



Springfield
Township
Elementary
December 2009
Volume 1, Issue 3

Springfield PTG Newsletter

Santa's Workshop
December 2, 3, and 4



Let your child feel the joy of giving this year. The upcoming Santa's Workshop invites your child to have a fun filled time of shopping for family and friends. Your young shoppers will have the opportunity to purchase gifts conveniently and inexpensively while still learning to budget their money. This year we have tried to offer gifts ranging from \$0.25 - \$6.50 for family members of all ages. You may come and shop with your child during their class's designated time.

The Fourth Grade classes sold Market Day pies to help raise money for their field trip to Gettysburg. The two classes sold 194 pies and raised \$339.50.

Thank you to all the parents, family and friends who supported our fourth grade.

Continue to support our school through the monthly Market Day Fundraiser. Enjoy great food and the satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference. For more information visit Market Day on the web at www.marketday.com

Teacher	Day	Time
Brooks	Wed, 2 nd	10:20-11:00
Cossel	Fri, 4 th	10:20-11:00
Fosbrink	Wed, 2 nd	11:15-11:50
Hughes	Thur, 3 rd	11:15-11:50
Kelley	Thur, 3 rd	10:20-11:00
Lambie	Fri, 4 th	9:30-10:10
Lepre	Wed, 2 nd	1:20-2:00
Liska	Thur, 3 rd	9:30-10:10
Mickey	Wed, 2 nd	9:30-10:10
Puskar	Fri, 4 th	11:15-11:50
Santore	Thur, 3 rd	12:30-1:10
Sipe	Fri, 4 th	12:30-1:10
Taylor	Wed, 2 nd	12:30-1:10
Warrick	Thur, 3 rd	1:20-2:00

PTG MEETING
January 25th
7pm

Remember to bring your Santa's Workshop envelop with your list.

All checks must include a home phone number, student's name and class.



This Holiday Season take your child on an adventure. Thousands of destinations are only fingertips away. Visit The Carnegie Free Library and find your favorite childhood book. Enjoy reading that story again, but this time with your child. You might be amazed at what you discover while giving your child the gift of reading.



From the desk of Principal Snyder

Our School Improvement Team has successfully completed our School Improvement Plan for Springfield Twp Elementary. The plan has been submitted to our Local School Board for approval at the December School Board meeting. The goal of the School Improvement Plan is to improve student achievement. We have worked countless hours during school and after school to develop the plan. With that being said, I would like to thank the following teachers for their hard work and dedication in the creation of the plan.

Miss Sipe, Mrs. Santore, Mrs. Brooks,
Mrs. Kelley, Mrs. Dowden,
Mr. Wiltrout, Mrs. Broadwater

I believe that all schools need to form an action plan, from the data, to address student needs. It is very encouraging to see the staff step up to the challenge. Once the plan is approved by our Local School Board and the Pennsylvania Department of Education then a date will be scheduled to review the plan and goals with the parents and community.

Keys to Success for School Improvement Plans

Research shows:

- School improvement plans that are **faithfully implemented** have the greatest impact on student achievement.
- Teachers play the key role in plan effectiveness.
- **Collective**, rather than individual efforts pay bigger dividends.
- **Collaboration** is essential.
- Teachers that **learn**, have students that learn.



The Connellsville Area School District has established Guidelines for Parental Involvement in the Schools. These Guidelines will be discussed at the next PTG meeting.

News from the Teachers



The month of November was busy and exciting for Kindergarten. We enjoyed the various activities at the Fall Festival. Our students were able to experience Native American culture. Later in that week, students participated in the Veteran's program and were able to meet some of our local Heroes. They also had the opportunity to sing a song to the Veterans and the student body. We were encouraged to see so many parents attend the Parent/Teacher conferences. It was great to see so many parents supporting their child's education! Next month we will be preparing for the upcoming Christmas program. We are looking forward to the continued academic growth of our students. We are very proud of their progress!

-Mr. Lepre and Mrs. Warrick

Second Grade.....In reading we will be finishing unit 2 and testing in December. Your child should be able to read the decodable paper readers without any mistakes. They should be read nightly. Remember when your child is reading have them stop and ask them comprehension questions. The comprehension skills we are emphasizing in this unit are sequencing, realism and fantasy, author's purpose for writing the story, and drawing conclusions. In math we are doing the money chapter. Please practice coin recognition and counting the value of different groups of coins. Also, continue working on memorizing the math facts. Our new social studies unit is Earth, Our Home – concepts include country, state, and various land and water forms.



Enjoy the Holiday season with your family!

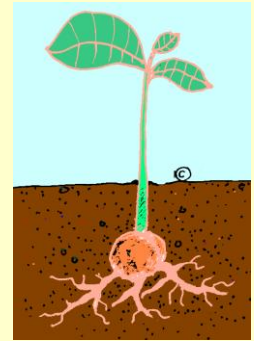
-Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Lambie

Third Grade...We can't believe that December is here already. We would like to thank the parents who came for parent conferences. There was a nice turn out. Now that December is here, watch the news for cancellations and delays. If any tests should happen to be pushed back due to cancellations or delays, it will be marked in your child's planner. We will be sending a note home the first week in December about a gift exchange. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us. Now that we are getting into multiplication, the harder facts are coming, so please work with your child. Please remember that it is important to check and sign your child's planner every night.



-Mrs. Hughes and Miss. Sipe

Fourth Grade...In Reading, we will continue in Unit 2 "Work and Play." It takes about 7 days to complete all of the activities and lessons that are contained within one story, so continue to look for those Reading newsletters which will give you the dates of the Reading and Spelling tests. In Math, we will continue to work with multiplication- moving on to multiplying larger numbers. Continue to review multiplication facts at home on nights when your child does not have much homework. In Science, we will be studying Chapter 3 on Plants. We will finish our study of the 5 Regions of the United States and the Regions of Pennsylvania in December. Our Christmas party will be on December 23rd at 2:00. We do a small gift exchange. More details will follow in a note home. Mark your calendars: Our field trip to Gettysburg will be May 14th.



Reading Tip of the Month: Your reaction to your child's reading has great influence on how hard they will try to become good readers. Be sure to praise their efforts.

-Mrs. Santore and Mrs. Cossel

Fifth Grade... A Very Happy Holiday Season to All!

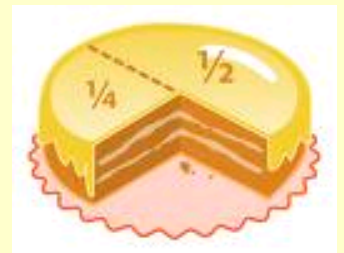


Before the holiday vacation we will be finishing up many chapters and/or units in each subject so be sure to ask your child if they need help studying for tests.

Fifth grades day to shop at "Santa's Workshop" is Wednesday, December 2, 2009. A note with the Christmas Party date will come home later. We will be exchanging gifts. The girls are to bring in a gift for another girl and the boys are to bring in a gift for another boy. The cost of the gift is to be \$5.00.

Thank you and Merry Christmas,
Mrs. Mickey and Mrs. Brooks

Sixth Grade classes will be facing many new and exciting things this month. Our Reading stories will deal with obstacles and challenges. Please encourage your child to reread their reading stories before each test. In Math we will be entering the challenging world of fractions. You can help your child by exploring fractions that are in our daily lives (such as in cooking and measurement). In Social studies we will be discussing the challenges our nation faced as we explored the west. The challenge we will be taking on in Science is how light and sound affect our lives. We want to thank all the parents that came to the parent teacher conferences. It was so nice to talk to each and every one of you about your child. Please feel free to contact us anytime to discuss your child's progress.



We want to take this time to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!
Mrs. Broadwater, Mrs. Kelley, and Mrs. Liska

Library and Computer Lab News...

Gr K - We joined the scarecrow for some adventures in the cornfield during story time. We are continuing to learn the proper care of library books.

Gr 1 - During story time we went on adventures with a scarecrow in our fiction stories and learned true facts about scarecrows in our nonfiction books.

Gr 2 - Have been introduced to the Caldecott Medal and why picture books earn this medal. We are sharing books that have earned the Caldecott Medal during story time.



Gr 3 - We have met the author and illustrator Tomie DePaola. He has written picture books, biographies and nonfiction books in which he likes to draw a heart, bird and rabbit. In computer lab we continue to practice our keyboarding skills. We also learned some basic word processing skills.

Gr 4 - We completed our animal research, located pictures in POWER Library. We then created a PowerPoint using the pictures and research during our computer lab class.

Gr 5 - We did mini-research on Ancient Indian Civilization to coincide with their Native American home project. We are continuing to practice our keyboard skills, learning word processing skills using Word 2007, and did a little bit of research on Ancient Indian Civilizations.

Gr 6 - Is in the process of learning about Melvil Dewey and the Dewey Decimal Classification System.

-Ms. Dix

American Education Week



During American Education Week (Nov. 16-20th) the Connellsville Area Schools collected money for the Carnegie Free Library and Dunbar Borough Library. Springfield raised \$90 for the libraries.

Mr. Lepre's room raised the most money.
Great Job Kindergarten!

Physical Education News...

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 the Parachute and 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 you 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 working hard to finish the Presidential Fitness test. Keep doing sit-ups, push-ups, and stretching exercises as often as you can. I would like to see many students improve their scores.

Below is a list of Springfield's fastest Shuttle Run scores.

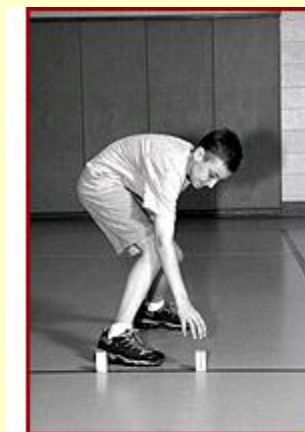
-Mrs. Mullaney

Derek Orndorff	8.8	Victoria Culver	10.0
Dylan Thomas	8.9	Brendan Ritenour	10.0
Emily Nicholson	9.1	Courtney Burnsworth	10.1
Kenzie Neighbors	9.6	Courtney Crider	10.1
David Curry	9.7	Cassidy Maddas	10.1
Cole Firestone	9.8	DJ Show	10.1
Lydia Woof	9.8	Kaylee Snyder	10.1
Jacob Millwood	9.9	Braiden Basinger	10.1
Colby Burkett	9.9	Alex Swope	10.1
Nicholas Sipe	9.9	Griffen Prinkey	10.1
Dylan Crawford	10.0	Alec Prinkey	10.1
Cody Pierno	10.0	Austin Clark	10.1
Megan Hall	10.0		

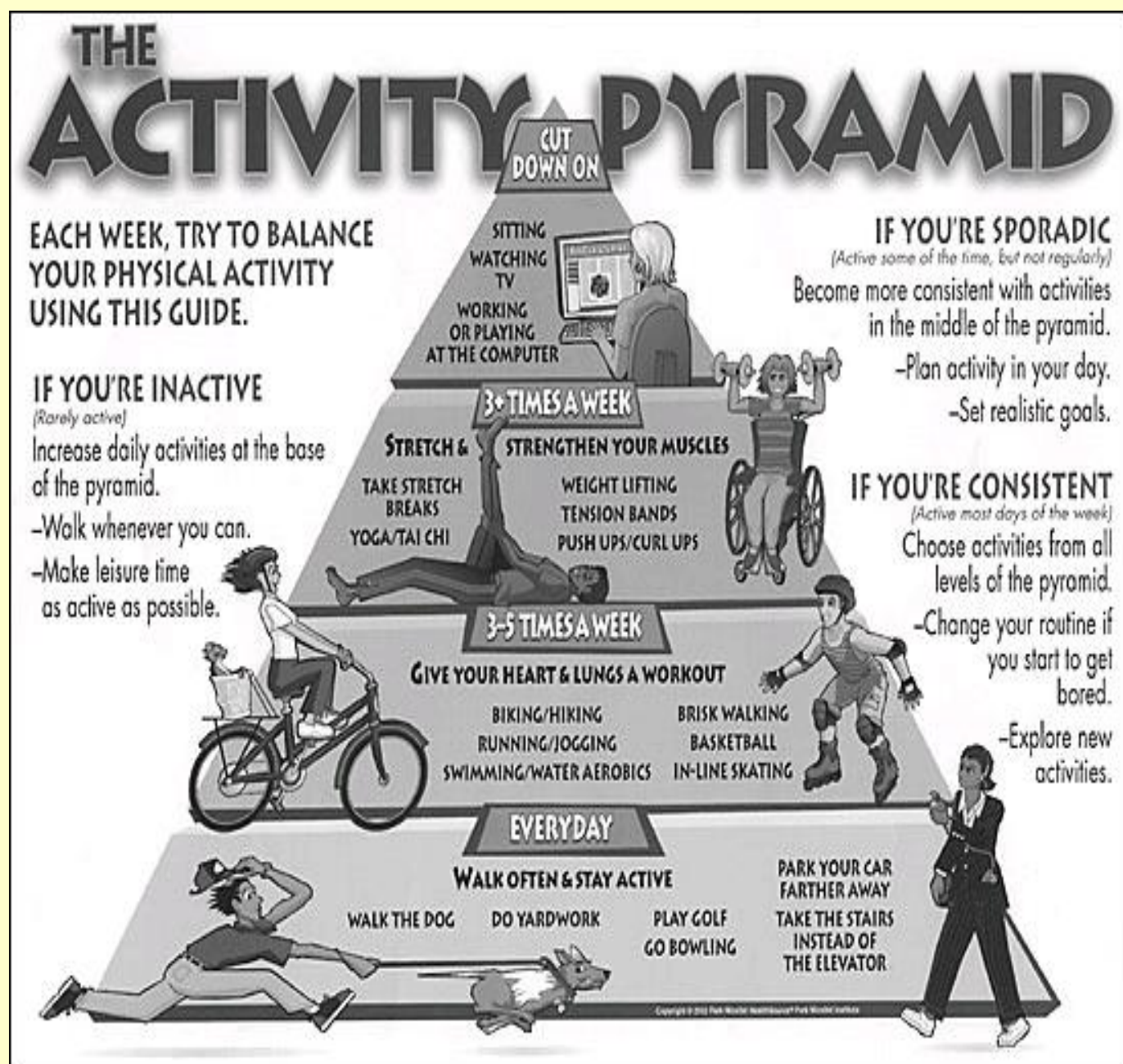
The shuttle run measures speed, quickness and agility.

Shuttle run testing:

Mark two parallel lines 30 feet apart and place two blocks of wood or similar object behind one of the lines. Students start behind opposite line. On the signal "Ready? Go!" the student runs to the blocks, picks one up, runs back to the starting line, places block behind the line, runs back and picks up the second block and runs back across starting line.



Soon your children will be home on holiday break.
Don't let them get too comfortable on the couch.
Keep them moving.



Looking for some help remembering what happened last year? Yearbooks for the 2008-2009 school year can still be purchased for \$18. Please see the office for an envelope.

A Note from PTG....

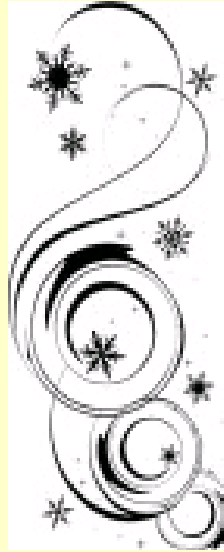
Our PTG is only as strong as its volunteers. A great school is one where teachers, administrators and parents form a successful partner-ship. Please do not underestimate even a small gesture. Every contribution matters.

Our kids love when we do something for the school, especially if it something they enjoy.

Get involved and share your ideas, talents and time. Come to the next PTG meeting, you might even meet some interesting neighbors.

It's people like You that 'Can make a difference'.

Our next meeting will be Monday, January 25th.



Inclement weather will soon arrive in our area. Please listen to local TV or radio stations for school delays and cancellations.

If school is delayed, NO breakfast will be served.

December Events

2, 3, and 4 – Santa's Workshop

22 Sadecky Puppets
2pm in Gymnasium

23 Holiday Apparel Day/Santa Hat Day

Christmas Sing-A-Long
9:45am in Gymnasium

Classroom Christmas Parties
2pm (teachers will provide further information)

Holiday Break begins December 24th
Classes resume January 4, 2010

Springfield PTG wishes
all of our families a
Safe and Happy Holiday Season.

