

Murray Lake Messenger

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December 14, 2018

From the Principal....

It is hard to believe we only have one more week of school left until our Holiday break. Next week is going to be a fun-filled week for sure! Student council is holding a spirit week next week to help get all of our students in the Holiday spirit.

Monday-Holiday sock day
Tuesday-Crazy hair/Santa hat day
Wednesday-Holiday twin day
Thursday-Ugly sweater day
Friday-PJ/Stuffed animal day



This time of year is always a good time to reflect. Tuesday night, I was given the opportunity to volunteer at the Gilda's Club Holiday Dinner, held at the Franciscan Life Center. As I served food and chatted with those that have utilized Gilda's services, I could only reflect on how lucky we all are to be a part of this amazing community. During the presentation, the Pink Arrow foundation presented Gilda's with a check for over \$70,000. All that money was raised with the help of our supportive community. Our Murray Lake family is quite amazing as well. Thanks to our efforts with No Shave November, our small school community raised over \$670 dollars! I was able to present the check to them on behalf of our staff and students. They were so grateful for our efforts and they wanted me to thank everyone for their support.



Our students started DIBELS testing this week.

This is a reading fluency assessment that all students are given 3 times a year to determine how students are performing on important reading skills. DIBELS stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills. Teachers use this data to inform their instruction. If you are interested in learning more about this assessment go to the link below:
<https://dibels.uoregon.edu/docs/dibelsparentguide.pdf>

Congratulations to Kandace Labron. She has been chosen as our staff member of the month for November! Kandace has been such a blessing to MLE. She is willing to go above and beyond what is expected of her. She has a great sense of what is best for the kids with whom she works. She always goes out of her way to help anyone in need and comes to work with a smile on her face.

Another congratulations goes to Denice Barker. She was chosen as our volunteer of the month. She is a grandmother of a Murray Lake student. Denice volunteers in Mrs. Fuss' class every week. She reads stories to the students. She is always patient and kind. The students love hearing her stories. We are so grateful to have wonderful volunteers like Denice at MLE!

Our second and third graders are preparing for their December concert. We hope to see many of you in attendance—December 17, 2 pm in our cafeteria. This event is a great kick-off to the holidays!

I continue to be quite pleased with the lessons I observe as I walk through our classrooms. We truly have some outstanding teachers and students here at MLE. I hope all of you have a wonderful weekend.

Molly Burnett, Principal

We value: Trustworthiness
Respect Responsibility
Fairness Caring Citizenship

Working together to: Achieve Academic Excellence
Build Self Esteem, and
Care for Others



New Portal View: Infinite Campus has a BRAND NEW APPLICATION!

All user accounts have been changed to the new Campus Parent Portal. You will need to delete your old app and add the new app (if you have not already done so). Your user name and password have not changed. If you need assistance with account, please use the link in IC log in page or at the top of the included instruction document. If you would like more information about how the new site works or what it looks like, please go to: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M+Kud30PnWm0E+Nop9gLxwYzYyBuKawLqqVL62sXWXU/edit?usp=sharing>.

GOTR Registration

Registration for Girls on the Run is open until January 10! They're also looking for coaches! The program starts March 5! Please click on the links below to sign up!

[GOTR Registration](#)

[GOTR Coaching](#)



PE News from Mr. Steele...



We will finish up the first half of the year with some fun holiday games before we all have a nice break. When we get back, we will get right to work with some of our most in depth units of the school year. We start the new year off with our gymnastics unit. Our main focus in week one of gymnastics is learning how to control the body by performing various tumbling skills. Week two will be spent practicing those tumbling skills and working on our balance and coordination on the balance beam. After gymnastics, we will jump into our invasion games, hockey and basketball, each of which, are two week units. The week one focus is always to improve our individual skills within the game. Week two we focus on the strategy of the game. For example, we learn positioning, the give and go, taking away time and space as a defender, and how setting up triangles gives us options. The goal here is to make sure that every student has confidence in his/her own abilities to be able to join a game if the opportunity ever arises in the future. Happy Holidays!



Calling all Lowell Girls - Lowell Youth Lacrosse Girls' teams!

Registration is OPEN! Girls in grades 5/6 & 7/8 will play on teams, and younger girls will be on the "Learn to Play" group. Sign up today @ lowellyouthlacrosse.com. Email val-eryyoung0711@gmail.com with questions. Payment options available.

Flat River Outreach Ministries - Winter Lunch Buddies

When: December 27, 1:00–6:00 pm

What: Families with children ages 3-18 living in the Lowell Area School District will be able to choose **5 FREE Healthy Lunches** for each child.

No registration is required. Call (616)897-8260 with any questions.

Upcoming Events:

<u>Monday, December 17</u>	2nd/3rd gr Music Program, 2:00 pm
<u>Tuesday, December 18</u>	Band/Orchestra Concert, 1:15 pm
<u>Thursday, December 20</u>	5th gr Holiday Breakfast, 9:00-10:15 am
<u>Friday, December 21</u>	1st gr to Fountain View, 9:40-11:20 am

Holiday Break:
12/22/18—1/6/19



Information regarding student activities and community events can be found under Extracurricular Activities on the Murray Lake Elementary website at:
<http://www.lowellschools.com/student-activities/>