



# *Lincoln Times*

## *4th Grade Edition - January 2013*

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### **Here's Whats Happening in 4th Grade!**

#### **Music - Mrs. Hill**

In music we have been focusing on singing songs and looking at how the notes move on the staff, noticing that composers use different patterns to fit the topic of the song. We then practiced writing notes on a staff that moved by step, leap and repeat. Going one step further, we stood on a staff on the floor to show how our notes were moving. We are getting better at noticing how the notes move while we are reading the words to the songs. We have sung some fun holiday songs, and we are all looking forward to winter break.

#### **Art-Mrs. Humphreys**

Happy New Year! In art, we are finishing up a computer project based a style of art called Pop Art, which is art based on popular culture. In the computer project, the students are the stars in their own work. They have had some general experience working with Photo Booth, an application that allows you take pictures on the computer, and Microsoft Word. They haven't used this for typing though, but to place their photos to create their art.

#### **ELP- Mrs. Sieren**

We have been playing "detective" in our forensic science unit this past month. We have examined fingerprints, footprints, handwriting samples, and learned various vocabulary like suspect, alibi, motive, and evidence. We will finish this unit shortly after Christmas by solving an online mystery in which they will have to combine everything that they have learned to be able to solve the case. Our next unit in January will be on the stock market and how it works.

I challenge you to spend some time over the holiday break and play a board game with your child or some other interactive game. The best gift you can give your child is "time with you". Happy Holidays!!

#### **Notes from the Office**

##### **Attendance/Absence Line**

A new attendance line has been set up for absences in the district. Parents can now call 653-1101 and will get a greeting. They can then press a number to select which school they would like to leave a message for, and then will be able to leave a message about an absence. This will be helpful if you need to call Lincoln about an absence before anyone is in the office at 7:30. You may still call the main office to report an absence, but this is a second option for those parents that are heading off to work early. Thanks for your help in letting the Lincoln office know when your student will not be in attendance.

### **January Dates to Remember:**

Tuesday, Jan. 1 - Happy New Year!!

Wed., Jan. 2 - No School

Thurs., Jan. 3 - Classes Resume

Fri., Jan. 4 - Winter Parties

Wed., Jan. 9 - 1:10 Dismissal- Professional Growth

Mon., Jan. 14 - No School - Workday

Wed., Jan. 23 - 1:10 Dismissal - Professional Growth

Mon., Jan. 28 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4:30 - 8:00PM

Thurs., Jan. 31 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4:30 - 8:00PM

Fri., Feb. 1 - **VIP DAY**/Book Fair

### **VIP DAY - BOOK FAIR**

Lincoln will be hosting VIP Day along with the Scholastic Book Fair on Friday, February 1, 2013. Parents and or Grandparents are welcome to come spend the day with their students and experience the day at Lincoln!! If guests plan on eating lunch at Lincoln on that day, we appreciate advance notice for the kitchen staff, so we have enough food prepared. The cost of an adult lunch is \$3.00. Please let your students homeroom teacher know of your plans. We look forward to seeing you on Friday, February 1st.

The Book Fair will be held on January 31st from 4 - 8:00PM and February 1st from 8 - 4:00PM. You will also be able to go online to order books. More information on the Book Fair will be sent home soon!

### **Notes from the Guidance Office**

The start of a new year is a great time for your child to set new goals. The goals may be for school, home, or any activity that he/she is involved in. Have them write down the goal and put it in a place where they can see it daily. This will help remind them what they are working towards. When they have completed the goal, have them check it off in order to show them what they have accomplished.

Mrs. Mitchell  
At Risk Teacher

### **Notes from the Principal**

With winter in full gear, your family will probably be in and around the home. I would encourage you to take the time to read together.

Reading is at the heart of all learning. Listen carefully when you read with the children in your family to understand how they are developing as a reader. Reading with children is an easy way to involve yourself in their education. Research on reading skills shows that children whose families spend time discussing, explaining and asking questions know more words than other children.

One part of reading that Lincoln teachers are constantly working on is fluency. Fluency is the ability to read a text accurately and quickly. Fluency is important because it frees students to understand what they have read. Reading fluency can be developed by modeling fluent reading (reading aloud) and by having students engage in repeated oral reading. This is a great family activity with books and poems.

Fill your holiday season and New Year with opportunities for learning by reading together. Books make excellent holiday gifts!

Parent-Teacher Conferences are set for January 28 and 31. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

On Friday, February 1, Lincoln Elementary will be hosting VIP Day and a Book Fair. This is an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom and have lunch. PTG will be sponsoring the Book Fair on this day. More details will follow, as we get closer to the date.

With the end of the year, we want to thank you for your past support and ask you for your continued support of Lincoln Elementary. Working together, we can assure a great education for your children.

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and excited about a new year. Best Wishes and a Happy New Year!

David Hoffman, Principal

### **4th Grade Blog Sites**

Mrs. Brokaw  
4th Grade Teacher

<http://brokawbulletin.blogspot.com/>

Mrs. Conrad  
4th Grade Teacher

<http://conradcourier.blogspot.com/>

Mr. Hippen  
4th Grade Teacher

<http://4thgrademrhippen.blogspot.com/>

Tessa Steinhard  
Reading Teacher

<http://www.steinhartreads.blogspot.com>

Linda Shields  
Reading Teacher

<http://shieldsliteracyblog.blogspot.com>

Renee Sieren  
ELL Teacher

<http://sierenelp.blogspot.com>

### **District Equity Statement**

It is the policy of the Washington Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, marital status, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. If you believe you have (or your child has) been discriminated against or treated unjustly at school, please contact Dr. Jorgensen or Mrs. Thode at 319-653-6543.