



Lincoln Times

3rd Grade Edition - January 2013

Here is What is Happening in 3rd Grade

Music - Mrs. Hill

In music we have done lots of singing and rhythms. I often mention in class that this is one of the few classes where both sides of the brain work together. Students clap or pat a beat or repeated pattern while singing which makes their brains focus and work hard to achieve. We have enjoyed some fun holiday songs and songs with movement. I am always pleased with how much third graders can do! Have a great winter break.

Art-Mrs. Humphreys

Happy New Year! The students are finishing up a tropical landscape based on the work of the French artist, Henri Rousseau. Not only did they learn what a landscape was, but they learned about the foreground, middleground and background, or layering, of the parts of the land. The students are doing beautiful work!

ELP News - Mrs. Sieren

Testing, Testing, Testing. I know that sometimes it seems like that is all that we do in school, but I am pleased to tell you that for now, all of the testing is complete! The last two weeks the third graders have taken the Scholastic Reading and Scholastic Math tests again. Most of the children made wonderful gains, which is always nice to see. I have used these scores, as well as the Cognitive Abilities Test scores and the beginning of the year SRI and SMI scores to place the children in the ELP program. In order to be placed in ELP, scores have to be consistently well above average on these tests, as well as in their daily classroom work. All of the third grade teachers were consulted before final placements were made.

Letters were sent in the US mail on Thursday, Dec. 13, to the parents of the children that have qualified. If you did not receive a letter, you can assume that your child has not been placed in the program for now. When the Iowa Assessment scores come back in January, I will look at those test results also and see if there is anyone else that needs to be considered. Each year all of the test scores for the children are evaluated to see if additional children should be placed into the ELP program. Please realize that ELP placement is not the only way that children with above average abilities are being challenged at Lincoln Elementary. The teachers do a fantastic job of differentiating within the subject areas to assure that all kids are having their educational needs met.

If you would like to see your child's score sheet or have a conference with me, please call the school to set up an appointment.

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.

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

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
Lincoln Elementary School

3th Grade Blog Sites

Mrs. Bailey

3rd Grade Teacher

<http://thebaileyblogger3b.blogspot.com/>

Mrs. Bombei

3rd Grade Teacher

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

Mrs. Litchfield

3rd Grade Teacher

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

Mrs. Rausch

3rd Grade Teacher

<http://rausch3rdgradeblog.blogspot.com/>

Mrs. Vittetoe

3rd Grade Teacher

<http://vittetoesvoyages.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.