



Lincoln Times

6th Grade Edition December 2011

Here's What's Happening in 6th Grade!!!!

Social Studies

We are beginning our Ancient Egyptian unit. So far we have learned about the Pharaohs, the Nile River, some of their gods and goddesses, and mummies. We will be working on this unit throughout December. We will also have a project with this unit. The students will be able to pick one of the topics we studied and learn more about it.

Language Arts, Reading, and Spelling

At the end of November, students worked on fluency by practicing and presenting plays. The students did a nice job of implementing what they learned during whole group lessons into their plays. Personification stories were written and illustrated.

The Trail Drive, Saving the Sound, and Born Worker will be read during the month of December. We will be working on skills that are showing up as areas that need improvement in successmaker.

It is important for your student to continue reading at home each night to meet their reading goal.

Science- Mrs. Clawson

Do you know what the term, black box, really means? Are you familiar with humdingers? Your sixth grade scientist should! We are in our technology/physical science unit called Models and Designs, a very challenging and frustrating unit! Models and Designs really focuses on the thinking habits and problem solving skills scientists, engineers and mathematicians use in their work. We will also be studying Rube Goldberg and his work as a part of this unit.

Ms. Baumert, my student teacher, will be independently teaching sections of the Models and Designs unit. She has done a great job working in the science classroom and has really enjoyed getting to know the 6th grade students!

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress in science please feel free to contact me!



Math

Mrs. Swift & Mrs. Thorius

We have reached the end of the first trimester and have worked on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals. This included exact answers as well as estimation and problem solving. We are also learning some basic algebra concepts. We're now ready to do work with algebraic expressions and expressions which will lead up to studying fractions. When you look at your son or daughter's math grade ask if they redid any quizzes, homework, or did extra credit to improve their average. These are the best ways to improve the letter grade. Progress reports will not show late work or extra credit. These are figured in at the end of the grading period. The year is progressing rapidly and students are making excellent progress. Have a great holiday season!

Art-Mrs. Humphreys

Current Project: Optical Illusions
View the artwork of Bridget Riley.
Learn about the importance of repetition, thickness of line and vanishing point.
Create an optical artwork.

Art Classes can always use quart size zip lock bags if you would like to make a contribution to our classes. Thanks!

Music - Mrs. J. Hill

Sixth graders are currently studying music that has syncopation, including music from South America and reggae music. Soon sixth graders will study the life and music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Sunrise Singer performances

Dec. 6 - Advanced band and Sunrise Singers - High school auditorium at 7:00 p.m. Meet in the H.S. vocal music room at 6:45. Admission - free will donation

Dec. 9 - Adv. Band & Sunrise Singers - Lincoln gym at 8:30 A.M.

Dec. 15 - Sunrise Singers perform at McCreedy Home at 1:15

Jan. 17 - Sunrise Singers perform at Hospice Dinner - UP Church at 5:30 P.M.

ELP - Mrs. Sieren

We are just beginning our simple chemistry unit. So far we have learned about disease transmission and epidemiology. We will be using cabbage juice as an indicator for acids and bases, learning about atoms and molecules, and making polymers the next few weeks before Christmas. It seems that the weeks go by so quickly. Happy holiday shopping!

Notes from the Office

Attendance/Absence Line

A new attendance line has been set up for absences in the district. Parents can now call 653-1101 and will get a greeting. They can then press a number to select which school they would like to leave a message for, and then will be able to leave a message about an absence. This will be helpful if you need to call Lincoln about an absence before anyone is in the office at 7:30. You may still call the

main office to report an absence, but this is a second option for those parents that are heading off to work early. Thanks for your help in letting Lincoln know when your student will not be in attendance.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, December 6 - Advanced Band/Sunrise Singer Concert at the High School at 7:00PM

Friday, December 9 - Advanced Band Tour

Wednesday, December 14 - 1:10 Dismissal- Professional Growth

Thursday, December 22 - 2:20 Dismissal - Winter Break

Friday, December 23 - Monday, January 2 - NO SCHOOL -Winter Break



Happy Holidays!

Notes from the Nurse

Colder weather is upon us, during these months it is important for us to be prepared. Please make sure your child is dressed each day for school in a warm coat, hat, gloves or mittens, snow boots and snow pants. Weather permitting all children will go outside for recess. Kids really do benefit from the fresh air and exercise. This is the time of year cold viruses are more prevalent. Bacteria and viruses are passed by coughing and sneezing. The germs land on surfaces or are inhaled while still in the air. The best way to minimize the spread of these infections is to remind and encourage your child to wash their hands frequently and to cover all coughs and sneezes with their elbows. Promoting wellness is also essential to prevent these illnesses. This can be obtained by making certain your children get adequate rest by observing a regular bedtime, students this age should be getting between 9-11 hours of sleep each night. Nutrition is also an important factor in remaining healthy. Kids should be encouraged to make healthy choices for meals and snacks.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school healthy this winter.

Holly Roth RN, BSN
School Nurse

Notes from the Counselor

In the classrooms I talked with the students about **Conflict Resolution Strategies**. Some of the strategies discussed were: **Big Deal-Little Deal** (being able to determine if the problem is a big deal or a little deal, and then knowing how to handle each one); **React V. Respond** (should respond to a conflict not react, a response is a thoughtful process where a reaction is a reflex or impulse); **Compromise** (meet in the middle, win-win solution); and **Perspective** (other peoples view point or outlook on the conflict). I introduced each strategy and then in small groups the students discussed each strategy. We then related these conflict resolution strategies to real life situations that may happen here at school and how we can handle and solve those problems/

conflicts. Students can get better at solving conflicts by practicing these strategies here at school and at home!

Thank you for your cooperation in helping your child practice these strategies.

Lisa Otters
Guidance Counselor

Notes from the Principal

With winter weather just around the corner, please review with your child where to go in case of an unplanned early out. This will help to ease student anxiety and cut down on the long lines to use the telephones.

With temperatures dropping we remind you to dress your children warm, like they are going out for recess. We do watch the temperature and wind chill before making a decision on sending students outside. A lot of students come to school without hats or gloves. If your child needs to stay in for recess, please send a note. If your child needs to stay in for medical reasons longer than two days, a doctor's note should be sent.

A special "thank you" to the students for working hard on Basic Skills and to the PTG for supporting and organizing the distribution of snacks during Basic Skills.

In the past, many parents and students bring Christmas presents for teachers and staff. We are asking instead of presents for teachers or staff members, if parents would consider sending games or activities for students to use for inside recess. This will give students more activities to choose from when the rain or cold weather sets in.

We will dismiss on Thursday, December 22, at 2:20 PM for winter break. School will resume on Tuesday, January 3.

Finally, remember to stay in touch with the school. If you have a question or concern let us know. Do not wait for progress reports, conferences or report cards. Two-way communication between home and school is one of the keys to the academic success of your child.

Thank you for a great year at Lincoln Elementary and *Happy Holidays!*

David Hoffman, Principal
Lincoln Elementary School

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.