



CRUSADER CHRONICLE

February 2012

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Brrr, February! It is hard to believe the year is already half over.

Please remember to dress your child with warm clothes. They do go outside if the temperature is above 20°. Also, please remember at 7:50 the horse goes up on the blacktop which is a reminder that you may not drop off your child in the back of the building. Please pull around to the front of the building and drop you child off there. At the end of the day when you pick your child up, please do not park in the bus lane in the front of the building. You may park on Everdon Avenue or in a parking spot in the lot.

Thank you for your understanding. We want to keep your children safe at all times. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call me.

Mrs. Greene



Nurse's News



February is Dental Health month. Parents are encouraged to take the time to observe how your child brushes his or her teeth. Also notice the condition of your child's toothbrush. It may be time to replace the worn toothbrushes. According to the Illinois State Dental society, sodas and sugar filled drinks are loaded with empty calories. When sugar in soft drinks combines with the bacteria in our mouth, acid forms. Diet soda isn't safe either. It contains its own acid. The more our teeth are exposed to acid, the greater the risk of damage to our teeth. The acid in sodas eats away at our tooth enamel and we may then develop cavities. A trip to the dentist becomes necessary. Soft drinks will also stain our teeth with artificial coloring. Look in the refrigerator and pantry to identify foods that promote dental decay. We are all encouraged to brush our teeth at least twice a day with fluoride toothpaste. Protect your child's beautiful smile!

Upcoming Hot Lunches

- > 2/3 Let's Do Lunch
- > 2/6 Domino's
- > 2/10 McDonald's
- > 2/13 Let's Do Lunch
- > 2/17 Salina's
- > 2/24 Patio
- > 2/27 Domino's

Important Dates

- > 1/30-2/3 Student Council
"Soup"er Bowl
- > 2/3 Report Cards Issued
- > 2/7 Student Council
Meeting 2:35-3:15
- > 2/8 Math Night 6-8 pm
- > 2/16 Popcorn Day
- > 2/20 No School
- > 2/24 9:00 PTO Meeting
6-8 pm PTO Dance
Read to Succeed Due

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Nurse's Notes (continued)



All children in Kindergarten, 2nd and 6th grades of any public, private or parochial school are required to have a dental examination. The dental exam should be submitted to school by May 15th. If your student has not been to the dentist for an exam and is in Kindergarten, 2nd or 6th grades, you will be hearing from the school nurse. Please contact the school nurse for more information about the required dental exam. Parents may contact Orland Township at 403-4222 to learn more about low cost dental exams offered in our area.

LEARNING CENTER NEWS

Thank you to the following students for donating books to the library for their birthdays!! This month we are celebrating January and June birthdays!

- 12/7 Brendan Jennings 2-2 A Birthday for Bear
- 12/15 Francis Barril 4-3 3:15 Season One: Things That Go Bump in the Night
- 12/19 Nicole Damian 4-2 The Fenway Foul-Up
- 12/20 Sean Collin K-2 Chick and Pug
- 12/23 Christopher Paulsen 5-1 How to Break a Dragon's Heart
- 1/6 Adam Flanagan 2-2 Frog's First Kiss
- 6/7 Stella Wrona 2-2 Stella's Stars
- 6/10 Jihad Elkayyal K-3 Ten on the Sled
- 6/25 Gianna Gonzalez K-1 Plant a Kiss

A special thanks to Olivia Lipski K-2 who donated The Gingerbread Boy to the library after her mom read to her class.



STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

17th Annual "Soup"er Bowl

During the week of January 30th-February 3rd, Student Council will be collecting cans/packages of soup. The donations will be given to our local food pantry to benefit needy families.



Each child that donates soup will earn a charm. In addition, the classroom that donates the most soup will win a movie/popcorn party.



On Thursday, February 2nd, PTO will run a soup line lunch for the children.

As always, we thank you for your generosity.

More Student Council News.....

There will be a PJ/slipper day at Helen Keller to celebrate Groundhog Day on Thursday, February 2nd. The students can wear their PJs and/or slippers at school on this day. Children who participate will earn a groundhog charm.



READ TO SUCCEED

Reminder - All *Read to Succeed* Student Reading Logs are to be turned in by Friday, February 24th. In order to qualify for the free Six Flags ticket students must complete six hours, or 360 minutes of recreational reading.



Each Read to Succeed ticket will come with a discounted admission ticket offer for families. This discount information will be printed on the student ticket and can be accessed at discoveryeducation.com/readtosucceed



Kirby Paraeducator Association The Cookie Jar

"The Cookie Jar" is a program organized by the paraeducators in Kirby School District 140. They are now over a year old and a success story. They have helped students from five of our seven schools over the recent holidays. Last year they gifted students from six of our schools.

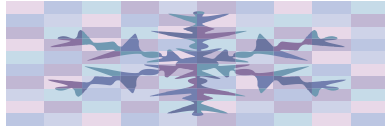
Primarily, they have gifted with gift cards from either Wal-Mart or Target for either food or clothing. In general, they start at \$50.00 per student. However, if money is available, larger amounts are an option. They can also give more than one gift during the year. Besides gift cards, they have given warm coats, boots, hats, gloves and other articles of clothing to students in need. They have had requests for counseling, eye glasses, a cd/tape player to listen to disks or tapes for study at home, field trip and picture money. If they can help, they will!

The cookie jar paraeducators are doing an amazing job! These great people organize, fundraise and shop on their own time to help our students and their families. We are very proud of them and their efforts.

Thank you to everyone who supports "The Cookie Jar".



HELEN KELLER PTO NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2012

IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES.....

2/2-'Soup'er Bowl

2/24-Hot Lunch order forms due

2/20-No School

2/24-PTO Meeting 9am

2/16-Popcorn Day

2/24-Dance 6-8pm

2/22- Market Day 2:30-3:30pm



BOOKFAIR FEBRUARY 21-24TH

FUNDRAISERS

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS....

March 1-15 Marcus Theaters
(Delivery before Spring Break)

March 23-April 11 Little Caesar's
(Get your pizza kits on May 1st - just in time for that busy sports season)

FEBRUARY

24TH

DANCE.....



Please attend our Helen Keller Family Dance!

Friday, February 24th from 6-8pm

We will have a DJ, Concessions, Bake Sale and a Book Fair!

This is a free event for the whole family!

Each student that attends will receive a Charm!

Are you willing to help organize this dance? If so, please email Sara at Morrey7721@comcast.net
Thank you!

THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT. A PARENT MUST BE PRESENT DURING THE DANCE.

SAVE THE DATE

Children's Clothing Resale

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

8-2PM

We are in need of a chairperson for this event.

(Check www.ksd140.org in the virtual backpack for any order forms or flyers.)

YOUR HELEN KELLER PTO BOARD:

Barb Wilbur, Mariann Stanton, Cheryl LaPlant, Christine Watkins, Joan Paulsen, Sara Morrey

Contact us at Helenkellerpto@gmail.com