



# Lincoln Times 5th Grade Edition April 2011

## Here's What's Happening in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade!!!!

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade LARS

We are currently working in Theme 10. This is a social studies theme that focuses on prefixes and contractions, inferring to determine the author's purpose, singular and plural pronouns, and sequence and word choice when writing. The students are doing very well with the Literacy by Design series. They have gotten into the routine of the lessons and are always improving their reading and writing skills. There are sixteen themes in all and with only about 8 weeks of school left, we will not complete all of them. We will continue working through as many as we can until the year is over.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

We just finished our Human Growth & Development unit. Please continue to talk over with your child any questions they may still have. We often reminded them to ask you, as a parent, questions they had that might be difficult to share in class. The students have done a very good job on the sensitive, yet important topic of puberty. We will be moving on to the study of the bones and muscles. We will also discuss good nutrition using the Food Guide Pyramid. If you have any questions or comments, please let one of us know.

Mr. Berhow Mr. Anderson Mr. Green

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics

March seemed to fly by! The fifth graders were working on fractions concepts and their many equivalents. An example of this is:  $\frac{6}{8}$  equals  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Simplifying fractions to their simplest form is part of understanding equal fractions. Learning basic percentages was another focus for the month. The kids have worked hard at learning percents. The unit titled Name That Portion about fractions, decimals, and percents is almost done. We will be finishing by learning decimals to the thousandths place value. There are several educational games they will be doing in class to enhance their understanding of decimals. One of the games they will be able to play at home for part of their grade. If you are using a recipe, shopping, or

working in the garage that the situation involves fractions, decimals, or percents take the time to talk with your child about how they are used. Real-life connections help kids see the importance in learning math.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Art**

<b>Styrofoam printing:</b>
View the prints of Albrecht Durer.
Learn about different printmaking techniques.
Create a styrofoam print block and make a series of prints.

## **Music – Mrs. J. Hill**

Lincoln 5<sup>th</sup> graders are working on musical form and have been “dissecting” songs by analyzing how the notes move in each section, what the words are, does the music have verses? Refrain? Is there any repetition? The students are getting very good at analysis and will continue with that a few more weeks. The next unit in music is singing with various types of harmony.

## **ELP – Mrs. Sieren**

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

We are working hard trying to get ready for the quiz bowl competition, which is April 20. Your child should have brought home a list of questions and answers that need to be memorized. We will be working on finding information in reference materials in the next few weeks. Then we will be working on a variety of brainteasers.

Here are a couple of other things that you need to know.

1. Round 1 will be from **approximately** 9:30–10:45, Round 2 from 10:45–12:00, lunch from 12:00–12:30 or so, and then the last group will be from 12:30–1:45. Ask your child what “round” they are in. This will help you plan your day if you can only come for a short period of time.
2. Your child will need to bring a sack lunch and drink. I will have a cooler to keep drinks cool.
3. Your child will be allowed to bring an i-pod, Nintendo DS, book, etc. They will need to be quiet when the other children are competing,
4. I NEED SOME CHAPERONES. If you could help me by sitting in the stands with the Washington children. PLEASE let me know.

That’s all for now. Call or e-mail if you have any questions or can help me chaperone. Thanks!

Mrs. Sieren

## The Doc Walk

The Doc Walk is a fundraiser for ALL Iowa Soldiers, Iowa Veterans, and their families. "Doc" is a nickname given to Combat Medics by their fellow soldiers. The 134<sup>th</sup> Unit out of Washington is a Medical Unit and is full of "Docs." The Doc Walk is taking supply donations, and the supplies we raise will be sent to the troops overseas, that way they know people at home are thinking of them.

Examples of items being collected at Lincoln include: canned tuna, canned chicken, soup, Spaghetti O's, ravioli, cereal, granola bars, Pop Tarts, chips, coffee, drink mixes, beef jerky, fruit snacks, nuts, dried fruit or any non perishable, dry or canned goods. We are also collecting: deodorant (non aerosol), sun block (non aerosol), shampoo, liquid body soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and Chapstick. These are just suggestions and items are not limited to this list.

The first Doc **Walk** of 2011 is to be held Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. It will be at the high school track unless it is raining and then it will be held at the High School Gym. There will be a meal with free will donation, raffle, balloon let off and information for families of deployed soldiers about care package options. KCII Radio will also be at the Doc Walk doing a live broadcast and they will have the prize wheel there for people to register for the Disney Family Giveaway.

Lincoln Elementary is going an AWESOME JOB raising supplies for our soldiers! Thanks to those that have already brought in items. We will be collecting items until the last day of April. The class that raises the most supplies to send to our troops will win a pizza party on the last day of school!

To receive more information about the Doc Walk, contact Lindsey Becker at [docwalk\\_org@yahoo.com](mailto:docwalk_org@yahoo.com) or call 641-919-3509.

## Spring Picture Date

Spring pictures at Lincoln Elementary will be held on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. For Spring pictures, you do not send money at the time pictures are taken. Everyone will have a picture taken. Your finished portrait package will be sent home for preview. Simply return any picture sheets that you do not want to purchase with payment for pictures that you do want to buy. Please notify the office or your students teacher if you do not want pictures taken of your child. If you have questions, please call the Lincoln office.

## Camp Invention

**Creative Genius Wanted!** Camp Invention at Lincoln Elementary School needs your help in designing an amusement park this summer. Imagination Point needs a new roller coaster and lots of other exciting rides! You'll also get to use real tools to take apart a mechanical device and work as a team to create a new invention! Then, you'll have to figure out how to survive when your spaceship crash-lands on an alien planet!

You'll find lots more fun things to do at Camp Invention. Camp will be held on June 6 - 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:30pm and will be presented by local teachers for girls and boys entering grades 1 - 6. Camp directors: Nancy Clawson and Julie Timmins.

The Grant Wood Area Education Agency, Van Allen Science Teaching Center and Washington Community Schools offer this national, non-profit science and creativity enrichment program in collaboration with Invent Now Kids and the United States Patent and Trademark Office. For more information, call **800-968-4332** or go to [www.campinvention.org](http://www.campinvention.org).

### **System 44 News from Mrs. Shields**

4th grade Fast-trackers: Taylor and Brendan

5th grade Fast-trackers: Kylee, Mark, Jack, Kelton, Daegan, Jewel, Jack, Tiffany

6th grade Fast-tracker: Taylor

System 44 "Graduates": Tiffany, Kylee, Daegan, Jack

Topics covered recently:

- Prefixes, suffixes, roots
- Correctly writing a title
- Review of singular and plural possessives
- Syllables: open and closed, stressed and unstressed
- Spelling of high frequency words, how to go to [spellingcity.com](http://spellingcity.com)
- How to access TumbleBooks
- Fluency (pace, accuracy, expression)

William Penn reading practicum student Ms. Baumert has been helping in our System 44 classroom in a variety of ways. She has taught whole and small group lessons, assisted students with independent reading and writing work, and listened to students read. After completing her practicum she is volunteering in our classroom. Students will complete a reading log this trimester. Each student set a goal for him/herself. I'll be checking with students on Fridays to monitor progress. TumbleBooks count toward the reading goal. (See below.)

Fun Web sites to visit:

- Practice spelling words and play games! Type in your own spelling list and practice at [spellingcity.com](http://spellingcity.com)
- Here's a different way to read books! Read them online with a narrator. This is a great way for challenged readers to access books. Google "Iowa City Public Library." When you get to the home page select "Kids" then "Reading," then TumbleBooks. Anyone can go to the site, even if you don't have a library card. All you need is Internet access.

Visit my blog by going to the WCSD homepage. Click on "Schools" then "Lincoln Elementary" then "Teacher Sites."

Mrs. Shields

Reading Specialist

Title 1/System 44 Teacher

## Notes from the Principal

If you are not using PowerSchool, the student management system, it is never too late to start. Using PowerSchool will allow you to check grades, attendance, and current lunch balances of your children. If you have questions on how to use this system, please contact Tricia Bell at Lincoln Elementary (653-3691).

With warmer weather coming, students will be breaking out the summer clothes. Below is the Washington CSD Dress Code Policy to help with any questions that you might have on proper dress attire.

### STUDENT APPEARANCE and DRESS CODE POLICY

1. Students are expected to dress appropriately for school.
2. A student's attire may not unreasonably infringe on the rights of other students to benefit from a productive, safe educational environment.
3. The major responsibility for appropriate dress and grooming rests with students and parents.
4. Students may not wear or display at school or school activities, dress, which can be seen as disruptive to the school environment or unreasonably infringes on others.

\*If the clothing is seen as disruptive or unreasonably infringing on others rights, the offending student will be required to correct the situation.

5. The following list includes examples of clothing which is considered inappropriate, disruptive or unreasonably infringes on others rights and is not allowed:

- A. Halter-style, back-less or strapless attire
- B. Bare midriff, chests torsos
- C. Thin t-shirts worn over colored undergarments
- D. Pants, slacks or shorts worn below the hips
- E. Pants, slacks or shorts with holes in inappropriate places
- F. Hats or other head coverings in the school buildings
- G. Clothing or accessories that:

1. Promote the use of alcohol or drugs.
2. Include profane or offensive language or pictures
3. Include sexually inappropriate or racially biased material or

references.

- H. Bandannas are not allowed at school.

6. Students are to wear shoes or sandals.
7. Accessories that could be used as weapons are not allowed at school. This includes, but is not limited to, wallet chains and spiked jewelry.
8. Students are not allowed to use cell phones or electronic pagers at school.
9. If there are medical or religious reasons to make an exception to these rules, the parents must request an exception. Such an exception must be approved by the administration before the student can wear attire, which is an exception to the above policy.

The Washington Community Schools, with support from Bodywrx Fitness will be sponsoring a 5K Run/Walk and Mile Run/Walk on April 9, 2011, starting at 9 AM at

the Washington Jr. High School (Registration starts at 8 AM.). The 5K Run/Walk will pass by each of the schools (High School, Jr. High, Lincoln and Stewart). The 5K Run/Walk and Mile run has been named the **Demon Dash for Cash**. It was organized to promote fitness and raise money for Washington Community School projects. All proceeds will be divided among the four schools and be used to promote physical fitness for the students. We would love to have you and your child participate. An application for the Demon Dash for Cash is also a part of this newsletter.

Sincerely,

David Hoffman, Principal  
Lincoln Elementary

### **Physical Plant and Equipment Levy**

The Washington Community School District voters will be asked to vote on April 5, 2011 to renew the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) for the district. This vote is to renew a levy that is already in place and is not a new or additional tax for the district. This levy requires a public vote every 10 years.

The Iowa code allows a school district to request as much as \$1.34 per \$1,000 as a PPEL levy. The Washington Community School District is only requesting \$1.00 per \$1,000, which is the current levy. Voting will be held from 7:00AM to 8:00PM, on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Registered voters can vote at the Courthouse in Washington or at the Community Center in Brighton. The last vote was held on September 11, 2001, and the district received 83.2% approval. The Mid Prairie Community School District received 85% approval last fall for a \$1.20 PPEL levy. Out of 351 districts in the state of Iowa, 249 have voted in favor of a Physical Plant and Equipment Levy during the current fiscal year.

Intended use of this levy include purchase of buses and vehicles for student transportation, school building repair, mechanical and plumbing repairs and the purchase of technology, including the purchase of lap top computers for students as a part of the high school 1-1 initiative in the fall of 2012. PPEL funds may not be used to pay salaries.

Any questions in regards to vote or the use of the PPEL funds may be directed to the Administration Office, 319-653-6543 or email [mjorgens@washington.k12.ia.us](mailto:mjorgens@washington.k12.ia.us) .

### **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.