



# Principal's Page

[www.chicagoparkschool.com](http://www.chicagoparkschool.com)

**Volume 12 Issue 08**

**December 06, 2013**

## WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> 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-5<sup>th</sup>) directly to their classroom by 6:15, so they may get ready for their performance. No (K-5<sup>th</sup>) children will be allowed in the gym until they are accompanied by their teacher.

## LOST AND FOUND

It's 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 20<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> and all toys will be donated locally. For more information you may visit their website at [www.toysfortots.org](http://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 12<sup>th</sup>.

## WINTER BREAK

We will kick-off the Winter Break with a minimum day on December 20<sup>th</sup>, with school dismissal at 12:30. The break will continue from December 23<sup>rd</sup> -January 7<sup>th</sup>. School resumes on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing your child refreshed, invigorated, and ready to learn.

## 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 22<sup>nd</sup> through December 12<sup>th</sup>. 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/chicagoparkelemschl> to visit our homepage and start shopping.

Our on-site book fair will run December 6<sup>th</sup> through December 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 6<sup>th</sup>.

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulation to the November Students of the Month!

K – **Alina Guzman, Everett Norman**  
1<sup>st</sup> – **Seth Arcand, Jada Moore**  
2<sup>nd</sup> – **Gavin DeWitt, Daniel Guzman**  
3<sup>rd</sup> – **Xavier Canter, Jessica Mason, Ezra Pagan**  
4<sup>th</sup> – **Dustin Grimes, Cole Shade**  
5<sup>th</sup> – **Nikolena Coonen, Zachary Phillips**  
Academy – **Jess Barrett, Cole Grimes, Cristina Torres**

## HONORS BINGO WINNERS

All who attended Honors Bingo on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, had a great time. The winners were: **Jesse Barrett (7<sup>th</sup>), Sheriane Greene (7<sup>th</sup>), Austin Jefferis (8<sup>th</sup>) Abigayl McLeran (8<sup>th</sup>), Nick Tavares (4<sup>th</sup>)**. We would like to thank the PTA for sponsoring this event.

## CITIZENSHIP QUOTE

"Citizenship is a tough occupation which obliges the citizen to make his own informed opinion and stand by it"

Martha Gellhorn



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## SCHOOL WIDE GEOGRAPHY BEE

For the 12<sup>th</sup> year in a row, Chicago Park School District will participate in the National Geographic Society's 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Geography Bee. The qualifying rounds will be conducted between December 3<sup>rd</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>, with the top ten students (minimum one from each grade level) advancing to the school championship competition on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 12:40 in the gymnasium. This exciting event is open to the public if you wish to attend. The finalists will be announced at the Friday Flag Salute on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE LUNCH

A total of 52 students were honored on November 20<sup>th</sup>, with a lunch party for achieving perfect attendance during the first trimester of the school year. Each student received a raffle ticket for a drawing for either a bike or a \$40 VISA Card., and two \$20.00 gift cards. **Seth Arcand** (1<sup>st</sup>) and **Jack Menig** (5<sup>th</sup>) both choose the \$40 VISA card. The \$20 gift cards were awarded to **Garret Arcand** (4<sup>th</sup>) and **Jordan Wilcox** (1<sup>st</sup>). We will be having another party honoring students who achieve perfect attendance for the second trimester, at which time another bike will be raffled, so make sure your kids get to school every day!

We would like to thank **Jim Self** from the Horrace Mann Company for donating the VISA Cards.

## VALUABLE PARENT RESOURCE

By: **Lisa O'Sullivan**

Do you sometimes feel it's hard to keep up with the barrage of games, movies & books that are promoted in stores, commercials and social media? Do you wish you had more time to preview the media your child watches? There's a great resource online that has been very helpful to parents who want to stay involved but sometimes feel overwhelmed. Check out [www.commonssensemedia.org](http://www.commonssensemedia.org). This site gives thorough & thoughtful reviews of apps, video games, movies & books. They also give ratings for specific ages. As the holidays get closer, you can feel confident in the media you choose to purchase for your children with this valuable resource.

## CLASSICAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Week of: December 09-13

Composer: Handel

Piece: The Messiah "And the Glory"

Week of: December 16-20

Composer: Miscellaneous

Piece: Carols

## 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

19 – Strum Bums

Community Sing 6:30

20 – Student of the Month Assembly 8:45

23-31 – Winter Break No School

## JANUARY CALENDAR

01-03 – Winter Break No School

06 – Staff Development Day No School

Next Principal's Page – December 20, 2013

Article Deadline – December 16, 2013

## PTA CORNER

## HARVEST DAY FESTIVAL

It is never too late say thank you to everyone that made the first annual Harvest Festival a success! From the creative booths, delicious BBQ, wonderful baked goods, to the donated candy and toy prizes, fun was found at every turn. We also want acknowledge our gratitude to "A Bounce-Above" for donating the inflatable slide.

Not only was the day filled with merriment it also helped the PTA raise over \$800. Keep your eyes out for next year's Harvest Festival.

## December Calendar

13 – PTA Meeting, 8:45am

## January Calendar

01 – Resolve2Run, 9am

10 – PTA Meeting, 8:45am

23 – PTA General Meeting, 6:30pm