



Sunflower Seeds

Parent Newsletter

2012

February Edition

From the Principal...

Sunflower Elementary has kicked off 2012 with a bang! While we were busy learning how to read, write and do arithmetic, we also found time for enriching activities. Here are just a few of the activities that went on in January.

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- ☺ Kindergarteners invited their buddies (Dads) to help them build something fun. They also entertained us as Cowboys for Kansas Day and had a toy parade.
- ☺ In 1st Grade they learned all about Martin Luther King Jr. and celebrated the 100th day of school with flare.
- ☺ In 2nd Grade the suits, ties, and dresses were all over the place as students interviewed for jobs in the popcorn industry. They had walking field trips to the bank to borrow money and to Andover Popcorn Co. to learn how to make the best popcorn in school. 2nd grade also had a visit from Thor, the Police Dog, with the Andover Police Department. He was awesome!
- ☺ 3rd grade has been working with Jim Robbins the author of "The Remarkable Friendship of Aristotle Burgoo". He has made several visits to our school discussing his work with 2nd and 3rd graders. Who knows which one of our students will be an author someday! Maybe even one of our teachers will become an author!
- ☺ 4th grade students worked on their famous Kansan all month with the final experience being a presentation for parents. We all learned a lot about famous Kansans presented in an interesting format of a wax museum.
- ☺ 5th graders have learned a new way to do Powerpoint presentations. Prezi gives a new flare to a presentation. I think Powerpoint is becoming the dinosaur after using Prezi. You will have to check it out.
- ☺ In Art, Music, and P.E. we have students working on art fair projects, kindergarten students preparing for their programs, and students learning to roller skate. The students loved pulling out the skates with Mrs. Dare.
- ☺ PTO Bingo Coordinators had a successful evening making over \$2,100 for the school. The best part was having fun with family and friends. Great job to Mrs. Wackerly, Mrs. Carney, Mrs. Detter, and the rest of the team that organized Bingo!

Continued on Pg. 2



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 7	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00pm
Feb 7	Site Council Meeting 6:30pm
Feb 8	K'garten Music Program 7:00pm
Feb 9	KidzWorld Assembly
Feb 10	Principal's PAWSitive Awards
Feb 14	Classroom Valentine Parties

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 14	Kindergarten Royal Banquet
Feb 17	PTO Walk-A-Thon
Feb 20	In-Service Day - No School
Feb 24	Principal's PAWSitive Awards
Feb 28	PTO Meeting 6:30pm
Mar 6	Kindergarten Round-Up 6:30pm

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- ☺ We invited Dr. Linda Hope to school and honored her in Jumpstart with cards, a gift, and a song of appreciation for giving so much of her time to our school district. This was our way to honor her for School Board Appreciation month.
- ☺ We had a great assembly presented by the New Horizons Air Force Clarinet Quartet from Omaha, Nebraska.

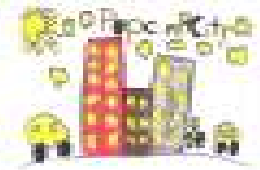
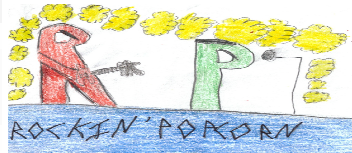
It takes a lot of activities to keep us well-rounded and learning all that we can. Clearly, Sunflower Elementary is a great place to be!

Warm Regards, Mrs. Decker

Popcorn Popping Day is February 3, 2012

Each second grade classroom has created their very own popcorn company which includes a manufacturing, packaging, advertising, and accounting/sales department. They have also created their own logos, song, and commercial to help promote their company. All four second grade classes have been working very hard. They will be selling popcorn for \$0.50 a bag. If you would like to order, please be on the lookout for an order form coming home soon. Popping day is February 3 and all popcorn will be delivered that day. We would love to have everyone get involved, so if you'd like to make a donation just send it in with an order form.

Thanks so much for your support!



KINDERGARTEN Vocal Music Program

February 8th, 7:00pm in the Sunflower Gym

- Our *theme* is related to Valentines Day and Winter Songs!
- Students will report to the music room at 6:45pm to line up prior to their performance. (Music Room #300)
- Parents or Guardians, take your child's coat, gloves, scarves etc. with you back into the gymnasium before sending your child to the music room.
- After the program you may find your child with their classroom teacher in the gymnasium.

DVD's of the program are \$10. Order forms may be picked up at the door.



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WANTED

Parents of children who will be 5 years old on or before
August 31, 2012 to attend

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Thursday, March 6th, 2012

6:30 -7:30 pm

SUNFLOWER ELEMENTARY GYM

Important Documents to bring:

- 1. State certified birth certificate
- 2. Immunization records

For more information call
Sunflower Elementary Office at 218-4730

Reserve your spot, as this
will be a great informational time!

COUNT YOUR KID IN

A free developmental screening for infants and pre-school children.

To schedule a free appointment, call 1-800-353-8561

February 17, 2012

8:30am - 12:00pm

Haverhill Christian Church

10275 S.W. Haverhill Rd.

316-775-7024

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COUNSELOR'S CORNER By Mrs. Kathy Hubbard



Sunflower 3rd-5th graders will soon be taking the 2011-2012 Kansas Computerized Assessments (KCA). Research has shown that plenty of rest and a good breakfast are beneficial to student success. In February, Mrs. Decker and I will be speaking with the students encouraging them to give these tests their best **EFFORT!** We will be reviewing with them the wonderful **SUCCESS** Sunflower students achieved in the past on the KCA as well. Included with this newsletter is the testing schedule so you can schedule appointments to allow your child to be **PRESENT** for scheduled testing, if at all possible.

If you are planning to move and withdraw your child from Sunflower Elementary during one of the testing periods, please advise me or your child's teacher. Students who begin a test are graded on what they complete and portions of the test not completed are graded and counted as wrong answers. We do not want a child to begin a test and then move from Sunflower in the middle of the test.

Sunflower 2011 - 2012 Kansas State Assessment Schedule

Grade	Test	Date	Time
3rd grade	reading	3/6/12	8:45-10:30
3rd grade	reading	3/7/12	8:45-10:30
3rd grade	reading	3/8/12	8:45-10:30
4th grade	reading	3/13/12	8:45-10:30
4th grade	reading	3/14/12	8:45-10:30
4th grade	reading	3/15/12	8:45-10:30
3rd grade	math	3/13/12	10:45-12:30
3rd grade	math	3/14/12	10:45-12:30
3rd grade	math	3/15/12	10:45-12:30
4th grade	math	4/3/12	8:45-10:30
4th grade	math	4/4/12	8:45-10:30
4th grade	math	4/5/12	8:45-10:30
5th grade	reading	4/3/12	10:45-12:30
5th grade	reading	4/4/12	10:45-12:30
5th grade	reading	4/5/12	10:45-12:30
4th grade	science	4/10/12	8:45-10:30
4th grade	science	4/11/12	8:45-10:30
5th grade	math	4/10/12	10:45-12:30
5th grade	math	4/11/12	10:45-12:30
5th grade	math	4/12/12	10:45-12:30



COUNSELOR'S CORNER Continued

Important Testing Reminders

1. Ending testing times are approximate as student completion of the test varies.
2. PLEASE notify Mrs. Hubbard if your child will be moving from the Sunflower district during the testing schedule.
3. PLEASE avoid scheduling out of school appointments during testing dates.



The next character trait we are discussing at Sunflower is **ENTHUSIASM**. The definition of ENTHUSIASM we are using is: Expressing joy in each task as I give it my best effort.

We will emphasize the following "I WILL..." statements:

I WILL:

- ☺ be an energy-giver.
- ☺ smile.
- ☺ treat every job as important.
- ☺ put my whole heart into what I do.
- ☺ not be discouraged by failure.

REMINDERS

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VALENTINE PARTY SCHEDULES

<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>9:00am - 10:00am</i>
<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>2:00pm - 3:00pm</i>
<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>2:00pm - 3:00pm</i>
<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>2:00pm - 3:00pm</i>
<i>5th Grade</i>	<i>2:00pm - 3:00pm</i>

PLEASE send in your
Pre-Enrollment forms.
They were due on
January 27th.

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Notes from the Nurses' Office...

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL DENTAL MONTH

Dental Screenings will be **February 9th**. If you do not want your child to participate in the screening, please come in or call 218-4730 to let the health staff know prior to February 9th.

Information from the Kansas Dental Association:

Soft drinks are no longer an occasional treat. They have become a daily habit. A steady diet of soft drinks is a leading cause of tooth decay.

Some Hard Facts about Soft Drinks:

- ◆ There is no nutritional value in soft drinks. One 12 oz. can contains the daily allowance of added sugar for most adults.
- ◆ Today, teens drink three times more pop than 20 years ago, often replacing milk.
- ◆ The acid dissolves the enamel of the tooth increasing the risk of cavities.
- ◆ In addition to cavities, pop consumption has been linked to diabetes, obesity, and osteoporosis.

Amount of Sugar in 12 oz servings:

Sprite	9 teaspoons	Mountain Dew	11 teaspoons
Gatorade	3.3 teaspoons	Dr. Pepper	9.5 teaspoons
Pepsi	9.8 teaspoons	Coke Classic	9.3 teaspoons
Hawaiian Fruit Punch	10.2 teaspoons	Water	0.0 teaspoons
Orange Minute Maid	11.2 teaspoons		



Suggestions to Reduce Decay

- ◆ Limit consumption. Drink it quickly or with a meal/snack to limit amount of acid.
- ◆ Use a straw to keep sugar away from the teeth.
- ◆ After drinking, swish mouth out with water to dilute the sugar.
- ◆ Never drink pop or juice before bedtime. The liquid pools in your mouth and coats the tongue and teeth with sugar and acid.

Drink Water - No sugar, no acid, no calories



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Sunflower Elementary School

SPELLING BEE 2012

PRESS RELEASE

The annual Sunflower Elementary Spelling Bee took place on Thursday, January 12th, 2012.

The 2012 winner is Peyton Vincze, a fifth grade student from Mrs. Wackerly's classroom. Our runner-up is Hannah Wiebe, a fifth grade student from Mr. Keethler's class. There were eighteen contestants in this year's bee. Other contestants included: 3rd graders: Jake K., William W., Katelyn T., Levi H., Haleigh Z., and Terri B. 4th graders: Christopher T., Alex K., Skyler M., Tracy O., Kaden W., and Briana Y. 5th graders: Kinsley O., Wesley P., Kenneth B., and Brendan M..

Mrs. Sherri Borger pronounced the words to the students with Mrs. Carney and Mrs. Deutscher serving in the role of judges for the bee. Peyton will be representing Sunflower Elementary at the Butler County spelling bee on February 10, 2012 at Butler County Community College in El Dorado, Kansas.

Congratulations to all of the spellers on a successful Spelling Bee!



KNOWLEDGE MASTER OPEN

Sunflower Elementary's fifth grade students took 9th place in the 43rd Annual Knowledge Master Open academic competition in Kansas and took 4th place in the Andover Public Schools division. The competition took place on Wednesday, January 25, 2012. Andover's elementary 5th grade teams competed in an academic competition across the state of Kansas. The competition was sponsored by the Extended Learning Program teacher, Stacey King, and was assisted by paraprofessionals, Andi Crouse and Celia Ralston.

The team of fifth graders scored a total of 505 points.



The 2012 Knowledge Master Open team members included: Peyton V., Kinsley O., Kendrick L., Hannah W., Teagan H., Blake D., Wesley P., Maura F., Abby W., and Ryan K.

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January's Principal's "Paws"itive Awards

Ella R., Kaulin M., Phillip L., Erica L., Augie M., Anessa S., McKenna G., Ethan P., Mason S., Delaney C., Trey N., Emma A., Anna L., Jacob A., Andrew Z., Brayden W., Mason B., Riley C., Skyler J., Kirby H., Rose C., Aubrie B., Samira V., Michael A., William W., Terri B., Matthew M., Alexis R., Kylie L., Brigdon S., Bailey H., Ryley B., Carson P., Hailey B., Gehrig H., Kimia R., Peyton V., Alex M.



HIP, HIP, HOORAH!!!



Allie N., Brayden N., Kaia B., Emily S., Michael S., Cameron L., Hayden S., Blake W., Reagan H., Jordan F., Brock P., Jackson W., Olivia K., Keira O., Ash D., Peyton A., Riley G., Nikhil H., Sarah T., Shane F., Kyndel L., Jenni L., Alex K., Brennan E., Sarah K., Delaney C., Ethan S., Kinsley O., Mason N., Molly W., Allison U., Michael S., Hannah W.



Lunch Account Email:

Lunch email notification is sent each Thursday for each meal account with a balance of **+\$30.00 and below**. You will be notified at your PowerSchool email address.

How to setup PowerSchool Email Notifications:

1. Log into PowerSchool, using your parent login username and password. If you do not have your username and password, contact your student's school.
2. Click the Email Notification icon at the top of the page.
3. Check the box beside any information you would like sent to your email address.
4. Select how often you would like to receive the emails.
5. Type in your email address.
6. Click submit.

Please remember that this is the email address that will be shared with Nutrikids, our lunch cashier system. We do not use PowerLunch, which is the lunch management portion of PowerSchool.

If you are having trouble receiving lunch email notifications, please review these steps:

1. Wrong address in PowerSchool
2. No email address in PowerSchool
3. Multiple email addresses in PowerSchool
4. Email provider is blocking email from Nutrikids

To correct items #1-3, please verify your email address in the *Guardian Email Notification* section of PowerSchool for each of your students. For item #4, contact your email provider to learn why this email is blocked. You may also contact Bonnie Scarth bonniescarth@usd385.org, in the Food Service Office, to verify your email address or to substitute a different email address.

If you do not have email or access to online account information, please contact the Food Service Office, (316) 218-4603 to receive current account information.

Ann Katt

Food Service Director

katta@usd385.org

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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Sunflower Elementary PTO's Second Annual Walk-a-Thon

February 17, 2012

Pledge Kickoff was Friday, January 27th, 2012

Last day to turn in packets: Monday, February 13th

Walk-a-Thon Day: Friday, February 17th

(students with per lap pledges will have packets returned home with them)

Deadline for per lap pledges to be turned in: Monday, March 3rd

The Sunflower PTO spring fundraiser is upon us! In recognition of American Heart Health Month, we are opting for a fun and healthy way to have our students raise money, **PLUS 100% OF FUNDS WILL GO TO OUR SCHOOL!** This event, the **PAW PRIDE PROWL**, will be Friday, February 17th, during each grade's Art/Music/P.E. (AMP) time.

Pledge envelopes with instructions were sent home Friday, January 27th. Please watch for the pledge packets in your student/s' backpack.

Parents are welcome to come and cheer on their student/s.



"Please review the Walk-a-thon and Carnival volunteer sign-up sheets sent home in your child's Friday Folder. Please send them back as soon as possible with your child. We look forward to your help in making our fundraisers a success!"

"Donations given to the Sunflower Walk-a-thon are not tax deductible. You may want to check with your personal accountant."

Thank you for your continued support!



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 C	2 A	3 B	4
5	6 C	7 A	8 B	9 C	10 A	11
12	13 B	14 C	15 A	16 B	17 C	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS' DAY	21 A	22 B	23 C	24 A	25
26	27 B	28 C	29 A			