



Mosinee Elementary News

Volume 15

Issue 6

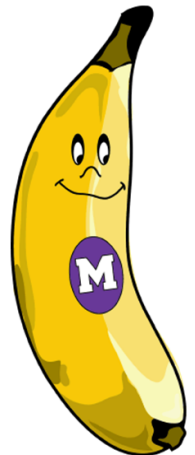
January, 2012

DECEMBER MOSINEE ELEMENTARY TOP BANANA'S

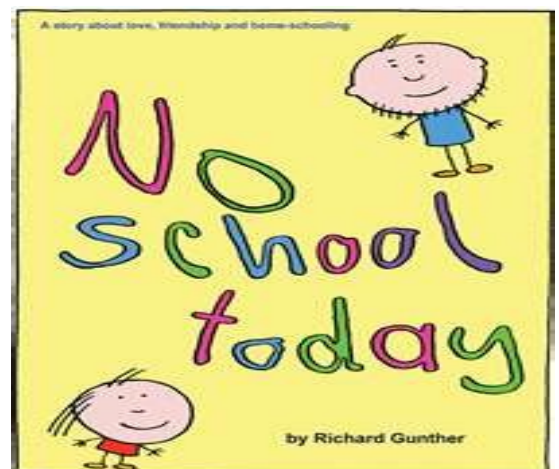


Front Row: Morgan Hoernke, Ahlyana Borski, Jake Neumann and Taylin Peterson. Back Row: Drake Grod, Allie Kukuczka, Top Banana, Saige Johnson and Adriana Jasso.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF
YOU
"TOP BANANAS"!



NO SCHOOL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH TEACHER INSERVICE



5 Year Old
Kindergarten Registration
March 12th - March 16th,
2012

Call 693-2810
to schedule an appointment



Report Cards are
being sent home
Friday,
January 27th



Excellent Citizen

3rd Grader, Morgan Neubauer, is one of the many caring students here at the Elementary School. Morgan hand made a beautiful hat and mitten set and then donated her handiwork to the Mosinee Elementary health room. The health room gives/lends items such as these to students who are in need.

Congratulations Morgan for being an
Excellent Citizen

MOSINEE MIRACLE TREE UPDATE

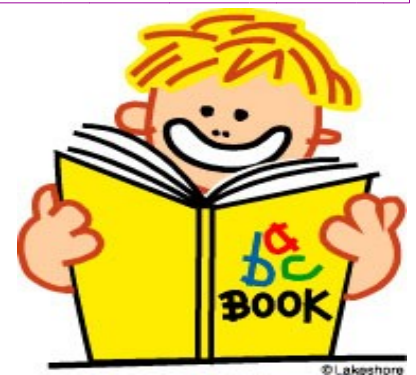
The Community Center of Hope has reported back to us that 848 pounds of food was generously donated to the Hope Food Pantry in December. Thank you to all of you who donated to this worthy cause.

Thank you!

The Mosinee Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) generously awarded the school board a check for \$18,000 which was raised through the fall fundraiser. Students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade sold pizzas, cookie dough, and other goodies to family and community members to help raise funds for the organization. Kelly Sackmann, the chairperson of the fundraiser, presented the check to the school board at this month's school board meeting. She summarized that in this economy it is nice to be able to present the check to help the district offer enrichment opportunities for the students. The donation will be divided equally among the three schools and is used for things such as fieldtrips.



Pictured above is Kelly Sackmann, PTO Fundraiser Chairperson, presenting the check to James Haine, School Board President.



DECEMBER COMPLIMENT CRITTER WINNERS



Front Row: Bobby Novak, Morgan Hoernke, Teagan Guerndt, Maxwell Kloos, Aubrie Bower and Isabelle Olson. Row 2: Alexis Persike, Claire Kroening, Chloe Lemke, Faith Mayfield, Christian Brown and Wilhemina Tessmer. Row 3: Siarra Kern, Logan Johnson, Naya Blanz, Anika Wilkins, Julianne Nicewander, Tanner Unertl and Amanda Erickson. Back Row: Madelyn Kuklinski, Sherilynn Allen, Nichole Wierzbanowski, Michal Dul and Ben Folwarski.
Not pictured: Estelle Gorski & Samantha Will

The Mosinee Elementary Students earned 1,247 compliments during the month of December!

The winners were randomly drawn from the compliments earned. Great job kids. Keep it up!

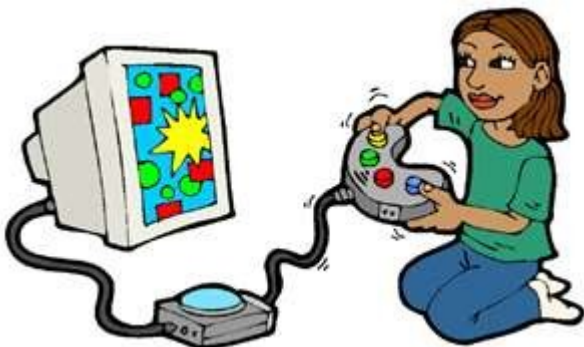
NEWS FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD:

Early Childhood Trends and Technology

(Adapted from "Children's Media Use in America," *Zero To Eight*, 2011)

We live in a technological society and the technology available is rapidly accelerating in its form and function. Have you ever thought about how much time children spend with television, music, computers, video games and apps? What technology do young children have access to? Are more or less babies and toddlers viewing television? What about the time spent reading? The following information answering some of these questions came from results of a survey of 1,384 parents of children ages 0-8 years old which was conducted for the Common Sense Media by Knowledge Networks from May 27-June 15, 2011.

52% of all children ages 0-8 years old now have access to newer mobile devices at home (smartphone, video iPod or tablet device, such as an iPad). More than 29% of all parents have downloaded "apps" onto their own mobile devices for their children. In a typical day, the study found that 11% of all 0-8 year olds use a cell phone, iPod, iPad or similar device for media consumption for an average for 43 minutes.



Computer use was also a regular activity for young children. 53% of all 2-4 year olds have used a computer and 12% of them use it daily. 90% of 5-8 year olds have used a computer, with daily use at 22% for this age group. The average age children first use a computer is now 3 ½ years! The study did find computer availability within the home environment varied greatly between family income levels. 48% of all low-income families (less than \$30,000/year) had a computer at home, while 91% of higher-income families (more than \$75,000/year) had computer access within their home.

Continued on Page 9.....

NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN:



Hello Families!

Winter is in full swing and we finally have some snow. Classes are busy studying winter, snow, Martin Luther King, Arctic and Antarctic. As we proceed through the second half of the school year, it is helpful to share some activities that can be done at home with your child.

- Practice tying shoes
- Zip and/or button your coat
- Make a pattern
- Write a message to someone special
- Read a book
- Practice you address and phone number



In the past we celebrated our grandparents with a special day here at Mosinee Elementary School. Due to our large elementary population, 1st grade has Grandparent's Day. To honor kindergarten, we will be having a "Someone Special" Social. Children will be able to invite someone special to school. We will be having coffee, juice and muffins at 8:30 in the cafeteria and then the "Special Someone(s)" (limit 2) are asked to stay for the morning. We would like the "Special Someone" to end their day after recess. Our "Someone Special" Social will be **Tuesday, February 14, 2012 from 8:30 - 10:00 A.M.**

The week of January 30th the kindergarten classes will be doing MAP testing. **MAP** Testing is a **M**easure of **A**cademic **P**rogress (**MAP**) done in the computer lab on the computer with headphones. It is a standardized test given in both reading and math. We encourage the children to be well-rested and eat a good breakfast everyday but especially on these assessment days.

GRANDPARENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Grandma Karen recently brought Hawaii to Mrs. Zastow's class and Mrs. Wirth's class. Her grandson, Brett and his kindergarten friends learned that Hawaii is surrounded by water. Her grandson, Matthew and his 3rd grade friends learned you can send a coconut postcard. That's right...the coconut is shipped as is (no box) to that someone special. Grandma Karen explained that the postage gets stapled to the coconut and the address is handwritten right on the coconut. WOW! Pictured below: Jaxsen Birnbaum, Matthew Dudei, Grandma Karen and Gage Coppock.



NEWS FROM 1ST GRADE:

January has been an exciting month in first grade! All the students have done such a great job coming back to school from winter break ready to learn and follow school rules. The teachers, as well as the aides, have been impressed with the children's behavior on the playground.

First grade completed their MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing this month. This test assesses the children in both reading and math. The student achievement and growth was impressive since fall. Thank you for all you do for your children at home to support us at school.



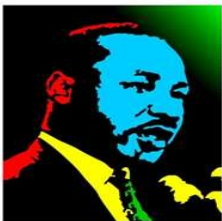
In language arts, we have learned long vowel sounds as well as di-graphs, such as sh, th, ch and wh. Many of your child's spelling words have centered on these ideas. Please continue to work and practice short and long vowel sounds, and letter blends including sh, th, wh, ch, spl, str, and scr.

In math, we have been using our knowledge of five and ten groups to learn about money. If the opportunity arises, have your child help you at the grocery store counting out correct change! You will be impressed with their counting abilities!



Please continue to be sure your child is dressed appropriately for the cold winter weather!

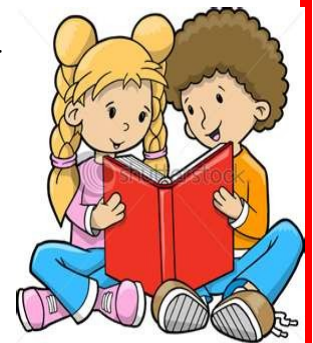
NEWS FROM 2ND GRADE:



Second grade students have been working on getting back into routines after the festivities filling the month of December. This month we celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr. day with stories and activities honoring this important American.

In our Math classes, we are working on place value, learning and using strategies to add 2-digit numbers, and telling time.

We are continuing to learn and practice reading strategies as we read stories about neighborhoods and communities. Our *Rock Star Readers* program is in full swing. This month the reading goal is 360 minutes. Please make sure to record your child's reading minutes on their calendars. Every reader who makes their goal for 5 out of 6 months will earn a Bowling Party in the month of May. Keep reading!!



NEWS FROM 3RD GRADE:

January is an exciting time in third grade. The students are back from the winter break eager to learn and work.

The classes are learning about a variety of topics in math. Some are working on solving story problems with multi-steps while others are learning about geometry. Addition and subtraction facts will be tested at the end of this quarter. The third graders continue to learn new math vocabulary and your child has brought home a math glossary to assist with the terminology. Please keep it in a safe place to use as a reference. The glossary and math answer keys will enable you to help your child with homework questions.



As the year is almost half over, many students need to replenish their school supplies. Please ask your child if they need more pencils, glue, notebooks, or erasers. Please be sure that all of these items are labeled with your child's name.



The following students will celebrate their January birthdays AND half birthdays with a Birthday Lunch on January 18: Taylor G., Samantha W., Amanda T., Zak M., Brett H., Blanche K., Isabelle B., Noah E., Matthew M., Brianna U., Sydney S., Brayden H., Katie G., Kaden C., Tania S., Jillian S., Victoria B., Lauren E., Brooklyn M., Jesus C., Matthew F., Saige J. and Joshua S.

School will be dismissing at 12:40 on Friday, January 20 to enable teachers to work on grades. Progress reports will be sent home with the students on the following Friday, January 27.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION UPDATE

from Mr. Mielke

Since returning from the Holiday break the Mosinee Elementary Physical Education classes have been working very hard in a tumbling unit. Within this unit students are learning about muscles, the importance of stretching, and learning various skills and balances. Some examples are the log roll, seal walk, army crawl, forward & backward rolls, egg rolls, tripods, and headstands. The students have worked very hard at the more difficult activities and have shown that, with hard work, success at the skills will follow. At the end of the unit students will have the opportunity to climb a cargo net and the rope! Students that climb safely to the top of the rope **AND** safely climb back down will earn a Monkey Club certificate.



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SCHOOL NURSE NEWS FROM SUE POHLKAMP, RN:

National Give Kids a Smile Day is Friday, February 3rd

FREE Dental Care!

Free Dental Care is available for children in need, ages 3-15 years old (Low income, Badger Care and Medical Assistance are all welcome.) Call Midwest Dental (Weston Office) to **schedule an appointment**.
715-355-1717 Appointments are limited. First come, first served.



Vision/Hearing Screening

Marathon County Health Department has completed their vision and hearing screening for the Elementary School. If your child did not pass either of these preliminary screenings, you will be contacted by the Health Department concerning the need for a complete evaluation by an eye doctor or audiologist.

Handwashing Awareness

The most important thing that you can do to keep from getting sick is to wash your hands. By frequently washing your hands you wash away germs that you have picked up from other people, or from contaminated surfaces, or from animals and animal waste. Help your children learn the importance of washing properly and often!

Wash Your Hands: The Right Way

- Wet your hands with clean running water and apply soap. Use warm water if it is available.
- Rub hands together to make lather and scrub all surfaces.
- Continue rubbing hands for 15-20 seconds. Need a timer? Imagine singing "Happy Birthday" twice through to a friend.
- Rinse hands well under running water. Dry your hands using a paper towel or air dryer. If possible, use your paper towel to turn off the faucet.
- Always use soap and water if your hands are visibly dirty.



COUNT TO 20



3 Principles of Hand Washing

1. WASH your hands when they are dirty and BEFORE eating.
2. DO NOT cough or sneeze into your hands. Use your elbow instead.
3. Above all, DO NOT put your fingers into your eyes, nose, or mouth.



ART ROOM NEWS FROM MRS. FORD

Calling all creative souls! I am looking for several parent helpers to help with our Youth Art Month art show. First, help is needed mounting and labeling artwork in late February at the elementary school, during the school day, any day, anytime. Second, we could use a little help hanging items for the show right at the end of Feb/beginning of March. This would be in the afternoon and right after school and would take about an hour (I am still unsure of the exact date). Lastly, I would like to display posters advertising our show around Mosinee. If you are interested in hanging these posters in local business or other highly visible places it would be much appreciated! Please contact me if you would like to help in any way! Thanks!

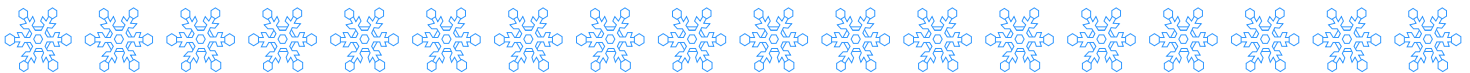


In art class we have been talking about the Chinese New Year, which begins on Monday, January 23. Kindergarten made Pandas and watched a short video about them in their natural habitat. 2nd Grade read "Zen Shorts" and made an art project about the book, and 3rd Grade painted in the Asian Sumi-e style and made lanterns. 1st graders just finished snowy self-portraits in a collage style which took us three weeks to complete!

A high school student, Miss Taylor, will be joining our art room each morning to assist students with the lessons. She would like to be an art teacher someday, and we are so happy to have her!

Last, a fellow art teacher posted this on her blog, and I think it is worth sharing:

"The best way to ignite imagination is boredom. Turn off the TV and leave your child alone. When I was young, I loved books. Not just reading them but illustrating the pictures in the books. I loved to copy, trace and dream. I did that for hours. Actually, I still do. Try not to judge how your child views art or goes about making art. It's theirs to do with it what they will. Parents sometimes need to step back and allow them to create in whichever way suits them." Patty Palmer

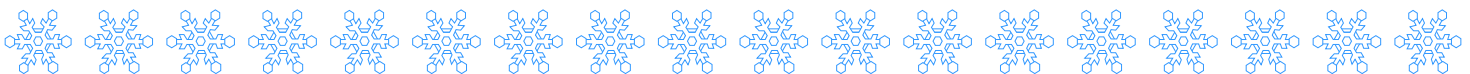


Schools will be closed when inclement weather or road conditions might jeopardize the safety of our students. School closing announcements will be made as near to 6:00 a.m. as possible on the following area stations:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| WAOW-TV Channel 9 | WDEZ 101.9 FM |
| WSAW-TV Channel 7 | WIFC 95.5 FM |
| | WSAU 550 AM/99.9 FM |
| | WRIG 1390 AM |
| | WOZZ 94.7 FM |



Early dismissal announcements will be made on the same radio and TV stations.



GREETINGS FROM MRS. WESTFALL IN THE MUSIC ROOM

Even though it is chilly outside, there is a sound of warmth coming from the music room. The 3rd grade students have started practicing for their upcoming concert 'Americans All'. The concert will take place on Friday, March 16th at 1:30 p.m. in the Creske Center Auditorium. The concert includes songs that celebrate America's multi-cultural heritage. We will be singing in multiple languages as well as playing instruments including our recorders. We look forward to seeing you there.



Have a great month and stay warm!

Please take note of the following dates for the remaining concerts this year.

Both concerts will be held in the Creske Center Auditorium.

3rd grade Concert- Friday, March 16th, 2012- 1:30 p.m.

Kindergarten Concert- Friday, May 11th, 2012- 1:30 p.m.

Continued from Page 3:



Of concern, the study found that children under the age of two years spent twice as much time watching TV and videos (53%) as they did reading books (23%). 47% of babies and toddlers between the ages 0-1 watch TV or DVD's for an average of two hours a day. 42% of children ages 0-8 years old have a TV in their bedroom.

When considering gender, the study found that boys were more likely than girls to play console video games. 14% of boys had a video game player in their bedroom in comparison to 7% of girls. On average, boys play 16 minutes a day on console games compared to 4 minutes a day for girls.

"Screen time" was found to be an average of three hours a day for children under the age of 8.

What happens during homework time? The study found that of all the 5-8 year olds who have homework, 21% of them "usually" or "sometimes" have the TV on while they are doing it.

No matter if we choose to gravitate toward technology or veer from it, it is a part of our society and will be a substantial element in the lives of young children. There will continue to be the need for more research and debate on its presence in child development.

Stacy Stenz, MSE

Early Childhood: Special Education Needs



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