



Principal's Page

www.chicagoparkschool.com

Volume 12 Issue 07

November 22, 2013

WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. to join us for our annual tree lighting and winter celebration. Please bring a can or box of non-perishable food to put around our giving tree. All donations will find their way to our local food bank. Enjoy our K-5 graders singing holiday favorites. Bring your camera for photo opportunities with Santa. Sharing a plate of your favorite holiday treats would be a welcome addition to go along with the hot chocolate we will serve after the performance.

Note: Please take your child (K-5th) directly to their classroom by 6:15, so they may get ready for their performance. No children should be in the gym until they are accompanied by their teacher.

LOST AND FOUND

'Tis the season of cold mornings and warmer afternoons which means the Lost and Found is overflowing with jackets and sweatshirts! Please check to see if any of your children's belongings are there. The lost and found is located in the gym. We will be donating all unclaimed items to a local charitable organization on December 20th.

TOYS FOR TOTS

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve is once again sponsoring "Toys For Tots". This year they have placed a box in the school office so that the community may drop off unwrapped toys for children in need. The toy drive will end on December 19th and all toys will be donated locally. For more information you may visit their website at www.toysfortots.org.

UNITED WAY

Our local United Way is asking for gently used blankets, sleeping bag, and gloves. There is a box in the office where you can drop off these items that will help bring comfort to the homeless in our community. The last day for donations will be December 12th.

TRIMESTER II CHARACTER TRAIT

We will be focusing on Citizenship as the character trait for the second trimester. Understanding what makes a good citizen will help our students develop a sense of responsibility for others in the classroom, in our school, in our community, and beyond.

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Thanksgiving break will begin on Wednesday, November 27th, with school resuming on December 2nd. We hope you will take time to be grateful for the good things in your life. CPS gives thanks to our PTA who are once again giving a slice of pumpkin pie to all students and staff on Tuesday, November 26th.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair is coming!! We are hosting both an online and an on-site book fair.

This year our online book fair will run November 22nd through December 12th. You can shop by age (birth through adult), by grade, category, or price. There are gift box sets available as well as new releases. All orders placed online are shipped to the school for free! This is a wonderful opportunity for out-of-town relatives to send a holiday gift to your child. You will also find a wider selection of books available than at the on-site book fair. Just go to <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/chicagoparklelemschl> to visit our homepage and start shopping.

Our on-site book fair will run December 6th through December 13th, and be open from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Fridays, and until 3:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Look for the new Wimpy Kid book, as well as other student favorites. We will be having a sneak peek for parents/grandparents only from 8:00 to 8:30 on December 6th.

PTA CORNER

!SUPPORT THE PTA AND WIN AN iPad!

Our PTA helps fund many of our kid's favorite programs. Help us do More! Check this week's Friday Folder for details and how to WIN!

November Calendar

26 – Thanksgiving Pie

December Calendar

13 – PTA Meeting, 8:45am

January Calendar

01 – Resolve2Run, 9am

10 – PTA Meeting, 8:45am

23 – PTA General Meeting, 6:30pm



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CLASSICAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Week of: November 25-26

Composer: Prokofiev

Piece: Lt. Kije Suite 4. Troika

Week of: December 02-06

Composer: Corelli

Piece: Concerto Grosso "Christmas Concerto" 3

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

27-29 – No School Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER CALENDAR

04 – Boys' Vball @ Home 4:00

05 – Boys' Vball @ Home 4:00

06-13-- Scholastic Book Fair

10 – Boys' Vball @ Home 4:00

12 – Board Meeting 4:30

12-14 – Boys' Vball Tournament @ Bear River

Next Principal's Page – December 06, 2013

Article Deadline – December 02, 2013

Dear Families,

As you all know, major shifts in education are occurring as the Common Core Standards will be replacing our State Content Standards beginning the 2014-15 school year. One of the major changes taking place is the way the state will be assessing our students in grades 3-8. No longer will students be bubbling in multiple choice answers on hard copy tests. Instead, they will be assessed on-line. Tests, including math, will ask for students to respond in narratives, which means that typing skills will be crucial for maximum success.

To enhance keyboarding skills, all students at Chicago Park School in grades 1-8 participate in the Type to Learn Program. We also will encourage students to type essays and other projects as much as possible. We'd like to recruit you to further increase their typing time by having them practice at home. A simple routine of 15-20 minutes a night, four nights a week will enhance proficiency very quickly. At this time, I cannot endorse a specific program, but there are many free programs that can be found on-line by searching "kids typing programs."

Thank you for helping us to assure we are working together to provide your child the best possible education.

Sincerely,

Mr. Zeisler

Mr. Zeisler