



CRUSADER CHRONICLE

December 2011

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

December chill is definitely in the air! The children will be allowed into the building at 7:50 A.M. on days when the air temperature or the wind chill is below twenty (20) degrees. They will also not be allowed out for recess on those days. Please encourage your children to wear a hat, gloves, and closed toed shoes with socks; although stylish, it is a little chilly for flip flops, and our only concern is your child's well being.



Thank you to all who donated food for the Student Council food drive. Many needy families enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast because of your kindheartedness and generosity.

Mark your calendars: Friday, December 23rd, is a **1/2 day of school**, so the children will be dismissed at 11:10 am.

I hope you have a safe and fun filled Winter Break. Happy Holidays!

Mrs. Greene

Nurse's News

Now that the weather is turning cold, we are reminded about the world's most common illness, the common cold. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, there are more than 100 different viruses that can cause symptoms of the common cold. In the United States, most people average about 3 colds per year. Once the cold virus enters the body through the nose or throat it begins to multiply, causing any number of symptoms such as sore throat, sneezing, runny nose, watery eyes, aches and pains, mild fever, nasal congestion and coughing. In a nutshell, the best way to stop the spread of germs is to:



- * Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- * Cough into a tissue, the sleeve of your shirt, or your elbow, to reduce the spread of germs
- * Clean your hands often by hand washing with soap and water
- * Alcohol-based disposable hand wipes or gel sanitizers may be used
- * Role model for your children healthy habits

Upcoming Hot Lunches

- > 12/2 Barraco's
- > 12/5 Domino's
- > 12/9 Let's Do Lunch
- > 12/12 Salina's
- > 12/16 Culver's
- > 12/19 Domino's

Important Dates

- > 12/2 PTO Santa Secret Shop & Book Fair 6:00-8:30 pm
- > 12/6 Student Council Meeting 2:35-3:15
- > 12/15 Popcorn Day
- > 12/22 Classroom Holiday Parties 1:00
- > 12/23 11:10 Dismissal
- > 12/26-1/9 Winter Break

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

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Nurse's News (con't.)

Please observe your child for symptoms of illness. It may be in the best interest of your child and others to keep your student home from school while he or she has symptoms of illness. Your child should be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medicines before returning to school. Take notice of how frequently your child is coughing; it may be best to stay home until the coughing is not as frequent. All of these measures will aid in promoting a healthy school year. Please call school in the morning to report the absence. As we approach the New Year, please remember to keep the office updated with all emergency contact information. It is vital that the school has current home, cell phone and work phone numbers for parents and all emergency contacts.



LEARNING CENTER NEWS

Thank you to the following students for donating books to the library for their November birthday!!

- 10/29 Ayden Maza 3-1 Guinness World Records 2012
- 11/2 Courtney Cregg 5-2 Wonder Stuck
- 11/6 Grace Boblak 1-3 Bailey
- 11/7 Erin Kennedy 4-3 The Gingerbread Man Loose in School
- 11/11 Allison Stanton 1-1 Look at Lucy & I Believe in You
- 11/11 Hannah Lipski 2-2 Ms. Hannah is Bananas!
Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves
- 11/16 Andrez Pawinski K-1 If You Give a Dog a Donut



Student Council News

A warm-hearted thank you goes out to all of those who contributed to our “Holiday Bag-a-Meal” Project. Over 225 students ($\frac{2}{3}$ of Keller) donated 35+ large boxes of food this year. Student Council was able to put together several packages for our Keller community. The meals were very much appreciated.



December 5th – 9th - Hat/Mitten/Scarf Drive

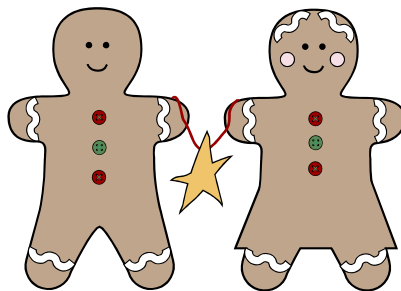
With the cold weather upon us, we will be collecting **NEW** hats, mittens/gloves, and scarves. Items may be any size and color. These items will be donated to a local charity. Children making a donation will earn a mitten charm.

December 19th – 23rd - Spirit Week

Student Council is planning a Spirit Week for the week of December 19th-23rd. More information will be coming home shortly.



Don't forget... if you are running low or need new school supplies, shop at our Student Store on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We greatly appreciate your support!





MUSICAL NOTES FROM MRS. KEOGH



Activate! Calendar Connections

Dear Families,

Happy holidays! This month, we celebrate the birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven. Considered one of the greatest composers of all time, his music is still as fresh and enticing as when it was written. You and your young musician should know his music well. This month, we invite you to get to know Beethoven even better through a series of wonderful online articles found at the Classics for Kids website. Follow the suggested presentation or listen to the shows you want, when you want. If you search "Beethoven" on the Internet, you will find numerous websites featuring his biography and clips of his major works.



DECEMBER

27	28	29	30	1 	2 Britney Spears's birthday (1981)	3 International Day of Disabled Persons
4 	5 	6 St. Nicholas Day	7 	8	9 	10 The first Grande Ole Opry radio broadcast took place in Nashville, Tennessee in 1927
11 Frank Sinatra's birthday (1915)	12 	13 Violin Day	14 In 1911, Roald Amundsen and his team were the first to reach the South Pole	15 The Bill of Rights was passed in 1791	16 Ludwig van Beethoven's birthday (1770) 	17 Nat Wolff's birthday (1994)
18 Bake Cookies Day 	19	20 Go Caroling Day	21 First full day of Hanukkah 	22 Giacomo Puccini's birthday (1858); winter solstice	23	24
25 Christmas Day 	26 Kwanzaa begins 	27 National Fruitcake Day 	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 

- If you have very young children, go to www.starfall.com/n/artmusic/beethoven/load.htm?f to view a short presentation about Beethoven that is designed for beginning readers.
- Go to www.classicsforkids.com/composers/bio.asp?id=4 to read Beethoven's biography and hear the famous *Symphony No. 5*.
- Go to www.classicsforkids.com/shows/showdesc.asp?id=58 to learn about the piano and how it changed during Beethoven's lifetime.
- Go to www.classicsforkids.com/shows/showdesc.asp?id=96 to learn about Beethoven's symphonies.
- Go to www.classicsforkids.com/shows/showdesc.asp?id=172 to hear some interesting and amusing ways that Beethoven's music has been used over the years, as well as some of the well-known Beethoven jokes.

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In the mist of the Holiday Season, check out other Classical Programs featured this month.

Go to www.classicsforkids.com.

Click composers, then Georges Bizet, then Hear the Music (Biography of Bizet). Click back to View past classics for kids shows about Bizet, scroll down to 3. Jewish Composers (for Chanukah) and then scroll down to 4. Christmas Carols in Classical Music.

Enjoy, Mrs. Keogh