



Lincoln Times

5th Grade Edition - November 2012

Here's What's Happening in 5th Grade!!

LARS

We finished Theme 3 this week with the test. Our next theme is science based also. This theme is called **What is Sound?** We will be visiting the comprehension skills of **Determining Importance** and reviewing **Asking Questions**. We will be talking about proper nouns, reference materials and making nouns singular and plural. We will be starting this theme on **November 12**.

Because of the Iowa Assessments that will be given the week of November 5-9 we are going to take a break from our book and do a fun poetry unit. Our next spelling pretest will be **November 12**.

Mrs. Steinhart is going to come in during the next 2 weeks and teach us about Literature Circles. In literature circles, small groups of students gather together to discuss a piece of literature in depth. The discussion is guided by students' response to what they have read. You may hear talk about events and characters in the book, the author's craft, or personal experiences related to the story. Literature circles provide a way for students to engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Collaboration is at the heart of this approach. Students reshape and add onto their understanding as they construct meaning with other readers. Finally, literature circles guide students to deeper understanding of what they read through structured discussion and extended written and artistic response. The Literature Circles will take place during small group time and will be completed by Christmas.

Remember it is important for your child to read each night. The more they read, the more they know!

Math

We are finishing Unit One about Number Theory this week. Number theory is identifying numbers as: odd, even, prime, composite, or square numbers. They have learned about exponents, square root, factor trees, and prime factorization of different numbers. We have played games to reinforce these concepts such as: Factor Captor and Factor Bingo.

Some great websites to go to for some extra practice with math are:

www.sumdog.com (the kids have a login name and password already)

www.mathplayground.com

www.coolmath-games.com

www.funbrain.com

<http://resources.oswego.org/games/>

Art-Mrs. Humphreys

We have been very productive in art this fall in 5th grade. Each student has made a portfolio (to store their work throughout the year), a fire prevention poster and a light and shadow drawing. My goal this year is for the students to be able to make personal choices in the artwork, so in the light and shadow drawing, each student chose what they drew for their three-dimensional objects, they just had to be long and cylindrical. Those drawings turned out very well, with each student showing their ability to make objects look three-dimensional on a two-dimensional paper. We have recently begun a sculpture unit. First, the students are working in groups to make a sculpture out of recycled items like tin cans, cardboard, plastic cups and wire. The sculptures that are in progress are awesome! The next part of the sculpture unit will be an individual project where the students will make relief sculptures. This is a sculpture where a design or figure is raised out of a flat background.

Science

We are headed down the final stretch of the weather presentations. They will have tomorrow and Wednesday to finish getting ready. We will start the presentations on Thursday. Many of the students are already finished and rehearsing in class. Most should finish on Tuesday and have the rest of the time to practice. They will have the evaluation sheet I am going to use as a guide. This is an important part of their science experience, to make a public sharing of their work. Who knows, there might just be the makings of the next meteorologist on TV!!

Music-Mrs.Hill

Fifth grade students are very busy preparing for their concert:

**We're Making Music
Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00 P.M.
at the Washington Community Center**

This concert includes a performance by the beginning band directed by Mr. Hughes. Band students should meet backstage at the Community Center at 6:30, all other students be there at 6:45. All students should wear nice school clothes for the concert. Adults are asked to bring \$1 donation to the concert, students are free. The fifth graders have been working really hard and have been making some awesome music, we hope you can come to the concert to hear for yourselves!

Miss Alice Cook is a student teacher in the music room for a few months from Iowa Wesleyan College. Welcome Miss Cook!

Sunrise Singers are off to a great start and are having fun learning new songs. We will be performing at some area nursing homes in December as well as the Children's concert at the Washington Community Center on Friday, December 14. I will send reminders by email and printed paper about performances, if you are not on my email list, and would like to be, please let me know. jhill@washington.k12.ia.us

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 Lincoln know when your student will not be in attendance.

Iowa School Alerts

With winter coming and parents needing to know if we are getting out of school early on snow or ice days, or if school is delayed or cancelled, you can sign up for Iowa Alerts. The Washington Community School District uses Iowa Alerts for notification of changes in our school day. You can be alerted by either a cell phone or email address.

To sign up for Iowa Alerts, go the Washington web page at: www.washington.k12.ia.us or you may also access Iowa School Alerts from their address: www.schoolalerts.iowa.gov

At the bottom of the Washington Community Schools web page, you will see a blue box with Iowa School Alerts in it. Click on that box. You will have to follow the registration process for this alert system. If you have any problems with your registration, please feel free to give us a call.

Red Wheel Fundraiser Delivery

Red Wheel Fundraiser will be making a delivery of all the items sold on Tuesday, November 13, from 2:45 - 6:00. If students sold items to family and friends, they need to make arrangements for the pick up to those items on Tuesday, November 13th, and get them delivered as soon as possible.

ELP - Mrs. Sieren

Wow! What a fun fall I have had with the 5th graders. I am so thankful that the weather cooperated for our rocket launches! I also thought that our trip to the Hoover Museum for the book talk was very educational. I have to admit that I learned a lot about the National Park system that I didn't know. We will spend a short time learning about the election process before the upcoming election, and then we will begin our next unit called, "Kitchen Chemistry". The kids will be learning about basic disease transmission, acids and bases, atoms, molecules, etc. and will be making various concoctions to study these concepts. In the past the kids have enjoyed this unit also.

Notes from the Nurse

Head Lice Facts for Parents

What are head lice?

- Lice or Pediculosis are small tan to grayish-white insects about the size of a sesame seed and have 6 legs.
- They usually don't carry disease, but can cause your family discomfort, stress and sometimes skin irritation.
- Lice can live up to 30 days on a person's head and lay 50-150 eggs. To live, adult lice need to feed on blood every 3-6 hours. If the louse falls off a person, it dies within 2 days.
- Head lice live on the head and rarely leave the body.

How do I know if my child has head lice and if so, how did they get it?

1. Itching is the first sign of head lice. Check your child's hair weekly. Make it a part of routine hygiene. Check your child's head and scalp all over especially behind the ears and near the neckline and the back of the neck.
2. Look for lice and their eggs (nits). You may see the nits before you find a louse as they move very quickly when you part the hair and each louse can lay 150 eggs.

3. You may first find lice or nits at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. But they can live anywhere so check the whole scalp.
4. Children get head lice through head to head contact. Lice CANNOT hop, jump, or fly but they can crawl.
5. Sharing combs, brushes, hair fasteners, hats, caps, coats, and neck scarves spread head lice. Sharing a locker or cubbyhole with a lice infested child is a common way to spread head lice.
6. ANY child can get head lice-regardless of social standing or cleanliness.
7. Dealing with head lice is difficult, sometimes embarrassing and can be overwhelming to anyone caring for children.
8. If a child to have lice, parents will be notified and education regarding treatment is given. Children are allowed to remain in class. Those children will be monitored as needed and if active lice are found again parents are encouraged to continue the treatment process.
9. Parents should assume head lice are present in the school and wider community all year. Notes will not be sent home each time there is a case of head lice is discovered. That causes too many problems with speculation about who has lice and children end up being ostracized.

Feel free to call me with questions or assistance with treatment protocols.

Holly Roth RN, BSN
School Nurse

Notes from the Guidance Office

The Iowa Assessments will be given at Lincoln starting Tuesday, November 6th and ending Friday, November 9th. It is imperative that your child be to school each day on time, especially the week we are giving the Iowa Assessments, so they do not have to spend time making up the tests. Getting a good night sleep will help your child be more alert and do better on the tests. Eating a good breakfast is also important. Children who eat breakfast tend to have longer attention spans and do better in school.

Children do not have to eat the traditional breakfast foods. Here are a variety of foods for breakfast.

- *Whole-grain cereal with fruit and milk
- *Whole-wheat toast, eggs, and juice, or milk
- *Fried egg and cheese on whole-wheat toast
- *Oatmeal with raisins and milk
- *Waffles, turkey bacon, and juice
- *Low-fat yogurt with fruit and granola
- *Bagel with cheese or peanut butter
- *Fruit smoothie: fruit and milk or yogurt mixed together in blender
- *Bagel, string cheese, and an apple
- *Whole-wheat toast, hard-boiled egg, and fruit
- *Turkey sandwich and milk
- *Leftover pizza and juice
- *Breakfast burrito: scrambled eggs, cheese, and veggies wrapped in a flour tortilla
- *Peanut butter and jelly sandwich and milk
- *Grilled cheese sandwich and juice

Breakfast is served at Lincoln from 7:40-8:00. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Shari Mitchell
At Risk Teacher

Notes from the Principal

Lincoln Elementary will be starting Iowa Assessments on Monday, November 5. Tests will be given November 5, through Friday, November 9. Again this year Lincoln Elementary will only take the tests required by No Child Left Behind and the State of Iowa. The hope is to minimize the number of tests given so students will maximize their effort. We will be giving the students motivation and rewards for doing their best!

It is important that the students do their best on the test. Both the students and Lincoln Elementary School are measured on the results of the Iowa Assessments. These test scores will be used to help identify non-proficient students. Please make sure your child gets enough rest and has a good breakfast. Any student missing days during this time will need to make up the missed test upon their return. Students will receive a snack during homeroom compliments of the Lincoln PTG.

It is important that the students do their best on the test. The Iowa Assessments:

- Help determine how students are performing on the state curriculum as described in the Iowa Core.
- Measure student growth and progress from year to year.
- Help teachers identify a student's strengths and identify areas that may need additional emphasis.
- Provide information about your child's performance relative to the school, the state of Iowa, and the nation. The assessments produce information that enable sound decision-making and provide a focus for teachers to evaluate their instruction.

Schedule of Iowa Assessments Tests:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Test</u>
Monday, November 5	Try-Out Test (50 minutes) Survey (10 minutes)
Tuesday, November 6-	Reading- Part 1 (30 minutes)
	Reading- Part 2 (30 minutes)
Wednesday, November 7- Mathematics -	Mathematics- Part 1 (30 minutes) Part 2 (30 minutes)
Thursday, Nov 8-	Computation (20 minutes)
Friday, November 9-	Science (35 minutes)

Students will receive a snack during homeroom compliments of the Lincoln PTG.
We will use the week of November 12-16 to make up tests for those students absent.

With the cold weather and possibility of snow in the upcoming months, we ask that you to make sure your child is dressed warm for recess. A lot of students find themselves getting cold at recess because they did not bring a hat or gloves.

Our rules for the playground during the winter season are very simple. When there is snow on the playground:

- 1) Students **must** wear boots and snow pants to go off of the blacktop area.
- 2) No throwing snowballs.
- 3) No king of the hill on the snow piles.

These rules are for the safety of the students.

David Hoffman, Principal
Lincoln Elementary

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.