



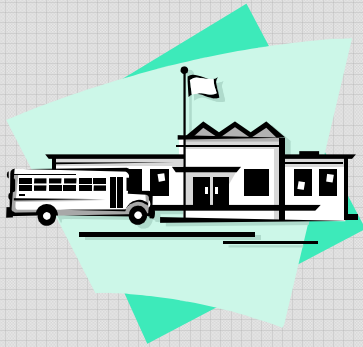
Tiger Tales

December 2008
Issue 4



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Principally Speaking

By Patricia Alexander & Nick Gooch

Each month Pleasant Lea students will be encouraged to practice a Caring Character Trait. Parents can help by practicing the traits with their children. "Tiger Tales" will include a definition for each month's trait and some ideas parents can use to reinforce student learning.

December Character, Kindness

Kindness: To be compassionate and show you care

- Help your child turn thoughts into actions. Children often have ideas about ways to help others in need. Those ideas can become realities with adult assistance.
- Demonstrate kindness during daily activities. Share your time with your child by being an attentive listener. Share your "things" with family, neighbors, and friends.
- Look for examples of kindness in books and on TV programs.
- Allow your child to create gifts for others. Craft projects, coupon books, or cards are gifts that will be treasured.

Nicole Gilbert & Thana Lankford

Sixth Grade News

Sixth Grade is an exciting time for students at Pleasant Lea Elementary! They are busy switching classes, organizing binders, and learning the different expectations of teachers. All of these experiences help prepare them for their transition to the middle school setting.

Students have enjoyed a trip to Science City to participate in the Challenger Space Program to Mars. Every student enjoyed a hands on experience with space technology. Mr. Trowbridge prepared the classes for this event and continues to work on the Missouri Grade Level Expectations with the students in the area of Space.

We have also been working very hard in the area of Communication Arts. Students have learned to monitor their own meaning while reading fiction and non-fiction texts. Creating a broader base of schema has been achieved by connecting to our own experiences, the world, and other texts while we have been reading various genres.

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Calendar of Events

December 2008

Thursday, Dec 4

**7:00; Holiday Program; Band
Choir & Strings performs**

Thursday, Dec 11

7:00; 1st & 3rd Gr. perform

Tuesday, Dec 16

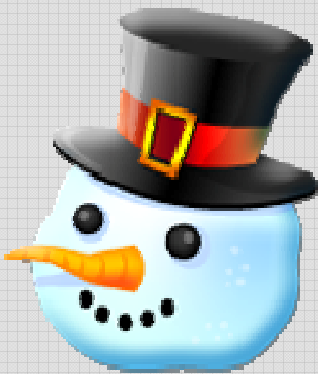
6:30pm; 6th Grade DARE grad.

Thursday, Dec 18

**Early Release Days AM & PM
Kindergarten attend AM session
ALL students dismiss at 12:00 pm**

Dec 19-Jan 4

Winter Break



Monday, Jan 5

Classes Resume

Please continue to turn in your Hy-Vee receipts and collect Boxtops as these are both easy ways to earn money for our school.

6th grade (cont'd from page 1)

Students have been conferencing with teachers, writing letters, and free writing in journals about their reading experiences.

At this time, we are wrapping up our semester involvement in the DARE program. Students are finished writing their DARE Essays and they will be shared by six students at the graduation ceremony on December 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pleasant Lea Elementary gymnasium. All family members are invited to attend and show their support in this wonderful program for our students. Refreshments will be served following the program presentation.

PLE PTA for December

Another month full of fun PTA activities put together because of our volunteers! So many people do so much for our children! Special thanks to **Elaine Hanshaw** and **Sue Jacobi** for putting together a successful Ice Cream Social and Art Fair. **Mrs. Penticuff** did a wonderful job displaying all of our children's art work and our wonderful teachers' scooped yummy ice cream to all in attendance! **Sara Sanders** worked extremely hard to recruit volunteers for the Holly Festival. Thank you to all of you that donated baked goods and volunteered time that weekend!

Culver's night was a huge success. Thank you to our teachers for taking time to serve that night. We will sponsor another Culver's night in the spring. The Project PLE CD is still on sale. The CDs are \$15.00 and can be purchased in the office. All proceeds from the Project PLE CD will benefit the Special Education Program and the PLE PTA. The CD would make a great Christmas gift!

We are looking forward to a wonderful music program by our 1st and 3rd graders on December 11 at 7pm. Dare Graduation will be held December 16 at 6:30 pm. We are still in need of a few 5th grade parents to assist with set up and clean up. If you are interested in helping, please contact Bev Howe at orders@kc.rr.com by December 10th.

As always, we would like to invite anyone who is interested in getting involved in PLE PTA to please join us at our next monthly Planning Meeting, Tuesday, January 27th at 6:30 pm in PLE's media center. We are always looking for new ideas and your input is valuable to us. The PLE PTA calendar and any additional information can be found on our website, www.plepta.com.

If you have not yet purchased a 2008-2009 PTA membership, it's not too late! PTA Memberships can be purchased in the office for \$5.00 and includes a free Student Directory. The Directories are now available for our members.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy a wonderful Holiday season with your family! Please feel free to contact us with questions at any time. We can be reached at maryhoffman@kc.rr.com or krooneypta@yahoo.com.

Mary Hoffman and Kim Rooney
2008-2009 PTA Co-Presidents