

ON THE QT



Volume 1, Issue 1

JANUARY, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families of QE,

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

"ON THE QT" IS GOING GREEN

This is the last printed copy of "On The QT" most of you will receive. Starting in January, we will send the "On The QT" via email. You have two options to choose from to receive future copies of "On The QT":

Option #1 – The better option! Go to the Quakertown Elemen-

tary website and find the link to "Get Your News Here", then sign up for the Go Green! "On The QT" Newsletter. It's fast and easy.

(www.qcsd.org/quakertownes)

Option #2 – We are aware that some families do not have access to the Internet, so we are happy to provide a

printed copy of the newsletter for you. Just fill out the form that will be coming home and a copy will be sent home with your youngest child.

However, if you do have access to the Internet, I would ask that you please access the electronic version of this newsletter.

JANUARY CALENDAR

5
School Resumes

8
Market Day
7:00-8:00 PM

School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

9
Student Council
Meeting – 8:00 AM
In The Library

Family Movie Night
6:30 PM

13
Grades 3-5 Family
Literacy Night
6:30 PM

15
PIE Meeting
6:30 PM

16
Family Movie Night
Snow Date

19
No School
20

Grades 3-5
Literacy Night
Snow Date

22
School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

29
No School

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Beginning February 1, 2009, appointments will be taken for registration of children who will be entering Kindergarten next fall. If your child will be five before August 31, 2009, please call 215-529-2662 between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM to schedule an ap-

pointment for Monday, April 27, Tuesday, April 28 or Wednesday, April 29, 2009, location to be announced. Alternate date: Friday, April 24, 2009 at Quakertown Elementary for parents in need of translation services or transportation issues.

REGISTRATION IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, so please start calling in February to make your appointment.

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

- At Quakertown Elementary, grade 5 ranked 2nd in Advanced scores for Math in the county out of 89 schools.
- At Quakertown Elementary, grade 5 ranked 3rd in Advanced scores for Reading in the county out of 89 schools.
- At Quakertown Elementary Grade 4 students ranked

7th in Science scores for Advanced and Proficient in the county out of 89 schools.

Quakertown Elementary, ranked 4th in Bucks County for Advanced and Proficient Math out of 89 elementary schools.

SODA TAB COLLECTION

This year, the fifth grade will again be collecting soda tabs that will benefit the Ronald McDonald House. The RMH provides families with sick children at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia with a place to stay while their children are receiving care. The tabs get melted into aluminum bricks and are then

sold for profit. This profit is what makes the RMH so affordable for these families in need. Please save your soda tabs and place them in the container on the table in the main lobby. At the end of the year, all of the tabs will be delivered and donated to the RMH. All tabs are greatly appreciated.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please refrain from calling the school office. Please use other resources provided to parents; the main district website at www.qcsd.org, the 24 hour Inform-A-Line 215-529-2010, or check the local news channels 10 and 69. Please refrain from calling the school office.

CROSSING GUARD NEEDED

The Quakertown Police Department is looking for a crossing guard at Seventh and Juniper Streets. You would be responsible for 1 hour in the morning and 1 hour in the afternoon. For more information, please contact the Quakertown Police Department at 215-536-5002.

FROM THE BOTTOM OF MANY HEARTS...

I would like to thank all of you who contributed gift cards, your generosity helped to make this a special holiday season for so many families.

On January 21, NOVA will once again be at Quakertown Elementary. They will be doing a presentation to our fourth grade students on Internet Safety and to our fifth grade students on Cyberbullying.

Mrs. Bruchak, Guidance Counselor

The QE trait of the month, for January, is compassion.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR QE C.A.R.E.S. WINNERS

Week of November 17:

Rose Wireman - Grade 4

Amanda Banes - Grade 4

Henry Reichstine - Grade 5

Week of November 24:

Aimee Shafer - Grade 3

Kelly Brecker - Grade 4

Matt Mory - Grade 4

READING OLYMPICS IS HERE AGAIN!

Fifth graders that are interested in joining the Reading Olympics team can obtain a list of books to begin reading for the competition. A list can be obtained from Miss Catalogna or Mrs. Reynard. All of the books are housed in the library and can be checked out. Students will be receiving an informational letter from their teacher about commitments. The meetings will be held during lunch with Miss Catalogna 1 day a week.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

VOCAL MUSIC NEWS

Our Composer for the months of January and February is Franz Joseph Haydn. Haydn lived March 31, 1732 until May 31, 1809 in Austria. He began singing in a cathedral choir in Vienna when he was 8 years old. During his teenage years, he played in an orchestra and accompanied singers and violinists on the harpsichord. By the time he was 27, he was well known throughout Vienna. Haydn became the music director for a Bohemian Count, and after writing his first symphony, was given another job to work as the orchestra conductor for a wealthy prince. Haydn wrote more than one hundred symphonies. He is called the "Father of the Symphony" because he developed the form of the symphony. The combination of instruments Haydn used in his symphonies became the basis of today's symphony orchestra. He also wrote over 80 string quartets, composed concertos, sonatas, operas, and oratorios. One of his most famous oratorios is *The Seasons*.

Mrs. Rivera and Mrs. Weinlein, Vocal Music

WELCOME!

Miss Kelly Riccio from Kutztown University will be student teaching with Mrs. Rivera during January and February. Welcome Miss Riccio!

THANK YOU

"A special thanks goes to the first and second year instrumental music students who performed from 9:00 - 9:30 in the Freshman Center cafeteria at the annual QMPO Craft Fair on Saturday, December 13. Your hard work in music and dedication to music and your school is very much appreciated."

Mr. Silvius, Instrumental Music

ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA CHARGE PROCEDURES

A. Students will only be permitted to charge a total of three (3) times.

B. After three (3) charges the student will be given the choice of:

A peanut butter, peanut butter and jelly or cheese sandwich

One piece of fruit

One half pint of milk

C. Students who charge will not be permitted to buy ala carte items.

D. Students with existing charges will not be permitted to purchase ala carte items.

If a student has charged threes lunches and is on PBJ, they CANNOT receive a regular lunch until the initial three charges are paid off. This applies even when a child brings cash for lunch thinking they can buy the regular lunch. If there is a financial or other hardship situation, please request a form for the Free and reduced Lunch Program to determine if the family qualifies for these benefits.

PSSA DATES 2008-2009 (please have your child in school for these dates)

State mathematics and reading assessments in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be administered **March 16-27, 2009.**

State writing assessments in grade 5 will administered **February 9-20, 2009.**

State science assessment in grade 4 will be administered **April 27-May 8, 2009.**

BOXTOP & LABEL COLLECTION BOXES IN THE LOBBY

* Boxtop *contest* FOOTBALL Collection sheet. One complete sheet = 10 yards 10 complete sheets = 1 Touchdown. The class with the most touchdowns by Super Bowl Sunday (February 1, 2009) will win a "Super Sundae Party"!!

*Bonus Boxtops *offer* - buy any 10 participating General Mills products at Giant between Dec 1 and Feb 28 and send in the cash register receipts AND the OFFICIAL ORDER FORM found on the lobby table to receive 50 bonus Boxtops.

** ONLINE SHOPPING - Log on to **btfe.com** and shop through the Marketplace and earn up to 8% back on every qualifying purchase for QE

Questions? Ideas? Boxtops - Lisa Jackson, Campbell's Labels - Sue Wilsey,

Nestle's water - Cathy Covalleski

www.boxtops4education.com www.labels4education.com

WHEN DOES YOUR CHILD NEED TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL?

Here are just a few guidelines: Symptoms of an illness, such as a cough, runny nose, lethargy, sore throat, earache or rash, that are accompanied by a temperature over 100 F indicate that your child needs to rest at home. Children normally do not need to stay home for just a sore throat or cough. However, when those symptoms are accompanied by a fever, it may be more than just a mild illness. Children with a fever need an adult to monitor them at home in case it is necessary to consult a physician.

Also, keeping ill students at home limits the spread of certain health conditions. A good rule of thumb to remember is that your child should be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. Additionally, more than one episode of diarrhea or vomiting can be very uncomfortable for a student. At those times, it is best for your child to remain at home so you can observe him/her for other symptoms, even though a fever may not be present.

A child with a contagious condition such as pink eye, impetigo, croup, strep throat, or chicken pox should be under the care of a physician. Please remember that any medication prescribed by your doctor should be taken for the entire duration, even if your child seems to have recovered. A suspected reaction to the medication such as a skin rash or intestinal upset should be reported to your doctor immediately. When your child is home under medical care, you 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.

Also, reminding them not to share personal items, such as cups, combs and hats are helpful to limit illness and other health issues. Finally, it is important that the school nurse be informed of your child's changing health needs throughout the school year.

PIE NEWS - Little Shoppers Shop and Winter Wonderland were held at the beginning of December and both were a great success. The students had a lot of fun picking out the perfect gift for their family and friends at Little Shoppers Shop. Family and friends came to Winter Wonderland and enjoyed making the variety of crafts that were available as well as the Chinese Auction and Poinsettia sale. Mr. Ross played Christmas music and there was even a special visit from Santa himself. Thanks to RuthAnn Barndt, Cathy Covalleski, Jen Fisher, the Winter Wonderland committee and all of the parent volunteers that made both of these events a success. Our next event will be a Movie Night on Friday, January 9 at 6:30 PM. The movie that will be shown is "Walle". Drinks and popcorn will be provided. Feel free to bring your blankets, pillows and any other snacks with you. The next PIE meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15 at 6:30 PM. **Happy Holidays to all!**