






UNDER THE BIG "TOPS"

Highlands/Odyssey School Newsletter

Please Visit: www.aasd.k12.wi.us/Highlands
or the brochure racks by the office FOR THE
REST OF THE NEWSLETTER!!

NOVEMBER 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Picture Retake Day	2	 Cookie Dough Fundraiser Sheets Due	4
7	8 Fall Vocal/Gym Concert 2:20 PM Kindergarten, 1 st & 2 nd	9	10 Fall Vocal/Gym Concert 6:30 PM Grades 4, 5 & 6	11
14	15	16	17	18 Cookie Dough Pick-up Multi-Purpose Rm -3:20 PM
21	22	23 Early Dismissal @ 11:27 AM	24 NO SCHOOL 	25 NO SCHOOL
28 PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00 PM (free child care)	29	30		



From the Principal.....

I can't believe how fast this school year is going. With six weeks under our belt, I

would like to use this newsletter for a few pieces of important information.

As I have been in and out of the lunchroom I have noticed the amount of good, uneaten, and even unwrapped food that goes to waste. Please take the time to talk with your child/ren about what they are eating, throwing away and what you would like them to eat. We encourage all students to eat the lunch they have because we know the impact of good nutrition on learning.

I have also been able to observe the drop off and pick up from school. Please remember that from 8:00 - 8:30 and 3:00 - 3:30, the driveway and parking lot is closed for student safety. To encourage safe drop off and pick up locations, please watch for Roary The Tiger, and Odysseus The Owl during the upcoming weeks.

My last piece of information is in regards to PTA/PTO, we need your involvement. The success of our school is due to a community effort and this is one way to get involved. The PTA/PTO is beginning to plan Winterfest and needs your help. Please contact Lisa Hoffman @ (738-0024) or myself if you are interested! Thank you and I look forward to seeing you at conferences, Mrs. Comerford.



PTA News:

Happy Fall everyone! A big thank you to everyone who attended our fundraiser night at Badger Sports Park! We had perfect weather, and everyone had a great time--we put the "fun" back in fundraiser! We made \$765, which was an increase from the night we had last spring. Thank you for your support! Today's mailgram includes the information for our next fundraiser. We are selling cookie dough, pies and breads from Simple Simon Bakery--just in time for Thanksgiving! **Orders will be due November 3rd**, and we do not promote door-to-door sales. **Order pick-up will be on November 18th** at the end of the school day. Please mark this date on your calendars, so that you are sure to get your products because we do not have storage for them. Another thank you goes out to the families that donated for the staff conference dinner this week.

Our staff appreciates this and loves the meals we provide for them. We are looking for more committee members for Winterfest. Please contact Lisa Hoffman (738-0024) if you are able to help.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the families who donated **Box Tops** to our school this month. We earned \$874.90 for Highlands/Odyssey with our latest collection challenge. Awesome! Our next collection contest will begin in November, so watch your mailgrams for a new donation slip. And keep saving those Box Tops! It makes such a big difference!

This month's contest winners are: Noah Nygren, Noah Charlier, Ben Kierszh, Aiden Jennerjohn, Bailey Gilbertson, Dominic Nagle, Carson Krisher, Ariana Barna, Allison Semrau, and Jesse Skinner. Congratulations, kids! Prizes will be delivered to the teachers and will come home in your child's mailgram.



Fall Vocal Concert

Times

Kindergarten,

1st, & 2nd Grades

Tuesday – Nov. 8, 2011

2:20 p.m. in Highlands/Odyssey GYM



Intermediate Concert/Thursday-Nov.10th

Grades 4, 5, & 6

6:30 p.m. in Highlands/Odyssey GYM

***** Please mark your calendars with these dates.**

The Highlands 3rd Grade Classes will perform the operetta "Hansel & Gretel" in December. More information will follow.

The Salvation Army – Fox Cities 2011 Christmas Sign-up

Christmas Sau npe rau Khoom Noj thiab Khoom Ua si los sis Adopt-a- Family

Inscripción para Ayuda Navideña (Comida y Juguetes) o Familias Adoptadas

Registration on These Dates Only

Muaj sau npe raws li cov sijhawm hauv no xwb:

Tuesday, November 8 - 8:00am - 4:00pm

Wednesday, November 9 - 8:00am - 7:00pm

Thursday, November 10 - 8:00am - 1:00pm

1919 E. Calumet St., Appleton

NEW LOCATION - Former Copps building



Appleton Area School District **3 – 5 Year Old Developmental Screenings** will be taking place at Highlands on **November 4th from 9:00 – 2:00 pm**. The AASD is interested in screening ALL children between the ages of 3-5 who are not enrolled in kindergarten. Parents and Guardians do not need to have any concerns. **To schedule an appointment an appointment please call Carin Tijan at 997-1399, ext. 2112**



Instrumental Music Instruction

in our School

There have been many articles in magazines and newspapers citing the educational advantages of playing a musical instrument. Both sides of the brain's abilities are augmented. Research has found that a person's mathematical and reading skills are greatly enhanced as are other critical thinking skills. It also promotes concentration and persistence.

The earlier a child begins a musical instrument the longer the experience fosters the brain's development. The piano, which provides a most basic foundation in the musical skills of

rhythm and note reading, is an excellent instrument for the child to begin learning to play. Besides the use of the creative and logical sides of the brain, it also helps to promote small muscle motor skills. These various skills give an edge in learning and when beginning instruction on a musical instrument in the future.

At our school, the string program begins in the fourth grade and the band program is available at the sixth grade level. A student can begin in either program without a piano background. However, due to the dual nature of the percussion instruments (drums and bells), it is ***highly recommended*** that those who are interested in percussion have at least two years of piano instruction.

We hope you and your child will consider participating in either of these programs. Be aware of any information sent home at the fourth or sixth grade level when the school year begins.