

ON THE QT



Volume 1, Issue 5
JANUARY, 2010

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear QE Families:

I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the children and families who contributed to the QE Giving Tree. The tree was covered with holiday tags. All the families greatly appreciated the gift cards and your generosity. As we complete the first half of the school year, it is an opportunity to reflect on your child's progress. Please take time to talk with your child about his/her school work. Please contact your child's teacher or the school at 215-529-2410, if you have any concerns about his/her progress. Mrs. Bruchak, our guidance counselor, or Mrs. Gerancher, our IST instructor, are also available for assistance in helping your child be successful in school.

Sincerely, Dr. Kathy Winters

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO BJS...

BJs located at Rt. 309 and Pumping Station Road in Quakertown, recently adopted QE at its Grand Opening on November 21. The company has offered assistance with volunteers and donations for our Family Fun Nights and school events.

FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPALS

Dear Parents,

The elementary principals have been discussing the role of written comments on the report cards as part of our standards based reporting system. We understand that teachers are responsible for reporting progress to parents, but we would like to provide more flexibility in communicating that progress.

Communication about student progress can take many forms: sharing assessment results and rubric scores, sending emails, having phone conversations, writing progress reports, maintaining communication journals, holding conferences, and/ or sending report cards. However, due to ongoing communication and the specificity of the learning targets already present, report card comments may not be included for each child.

Since parents are partners in their children's education, it is expected that if a child is not meeting the learning targets, a teacher would communicate with parents beyond the progress reports and report cards.

Our goal is to ensure that parents receive relevant and current progress reporting information so that together we can maximize each student's achievement.

JANUARY CALENDAR

- 1 No School
Christmas
Break**
- 7 Market Day
Pick Up
7:00-8:00 PM**
- 8 Student
Council
Meeting
8:00 AM**
- 8 Family Fun
Movie Night
6:30 PM**
- 14 PIE Meeting
6:30 PM
School Board
Mtg. 7:00 PM**
- 15 Family
Fun Night
Snow Date**
- 18 No School**
- 26 No School**
- 28 School
Board Meeting
7:00 PM**

STUDENTS EXCEEDING THE 25 BOOK STANDARD

Students who EXCEEDED the Book Goal were recognized at the Panther Pride assemblies in December. They received a bookmark and are invited to an ice cream sundae party in January. Students in kindergarten and first grade exceeded the goal by reading 51 or more books, while second through fifth graders exceeded the goal by reading 26 or more books! Congratulations to ALL of those students who have exceeded the Book Goal so far this year!!!

Kindergarten: Cameron Byelich, Beau Conner, Jason Gross, Austin Hunsberger, Julia Kemmerer, Tyler Kitts, Thomas Kozlusky, Dylan Lane, Louis Schmid, Alexandra Wittman

1st Gr.: Jennifer Abraham, Jackson Auger, Caitlyn Covalleski, Alyssa Crager, Hunter Healy, Patrick Henry, Kassie Hill, Angel Lew, Patrick McCoy, Marcus Milkowich, Julian Renner, Tamara Richardson, Justin Ross, Noah Vivian

2nd Gr.: Harbert Barndt, Hope Davis, Nick DeBonza, Kenia Escobar, Emil Ferrer, Brayan Flores, Alex Fosbenner, Destinee Foulke, Jefferson Fox, Aileen Guo, Julia Hager, Dominique Hagey, Danilo Honorato, Samantha Jimenez, Lance Jones, Brenden Keller, Damien Kratz, Gage Leary, Jesus Lopez, Abby MacMullen, Joseph McEr-lain, Andrew Miller, Kevin Nguyen, David Nunez, Matthew Park, Christian Rodriguez, Justin Rosenberger, Alecia Ross, Hannah Schumacher, Katrina Stevens, Taylor Vitko, Riley Wadsworth, Beou Weiss, Robert Williams, Erin Wilsey, Skylar Winters, Tia Wittman

3rd Gr.: Giacinta Barndt, Nathan Besch, Jordan Burden, Armando Honorato, Megan Jackson, Dade Kern, Alexis Klein, Erica Werst, Kyra Wreecsics

4th Gr.: Grace Henry, Rebecca Miller, Kellyn Neville

5th Gr.: Kelly, Brecker, Amanda Huff

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Beginning February 1, 2010, appointments will be taken for registration of children who will be entering Kindergarten next fall. If your child will be five before August 31, 2010, please call **215-529-2001** between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM to schedule an appointment for Monday, April 26th, Tuesday, April 27th, Wednesday, April 28th, or Thursday, April 29th at the District Services Center. **REGISTRATION IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**, so please start calling in February to make your appointment.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is not coming to school, it is important for you to let us know. In this way, the home and school will know that your child is safe. Please call the office by 9:00 AM (1:00 PM for PM Kindergarten). The school's phone number is 215-529-2410. For safety reasons, if you forget to call, we will call you.

Also, please assist the office by returning excuses for absences and late arrivals. Having your child attend regularly and having them at school by 9:10 AM is a great help to us. If your child is absent, please help us by returning the excuse slip within 3 days of your child's absence.

K-5 LET'S READ MATH NIGHT!

Where: Quakertown Elementary School

When: Monday, February 8

(Snow date is Monday, February 22)

Time: 6:30-7:30 PM

Come join us for a fun-filled night of math and reading! We will be reading books and doing math activities while making connections at the same time.

Materials will be provided so that you can continue using the activities at home with your child. Hope to see you there!

These nights are designed for students in Grades K-5. Each child must be accompanied by an adult.

Please contact your building reading specialist if you would like to attend or have questions.

Partners in Print is funded by QCSD's Title I Program.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR QE CARES WINNERS

Nov. 16 - Eliza Craig Grade 3,

Bhaveraj Patel Grade 3, Cody Moyer Grade 4

Nov. 23 - Aurora Strecker Grade 3,

Dominic Wade Grade 1, Lizzie Russell Grade 3

Dec. 1 - Gabe Bawden Grade 2,

Zackary Stabeno Grade 1, Alanna Vitko Grade 3

READING OLYMPICS IS HERE AGAIN!

Our fifth grade Reading Olympics team is formed and the kids are reading some great literature! Every Day 2, the students meet with their team and Miss Catalogna in the library to share their questions and talk about the books they are reading. Each student is reading about one book a week! Students are also going to have the opportunity to share questions and respond to the books they are reading on a wiki page with Reading Olympics members from other schools in the district. We are proud of their efforts. Keep encouraging their reading!

WHEN DOES YOUR CHILD NEED TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL?

A few guidelines:

- Symptoms of an illness, such as a cough, runny nose, tiredness, sore throat, earache or rash, **that are accompanied by** a temperature over 100 F indicate that your child needs to rest at home.
- Children with a fever need an adult to monitor them at home in case it is necessary to consult a physician.
- Children can return to school when they have been **fever free for 24 hours without medication.**
- If **more than one episode of** diarrhea or vomiting a child should stay home.
- A contagious condition such as pink eye, impetigo, croup, strep throat, or chicken pox should be treated by a physician and **should inform the school nurse of diagnosis and treatment.**
- Remember that any medication prescribed by your doctor should be taken for the entire duration, even if your child seems to be feeling better.
- A suspected reaction to the medication such as a skin rash or intestinal upset should be reported to your doctor immediately.
- Remind children to wash their hands with soap and water after using the bathroom. Hand sanitizer can be used after sneezing or coughing.
- Your doctor should provide a written note with a date when your child is ready to return to school. This note needs to be given to the school when your child returns or it can be faxed to the school at 215-529-2411.
- Remind children not to share personal items, such as cups, combs and hats are helpful to limit illness and other health issues.

Please inform the school nurse of your child's changing health needs throughout the school year.

LIBRARY NEWS

National Hobby Month

"We've got it or we'll find it at your library"

Did you know? Americans spend twice as much on salty snacks as they do on public libraries.

Library Standard of the Month:

Did you know that our students are learning to create information in different formats?

***Third graders** are creating research posters.

***Fourth graders** have created PowerPoint Projects for their Peace Valley Field Trip and are making advertisements for nonfiction sections of the library.

***Fifth graders** are beginning their integrated artist library research.

Websites of the Month:

Special websites for families who have children with ADHD and ADD.

www.chadd.org

Support for people who have and love those with ADHD and ADD

www.attitude.mag.com

This magazine site has an active Web community for parents of kids with attention issues and the teachers that instruct them.

Mrs. Nolte and Mrs. Reynard, Librarians

COMPOSER OF THE MONTH

Antonio Vivaldi was born on March 4, 1678 in Venice, Italy. His father taught him to play the violin. Vivaldi became a priest and was nicknamed the "Red Priest" because of his bright red hair. He spent much of his time writing music and teaching. People came from miles around to hear his talented students perform the music he had written. Vivaldi wrote concertos, operas, church music, and many other compositions. In all, he wrote over 500 concertos. A concerto is a piece of music for orchestra and a solo instrument. His most famous set of concertos is *The Seasons*. Each concerto in this set represents a different season, and the music is a sound picture. These concertos featured the violin. The music he wrote for the violin was much more difficult than the music early composers had written for it. Vivaldi helped to make the violin a more important instrument. Antonio Vivaldi died in 1741.



AFTER SCHOOL PLANS

Occasionally your child may want to visit with a friend after school which requires him/her to take a different bus, or to get off at a different bus stop, or to be picked up at school by someone other than yourself. We normally are glad to accommodate this practice; however, for the protection of your child(ren), we insist that a permission note be written by the parent or guardian of **each** child.

Notes should also be written for doctor and dental appointments.

ON-LINE CALENDARS

The District and Quakertown Elementary calendars are now on-line. To view the District calendar go to www.qcsd.org and click on the calendar icon at the top right corner of the homepage. The Quakertown Elementary calendar can be accessed from the "Select a School" drop down menu from the home page. The building calendar icon is in the top right corner.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Another new addition to the webpage is the Community Bulletin Board. It can be found on the Community page, which is also linked under Site Shortcuts on the District homepage. All flyers will be posted here eliminating the need to send home paper flyers. If you do not have internet access, you can ask your child's teacher for a copy of the flyer. If you know anyone who has a community event that he or she would like advertised on our website, the individual can send a file in PDF format two weeks in advance for approval to Deb Wagner (dwagner@qcsd.org). We will add the event to the Bulletin Board.

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. If the weather is severe, we will have indoor recess. This is the chart we follow based on information from www.weather.com:

0-10 degrees – out for 10 minutes

Below 0 degrees – stay in.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please refrain from calling the school office. Please make sure your current phone numbers and email addresses are on file with the office so that you can receive Connect-Ed notifications about school closings or special events. In the event of inclement weather you can also check the local news channels 10 and 69, the main district website at www.qcsd.org or the 24 hour Inform-A-Line at 215-529-2010.

COLLECTIONS UPDATE

Keep saving **Boxtops, Campbell's Labels, Nestle's water labels, and soda tabs.**

The Boxtop Super Bowl contest continues through January. Check the "field" board in the cafeteria to see how your class is doing. Remember to ask your friends and family to save the Boxtops and Labels as well - it really adds up!

Look for new contests in the new year - 2010!!

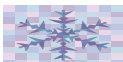
NEW collection - Tyson products. Save the entire top of the Tyson bag and entire "Support your school" label from the boxes. It will say "Project A+" on the labels. Remember to save your **Redner's** grocery tapes also. All collection point papers and boxes are on the lobby table. Keep on saving!!

**Help needed in cutting and sorting
Campbell's Labels.**

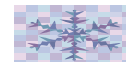
**E-mail or call Sue Wilsey
(suewilsey@verizon.net) 267-261-6202.**

PLANNING A TRIP

If you wish to have your child excused from school to go on a trip with you or another adult, you must first complete an "Educational Trip Request" form which delineates the educational aspects of the trip at least five days prior to the trip. This is school district policy. Teachers will then arrange for any work that will be missed while your child is away. Forms are available in the school office. According to school district policy, absences for trips must be limited to five (5) school days or less. Any trip beyond 5 days will result in a letter from a district administrator. It's advisable to check the school calendar and plan trips for already scheduled "no school" dates.



PIE NEWS



Little Shoppers Shop and Winter Wonderland were held at the beginning of December and both were a great success. Family and friends came to Winter Wonderland and enjoyed making a variety of crafts that were available, as well as, the Chinese Auction and Poinsettia sale. A special thanks to RuthAnn Barndt, Cathy Covaleski, the Winter Wonderland committee and all of the parent volunteers that made both these events a success.

Our next event will be Movie Night on Friday, January 8 at 6:30 PM.

The next PIE meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

