

Maverick Newsletter

News From Mills Elementary

Principal's Corner

Mrs. Logan

Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

At Mills, all classroom and building expectations fall under our three building rules: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe. These rules are simple and kids can remember them without difficulty. Each rule is a crucial step towards embodying all aspects of a model citizen. We review these rules bi-monthly to help students remember the expectations of our building.

We enjoyed a rather warm October, but the temperatures have begun to drop rapidly. Please remember to send your child in appropriate attire: warm sweaters, pants, coats, hats and gloves. Students arriving dressed inappropriately for the weather will be asked to call home for warmer clothes. If your child is in need of a winter coat and you do not have the resources, the Coats for Kids project has two remaining distribution dates:

November 6 and 13 at the Salvation Army Hope Center.

A **BIG** thank you to all of the parents who provided feedback on our recent parent surveys. We strive for continuous improvement at our school, but we cannot improve unless we know where we are succeeding and where we are falling short. Your input in this process is irreplaceable, as is your presence at Parent/Teacher Conferences. These quarterly meetings give all involved a chance to view important milestones, both behind and ahead, and to celebrate progress that's been made.

Please take time to read through the newsletter and to take special note of the Book Fair Week activities on pg. 4!

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Dates to Remember

Please mark your calendars with the important events and dates provided.

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Tip of the Month

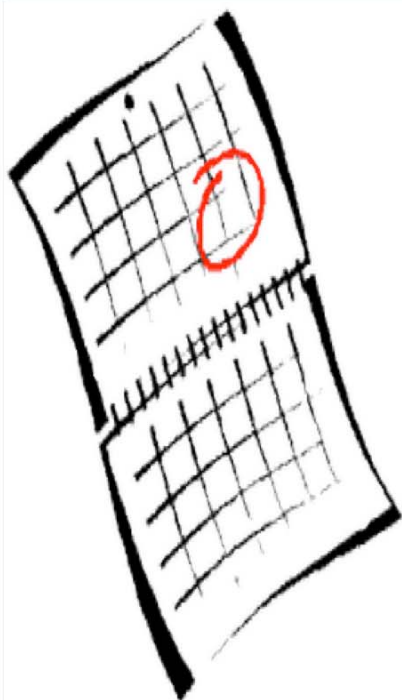
Helpful tips for parents from our literacy coach, Dr. Russell.

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Parent Survey Results

Summary of the results from the Fall 2010 parent survey

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Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER 2

*PARENT SHARE NIGHT – MRS. FLAMMANG’S

NOVEMBER 4

*PARENT GOAL TEAM 6-7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 4-5

*NO PRESCHOOL

NOVEMBER 8-12

*BOOK FAIR WEEK

NOVEMBER 11

*PICTURE RETAKES

NOVEMBER 24-26

*THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO SCHOOL

Chickenpox Vaccination Clinics

Parents and guardians need to be aware that **two** varicella (chickenpox) vaccinations will be required for **ALL** students attending Wyoming schools, unless the school has verification that the student already has had the chickenpox. Parents, physicians or school nurses may verify that the student

has had the chickenpox by signing a “Varicella Verification Statement,” which is available at www.natronaschools.org. If the form is on file with the school, the student will not need the chickenpox vaccine.

Please see the attached flyer for upcoming vaccination clinics.

Parent Share – Mrs. Flammang’s Class

Mrs. Flammang’s 4/5 grade class and families will be enjoying a parent share night on Tuesday, November 2 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The event will take place in the Mills Elementary gym.

Mrs. Flammang’s students will be presenting their state reports. They

will also be bringing a food dish, dessert, or salad, etc. that is native to the state they have studied to share with everyone.

Parents of Mrs. Flammang’s students, please make sure to come and learn something new about 14 of our United States!

Author to Visit Wind City Books

Ben Mikaelsen will be speaking and completing a book signing at Wind City Books on Tuesday, November 2 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Wind City Books is located at 152 S. Center.

Mikaelsen has written several popular children’s novels including Rescue Josh McGuire, Sparrow

Hawk Red, Stranded and Touching Spirit Bear. He has won many State Readers’ Choice awards, as well as the International Reading Association Award.

For any questions or to reserve a book for the signing, call Wind City at 315-6003.



Tip of the Month

Helpful tips for parents from Dr. Russell

Encouraging Words

Body language can tell you if your child is discouraged about learning. Here are examples of discouragements with responses that can help:

Book is too hard: “By next year, this book will be easy for you, but for now, you can listen to me read it, and you can tap me on the arm if you want to start reading again, okay?”

Avoiding task: “Sometimes starting a job is the hardest part—can you try it for ten minutes and then let me know how it’s going?”

Poor spelling test: “How close were you on this word? Six out of seven letters correct! Can you find another one you were that close on?”

Slow reading progress: Try some humor: “Hey, I’m 35 years old, and I read at the 32 year old level, but it doesn’t stop ME!”



Mills Mission Statement

Our Community’s actions result in a learning environment that fosters and celebrates the education of the whole child!

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Scholastic Book Fair Week

Throughout the second week of November, Mills Elementary will be hosting its annual Scholastic Book Fair Week! There will be several events for both students and families and we hope that you will all be involved in this week-long celebration of reading.

Kicking things off on the Friday before Book Fair Week begins, each class has chosen a group of heroes and will have decorated their classroom door to reflect their choice. Be sure to view all the colorful representations of different heroes as you participate in Book Fair activities.

Monday, November 8th

- Teachers Preview: 8:00 – 8:35 a.m.

Tuesday, November 9th

- Hero Presenters: 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Hear from real life heroes in our community as they visit our classrooms.

- Family Night: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Klutz Build-a-Book in the gym

Every *Mills student* that attends family night with an adult (does not

necessarily need to be a parent) in the gym will receive a **FREE** Klutz Build-a-Book. Klutz Build-a-Book kits come in themed and un-themed versions and provide a fun opportunity for kids to be the author of their own book.

- “Super Desserts” in the gym
- Book fair in the library

Wednesday, November 10th

- Grandparents and Veterans Breakfast: 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Please fill out and return the RSVP slip that is attached in order to attend this event.

- Veterans Read Aloud in each classroom: 8:45 – 9:00 a.m.
- Veterans’ question and answer time: 9:00 – 9:15 a.m.
- Color Guard in the gym: 9:20 a.m.

Parents and family members are encouraged to attend the Read Aloud, Q&A and Color Guard presentation with their student.

Friday, November 12th

- Dress Like a Hero Day

Students are welcome to attend school dressed as their favorite hero. A hero can be a superhero, a

police officer, a teacher, a fireman, a nurse, etc.

The Book Fair will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. everyday except Monday, November 8th, due to the Teacher’s Preview.

Don’t forget about the One for Books program! We are currently collecting dollar and spare change donations. All donations will be used to purchase books for classrooms at Mills. Scholastic will match each dollar collected with a book and send the books to 3 non-profit organizations dedicated to helping kids and families in need.

As if that’s not enough incentive, if Mills families raise \$200 or more for the One for Books program by November 12 at 4:00 p.m., Mrs. Logan, our school principal, has promised to kiss a pig! So please send in that nickel you find on the street and the quarter you found under the couch cushions. Every spare cent gets us closer to books for needy families and Mrs. Logan closer to getting friendly with Wilbur.

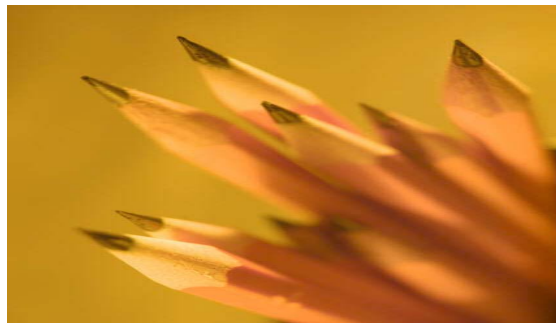
We hope you will join us during the second week of November for Book Fair!

Parent Survey Results

Thank you again to those parents who completed our Fall 2010 Parent Survey, either before or during Parent/Teacher Conferences. The information that you provided to us will help us to assess how we are serving you and your students, and show areas where we can improve. We received 82 responses. Considering that we asked for a survey from each family concerning their oldest student, and not one for each student, we estimate that the majority of Mills families participated.

Here are some results worth celebrating! The majority of respondents felt: welcome in the school; that their student was treated with respect by both staff and fellow students; informed and included in the school via communication.

As for areas that need improvement, our Parent Goal Team will be analyzing the results of the survey closely and will then inform our school community about areas they feel need addressed.



Bash Band Wish List

Miss Wilson, Mills' music teacher, is looking for materials to start a 'bash band'. A bash band uses everyday objects and combines the noises they make with percussion to create rhythmic music. You may have heard of or seen this type of performance from the successful theatre and dance troupe STOMP.

If you have any of the following materials that you would like to donate to the bash band, please contact Miss Wilson via the school at 253-3700.

Wastebaskets (plastic or metal)
Staplers (they don't need to work)
Sweeping brooms – any size
Rulers
Bubble wrap
Metal trash cans and lids
Metal or plastic cans

Plastic cups
Push brooms – any size
Plastic tubs – any size
Plastic mugs
Newspapers
Hammers

A Letter From Mrs. Bahr

Helping Provide Care When Mrs. Bower is at Mtn. View

Mills shares its school nurse, Mrs. Bower, with Mountain View Elementary. Every Mon., Weds. and Fri., Mrs. Bower is out of our building. Mrs. Bahr, a new hire this year who works many positions in the school, is helping us to fill the gaps.

“My name is Mary Kathryn Bahr. I am currently certified as an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic through the State of Wyoming Emergency Medical Services. I have previously worked at Wyoming Medical Center as an Emergency Department Technician. I have also volunteered at numerous hospitals in Mississippi. Prior to becoming EMT certified, I was a First Responder with a Basic Emergency Care certification.

I have experience with people of all ages, including both medical and trauma incidents. The majority of my experience has come from on-scene medical attention. I have had the opportunity to provide medical attention to Mills students due to scrapes, bleeding and illness. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the school at 253-3700.”

Thank you, Mrs. Bahr, for lending a healing hand!



Closing Comments

- Picture Retakes will take place on November 11. If you missed Picture Day or would like a new picture, please fill out the picture packet and return it with money enclosed on retake day.
- Art Club is no longer accepting new members. It is filled to capacity.
- Chefs Club will begin meeting on November 2, every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m, through December 16. Contact Ms. Peterson for more information.
- Make sure to check the Lost and Found for missing items! Items left at the end of the month are donated to a local charity. This is a cold time of year to have your winter coat or mittens donated!
- We are still looking for a pig for Mrs. Logan to smooch! If you have a pig that may need some affection, please contact Mrs. Parker at 253-3778.