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NEWSLETTER FOR BRADY HENDERSON, JACKSON MILLER, SOUTHSIDE AND STANDING STONE SCHOOLS

LANGUAGE IN MOTION

*by Patty Morningstar, First Grade
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Students at Southside were treated to a Reader's Day on January 28. Guests from Juniata College's Language in Motion program read in every classroom. First graders heard familiar tales in German, Spanish and Japanese. Our reader shared Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, and, much to our surprise, began to read by opening the back of the book and read from right to left! She explained that is how books are read in Japanese. The boys and girls could understand the story since it was familiar and they could follow the pictures. After reading, she told the boys and girls that first graders in Japan have 100 characters to learn to recognize and write. Students learn more each year in school until they have learned about 2,000 when they graduate high school, which is enough to read a Japanese newspaper. Students who go on to be doctors or other professionals must learn even more characters. She passed around samples of the characters that first graders must learn. The symbol for school looked like a boy under a roof. She shared her knowledge of the Japanese language and her love of reading and learning with us. Thank you, Language in Motion, for an outstanding Reader's Day!