

Murray Lake Messenger

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February 20, 2015

From the Principal....

I met with our student council this week to plan for our March is Reading Month. We always make a big deal about this, and the kids have come up with some neat ideas to motivate our students to read even more during the month of March. We will hold a kickoff assembly next Friday. I will send details about our March is Reading Month activities next week.

Award-winning artist, performer, and children's author of several books and CDs, Kevin Kammeraad, will be helping us kick off our March is Reading Month here at Murray Lake on Monday, March 2. He will hold three separate assemblies for our students to share some of his experiences with reading and writing. We have had Kevin out before and he does a great job of motivating our kids for March is Reading Month. For more information about Kevin go to: www.kevinkammeraad.com.

We have also been invited by Belding Schools to attend a free evening with American and Michigan Chillers author, Jonathon Rand. He will be at Woodview Elementary School, 450 Orchard St, Belding, MI 48809, on Monday, March 2, 7:00 pm. Many of our kids love Rand's books, and he also does a nice job of getting kids pumped up for March is Reading Month. To learn more about Jonathan Rand go to: www.americanchillers.com.

Over the past few weeks, our teachers have been attending district wide vertical team and grade level team meetings. These meetings are set to get teacher input on ways we can improve Lowell Area Schools. Our district is one of the best in the state of Michigan, but we can never be satisfied. We must always look for ways to improve. Teachers review data, examine the new Common Core Curriculum, and discuss strategies for teaching and learning. I realize it does pull them out of their classrooms for a day or two, but it is important that we have the teachers at the table when we are strategically planning for the improvement of Lowell Schools.

We've had another terrific week at Murray Lake. I continue to be impressed with the teaching and learning I see on a daily basis. The boys and girls varsity basketball teams have home games tonight (Friday) starting at 6:00 p.m. Both teams are having very successful seasons. I hope to see some of you at the games! Have a wonderful weekend!

Brent R. Noskey, Principal

We value: Trustworthiness
Respect Responsibility
Fairness Caring Citizenship

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

Upcoming Events:

Monday, February 23

KIDZ Have Rights, 3rd-4th gr
Book Fair

Tuesday, February 24

Parent Teacher Conferences, 4:30-
8:45 pm

Book Fair

Wednesday, February 25

Ice Cream Sale during lunch

Thursday, February 26

4th Grade Music Program, 2:00 pm

Friday, February 27

March is Reading Month Kickoff, 2:40
-3:00 pm

Offrink Family Pop Can Drive

Monday, March 2

Kevin Kameraad Presentation

Character in Action

Pictured below are Murray Lake Elementary's December and January Character in Action Award winners. These students were nominated by staff for putting Caring and Trustworthiness into action on a daily basis. MLE students are focusing on Fairness throughout the month of February.



Staley Named Volunteer of the Month

Cheryl Staley was named Murray Lake's Volunteer of the Month for January. "Cheryl goes above and beyond during the week of Santa Secret Shop. She spends countless hours before and after this event preparing for not only this year's shop but also getting ready for next year. She does a great job working with kids. It is heart-warming to see the excitement in all the kids as they pick out their gifts. Cheryl also makes sure no child is left out of this experience," commented Murray Lake Staff Member, Kris Rickert.

Cheryl and her husband Don, moved to Lowell about 11 years ago. They have 3 children, Logan, a 7th grader at LMS, Kelsey, a 5th grader at Alto, and Olivia, a 4th grader at MLE.

"I've been fortunate to be able to volunteer at each of my kid's schools, but I have given most of my time at MLE. I love being a part of my children's education and getting to know the other kids in their classes. I have been on Family Links in the past but currently just try to pitch in where needed. I do coordinate Santa Shop because it's one of my favorite activities for the kids. There is nothing better than seeing their faces light up as they make purchases for other people. They are so proud and excited. I also lead a 4th grade Girl Scout Juniors group at MLE," commented Staley.

In between volunteering and shuffling kids to their many sports and activities, Staley tries to get in a little time at Snap Fitness, read, and she loves to cook.

Staley adds, "We love to spend our summers outdoors at the pool just having friends over and enjoying the warm weather."

Staley pictured with daughter, Olivia.



BOX TOP RESULTS

For the week of February 16-20

Pupel:	2968
Blanding:	2453
Jacobus:	2060



Information regarding student activities and community events can be found under Extracurricular Activities on the Murray Lake Elementary website at:

<http://www.lowellschools.com/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectiondetailid=17461&>