

# COLEBROOKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dr. Thomas L. Shugar, Principal

November 2009

## NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 2 ..... Grade 4 to the Planetarium
- 3 ..... Cherrydale fundraiser pick-up  
all-purpose room, 2:30 – 6:00 p.m.
- 4 ..... Cherrydale Limo rides to Pizza Hut
- 6 ..... end of first marking period
- 6 ..... Market Day delivery  
all-purpose room, 4:45 – 5:45 p.m.
- 6 ..... P.A.R.P. calendars due
- 10 ..... Picture Retakes 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.
- 10 ..... School Board meeting  
Gilbertsville Elementary, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 ..... Mass Health Screenings
- 13 ..... 12:25 dismissal
- 19 ..... Evening parent conferences
- 23 ..... 12:25 p.m. dismissal
- 24 ..... 12:25 p.m. dismissal
- 24 ..... Evening parent conferences
- 25 ..... 12:25 p.m. dismissal
- 26, 27, 30 ..... No School

## PICTURE RETAKES

Picture Retake Day will be Tuesday, November 10 from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. Children who were absent on Picture Day may have their pictures taken on this day. In addition, if you are not satisfied with your package of pictures, your child may have his/her picture taken again. Please return the original package on retake day with your child's name, teacher, and package selection written on the front envelope. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school office.

## REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

For the first marking period, report cards will be distributed to parents at the scheduled parent-teacher conferences. The end of the first marking period is November 6.

## Caring \* Experiencing \* Succeeding EARLY DISMISSALS

On November 13, 23, 24 and 25 we will dismiss at 12:25 p.m.

The Kindergarten schedule is as follows:  
AM Kindergarten - 8:30 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.  
PM Kindergarten - 10:25 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

All grade levels will be conducting parent-teacher conferences at the end of the first marking period. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress in school with the teacher. Conference schedule confirmations will be sent home by your child's teacher. Since conferences are scheduled back-to-back, please make sure to arrive at your scheduled time.

This year we have also made a limited number of conference times available on November 19 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. and on November 24 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. All professional staff will be available during this evening time. We look forward to conferencing with all of our parents. If you need to reschedule a conference, please remember to call the school office and let us know. Thank you.

## CLOTHING NEEDS

Are you a family in need of emergency clothing? Please contact Mrs. Weinberger for information about the Community Clothing Rack operated by the members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Mrs. Weinberger's phone number is 610-473-5290.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The District Elementary Band and Orchestra Holiday Concert will be held Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the senior high school.

## **READING WITH CHILDREN**

In our last newsletter we discussed the importance of developing children into lifelong readers. Focusing on comprehension and understanding is a vital part of reading. It is the end product of the entire process! In classrooms we are teaching children to read strategically. This means we are showing them how to construct meaning when they read by engaging in particular practices or strategies. One of those practices is to encourage the child to make connections as he/she reads. **Making connections** is one of the important tools in developing and improving reading comprehension.

You can help your child to make connections by...

- Providing a wide range of experiences to which your child can connect and relate to.
- Reading daily with your child so you can make connections between books together.
- Making connections yourself as you read with your child. You might say "This reminds me of..."

Stay tuned for additional comprehension strategies!

## **STANDARDIZED TESTING**

For this school year, the following standardized tests will be administered to our students:

PSSA writing tests

(grade 5 only)

April 19 – 23, 2010

PSSA math and reading tests

(grades 3, 4, 5 and 6)

April 12 – 16, 2010

PSSA science test

(grade 4 only)

April 26 – 30, 2010

Since these tests are a source of important information to you and our school, **family trips are not to be scheduled on these testing dates.**

## **SELF-TALK LEADS TO SUCCESS**

Professional athletes know that self-talk helps them succeed. In fact, gymnasts who talk to themselves improve their chances of qualifying for the Olympics. The same techniques can work for children. Here are two possible times to use self-talk.

➤ *When concentrating.* Saying things out loud helps children tune out distractions. Reading instructions aloud, for example, helps children focus on what to do.

➤ *When facing a challenge.* Positive self-talk encourages children to believe in themselves. Saying things like, "I am a hard worker and I am

going to finish these math problems" can boost confidence and grades.

## **H1N1 UPDATE**

Our schools have experienced a high rate of student absenteeism recently. While this is not attributed to the H1N1 virus, we will continue to work closely with the parents/guardians of children who are ill.

BASD continues to follow the practices identified through the information on our district website and letters previously sent to parents/guardians to minimize the impact of the H1N1 virus. These measures include: monitoring student enrollment, reinforcing hand washing at school, and working closely with parents/guardians of children that may be ill.

We encourage all parents/guardians to consult with your family physician related to any medical concerns you may have and/or possible treatment/prevention options. It is also recommended from The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that children stay home at least 24 hours after a fever is gone. BASD also recommends this practice to avoid infecting other students and employees. More detailed information can be accessed from the H1N1 link on the Boyertown Area School District's website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> or directly from the Pennsylvania Department of Health at <http://www.h1n1inpa.com/>.

## **H.S.A. CORNER**

Thank you to all students and parents for a very successful fundraiser. The items will be available for pick up November 3 from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the all purpose room. The Pizza Hut Limo rides will be held on November 4. Students had to sell a certain number of items to qualify for this special treat.

The Holiday Shoppe will be held December 2, 3 and 4. The children will be able to select and purchase items for family and friends. The items range from \$2 to \$10. Most of the gifts are under \$5. We need as much help as possible to make this event a success. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are always welcome. If you can spare an hour or two or even more, it would be appreciated. Please give Mrs. Sheha a call at 610-369-0097 if you would like to volunteer. More information about the Holiday Shoppe will be sent home this month.

