

Principal's Report December 13, 2011

In the spirit of the season, I've decided to focus my report on all the wonderful community service projects our students and staff have been involved with over the past couple of months.

Third Grade Holiday Mail

Miss Booth has been organizing a "Holiday Mail for Heroes Drive" with our students and staff. This program is sponsored by the Red Cross. Ellis School students and staff are writing letters and cards to soldiers who are overseas and to our military veterans here at home.

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 has been shipped to our soldiers.

Halloween Candy Buyback 2011 - The Stats!

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

PTA

Our PTA is a great exemplar of Fremont and Ellis School community service. We appreciate all the great things they do for our school! We want to congratulate Jennifer Brown, Parent and PTA member, for being named New Hampshire's PTA Member of The Year by the New Hampshire PTA Association.

Donations for the Needy

An 8th grader, Jason Lair, is working with Mrs. LeBeau, our Social Worker, to gather donations in the form of travel size toiletries (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.) to donate to a New Hampshire homeless shelter.

Coat Drive

Through the generous efforts of the Raymond Area Rotary Club, individual donors, and community members, we are pleased to report 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 event 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.

Share Because We Care Food Drive

Ellis School Student Council was proud to once again sponsor a food drive to benefit the Fremont Food Pantry. As there were many families who contacted the Fremont Food Pantry this Fall, the Student Council asked each classroom to fill a Giving Basket for families. Each classroom's Giving Basket contained a complete Thanksgiving meal including all the fixings, dessert, juice or eggnog, fresh fruit, a turkey tin, a gift card to a local grocery store, and a large laundry basket to hold all the goodies.

What a spectacular site to see Giving Baskets fill the foyer, with each classroom donating at least one basket and staff members contributing toward the purchase of turkeys and gift cards! The Student Council was excited to deliver 32 complete Giving Baskets to the Fremont Food Pantry, together with several additional boxes filled with items so generously donated.

Important Dates

December 6 - Report Cards Sent Home

December 7 - Parent Teacher Conference

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

December 23 - Ice Skating Trip - Grades 5 through 8

December 24 through January 1 - Holiday Break

HAPPY HOLIDAYS,

John Safina

PRINCIPAL