

Murray Lake Messenger

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November 14, 2014

From the Principal....

As our marking period draws to an end (November 21), I again want to remind you of the minimum AR goals we set for our students to achieve by December 1: 2nd graders-10 points, 3rd graders-15 points, 4th graders-20 points, and 5th graders-25 points. Please touch base with your child and review his/her AR progress. Remember, you can also have Home Connect set up, and you can check your child's progress online. If you have not yet set up Home Connect, you can touch base with your teacher for help. I cannot stress the importance of students practicing ready at their independent reading level. The research out there supports the fact that kids who read more at home are the kids who have a much higher likelihood of being successful and happy in school and in to adulthood. I appreciate your support with this.

As you are well aware, the cold and flu season is upon us. I want to assure you that we are doing all we can to keep our students healthy. I add to my morning announcements that students need to wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Teachers are having students use soap and/or hand sanitizer before having snacks and before going to lunch. Our custodians are wiping things down nightly. Our teachers also have been given cleaner that kills viruses to use in their classroom. Although we can't prevent all illnesses, I hope that our added precautions this fall will limit the number of illnesses we experience. Please call me with any questions or concerns you may have as related to the flu season.

If you have not done so already, please call Meijer (1-800-962-7011, MLE code: 771124) and sign up for your Meijer Rewards card. Or you can sign up online at www.meijer.com/rewards. With our school budgets being cut annually, this is one easy way to make up some of this lost revenue. You can also sign up for a similar program at Target; details are online at www.target.com.

It has been another terrific week at MLE. I see quality examples of teaching and learning taking place each day. MLE is a great place to be! Enjoy your weekend! Go Lions!!! (gave up on rooting for the Wolverines).

Brent R. Noskey, Principal



Character in Action!

Pictured above are Murray Lake Elementary's Character in Action Award winners for the month of October. These students were nominated by staff members for putting the character trait, Responsibility, into action throughout the month of October. MLE students are currently focusing on the Respect for the month of November.

We value: Trustworthiness
Respect Responsibility
Fairness Caring Citizenship

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

Upcoming Events:

Monday, November 17

Kindergarten-GR Public Museum
9:00-1:45

Tuesday, November 18

Parent Teacher Conferences
4:30-8:45 pm

Book Fair-open during conferences

Friday, November 21

End of 1st Trimester

1/2 DAY OF SCHOOL—STUDENTS

DISMISSED AT 11:50 AM

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 26-28—NO

SCHOOL,
THANKS-
GIVING
BREAK



Father Daughter Dance

The annual Father Daughter Dance, sponsored by the Lady Arrow Varsity Club, will be held on Wednesday, December 3, at the Grand Volute, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. See invitation attached to this week's email blast.

Girls on the Run

Girls, 3-5th grade, register now thru November 25 (til 9 pm sharp)!

www.kcgotr.com

See flyer attached to this week's email blast for more information.

Yearbook Cover Contest

All students are invited to submit a design for the cover of the 2014-15 Murray Lake Yearbook. Designs must be on 8-1/2x11 paper and cannot be computer generated. Entries are due by December 6.

Staff Member of the Month

Murray Lake was not left with much time to find a music teacher this summer. Former music teacher, Jacqui Dimmick, took an Alto fifth grade position that opened up in August. This left Murray Lake looking for a music teacher with only a couple weeks left before school started. "We were kind of scrambling. It is not easy to replace a music teacher like Jacqui Dimmick. She did a fantastic job for ten years here at MLE. Her performances were awesome. I only had a couple weeks to find someone. I called a few principals in the area and luckily a buddy from Caledonia recommended another Jacqui, Jacqui Bernat. We interviewed a few others, but Jackie rose to the top, and has come in and done a fantastic job. She is enthusiastic, hands on with the kids, and gets them moving!" said principal, Brent Noskey.

Second grade teacher, Kristin Manske, added, "Ms. Bernat is truly a rock star music teacher! The kids absolutely love going to music because Jacqui makes it so fun."

Bernat is a Michigan State University graduate and was teaching music in Grandville. She left Grandville because she would have had to teach in seven different schools this year and wanted to find a building that she could call home. She enjoys playing all instruments. She can be seen using a variety within her classroom, especially her guitar. Bernat also enjoys dancing and learning about all different types of music. She currently lives in Kentwood with her family, including her three year old son, Vincent, who she calls her favorite musician.



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&>

Volunteer of the Month

Murray Lake Elementary named Rhonda Flentje as its Volunteer of the Month for October. Flentje is a familiar face around MLE. "Rhonda is here every Monday when I get back from lunch and stays until school lets out. I would never make it in here without Rhonda's help," said MLE librarian, Patti Harreld.

Rhonda's son Zeke is a fourth grader at MLE. They moved to Michigan eight years ago from St. Louis Missouri. "I am forever grateful for the quality of schools here in the Lowell school district. I am proud to say that I volunteer in the Media Center/Library at Murray Lake Elementary. Mrs. Harreld is a gem to work for; she has a ton of patience for teaching this volunteer. The best part of volunteering is the innocent, genuine smiles from the younger students, and the witty humor from the older students. I look forward to my time in the library each week," said Flentje.



SHOPPING IS SO EASY WITH SCRIP!

It's that time again. Family Links is offering Scrip gift cards for your holiday (or any day) shopping needs!

Visit www.shopwithscrip.com.

Click on the Register tab and follow the instructions.



Lucas Beachnaw Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is offered in memory of Sgt. Lucas T. Beachnaw. It is administered by the Beachnaw family and is available to a Lowell Area Schools student who would like to take snowboarding lessons at Cannonsburg Ski Area. Emphasis on financial need is required for this award.

Application forms are available in the MLE office and must be submitted by November 25. See application attached to this week's email blast.



Halloween Candy Donations

Mrs. Harrison collected 85 pounds of candy after Halloween! This candy will be shipped by Dr. Kent Wildern DDS to soldiers serving overseas through the Operation Gratitude program. More details about Operation Gratitude are available at:

www.operationgratitude.com.

Thank you for your donations!



Winter Break Lunch Program

The Winter Break Lunch Program is an extension of Flat River Outreach Ministry's Summer Lunch Program. This program provides lunches for children who are on the free or reduced lunch program OR for any household that feels they could use the assistance.

Registration is required and began on November 3. Please email info@fromlowell.org or call 897-8260, x30, for more information. Pick up is December 23, 2014, 1:00-7:00 pm.

Accelerated Reader

5 pts

Cooper Byrne
Thomas Judge

10 pts

Evan Berrington
Griffin Ponchaud
Eyan Dial
Blake Sitzer
Kyle Dietz
Jonah Liebig
Autumn Lamoreaux
Jodyyn Lesky
Nolan Simmons
Elayna Skibbe
Davis Ferguson
Haley Haywood
Megan Lillie
Mya Richmond
David Foster
Tyler Weller
Cody Nieuwkoop
Caden Dennie
Sam Albert
Elly Brown
Ella Curtis
Keagan Fitch
Jake Graham
Nolan Lowrie
Jacob VanDrie

25 pts

Ryan Baker
Avery Miles
Drew Veldman
Kaitlyn Kovacs
Andrew Serne
Kaya Bender
Jillian Fabis
Khloe Delnick
Zoey Mierendorf
Grayden Rooker
Macy Huver
Brody McVey
Alexis Clark
Jadyn Young

50 pts

Ben Bromley
Ben Bannan
Owen Newland
Connor Smith
Jaymie Johnson
Madalin Petersen
Ari McFarland
Nathan Mohr

75 pts

Malia Garrison
Lauren Visscher
Moe Paquette
Jacob DeVries

100 pts

Alex Covert
Emma Schmidt
Aiden Dial
J.D. Bacon
Joe Kovacs

125 pts

Joe Kovacs

175 pts

Madelynn
Visscher

200 pts

Lilly Kooistra

225 pts

Jade
Karasiewicz

250 pts

Hunter Stepanovich
Hope Kanouse

275 pts

Hanna DeVries
Hope Kanouse



Student Artwork!



Special Visitors at School Board Meeting

Some of Murray Lake Student Council members decided to pop in on the Lowell School Board meeting held on Monday, November 10. The student council members attended to see what type of items the school board discusses at their meetings and do see how their meetings are run. The Murray Lake Student Council meetings are held in a similar format to the School Board Meetings, so it was a good experience for the students to see a live board meeting in action.



Pictured left to right back row: Paige Wilson, Gary Blough, Pat Nugent, Jim Turner, Laurie Kuna, Brian Krajewski, Tom Kaywood. Front Row: Olivia Barber, Gavin Barber, Lexi Organek, Ella Todd, Savannah Brown, Emma McCormick and Lily Hornick.