

COLEBROOKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Michael R. Stoudt, Principal



February 2010

February Events

5	Preschool Story Time library, 9:30 a.m.
5	Grade 5 to Planetarium
5	PARP calendars due
8	Report Cards
8	Grade 1 to Planetarium
9	Grade 3 music program all-purpose room, 7:00 p.m.
9	School Board meeting Education Center, 7:00 p.m.
12	Dental presentation to Grade 3
12	Market Day delivery all-purpose room, 4:45-5:45 p.m.
15	No School
23	School Board meeting Colebrookdale Elementary School all-purpose room, 7:00 p.m.

Standardized Testing

PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) Reading and Math tests will be given in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 between the dates of April 12 – 16. The PSSA Writing test will be given in grade 5 between the dates of April 19 – 23. The PSSA Science test will be given in grade 4 between the dates of April 26 – 30. Make-up tests for any of these assessments will be given between the dates of May 3 – 7.

Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods. Students will NOT be excused for “educational trips” during these testing periods.

Standardized tests are designed to give a common measure of how well students are doing. Over the past few years these tests have become more important than ever. Many states, including Pennsylvania, have defined specifically what

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students should know and be able to do, grade by grade. These are commonly called the “state standards.” State standards are designed to spell out what is expected of students. You can find details of the standards on the Pennsylvania Department of Education web site www.pde.psu.edu, click on PDE Quick Links.

How can you help your child do better on standardized tests?

In the months preceding the test:

- Find out when the tests are to be given. Write the date and time on your calendar. Avoid scheduling appointments or trips during these times.
- Ask the teacher what you can do at home. Before the state tests, the teacher might ask you to review math facts or vocabulary terms, for example.
- Encourage your child to read. The easiest and best way to prepare your child for doing well on tests is read often.

Right before the test:

- Make sure your child gets a good night’s sleep. Provide a good breakfast.
- Have your child dress in layers - students do better on tests if they don’t have to think about how hot or cold they are.
- Don’t be too anxious. Say, “This test is important. I know you will try hard and do your best.” Your confidence will be contagious.
- On the day of the test, give your child these tips:
 1. Pay close attention to test directions.
 2. Answer the easy questions first.
 3. Read every answer before you choose one.

4. If you are not sure of the answer, rule out the choices that you know are wrong. Then pick the best answer that is left.
5. If you have time, check your answers carefully. Make sure the numbers of your answers correspond to the numbers of the questions on the test.
6. If you start to feel stressed, take some deep breaths to relax.

Believe in yourself and do your best!

Kindergarten Registration

The Boyertown Area School District is announcing kindergarten registration for the 2010-11 school year. Information packets were mailed in January to each resident with a child who will reach 5 years of age on or before September 10, 2010. These names are taken from the district's census file. If you or someone you know has a child that meets the age requirement and has not received a packet by February 5, please contact the district office to obtain one.

All kindergarten registration is done by appointment and will be done at the District Education Center located at 911 Montgomery Avenue, Boyertown during the month of March. The packet will include all the necessary forms and instructions for registration.

Note that although students entering kindergarten are required to have a physical and dental examination, these exams must be completed after September 1, 2009 and no later than September 15, 2010.

Please contact the Student Attendance Office at 610-369-7492 if you did not receive a packet or have questions or concerns regarding this process.

Preschool Story Time

Our Preschool Story Time is scheduled to begin in February. The sessions will be held in the Colebrookdale Elementary School library at 9:30 a.m. on the following Fridays: February 5, March 5 and April 9.

If you know anyone with preschool children who does not currently have a student enrolled at our school, please pass the word along. This program is intended for preschoolers who will be enrolling in our kindergarten program for the next school year

Reading News - Read Across America

Exciting things will be happening at Colebrookdale Elementary as we celebrate Read Across America on March 2, the birthday of well renowned children's author, Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. We are not alone in our

celebration. Classrooms all around the country will be observing the day that was designed by the National Education Association in order to motivate students to read and create a love of reading.

So what is happening at Colebrookdale? We are planning to have high school students visit the building to read to younger students. We will also have guest readers from the community and district administrators sharing their love of books with students. Classroom teachers will be planning special activities in their classrooms and, of course, we will have The Cat in the Hat visit our school. A staff member will disguise him/herself as The Cat in the Hat and students will have the opportunity to guess who The Cat in the Hat actually is. Lots of Fun!

You may want to make this event a celebrated day in your home by choosing a special book, visiting the bookstore and library, or inviting a friend or relative to come to visit and share a book. Below is a site that will provide you with other exciting possibilities. It should be a fun day as we put additional time aside to motivate and instill a love of reading in our students.

<http://www.seussville.com>

News from the Music Room

It's time!!! Our third grade students have been working very hard to learn song from various islands. We are just about ready to perform for you!! All students, parents, family and friends are invited to the third grade concert, "Cruisin' to the Islands" on February 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the all-purpose room here at Colebrookdale. Join us for a little Bob Marley, Jimmy Buffet, and island folk songs!! Third grade students need to report to their classrooms at 6:40 p.m. that evening.

A donation will be accepted to aid the earthquake victims in Haiti.

Our third grade students will be giving an encore performance of songs from their concert at the School Board meeting on February 23 which will be held in our all-purpose room. Come join us!

H.S.A. Corner

The H.S.A. will be hosting a roller skating party at Pheasantland Roller Skating Rink for all Colebrookdale students, staff and their families. The party is scheduled for March 6, 2010 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Anyone who has pictures of events from this year's parties, class trips, school programs, etc. is encouraged to share these special memories with our yearbook staff. The deadline to order a 2009-2010 yearbook is February 5. The cost is \$17. Order forms are available in the office.

