



ELLIS EAGLES NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2, 2011

Parent Forum

Our next Parent Forum meeting will be held on Friday, December 16th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Ellis School Library. All parents are encouraged to attend this interactive meeting with Mr. Safina.

Report Cards / Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2011. Teachers are in the process of setting up appointments. REPORT CARDS WILL BE SENT HOME ON DECEMBER 6.

Arrival / Dismissal

The Ellis School Safety Committee has created new procedures for students dropped off and picked up by car. The purpose of the new procedures is to increase safety. The procedures are as follows:

- Signs indicating "School Bus Parking Only" will section off spots at the front of the drop off/pick up line for school buses/vehicles only. Please do NOT park in this section.
- When dropping off or picking up your child, please remain in your vehicle and line up in front of the school. Please exit the parking lot at the front entrance. If you need to escort your child into the building, please park in one of the Visitor spots or across the street from the school.
- Students should be loaded on the passenger side only of your vehicle.
- Please stay in line, no passing cars on the left. During dismissal, all vehicles will need to leave at the same time, once all students are loaded in vehicles.
- Middle School students will be permitted to ride on the Elementary bus only with a pass.

Coat Drive

Through the generous efforts of the Raymond Area Rotary Club, individual donors, and community members, we are pleased to report that the Ellis School Coat Drive/Swap was a resounding success! We collected 150 new or lightly used coats and distributed approximately 85 of them to Fremont children. This would not have been possible without the tireless work of the members of the Raymond Area Rotary Club: Tom O'Neil, President, Tim Louis, and Mark Hassenplug who allowed the People's United Bank to be used as a drop off site, as well as the Rotary Club members' donations of coats. This event would not have been possible without generous donors in our community, Cleary Cleaners' donation of cleaning 50 coats, and the staff at Ellis School who went above and beyond to make this event a success.

Halloween Buy Back Program

The Ellis Student Council and our Nurse Carla Smith sponsored a Halloween Candy Buy Back Program this year. The students brought in all their unopened Halloween candy and in exchange, they received a goody bag full of non-sugary treats. All of the collected candy was shipped to the soldiers.

Halloween Candy Buyback 2011 - The Stats!

- Total candy collected: 261.8 pounds
- Total student participants: 254
- 52% of total population grades PreK-8 Total staff members and community participants: 10
- Biggest individual contributor: Kyle Bilodeau from 5W with 8.2 pounds
Honorable mentions to Nate Levine from 1C and Katelyn Felt from 5W with 5.0 pounds each
- Biggest class contributor: Mrs. Coyle 1C, 15.7 pounds
Closely followed by Miss Wright 3W, 15.3 pounds
Honorable mention to Mrs. Lathrop 2L, with 14.6 pounds
- Biggest class participation: Mr. Herrmann 7H, 100%
Closely followed by Miss Carrier KC, 90%
Honorable Mention to Mrs. South 1S, 85%



Computer Club at Ellis School

Would your kids be interested in participating in a Computer Club at Ellis School?

Greg Fraize (parent of a 4th grader) is looking to start such a club that would include activities in basic programming and hands-on experience putting a computer together. The club will meet once a month or so, depending on the interest. He is currently putting the details together, and would like to get an idea of how many students would be interested.

If your child would be interested in participating in a computer club, please e-mail gfraize8701@hotmail.com and include your child(ren)'s age and grade level.

Top 20 Best Children's Books of 2011

Librarians, teachers and literacy experts nominated more than 150 of their favorite children's books from the thousands of titles published in 2011. Then a panel of kids and parents cast their votes. See their top 20 list below.

Top Books for Our Youngest Readers

1. The Night Night Book by Marianne Richmond
2. Little Master Shakespeare- Romeo & Juliet: A Counting Primer by Jennifer Adams
3. Swing! Like a Monkey by Harriet Ziefert & Simms Taback
4. Rocket Town by Bob Logan

Fabulous Fiction

1. A Call for A New Alphabet by Jef Czekaj
2. Carrot by Vanita Oelschlager
3. Little White Rabbit by Kevin Henkes
4. Stars by Mary Lyn Ray & Marla Frazee

True Stories

1. How Did That Get in My Lunchbox? The Story of Food by Chris Butterworth & Lucia Gaggiotti
2. Celebritrees: Historic & Famous Trees of the World by Margi Preus & Rebecca Gibbon
3. A Butterfly is Patient by Dianna Hutts Aston & Sylvia Long (great facts & illustrations about caterpillars & butterflies)
4. Me....Jane by Patrick McDonnell (the story of animal activist Jane Goodall's childhood)

First Reads

1. Should I Share My Ice Cream? (The Elephant & Piggie Series) by Mo Willems
2. Nina in "That Makes Me Mad!" by Hilary Knight & Steven Kroll
3. Dizzy Dinosaurs: Silly Dino Poems by Lee Bennett Hopkins & Barry Gott
4. Ducks Go Vroom by Jane Kohuth & Viviana Garofoli

Big-Kid Chapter Books

1. Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie by Julie Sternberg & Matthew Cordell
2. Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick
3. Grin and Bear It by Leo Landry
4. Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

12 Days of Caring

The Ellis School Student Council is working with the Sanborn Regional High School Student Counsel to help families in our community receive special gifts during the holiday season.

During the next 12 school days, we would like to ask our students to help with this project, if they are able to give at any time. Attached is a list of the items we are looking to collect, and we will have boxes available in the front lobby for your gifts of generosity.

Thank you to all for being elves during this season!

December 7th - Early Release Day

As a reminder, Wednesday, December 7th, is an early release day for students. Middle School students will be dismissed at 12:00 noon, and Elementary students will be dismissed at 12:45 p.m.

E-Mail Addresses

Many items from Ellis School will be sent to you electronically going forward. Should your e-mail address change during the school year, please contact the Ellis School Office to make us aware of the change. In speaking with neighbors and friends, kindly ask them if they are receiving our e-mails. If they are not, please ask them to contact the Ellis School office with their e-mail address, so that each of our student's parents or guardians may receive information from Ellis School.

Important Dates

December 6 - Report Cards Sent Home

December 7 - Parent Teacher Conference

December 9 - Middle School Dance 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

December 13 - Kindergarten Concert 2:00 p.m. - Ellis School Gymnasium

December 14 - Christmas Concert 6:30 p.m. - Grades 1 through 4 and the Ellis School Chorus
at Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium

December 16 - Parent Forum - 9:30 a.m. - Ellis School Library

December 21 - Save The Turkey Event - 6th Grade Students and Families - 5:30 p.m., Ellis School Gym

December 24 through January 1 - Holiday Break

Happy Holidays,

John Safina

Principal

