

D E C E M B E R

Springfield
Township
Elementary
December 2011
Volume 3, Issue 4

Springfield PTG Newsletter



**Next PTG
Meeting**

**Monday
December 5th
7pm**

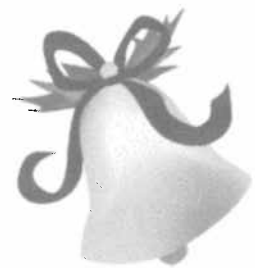
December Dates to Remember

- 5th – PTG Meeting 7pm in the Gym
- 6th – Market Day pick-up 6:15 – 7pm
- 7-9th – Santa's workshop
- 13th – Sadecky Puppets 2pm
- 21st – Sing-A-Long 10am
Classroom Parties 2pm
- 22nd – Teacher In-Service
No School for Students
- Dec 23rd – Jan 2 – Christmas Break

Spirit Days

- Dec 8th Steeler Day
- 21st – Santa Hat Day

**Springfield PTG wishes all of
our families a Merry Christmas
and a Safe and
Happy Holiday Season!**



Following my Child's Progress in School



I have had conversations with parents that expressed concerns about not knowing what is going on academically with their child in school. When the report cards come home, none of us want to be surprised. It became clear to me that it could be helpful to many of you to provide some information on what you can do to help keep you informed. I realize that much of this information will be review for many of you but hope that it will be helpful.

Following is a list of ways to keep in touch with your child's progress:

- **GRADES** – The school offers a parent portal that allows parents the ability to view grades in real-time on the internet. As soon as a grade is entered in a teacher's grade book, you can see it. This allows you to see the current grade average for each class and see individual assignments. If you do not have information about the parent portal, have forgotten your username and password, or have problems getting into the portal, contact the office. We will help take care of any problems.
- **PROGRESS REPORTS** – With the introduction of the parent portal, written mid-grading period reports to notify you of classes in which your child is struggling have become obsolete. We maintain a list of parents that request written reports. If you do not have access to the internet and the parent portal, please contact the office so that we can provide a written progress report for you at the mid-point of each nine weeks.
- **STUDENT PLANNERS** – Every child is issued a student planner that is intended to provide information from the school to home and from the home to school. Teachers will often use the planners as a way of communicating back and forth between the school and home. Check your child's planner every day. If you are not sure how your child's teacher uses the planner for communication, check with the teacher.
- **DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH THE TEACHER** – Any time you have a question or concern, you should contact the teacher. Many times this can be handled in the planner or with a separate note sent with your child. If those methods don't seem appropriate, call the teacher. The best time to contact a teacher is between 8:15 AM and 9:00 AM. The teachers do not have students at this time and our often available. If this is not convenient, the office will take a message and have the teacher return your call as soon as possible.
- **CONTACT THE OFFICE** – If in doubt, call the office. Mrs. Dean and I are always happy to help in any way we can. I encourage you to contact me anytime there is something you need.

I know that most of you use some or all of the tools listed above. I have been very pleased with the parent involvement in the education of their children. I truly want and expect that every parent that has a need or concern will contact the school. Following their grades on a regular basis is one way to identify problems before they become too big. We have a common goal, the success and happiness of your child.

Thank you for your contacts. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you and look forward to working with those I haven't met yet.

-Principal Ron Keefer

First Grade.....The Christmas season is in full swing and we will be hustling and bustling in first grade!

In reading, we will soon begin *Unit 3* which is all about *Changes* and what is changing in our world. You and your child will need to continue reading the stories together and practicing high frequency words. In the Go Math series, we will be learning about various subtraction strategies such as counting back and using 10 to subtract. Then, we will be exploring the relationship between addition and subtraction. Also, in science we will be learning about what lives in a forest. And, in social studies, we will begin Unit 2: We Belong.

We will be learning lots of new things and having lots of fun too! So, try these Christmas tongue twisters, see how well you can do!

Seven Santas sang silly songs.

Ten tiny tin trains toot ten times.

Running reindeer romp 'round red wreaths.



Wishing Each of You the Merriest of Holidays!

Mrs. Puskar and Mrs. Bisher

Second Grade would like to thank all of the parents that we saw during parent teacher night!!! Parents play a very important role in a child's learning process. In the classroom we have moved on to unit 3 in reading. This unit's topic is creative ideas. We are going to continue working on several comprehension skills such as author's purpose, cause and effect, theme and plot, as well as a review of previously learned skills such as story sequencing. In math we have moved on to basic facts. It is necessary for students to know (no fingers or number lines) their math facts. As we all know the holidays are approaching. Santa's workshop will be the week of Dec. 5th. Please remember that in order for this to be a success the PTG is in need of donations (wrapping paper, bows, tags, tape, boxes, gift bags) if you are able to help. We hope that everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.



Just a reminder: Second grade will be visiting the school store on Dec. 16th.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!!!

Mrs. Lambie and Miss. Sipe

Third Grade..... As the busy month of December is upon us, please remember to check your child's school calendar for the many events taking place this month.

We will have Santa's Workshop from December 7th to the 9th. Mrs. Brooks' Class will shop on Wednesday, December 7th from 1:20 to 2:00 and Mrs. Hughes' class will shop on Thursday, December 8th from 9:30 to 10:10.

Sadecky's Puppets will be here on December 13th.

Students who are participating in our gift exchange are to have their gifts to school on or before December 19th. A note with details about this went home in test folders.

Sing Along and class Christmas parties will be held on December 21st.

Also, remember there is no school for the students on December 22nd.



In addition to all of these fun activities please remember we are still working on academics in the classroom. We will be finishing a Reading nit, taking a Unit Test, and starting a new Reading Unit. We will be continuing to work on multiplication tables in Math class as well as our geometric shapes.

Remember to check and sign planners daily and test folders on Monday's.



Christmas wishes tried and true

I'm sending now, just for you...

A little love, a little cheer,

And wishes for a great New Year!

May all your Christmas dreams come true

And may God's blessings be yours too!

Have a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and
Happy New Year filled with many Wonderful Blessings,
Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Brooks, and Mrs. Dowden

Fourth Grade... It was nice getting back into the swing of things after a restful Thanksgiving break. The students seem eager to get started again.

Spelling: This week we are working on Lesson 9 words. The test on these words will be on December 6th. There will probably be only one more test after this before Christmas break on Lesson 10. Please practice their Spelling words with them each evening.

Reading: We will be finishing Marvin of the Great North Woods by December 6th, but the test on this story will be on December 2nd. There will only be one more story in Unit 2. This will finish the unit on Work and Play.

Grammar: We have been studying nouns, and are currently studying singular possessive nouns. The last lesson for this unit will be on plural possessive nouns.

Math: We will continue working on their times tables through the 12's. This will probably take us into the new year. Please continue to practice their facts at home each night. We are daily doing a times test. Each student started with their 2's, and once they get three 100%'s, they move on to the 3's, and so forth. Once they get to their 12's, they start all over until they complete each number twice.

Science: Our Water Planet Unit will be finishing up before Christmas. After this, we will be doing a few lessons out of the book for our next section. Our last Investigation on Water Planet will be on Weather.

Social Studies: We will be finishing Chapter 3: The First Pennsylvanians before the end of the year. There will be one more test on the Lenape and Susquehannock Indians.

*Both classes will be having a Christmas party on December 21st. There will be a gift exchange of no more than five dollars. Boys will be exchanging with boys, and girls with girls. This will be their last day of school before the Christmas Break.



We trust that you will have a safe and wonderful holiday!

Remember the reason for the season!

Ms. Molitor and Mrs. Cossel



Sixth Grade.... It is hard to believe that it is already December. This year is moving by so fast. The students are busy practicing for our sing-a-long and gearing up a nice holiday break.

The students have been doing much better with their times tables. Please keep practicing! As we head through December we will be wrapping up the chapter on Slavery in Social Studies. In Math we will be working with geometrical shapes and how they appear in the world around us. Science kits will be arriving and the students will be discovering Earth History dealing with rocks and resources. We will be starting a new unit in Reading on challenges and obstacles. This chapter will help the students see how the world has changed around them over the years. This will be a great introduction to the Civil War; which we will be discussing in January.

We want to thank everyone who has been fundraising. Things are going very well. After the first of the year we will send home a detailed paper showing how much each child has earned and what is still needed. We plan on doing a whole group fundraiser in January here at school so that we don't have to worry about the weather. Keep up the great work!

We want to take this time to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!

Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Kelley, and Mrs. Liska

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!





Physical Education News from Mrs. Mullaney

Students in grades K-3rd are participating in physical activities to improve their motor skills. They worked together as a “class team” to move the Parachute. Some Parachute activities include making a mountain, inside tent, outside tent, shaking the chicken, going under, walking, crawling, or rolling on top of the Parachute. These activities provided students with recognizing roles such as leading, following, being cooperative, sharing, and staying on task. Students learned “gravity” is the external force that pulls us back to the ground. Ask your child what they liked best about playing with the Parachute. Students are also learning and practicing soccer skills. Students know when you dribble a soccer ball you must try to keep the ball close to your foot using the inside and outside of either foot. Students have been playing a variety of games to practice soccer skills.

4th – 6th grade students have been practicing and working hard to get the best scores possible on The Presidential Fitness Test. They also have been playing a few favorite games like Arena football, Connellsville Kickball, Three Team Kickball and running laps in the field and gym. Students are trying to remember to apply basic movement skills and concepts with relevant cues and feedback to successfully play each new and old game or activity. Remember to do sit-ups, push-ups, and stretching exercises as often as you can.

Below is a list of students who did 3 or more PULL-UPS. Pull-ups measure upper body strength/endurance by maximum number of pull-ups completed.

Top: Justin Channing 13 Pull-ups
6th Grade

Isabelle Clark	4
Zachery Miller	4
Kiara Dumbauld	4
Griffin Prinkey	5
Cole Firestone	6
Josh Johnson	6
Dusty Garletts	7
Denver Murphy	7
Colby Burkett	9

4th Grade

Kara May	
Colby Mastowski	5
Kobe Stanley	7
Shawn DePaoli	10
Colby Randall	11
Hunter Hughes	11

5th Grade

Garrett Barkley	3
Chris Prinkey	6
Tanner Orndorff	10
Bodee Stonbraker	12

Below is a list of students who measured 34 or more centimeters in the SIT and REACH Test. The sit and reach test measures flexibility of lower back and hamstrings.

Top: Isabelle Clark	40 centimeters				
Sadie Miller	40 centimeters				
6 th Grade		5 th Grade		4 th Grade	
Josh Johnson	34	Jewlynn Winberg	35	Joleen Kerr	34
Brock Basinger	35	Taylor Treacher	37	Timothy Sipe	35
Bailey Keefer	35	Sarah Shultz	39	Riley Miller	36
Hailey Pletcher	35			Natalie Moore	37
Calista Kern	37			Kiara Laws	38
Sienna Moats	37				

Below is a list of students who ran the SHUTTLE RUN in 10.0 seconds or less. The shuttle run test measures speed and agility.

Top: Griffin Prinkey	9.0				
Elijah Rutenber	9.0				
6 th Grade		5 th Grade		4 th Grade	
Colby Burkett	9.1	Tanner Ornddorff	9.4	Kobe Stanley	9.0
Cole Firestone	9.2	Bodee Stonebraker	9.5	Kara May	9.1
Kiara Dumbauld	9.2	Gabriel Kemp	9.6	Sadie Miller	9.6
Isabelle Clark	9.4	Cade Warrick	9.6	Colby Randall	9.7
Sienna Moats	9.5	Alexandria Treacher	9.6	Hunter Hughes	9.9
Kerrigan Sanner	9.5	Justing Channing	9.9	Colby Mastowski	9.9
Cooper Maddas	9.6	Addison English	9.9	Timothy Sipe	9.9
Josh Johnson	9.6	Colin Rugg	9.9	Ali Pearson	9.9
Rebecca Clark	9.7	Nathan Porterfield	10.0		
Katlyn Wiltrout	9.7				
Denver Murphy	9.8				
Eddie Daniels	9.8				
Kylie Ritenour	9.8				
Savannah Knopsnider	9.8				
Boby Kuhns	9.9				
Brock Basinger	10.0				
Marc Prinkey	10.0				
Jacob Kern	10.0				



Below is a list of students who did 45 or more SIT-UPS in one minute. Sit-ups measure abdominal strength/endurance by maximum number of sit-ups performed in one minute.

Top: Colby Burkett 57

6 th Grade		5 th Grade		4 th Grade	
Denver Murphy	55	Nathan Porterfield	48	Colby Mastowski	50
Cole Firestone	54	Gabriel Kemp	47	Colby Randall	50
Sienna Moats	50	Collin Randall	46	Megan Dillinger	45
Griffin Prinkey	50	Cade Warrick	46	Timothy Sipe	45
Katlyn Wilttrout	50	Kara Hoover	45	Tony Bailey	45
Isabelle Clark	47	Jewlynn Weinberg	45		
Zachery Miller	47	Vincent Masi	45		
Bailey Keefer	45				
Brock Basinger	45				
Kiara Dumbauld	45				
Savannah Knopsnider	45				



Santa's Workshop

December 7th, 8th and 9th

Wednesday

Bisher 9:30
Kelley 10:20
Lambie 11:15
Liska 12:00
Brooks 1:20

Thursday

Hughes 9:30
Puskar 10:20
Sipe 11:15
Lepre 12:30
Warrick 1:20

Friday

Cossel 9:30
Molitor 10:20
Henry 11:15
Mickey 12:00

