



Lincoln Times 5th Grade Edition January 2011

5th Grade LARS

Fifth graders are currently working in Theme 6, a social studies theme. This theme focuses on the comprehension strategy of synthesizing, which is taking information and using it to form new ideas. We are also learning about homonyms, which are words that sound the same but are spelled different and mean different things. As always we are learning vocabulary words that go along with the topic. We will be wrapping up the first half of Theme 6 before break and continuing it when we return in January. The last three days before break we will be doing a poetry unit. The students will learn about five different types of poetry and create a poem book to show what they have learned!

ELP - Mrs. Sieren

Dear 5th Grade Parents,

Merry Christmas! We are currently studying about the stock market. Maybe the kids will be so knowledgeable that after Christmas they will want to invest some of their gift money in the stock market! We will continue learning about various companies, read stock quotes in different papers, and explore some trends over the last several years.

Our next unit will be robotics. Have a great holiday season with your family and friends.

Music

Congratulations to the fifth graders on their program, "Discovery" at the Community Center. Students are now doing a project where they are creating commercials and coming up with a short musical jingle. After that, students will be focusing on melody, and how notes move in their songs to give it a shape or melodic contour. We will be working on watching how the notes are moving along with reading the words of the songs.

Mark your calendars!!!!

Scholastic Book Fair

Friday, February 4th

8am - 4pm

Lincoln Media Center

Art

Mrs. Humphreys

We just completed the iProject using the computers and we will paint whistles after break. After that, we will begin working on Value Drawing.

Value drawing:
Learn about the element of value.
Learn about drawing a landscape using perspective.
Create a landscape drawing using pencil to add value.
Participate in a group critique of the drawings.

Passing on Healthy Habits to Your Children

Part of your responsibility as a parent is to teach your children how to lead healthy lives. The best time to start teaching these lessons to your children is when they're young, before unhealthy choices become lifelong bad habits. When you want to pass on healthy habits to your kids it's important to practice what you preach. Just telling your kids what to do won't necessarily work—they need to see you choosing healthy behaviors.

To lead a healthy active life, families can strive to reach these goals:

- 5 fruits and vegetables a day
- 2 hours less of screen time (TV, computer, video games) per day
- 1 hour of physical activity a day, and
- 0 limit sugar-sweetened drinks

In addition to 5,2,1,0, families can make small changes in their family routines to help everyone lead healthier active lives. Try:

- Eating breakfast everyday
- Eating low-fat dairy products like yogurt, milk and cheese;
- Regularly eating meals together as a family;

- Limiting fast food, take out food, and eating out at restaurants;
- Preparing foods at home as a family;
- Eating a diet rich in calcium; and
- Eating a high fiber diet

Healthy active children are more likely to be healthy active adults!

Holly Roth RN, BSN
Lincoln Elementary School Nurse

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!

On Friday, February 4, 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. If you have not, please check out the district web page at www.washington.k12.ia.us.

All buildings have made an effort to keep the web page up-to-date with weekly happenings. It is an excellent opportunity to see not only what is happening at Lincoln but throughout Washington community Schools.

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

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.