

LAKE IN THE HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2009

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 10

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December Events

Tuesday, December 1

Character Education
Assemblies

Wednesday, December 2

School Improvement
Meeting @ 2:45

Friday, December 4 and

Saturday, December 5

Holiday Shop

Tuesday, December 8

Wendy's Family Night 5-8



Monday

December 14

1st grade Music
Concert @ 7PM

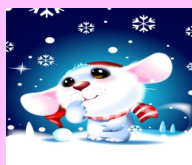
Friday, December 18

School Store Open

Monday, December 21-

Friday, January 1

Winter Break-No School



From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Families,

We are certainly in the full swing of school now. Students have adjusted to the routines and school procedures. Just a reminder that parent/teacher conferences are right around the corner on Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th. If you have not signed up please call your child's teacher immediately.

We had a practice fire drill on Monday, November 9th with the Lake in the Hills/Algonquin Fire Department. We did well overall with the exception of some grade levels not exiting the building in an orderly manner. This is something the teachers reinforced with the students afterwards as we have practiced numerous times and the students were able to exit in an orderly fashion on previous occasions. Illinois School Code requires the fire departments participation in these drills once per year to ensure that students and staff know what to do in the event of a fire.

As Thanksgiving quickly approaches I have much to be thankful for in my life. I feel so blessed to be the principal at Lake in the Hills Elementary. Lake in the Hills Elementary is a wonderful school and it isn't just because we meet state standards! We have a fantastic staff at Lake in the Hills Elementary of teachers that put in many hours long after the students are gone. Have you ever driven by on the weekend and noticed cars in the parking lot? Those cars belong to the hard working staff members who come in on Saturdays and Sundays to work. The entire staff of LJHS is committed above and beyond to the students. In addition, I feel blessed to work with the many LJHS families who care so much for their children and want the best for them. Last, but not least, the reason why I love coming to work each and every day... the 500 precious students who brighten each day with a kind word, a daily hug, or a funny story! Please take some family time this Thanksgiving to talk about all that you and your family have to be thankful for this season.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at (847) 532-6900. Happy Thanksgiving!

*Mrs. Poole
Principal*

All Aboard for Good Bus Behavior

As part of our PBIS system, the district has incorporated PBIS into the bus. On Friday, November 13th our D300 busses showed up for a practice run on the actual school buses in which PBIS staff members trained the students on the expectations for proper bus behavior. This is probably our biggest challenge as a school and one area we really hope to see an improvement in for the school year as 77% of all of our discipline referrals have occurred this year on the school busses. Bus drivers will be passing out bus bucks which students can in turn use at our PBIS School Store. As part of a district program, schools that are implementing PBIS, will have a bulletin board displayed which shows all of the busses for Lake in the Hills. If there are no bus write ups, on that particular bus, for the month then the bus will move one step closer to the finish line. Please look for this bulletin board at Lake in the Hills to see how your child's bus is doing.

A stylized illustration of a soldier in a tan uniform and cap, seen from the back, playing a golden trumpet. He stands in a cemetery with many white crosses and stars on a green lawn. The background is a light blue sky with several red flowers. A white text box is overlaid on the scene.

Students at Lake in the Hills Honor Local Veterans

On November 11th the students at Lake in the Hills Elementary honored veterans from the LITH American Legion. The school assembly started with the color guard of boy scouts leading the school in the pledge of allegiance. This followed with our students singing songs such as Proud to be an American and the National Anthem. Please view the LITH webpage to view pictures from this special assembly. Mr. Don McMullen, Commander in Chief of the LITH American Legion, spoke to the students and expressed his appreciation for the day's events and the importance of Veteran's Day and its' meaning. It was a very emotional assembly with tears shed by school staff and veterans. The assembly ended with our local veterans having their picture taken in front of a wall of red, white, and blue stars with names of veterans and local service men and women. Thank you to all of our veterans and for what they have sacrificed for our freedom.

PLEASE SEND IN EMPTY INK CARTRIDGES AND OLD CELL PHONES

As a school, we have been collecting old ink cartridges that are empty and old cell phones. The school will be able to recycle these to a company. The proceeds will be used to benefit the students and activities at LITH. Thank you so much. Please continue to send these items in.



COMMUNICATION ABOUT HOW YOUR CHILD GOES HOME EACH DAY



As you can imagine getting over 500 students home safely each night is a challenge. We need your help in making sure your child goes where he/she is supposed to go. If your child will be going home in a different manner than normal we ask that you send a quick note to the classroom teacher. Many times students will tell us that they are not riding the bus and that a family member is picking them up. Unless we have a note indicating otherwise we follow the normal protocol of what was told to us at the beginning of the school year. Please do not email the teacher this information as teachers are not always available to check email after the school day has started. Thank you so very much for your help with this matter.

SCHOOL STORE

We are in need in parents who would like to work at the school store on Friday, December 18th. The shifts are from 8:30-11:30 and/or 11:30-2:30. Don't worry if you have never helped before as it is very simple. We will provide on the job training! If you can help at either time please call the school office and let Mrs. Furr know. It is a fun opportunity to help the students spend their hard earned "spots."



MEDIA CENTER



Thank you from the media center to the following students and staff members for their birthday book donations to the library.

Julia Koltuniuk: Teacher's Pet

Chrystian Gawlowski: The runaway bunny

Mrs. Brown: Beyond the Grave and Dog Days

Destiny Thomas: Dulcie's taste of magic

Cade Portell: The Westing Game

Brendan Wolter: The coming storm

Mrs. Poole: Many books in memory of her grandmother

COLD WEATHER APPROACHING

With the cold weather coming quickly please make sure to send your child to school with a coat, hat, and gloves. Many of our students are coming to school without these important items. Students do go outside daily at lunch recess and many classrooms have a daily classroom recess as well provided that the weather is above 10 degrees. If your child(ren) is in need of a winter coat please call the school social worker Mrs. Nelis at 847/532-6900 or the principal, Mrs. Poole, and we will try to provide help in this area. As always, your request will be kept confidential. We want to make sure all of our students have a warm coat. Stay tuned for more details regarding a coat project at LITH called Operation Warm which is possibly being sponsored by the LITH Rotary. This program would provide new coats to those in need. Details will come soon.



BREAKFAST PROGRAM AT LITH



Don't have time in the morning for breakfast? Don't worry. We provide breakfast at Lake in the Hills Elementary starting at 8:10 each morning. Also, if your child qualifies for free or reduced lunch then he/she also qualifies for free/reduced breakfast. Breakfast items vary daily with choices such as: cold cereal, hot egg sandwiches, and even fruit. Please take advantage of this program. The cost for students not receiving free or reduced prices is: \$1.50. Your child can also just purchase milk without a breakfast for 50¢.