



MONARCH MESSENGER

CALENDAR



Every Tuesday:

5th Grade Art Club 8:15-9:10

Every Wednesday:

5th Grade Chorus Practice 8:00-9:10

Feb. 9: PTA Board Meeting

Feb. 11: Very Informed Parent Night 7:00 p.m.

Feb. 15: Three hour early release for students (no lunch served)

Feb. 16: Read Me A Story Night 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Feb. 23: PTA Cici's Pizza Night

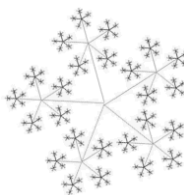
Feb. 27: Winterfest, 4:00-8:00

FROM THE PTA TO YOUR INBOX

The calendar is going out in email, and if you did not receive it, the calendar is available under Current Events at www.crestwoodpta.org and it is also available by emailing PTA@Crestwoodpta.org

WINTERFEST IS COMING! Saturday, Feb. 27 from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Get ready for WINTERFEST, one of our most fun fundraiser events of the year! Lots of volunteers are needed to make this happen: to run games, bake for the bake sale, sell raffle tickets, and work the silent auction. Sign up for what you'd like to do at crestwoodwinterfest@gmail.com! Watch for more information to come home from school with your child.



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

By now most of you know about the Budget Proposal that the Superintendent presented earlier this week. While our school division faces \$42 million in cuts, Dr. Newsome's proposal cuts \$26 million, and he is asking that local and state government officials consider other revenue options to make up the difference. Here is what his proposed cuts will mean for Crestwood:

- Salary reductions for teachers, staff, and administration
- Increased student-teacher ratio by 1 (This may not sound like much, but remember that I can't take part of each teacher! Therefore, I will lose one teacher. If enrollment remains the same as it is right now, this would mean a class size of 27 in 4th grade, or a class size of 30 in 5th grade)
- Loss of our third office secretary

- Loss of one or more Instructional Assistants
- Possible reduction in special education staffing
- Possible loss of the Reading Teacher position
- Possibly sharing our Facility Coordinator with another school

If the school system does not receive more money, even deeper cuts will have to be made including more pay cuts, increasing PTR by 2 instead of 1 (in which case we could have both 27 in every 4th grade class and 30 in every 5th grade class) and a number of other items.

The budget must be approved by the School Board and then the Board of Supervisors. There are several opportunities for public comment. In particular,

- Feb 9 School Board public hearing, 7 p.m.

- March 24 Board of Supervisors budget public hearing, including schools

You may contact the Midlothian School Board representative, Patty Carpenter, at 379-5242, or our Supervisor, Dan Gecker, geckerd@chesterfield.gov if you wish to comment.

Save the Date!

Our first VERY INFORMED PARENT (VIP) night is scheduled for February 11 at 7:00 p.m. Parents can choose two from a variety of workshops. Topics include: Conceptual Mathematics, Expeditionary Learning, Middle School Readiness, Kindergarten Readiness, Creative Discipline, Choose Respect, and Anti-bullying. More information will be sent home soon, so be on the lookout!

NEWS



- The Annual Polar Bear 5K Run is now rescheduled for March 6; the winner of the Polar Bear Drawing Contest is: **Demetrios Viglis from Ms. Seamster's class!** Also, thanks so much to over 40 participants!
- This spring we will again do Original Works: they make great gifts for Mother's Day and Father's Day!

CAREER DAY

Kids love to hear from parents about what they do for a living. If you're interested in helping with Career Day (doing a display or visiting a class), contact Kimberly Graves at Kimberly_Graves@ccpsnet.net



BOX TOPS

Please continue to send in your closely clipped Box Tops. Remember to check the dates and do not send expired Box Tops. During February, two winners a week will receive a treat for sending in their Box Tops. Winners will be listed in the March edition.

Julia Wilmouth

DON'T THROW THAT AWAY!

Mrs. Woodward needs clean, recyclable items like bottles, cardboard, containers, lids, et cetera for art projects (no aluminum or metal). Please send them in in a bag marked "Art Supplies" anytime. Contact Merenda_Woodward@ccpsnet.net with questions.



READ ME A STORY NIGHT

It's time to read a fun story! *Read Me A Story Night* features guest readers telling stories. We'll have hot cocoa, cookies, and lots of fun! Wear your pajamas and join us for a night of storytelling and time together at *Read Me A Story Night* on Tuesday, February 16th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



THE PTA NEEDS YOU

The following positions need to be filled on the PTA Executive Board for the 2010-2011 school year.

- President
- 1st VP-Programs
- 2nd VP -Ways and Means
- Treasurer
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Historian

If you, or someone you know, would like to be a part of the selection process or are interested in filling one of the above positions, please email PTA@crestwoodpta.org for a copy of the job descriptions, to submit nominations or any questions about the process or positions.

ATTENTION ALL CREATIVE CRESTWOOD KIDS!!

Creative Crestwood Kids' classes (Spring Sessions) begin March 22 and run for six weeks. As we try to add new things each session we are really looking forward to some exciting and fun classes in things such as theatre, cartooning, Frisbee golf (taught by Mrs. Woodward's husband), knitting, bird watching, golf and new science experiments. Please watch your kids' backpacks for registration forms and get them in as soon as possible, as classes will fill up fast! If you can volunteer in this program after school or if you have a talent you'd like to teach, please contact Julie Winkel at 873-0112 or indicate on your registration form. Without volunteers, we can't run this GREAT program for our kids!