



# ON THE QT

DECEMBER, 2010

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Dear Families of QE,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families who participated in parent conferences. Clearly, the turnout indicated that the families of QE are actively involved in the home/school partnership. We look forward to this continued communication as we strive to enhance your children's learning and success at QE.

#### Did you know...

**Of the 13 districts in Bucks County, Quakertown ranks 4<sup>th</sup> overall.**

**Quakertown Community School District** is ranked 53<sup>rd</sup> out of 499 districts in the State. Of those 53 districts, only 4 are more economically disadvantaged than QCSD.

**Quakertown Community School District** is ranked 31<sup>st</sup> in Advanced Math for the State.

#### AND

**At Quakertown Elementary**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math scores rank 2<sup>nd</sup> of 88 schools in Bucks County with 100% Advanced & Proficient, even though 38% of its population is economically disadvantaged.

**Q.E.'s economically disadvantaged students** rank 15<sup>th</sup> out of 1808 elementary schools in the State for Advanced & Proficient Math scores.

We have much to celebrate at Quakertown Elementary. Our students are achieving incredible things.



*Sincerely, Dr. Kathy Winters*

## IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

It is that time of year again where it is important to consider our Quakertown Community Families who might be in need of assistance this holiday season. In recent years "Give The Gift of Giving" Campaign resulted in helping our families in need during the holiday season. This campaign provides those families who are in need with an opportunity to participate in giving to their families this holiday season. We are hoping to assist as many families as possible again this year. We are asking for campaign contributions to support the program. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated. Your donations will be given directly to families within our school district community! It's as simple as writing a check to "Quakertown Cares" for a tax deductible contribution. Cash is also accepted. You can deliver your tax deductible contribution to the guidance counselor in your building. The checks and/or cash will be deposited into the "Quakertown Cares" account with Quakertown National Bank. Then gift cards will be distributed to local families in need. Final contributions need to be made by Wednesday, December 15, 2010 to your building guidance counselor.

**Thank you in advance for your contribution!!**

### DECEMBER CALENDAR

**6**

Market Day  
PickUp  
5:30-6:30 PM

**6-9**

Little Shoppers  
Shop  
During Lunches

**8**

NOVA Grade 4 –  
Internet Safety  
NOVA Grade 5 –  
Cyber Bullying

**9**

**PIE Meeting  
Canceled  
for December**

**10**

Winter  
Wonderland  
6:30 PM

**23**

Holiday Parties  
& Sing-Along

**24-Jan. 3**  
Christmas Holiday

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# THE GIFT OF BOOKS

What a wonderful time of year to make a family tradition of reading and sharing favorite books! Show your children how important reading is by making books a part of your holiday celebrations. Write a note in the book or books you give your children... including their name and noting the date and occasion. By sharing books with your children, you'll be creating memories that will last a lifetime.

***Here are some of QE staff favorites that could help in making your holiday family traditions.***

- Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins by Eric Kimmel (Dr. Winters)  
The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg (Miss Cramer, Miss Deacon, and Miss Burrows)  
Snowmen at Christmas by Caralyn Buehner (Miss Musial)  
Silver Packages by Cynthia Rylant (Mrs. Groller and Mrs. Altner)  
The Last Holiday Concert by Andrew Clements (Mrs. Nolan)  
Pennsylvania Dutch Christmas by Chet Williamson (Mrs. Yerger and Mr. Wieand)  
A Very Marley Christmas by John Grogan (Miss Catalogna)  
A Charlie Brown Christmas by Charles Schulz (Mrs. Copeland)  
How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss (Mr. Flynn, Mrs. Rosica, and Mrs. Bruchak)  
The Trees of the Dancing Goats by Patricia Polacco (Mrs. Nolte)  
The Night Before Christmas by Clement Moore (Mrs. Detweiler and Mrs. Skonier)  
Dream Snow by Eric Carle (Mrs. Rivera)  
Fancy Nancy Splendiferous Christmas by Jane O'Connor (Miss Maddon)  
The Night Before the Night Before Christmas by Natasha Wing (Mrs. Cassel)  
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson (Dr. Winters)  
Gingerbread Friends by Jan Brett (Mrs. Reynard)  
Santa Comes to Little House by Laura Ingalls Wilder (Mrs. Monserrat)  
Treasure of Chanukah by Greg Hildebrandt (Mrs. Maxwell)



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR QE CARES WINNERS

### **Week of November 1:**

Nate Besch – Grade 4  
Nicky McErlain – Grade 1  
Kimberly Shannon – Grade 4

### **Week of November 8:**

Ethan Shilko – Grade 3  
Lillian Welzig – Grade 2  
Kaylee Wilson – Grade 1

### **Week of November 15:**

Arielle Lightbourne – Grade 4  
Hunter Healy – Grade 2  
Maisy Lopez – Kindergarten

## GUIDANCE NEWS

Happy Holidays to all of our students and families! I hope you all enjoy the wonderful season!

NOVA will be coming on Wednesday 12/8 to do a Cyber-bullying presentation for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and an Internet Safety program for 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **December's character trait is Honesty.**

Quakertown Cares helps families throughout the community including school aged children, veterans, and senior citizens. If you or a local business would like to make a tax deductible contribution to help our families for the holidays please send a check written out to Quakertown Cares to my attention. If you would like to possibly receive gift card donations from Quakertown Cares in time for the holidays, please contact me.

Camp Erin is a week-end overnight camp for children ages 6-17 who have experienced the death of a significant person in their life. It will be held May 13-15 at Diamond Ridge Camps in Jamison, PA. It is recommended that families apply by March 1, 2011.

Visit [www.pennmedicine.org/camperin](http://www.pennmedicine.org/camperin) or call 1-800-700-8807.

**Eileen Bruchak ([ebruchak@qcsd.org](mailto:ebruchak@qcsd.org)) 215-529-2413**

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## WHAT'S NEW IN FOURTH GRADE

The students in fourth grade have the opportunity to participate in some friendly game competition every Friday during recess in Mrs. Nolan's classroom. The Game Club allows the students to play partner games such as Chess, Checkers, and Othello. Larger group games include Math 24 and Chicken-foot Dominoes. Interested students sign up on a weekly basis and come to learn new games as well as enjoy the friendly competition with other fourth grade students. We've been having a great time each week and hope to eventually include some of our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade friends.

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## VOCAL MUSIC NEWS

Our composer this marking period is George Frideric Handel.

Handel was born on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1685, in Hamburg, Germany. Young Handel was a very good organist and keyboard player at an early age, and the duke encouraged his father to provide proper music lessons for the child. As George Frideric Handel grew up, his father wished for his son to have a career in law, not in music. Handel went to school to study law and performed as an organist at the same time. He decided that he wanted to be a musician and traveled to many European countries, including Italy and England, to work and perform. He lived in England from 1712 until his death in 1759. Handel spent time writing operas in the Italian style but eventually began writing oratorios. Oratorios do not have any acting or costumes. His most famous oratorio is *Messiah*. The "Hallelujah Chorus" from this work is one of the most well known pieces of music in the world.



## LIBRARY NEWS

*December is Universal Human Rights Month*

### **Scholastic Book Fair:**

Thanks for supporting our book fair. We met our goal and will receive money to purchase new library books.

**Website of the month:** [www.ipl.org](http://www.ipl.org)

This is an Internet site you can trust.

There are librarians to answer questions.

Use this with your children.

### **Congratulations!**

Lamees El Tohami and Taylor Vitko for having their opinions about picture books published in the November 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the QCommunique'.

**Remember, "A book is a present you can open again and again!"**

Keep On Reading During Vacation!

## ATTENTION SECOND GRADE PARENTS

Please note this important change of date for this year's Second Grade Program.

The date has been moved from March 10 back to February 1.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Mark you calendars...The Quakertown Music Promoters Organization (QMPO) has once again invited elementary students to perform at the annual Craft Fair. It will be held at Strayer Middle School this year. At 10:30 a.m., on Saturday, December 11, combined students from QE and TV will perform songs they have been learning for this occasion. Please come to support your children.

Remember to check my web page for details about upcoming events, information, and other musical activities.

**Mrs. Zimmerman**

## ATTENTION FAMILIES!

Are you looking for a way to recycle all your 2010 calendars, holiday cards, and other unneeded items? When you're finished with them, send them to school to be used for projects in upcoming art classes. **Students can drop off items in the art room or parents can drop off items in the office before school during December and January.** Thanks so much for taking part in this great way to recycle and reuse materials!

**I will be collecting any/all of the following:**

- \*Holiday Cards
- \*Unwanted CD's
- \*Rinsed and Dried 1/2 gallon coated cardboard juice or milk CARTONS (The kind with a twist-on plastic cap)
- \*Used Calendars with art prints or photos

**Thank you for your support! Mrs. Copeland**

## PIE NEWS

Winter Wonderland will be held on Friday, December 10 at 6:30 PM. Please come out and enjoy an evening with your family. Winter Wonderland includes a Chinese Auction, crafts, and a dinner will be available for purchase from 6:00-7:00 PM.

Little Shoppers Shop will be held during lunches, December 6, 7, 8 & 9.

Watch for more information coming home with your child.

Market Day pickup is on December 6 from 5:30-6:30 PM. We want to thank everyone for Market Day pie orders, we met our goal and got 30%. Please keep on ordering to help our school.

Watch for details for our January Family Fun Night Bingo on January 7, 2011.

Square dancing or country line dancing will on February 4, 2011, ice cream included!!

We also would like to welcome Karen Steich to our group a our new Co-Vice President.

**The next PIE meeting for December will be canceled.**

*PIE Would Like To Wish Your Family A Safe And Happy Holiday Season*



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## MITTEN TREE

We have a Mitten Tree set up in the cafeteria by the stage. If you would like to donate childrens' mittens, gloves, winter hats or scarves for our students, please send them with your child by December 15.

**Thank you for your kindness!**



*The Entire Faculty And Staff Of Quakertown Elementary School  
Would Like To Wish You And Your Family  
A Safe And Very Happy Holiday Season*

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## NEW INFORMATION ABOUT FIELD TRIPS

Parents please be aware that **A NURSE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO ADMINISTER MEDICATIONS ON FIELD TRIPS. PARENTS MUST : PACKAGE MEDICATIONS AT HOME AND DELIVER IT TO THE TEACHER IN A SEALED ENVELOPE. MEDICATIONS THAT MUST BE DELIVERED IN PERSON NEED TO BE GIVEN DIRECTLY TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER BY A PARENT. ON THE ENVELOPE PLEASE INDICATE YOUR CHILD'S NAME, TEACHER AND THE TIME THE MEDICATION NEEDS TO BE GIVEN. THE CHILD WILL BE REQUIRED TO SELF-ADMINISTER HIS/HER MEDICATION UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE TEACHER.**

A Field Trip/Field Trip Medication Permission Form must be completed by the parent. Forms are available online or from the school office. Any questions regarding medication for field trips, please contact the school nurse at 215-529-2417.

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## EMERGENCY CLOSING OF SCHOOL

QCSD uses the Connect-Ed phone messaging service to notify parents of a school closing or early dismissal due to inclement weather or other emergency. This system enables all parents of student to receive a phone call from the district within minutes of making a decision to close school. It is important that the QE office be kept informed of any changes in your contact information. School closing info will also be available on the district website at [www.qcsd.org](http://www.qcsd.org), or by calling the Inform-A-Line (215-529-2010), or by turning to the following television stations: WFMZ (69) or NBC (10). PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE. A rush of calls jams the phone lines and prevents emergency calls from being made. It is imperative that you rehearse with you child what they should do in case school closes early. Every student turned in and EMERGENCY BACK UP FORM in the beginning of the school year. That is what we follow if there is a reason to close school early.



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## RECESS AND WIND CHILL

A doctor's note is required if your child is not to go out for recess. We expect all children to have outdoor recess daily. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather, including warm outer clothing, hats and gloves. Sneakers are the best shoes for active children playing at recess time. If the weather is severe, we will have indoor recess.

This is the chart we follow based on information from [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com):

11 degrees + - full outdoor recess  
0-10 degrees – out for 10 minutes  
Below 0 degrees – stay in

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 Hamburger or Cheeseburger Whole Wheat Bun Lettuce and Tomato Baked Beans Chilled Fruit	2 Baked Chicken Nuggets Multi Grain Dinner Roll Creamy Mashed Potatoes Steamed Corn Apple Raisin Cobbler	3 Giorgio Pizza Tossed Garden Salad Chilled Fruit
6 DAY 2 Ham and Cheese on a Pretzel Bun Potato Wedges Chilled Fruit	7 DAY 3 Macaroni and Cheese Dinner Roll Stewed Tomatoes Fresh Apple Slices	8 DAY 4 Pierogie Bar ... enjoy your potato cheese pierogies with a variety of toppings... Steamed Vegetable Assorted Fresh Fruit	9 DAY 1 Steak or Cheese steak Sandwich Onions and peppers Baked French Fries Chilled Fruit	10 DAY 2 French Bread Pizza Tossed Garden Salad Chilled Fruit
13 DAY 3 Italian Meatball Sandwich Steamed Broccoli Chilled Fruit	14 DAY 4 Campbell's Tomato Soup Toasted Cheese Sandwich Fresh Vegetables with dip Fresh Apple Slices	15 DAY 1 Our own made Stromboli Tossed Garden Salad Rosati Water Ice	16 DAY 2 Chicken Patty on a Kaiser Roll Lettuce and Tomato Baked Potato Puffs Chilled Fruit	17 DAY 3 Personal Pan Pizza Tossed Garden Salad Warm Cinnamon Apple Slices
20 DAY 4 Hot Dog or Cheese dog Whole Wheat Bun Potato Wedges Chilled Fruit	21 DAY 1 Beef Ravioli Cheese Filled Bread Sticks Steamed Mixed Vegetables Chilled Applesauce	22 DAY 2 Ham Roast Slice Au Gratin Potatoes Multi Grain Dinner Roll Steamed Carrots Strawberry Cheesecake	23 DAY 3 Bosco Stuffed Crust Pizza Tossed Garden Salad Chilled Fruit	24 Merry Christmas !!!
27 Happy Holidays	28 and	29 HAPPY	30 NEW	31 YEAR !!!