 1MM

Open Dailey

Students, teachers, parents, and staff are encouraged to use the Nate Mack Pony Express! Supplies are on sale at the Nate Mack Pony Express Home Station, located in room 38. Donations of writing supplies are greatly appreciated!



The Nate Mack Pony Express Riders working at the Home Station, selling mail supplies to customers

The Nate Mack Pony Express Most Mail Contest

Congratulations October Winners!

1 st Place	Mr. Garretson’s class	216 letters
2 nd Place	Mrs. Austin’s class	143 letters
3 rd Place	Mrs. Musa’s class	122 letters

Monthly Prizes:

- 1st Place 20 MM Class Check
- 2nd Place 15 MM Class Check
- 3rd Place 10 MM Class Check

Top letter-writing class will earn a year-end class pizza party!

Total School Mail to date: 1,001 letters

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Mountain Lion Monthly

5th Grade GATE

Mountain Lion Monthly Editions:

- Back to School Edition '14
- Holiday Edition '14
- Valentine Edition '15
- Spring Edition '15
- Summer Edition '15



Be sure to get your copy!

Mountain Lion Monthly Back to School Edition '14 in newsstands now! (Nate Mack Front Office and News Room 38) Don't forget to pick up your copy today!

We are currently looking for sponsors/advertisers for our *next edition: Holiday Edition '14*. Please contact Mrs. Bichsel at PLB428@interact.ccsd.net or (702) 799-7760 ext. 4088 or a *Mountain Lion Monthly* staff member.

Nate Mack Student Council

Mrs. Bichsel, Mrs. Marsh and Mrs. Reifenheiser, Advisors

Nate Mack Student Council meetings:
 Officers: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays
 Class Representatives: every 3rd Wednesday
Congratulations winners of spirit day for October!

“Black and Orange Day”

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Pre-K | Mr. Thomson\ |
| Kindergarten | Mrs. Giunta/Lederer |
| 1 st Grade | Mrs. Baugh\ |
| 2 nd Grade | Mrs. Austin |
| 3 rd Grade | Mrs. Wright |
| 4 th Grade | Mr. Hayden |
| 5 th Grade | Mrs. Castleberry |

Prize—20 MM Class Check



Nate Mack Student Council Officers show their school spirit for Orange and Black Day!



Nate Mack Student Council Officers and Reps hard at work selling “Boo Grams”, their first fundraiser and student service

Nate Mack Spirit Squad

Mrs. Bichsel, Cheer Coach
Mrs. Colbrook, Dance Coach

2014-2015 Practice Schedule

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 2:15-3:00pm, MP Room

2014-2015 Performance Schedule

GVHS Homecoming Parade	Friday, October 17 th	<i>completed</i>
Harvest Festival	Friday, October 24 th	<i>completed</i>
Nevada Day Parade	Friday, October 31 st	<i>canceled</i>
Glow Run and Carnival	Friday, March 13 th	6pm
St. Patrick's Day Parade	Saturday, March 14 th	10am
Test Pep Rally	Friday, March 27 th	1pm
Henderson Heritage Parade	Saturday, April 25 th	10am
Annual Cheer Competition	Saturday, May 2 nd	10am
Harvest Festival Performance		

Be sure to come on out and support our Nate Mack Spirit Squad!

We have a FULL roster at this time! If your daughter is interested in joining, you can email Mrs. Bichsel at PLB428@interact.ccsd.net for her to be placed on the waiting list.

Go Mountain Lions!



GATE Happenings

Mrs. Bichsel

www.teacherweb.com/NV/NateMackES/BichselsBrainiacs

3rd Grade GATE

Theme: "Our Environment and Me"

Unit: "What Makes Me Unique?"

Focus question: "How does using a specific thought process or way of thinking order out thinking?"



We had our kick-off for the national "Carbon Contest" with Ms. Jennifer Bauer from Caesar's Properties. We have been selected to represent Nevada!

4th Grade GATE

Theme: "Nevada, My Home"

Unit: "What Makes Me Unique?"

Focus question: "How do learning styles affect our interdependence with the way we live and interact with others?"

Currently, we are working with partners at different Multiple Intelligences Stations: Verbal Linguistic, Bodily Kinesthetic, Interpersonal, Intrapersonal, Musical, Logical/ Mathematical, Naturalistic, and Spatial



5th Grade GATE

Theme: "Discovery"

Unit: "What Makes Me Unique?"

Focus question: "How can we balance strategies for learning and remembering to these preferences so that they will work interdependently?"



We are working with Luke Anderson, author of the Hockey Penguin series, in hopes of becoming published authors. Our book will be sold on amazon.com.

Buddy Bison Carbon Reduction Contest



Dear GR8 G8 Parents,

Over the next 3 months, in partnership with National Park Trust (NPT), a non-profit organization and our local Caesars properties, our third grade GATE class will participate in the first Buddy Bison Carbon Reduction Contest. Buddy Bison is NPT's pint-sized wooly mascot, who encourages kids to be "green". They will be taking steps to protect our environment by reducing their "carbon footprint." The purpose of the program is to teach Nate Mack students about conservation, sustainability and environmental stewardship by focusing on what they can do as a group and as individuals to reduce their waste production and energy consumption. We want them to learn that *it is easy to be green!*

Our 3rd grade GATE class will be competing against 4 other schools located in other parts of the country. Because this is a contest, not only will the students learn about conservation, they will also have the opportunity to "win" a park scholarship so that our GATE'rs can travel to a local park. And the BIG PRIZE is to earn a trip to a national park!

Most of these actions items that they will take at school would also apply at home. In fact students can earn extra bonus points for each item that they do at home too! The attached document outlines the action items that will be addressed this fall.

If you would like to follow along with our efforts, please check out our page "Carbon Contest, 3rd grade GATE on our GATE website: www.teacherweb.com/NV/NateMackES/BichselsBrainiacs

And you can certainly help us at home, please ask your child how you can help. Questions?

Please email: PLB428@interact.ccsd.net or call: (702) 799-7760 ext. 4088.

Thank you for your continued support of our GATE program and now our participation in this national contest!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bichsel
Nate Mack Recycling Company
"Where EVERY Day is Earth Day!"

A Look Ahead

Nov. 10-11(Mon-Tue)	Veteran's Day (observed – no school)
Nov. 14 (Fri)	3 rd Grade Movie Night
Nov. 18 (Tue)	Picture Make-ups or Re-takes
Nov. 21 (Fri)	Parent Involvement Day for Pre-K programs
Nov. 21 (Fri)	Turkey Trot Fund-Run for Specialists
Nov. 26 (Wed)	Crystal Palace Skate night for Nate Mack 6:30-9:30 pm
Nov. 27-28 (Thu-Fri)	Family Day and Thanksgiving (no school)
Dec. 1-5	Inclusive Schools Week –“Inclusive Education: One School Community”
Dec. 3 (Wed)	PTO Meeting 2:30 pm

Veteran's Day

World War I, known at the times as The Great War, officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seen months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918 is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.” An Act approved on May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November a legal holiday – a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day. Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines, and airmen in the Nation's history, the Act of 1938 was amended by striking out the “Armistice” and inserting in its place the word “Veterans.” With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Thanksgiving Day

Following the Mayflower's arrival at Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620, the Pilgrims suffered the loss of 46 of their original 102 colonists. With the help of 91 Native Americans, the remaining Pilgrims survived the bitter winter and went on to a bountiful harvest in 121. In celebration, a traditional English harvest festival lasting three days brought the Pilgrims and Native Americans to unite in a “thanksgiving” observance. George Washington proclaimed this event a national holiday in 1789, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving to be the last Thursday in November in 1863, and Congress sanctioned it as a legal holiday in 1941.

