



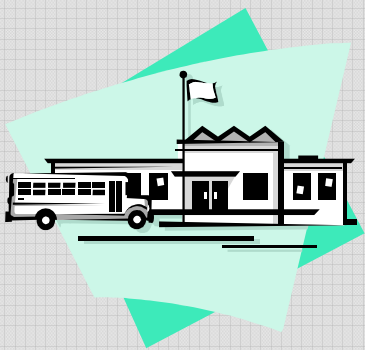
# Tiger Tales

January 2009  
Issue 5

**WELCOME BACK!!**

## Inside this Issue

- 1 Principal's Message  
CARING Trait
- 2 Calendar of Events  
5<sup>th</sup> grade at BSSE
- 3 Library Lines  
5<sup>th</sup> grade at BSSE(ct'd)
- 4 Reflection Contest  
Winners



Pleasant Lea Elementary  
700 W Persels Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64081  
(816) 986-1230  
[ple.leesummit.k12.mo.us](http://ple.leesummit.k12.mo.us)

Newsletter Contact:

## *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.

## January Character, Courage

Courage: To be brave enough to do something difficult.

- With your child, research historical figures who have demonstrated courage (for example, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Jr. or Ann Franke).
- Encourage your child to try new things, even if they're nervous. Show them that you have complete confidence in their ability to succeed. Help them see a mistake as an opportunity to learn.
- Help your child "walk in another person's shoes". Talk with your child about the feelings of others. Encourage your child to stand up for other kids who are being treated unfairly.
- Teach your child that "what's popular is not always right, what's right is not always popular". Children who are allowed to make age appropriate decisions and live with the natural consequence of those decisions are better equipped to deal with peer pressure. Parents can also assist their child in developing the language needed to stand up to peer pressure (for example, "That's not for me", "Sounds like trouble to me", "No thanks!").

*Nicole Gilbert & Thana Lankford*

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

## Calendar of Events

January 2009

Thursday, Jan 15

**PLE Night at Paradise Park**

Friday, Jan 16

**Jump for Heart Day**

Monday, Jan 19

**NO SCHOOL**

Thursday, Jan 22

**PLE Night at Minsky's Pizza**

Jan 26-30

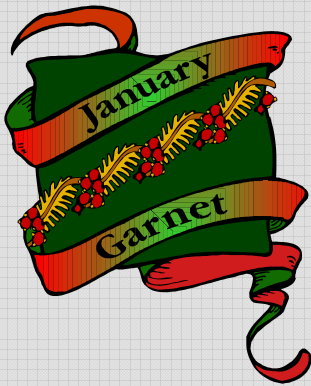
**Board of Education Week**

Tuesday, Jan 27

**6:30 PTA Planning Mtg -LMC**

Friday, Jan 30

**PLE Spelling Bee**



## FIFTH GRADE MAKES ANNUAL JOURNEY TO BLUE SPRINGS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

In early November, the fifth grade students at Pleasant Lea Elementary began preparing for a very exciting and meaningful field trip: the annual trip to Blue Springs School of Economics (B.S.S.E. for short). B.S.S.E. is a program that introduces fifth grade students to not only basic principles of economics, but also mixes in several lessons on immigration. Students are given the chance to simulate owning and running a small business as well as being responsible for a particular job and even receiving a paycheck. This year, the experience at B.S.S.E. had even more meaning with the national election and the recent events involving our nation's economy.

The journey began with the fifth grade students choosing a mayor from a group of well qualified candidates from each class. Maddie Hoffman emerged as the winner after speeches were heard from each of the candidates. The rest of the fifth grade experienced what it was like to apply for a job as each participated in a simulated job interview. From there the students were assigned a job to do and a shop to work in based on responses from their job applications. The students learned that you can't just open up a business with no money. Each shop was responsible to apply for a loan at the bank and to come up with prices on the products they would sell that would not only pay off their loans, but also produce a profit for the business. After filling out several forms and even making attractive signs to lure customers to the shops, the students were ready to begin the actual simulation.

On the morning of December 2, excitement filled the air as the fifth grade boarded buses bound for B.S.S.E. After arriving, each student was required to produce a "passport" to enter B.S.S.E. and Mayor Maddie Hoffman gave a speech welcoming students to the town. The students then moved into their shops and began working on REAL food items and crafts that they would be selling in just a short time. The aromas from chicken nuggets, bar-b-que sandwiches, tacos, and many other tasty treats made the mouths of the students water as they patiently waited to collect their paychecks and be set free to spend hard earned money on the almost endless choices of food and crafts. Some of the adults present were shocked to discover that the food prepared by the students was actually quite delicious. The crafts also sold rather well and it was apparent that a lot of care was taken on each one of them. In the end, with some "creative financing" all of the shops managed to pay off their loans and make a small profit.

Cont'd page 3

# *Library Lines*



## ***Light! Camera! Book Fair!***



The annual library-sponsored Scholastic book fair is quickly approaching. This year it is scheduled for February 5-10. The fair will also be open for the family breakfast Friday morning, February 6, and the PTA meeting/kindergarten performance Tuesday evening, February 10. We will need some volunteers to help us operate the fair at the following times:

- Wednesday, February 4 – set up the fair during the afternoon;
- Thursday, February 5 – assist classes with previewing the fair;
- Friday, February 6 – assist with sales;
- Monday, February 9 – assist with sales;
- Tuesday, February 10 – assist with sales;
- Wednesday, February 11 – take down and pack up the fair during the morning.

Watch for more information to come home in the next couple weeks about the book fair.

***Jackie Krinke***

**Library Media Specialist**

*HappyNewYear! HappyNewYear! HappyNewYear! HappyNewYear! HappyNewYear! HappyNewYear! HappyNewYear!*

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade – BSSE (cont'd)**

The trip back to PLE was filled with exciting conversations about what food tasted best, which crafts would make a good gift, what they would have done differently next time. Some students were heard asking “Can we go back again?” even before the buses has returned to PLE. When the buses stopped, the adults on the trip were showing signs of fatigue and exhaustion, but the student’s level of excitement never seemed to wane. Two weeks later conversations could still be heard telling of the wonderful experiences at B.S.S.E. and some students were even showing off crafts that they bought with their own money. Once again, B.S.S.E. was a huge success as students had lots of fun and they might have even learned a thing or two about economics, immigration and even friendship.

The fifth grade teachers would like to thank all of the adults that helped with the trip. The job interviewers were excellent. The parents and relatives that went on the trip showed patience and made all of the students feel a part of group. Without these people, this trip would not have been possible.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**

## Reflection Contest Winners

K-2: Visual Arts Payten Romig and Morgan Miller  
3-5 Literature: Elle Barragan, A.J. Britz, Annelise Hanshaw  
Visual Arts: Nicholas Lintz, Brianna Devine, Evan Sanders  
Photography: Luke Cooper, Annelise Hanshaw, Wyatt Myers  
6 Literature: Torrance Haynes, Mikayla Findlay, Emily Walker  
Visual Arts Alison Slivka, Samantha Esquivel, Chloe Maberry



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

