

S P R I N G 2 0 1 0

the

Polar Press

*"Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul."
- Henry Ward Beecher*

A Message from Miss Cal

April remains one of my favorite months of the year for its sunshine brings a resurgence of daily vigor, its renewal gives opportunity for inspired reflection and its green blanket is tranquil signal that summer is just around the corner. As we enter into the final months of our 2009-2010 school year, I wish to thank our students and staff for the dedicated manner in which they continue to approach learning and citizenship. Our 3-5 Grade students took a diligent approach to the recent State PSSA at their level. Our focus on Writing at 5th Grade was evident by the quality of writing produced this past week. I am so proud of the serious manner in which our students committed to this task. With that, this issue of the Polar Press reveals highlights that include wonderful collaboration with our students, PTO and community, as well as projections for an exciting end of year. As always, it is with great appreciation that we value your continued support at home.



Stay in Touch with E News!

Wish to know when a newsletter is posted to our website? Interested in getting an email reminder of school events at home or at work? One of the most efficient ways for our school to communicate new information directly to your email is through ENews. You can sign up for this by going directly to the District Web Site @ www.northernpolarbears.com/ Click on E-NEWS SIGNUP listed on the left side of the page. There, you will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of options... be certain to choose Northern Elementary. We will be utilizing this service to keep you aware of new items posted to our website, important building events and summer happenings!

Save the Date!

SCIENCE FAIR

April 22, 2010

Location: Cafeteria
Classrooms for Open
House are: K-2 from
6:30-7:30 PM & Gr. 3-
5 from 7:30-8:30 PM

MOM MOMENTS

May 7, 2010

Location: Cafeteria
Last Names A-M:
8AM- 8:20AM
Last Names N-Z:
8:20AM- 8:40AM

BOOK FAIR

May 19, 2010

Location:
Kindergarten Wing
Evening Book Fair-
3:45 PM- 5:30 PM

The Stork is Upon Us... Staff Spotlight



As you know, we are anticipating the arrival of several little bundles of joy to our Northern Family. We've also welcomed the arrival of new teachers to those classes impacted by each baby's arrival!

Baby Alexaundria Mehring-Guss

It is with extreme delight that we introduce our first beautiful arrival ...

Baby Lexi was born on March 30th at 6:08 pm!

Baby, mom and dad are doing very well. Mrs. Mehring-Guss wishes to thank everyone for the well wishes and lovely shower items.

Ms. Julie Niblett (pictured left)

Ms. Niblett filled in for Mrs. Clay earlier this year and therefore she is extremely familiar with the classroom structure and students. She greatly enjoys travelling and experiencing different cultures. Playing the piano and native American flute/drums, gardening, hiking, reading and writing are just a few of the items that keep her busy!

jniblett@nycsd.k12.pa.us



Miss Amy Troutman (pictured right)

Miss Troutman joined Mrs. Mehring-Guss's class on April 5th. She is a graduate of York College with a BA in Elementary Ed and a minor in Special Education. Her work with the United Cerebral Palsy has afforded her rewarding and valuable experience. Miss Troutman enjoys time with her family, reading and going to watch the weekend races. We are thrilled to have her as part of the Third Grade Team. atroutman@nycsd.k12.pa.us

Miss Karen Repetto (May arrival)

Miss Repetto will be joining the 4th Grade team in early May, which is when we anticipate Mrs. Culletion's leave. She is a graduate of Shippensburg University with a BA of Education. Miss Repetto brings great enthusiasm for literacy and she eagerly anticipates this new opportunity.

3rd Quarter Honor Roll!

3rd GRADE

Tanner Albert
Nicole Andrews
Chloe Bartram
Benjamin Brandt
Parker Chance
Abbie Clendaniel
Sean Colgan
Devan Copenhaver
Hannah Diziki
Amber Fogelsanger
Kari Henry
Lillian Hockensmith
Taylor Hoverter
Remi Ice
Kimberly Johnson
Lydia Leftwich
Katie Luft
Taylor Mattias
Tanner Martin
Emily Moody
Kayla Moody
Anthony McArdle
Jessica McKay
Chase Rondon
Aunna Rubacha
Olivia Shea
Robert Skinnell
Dylan Smith
Mackenzie Smith
Keenon Weber
Aidan Young
Bennett Young
Antoinette Plank

4th GRADE

Mitchell Andrews
Jenna Bitteringer
Samuel Brandt
Michaela Cotton
Alex Fishel
Sarah Fleming
Jessica Gilbert
Adam Goulden
Brooke Haines
Sydney Horvath
Cory Latchford
Dylan Markel
John Moody
Levi Pomeroy
Jake Sacoman
Austin Schreffler
Maddie Wareham
Jonathan Whitcomb

5TH GRADE

Cameron Albert
Rachel Appleby
Kate Colgan
Brennan Becker
Kelly Donaldson
Katie Hersh
Dillon Hippensteel
Brooke Hoffler
Kassidy Legge
Nathan Merovich
Tyler Preun
Leah Reday
Kierstan Staley
Nathaniel Watkins

NES Rolls Together!



On Sunday, April 11th, NES students and families joined together for an evening of roller-skating fun!

About 70 students attended the Fountain Blu Skating Rink in New Cumberland. The Balloon Slinger remained a hit of the night... providing creative caps such as the ones pictures above on two of our NES students! The PTO, our NES Sponsor, provided a snack and drink to all students and children of teachers that attended this fun evening.

What a wonderful evening it was for all who attended!

Annie Musical a Huge Success!

In March, several students and faculty participated in our District's Elementary Musical, Annie! **Ashley Barber, Allison Brosius, Kari Henry and Ellie Santos** gave fantastic performances as part of the Orphan Crew! **Mrs. Beddia, Mrs. Clay, Mrs. Henry and Mrs. O'Brien** provided great assistance throughout practices and performances and **Miss Bachman** coordinated the Art Enrichment Groups to create superb scene backdrops.

We are so proud of these individuals!

Important Reminders

Student Drop Off Reminder

Students may not be dropped off at the front curb between 8:30 AM-9:00 AM. During this time we have buses and vans that require ample space to unload students in a safe manner. **Please do not stop in the parking lot to drop off your child.** For everyone's safety, it is imperative that you park and escort your student to the sidewalk during this time. Please note that orange cones will be placed by near the curb for these purposes.

Student Absences- Absence Policy

Please remit doctor excuses to the school office within three days of your child's absence.

Without these essential documents, your child's absence is entered as unlawful in our system. The easiest method is to request a doctor's excuse the same day you visit the doctor and provide to school office upon your return. Please utilize the Northern York County School District excusal forms along with the physician's excuse.

Spring Attire ... It's that time of year!

As we enter our spring months, students are reminded to follow our dress code of suitable footwear for outside play; lighter clothing that covers the shoulders and shorts and skirts must be of an appropriate length. Please refrain from wearing sandals or flip-flops, as this prevents our students from participating in active play at recess.

Student Rosters – Class Requests

Please know that the process of assigning students to homerooms comes with great consideration and planning. Our school team makes note of academic, social and behavioral strengths and needs. The process is a balance of student data performance and looking at the whole child. As a result, the guidance counselor and building specialists will review roster recommendations and provide expert input. I am an integral part of the process and meet with grade levels, review rosters and make adjustments based on what's best for our students. We value your input as parents and the information you provide on the particular learning style of your student is welcomed. If you feel there is something we should know about your child, that we do not already know, please put that in a letter addressed to J. Cal. We will attempt to honor requests for particular teaching styles, however please be mindful that classroom assignments will be made with best interest of all children, including your child. Therefore, a request does not ensure, immediate assignment. We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff of qualified instructors, all with unique strengths that benefit our children. Please note, written requests are required by May 7th.

March Manners ... A Café of Courtesy



In conjunction with Character Counts, students focused on manners for the month of March. Mrs. Landauer, NES guidance counselor, worked closely with the PTO to inform, highlight and practice mannerly behaviors with students. Manner tips were posted throughout the school and spotlighted on Ncubed, our school TV station. Additionally, classrooms worked to earn *The Golden Fork Award* in the cafeteria. This Award recognized classrooms that demonstrated mannerly and courteous

behavior. Individual outstanding students were spotlighted on the Shamrock Line also displayed in the cafeteria. Following this month long awareness, students entered a transformed cafeteria, now... the Manners Café, where tables were dressed in regal purple, accessorized with glints of silver and white. Parent volunteers, patterned in formal black and white attire, greeted students with warm welcomes and a dessert menu that provided two choices for later selection. As a result, the Café was a buzz, filled with kind words, polite conversation and super excited students! We are grateful for the collaborative spirit of our PTO, Guidance Counselor and School Staff. This made for a truly rewarding day!



School Board President Visits for **Read Across America!**

Students in Grades K-2 had the pleasure of visiting with Mr. Charles Comrey, School Board President, during the March, Read Across America Celebrations.

Mr. Comrey, traveled to individual classrooms to share the children's book, *Firefighters in the Dark* by Dashka Slater. He also took the time to convey important fire safety tips and strategies. Students were thrilled to have the opportunity to ask relevant questions, and see a demonstration of the fire-



resistant uniform and essential equipment. Students learned many important facts such as making certain they had a family plan indicating where they would meet in the event of a fire, and ardent reminders to check their fire detector batteries twice a year. More importantly, students came away with a better understanding of how firefighters work and a greater comfort level after seeing Mr. Comrey in his full fire fighter gear. We are so grateful for this great community service!

News from **B, B, B, BAND ...**

The members of our bands are now rehearsing for our spring concert on May 4. These students should be practicing at home in their music book along with the music for the concert. All of the students have received a folder with concert music. Please encourage your young musician to practice, so they are prepared for the concert and be certain makes plans to attend our concert on May 4, at 7:00 at the high school!

Band Program Receives Mini-Grant ! The Northern elementary band program has received a mini-grant from the Polar Bear Foundation. Mr. Nebistinsky, elementary band director, wrote a proposal for the creation of a Rhythm Coach lab. This lab is a new and exciting tool for teaching and practicing percussion. It is comprised of three rhythm coaches, headphones, cords and speakers. At the center of the lab is the Roland RMP-5 Rhythm Coach, which is a sophisticated metronome and practice instrument with many functions to help teach rhythm to beginning percussion students. It also features special coaching functions that assist students in playing music correctly and accurately. Students have fun, while learning to play in time, both alone and together. Using the lab helps students improve their performance quicker and use their time efficiently. Mr. Nebistinsky as developed innovative techniques for it's use. This is another way that the Northern music department is using effective technology to improve student learning and performance. The Northern Music Department wishes to thank the Polar Bear Foundation for their generous grant that provided the funding for the rhythm coach mini-lab!

Colonial Kids Camp

What is life like in Colonial America? Have your child come see for themselves! Through hands-on activities, games, and crafts, your child will learn to appreciate life in the 1700's. This fun filled week is a great educational experience.

.....Farm chores, Food ways, Traditional handcrafts and folk arts, Period games.....

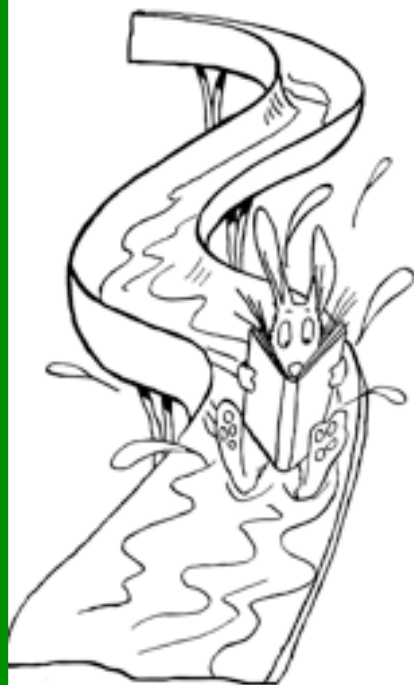
The camp will be run Monday-Friday, July 26-30 from 9 am to 12 noon for children ages 9-13. It will be held at the historic Dill's Tavern, a national historic site in Dillsburg, PA and run by The Folk Art Center.

The site is owned and operated by Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society.
For registration forms and more info go to: <http://thefolkartctr.com/daycamp.htm>

Get a Head Start on Summer!

Dillsburg Library presents Summer Reading 2010

Registration
begins June



Every participant must have their own library card to register.

Come in early to get your own library card.

Count minutes June 14th to August 21st.

Stop in to pick up a schedule of events or to check out our prize list.

Teen Programs Tuesday evenings.

Call 432-5613 for more information or visit our website to register online at

<http://www.yorklibraries.org/Dillsburg>

CREATIVE GENIUS WANTED! Camp Invention® at Dillsburg Elementary School needs your help! The Hatched virtual world is disappearing and we need you to help build a new marketplace for the avatars! You'll also get to use real tools to take things apart, like old VCRs and phones, and see what's inside! Then, you'll have to explore alternate sources of energy to power your own motorized pet!

You'll find lots more fun things to do at Camp Invention. Camp will be held on June 21-25 from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, and will be presented by local teachers for girls and boys entering grades 2-6. Camp director: Raina Kane.

This national, non-profit science and creativity enrichment program is offered by Northern York County School District in collaboration with Invent Now Kids and the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Polar Press Fridge Friend

APRIL	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
	19 D5	20 D6	21 D1	22 D2	23 D4
	26 D4	27 D5	28 D6	29 D1	30 D2

PTO Meeting
May 11th @ 7pm
NES Library

IMPORTANT DATES

4/27-28 Gr. 4 Science PSSA
 4/27 Gr. 4 Philly Chaperone Mtg @ 6:30 PM- NES
 4/30 Arbor Day Ceremony
 5/4 Band Concert @ 7pm- HS
 5/5 Gr. 5 Parent Orientation @ 7pm - MS
 5/7 Moments with Mom 8-8:40
 Early Dismissal @12
 5/10 Gr. 5 to Pinchot Park
 5/11 PTO Mtg @ 7pm
 5/11 Gr. 5 Art Enrichment Trip
 5/13 Rock to Bach Assembly
 5/14 Gr. 4 Trip to Philadelphia
 5/17 Chorus Concert @ 7pm-HS
 5/17 Spring Book Fair Begins
 5/18 Gr. 1 to Indian Echo
 5/19 Evening Book Fair 3:45-5:30pm in KDG Wing
 5/20 School Board Mtg @ 7
 5/21 Gr. 5 Visits the MS
 5/26 Kids Arts Fair @ DES 6-8pm
 5/28 Field Day!
 6/4 Family Bingo Night- NES
 6/8 Gr. 5 Farewell
 6/9 Noon Dismissal- Last Day!

MAY	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
	3 D3	4 D4	5 D5	6 D6	7 D1
	10 D2	11 D3	12 D4	13 D5	14 D6
	17 D1	18 D2	19 D3		21 D5
	24 D6	25 D1	26 D2	27 D3	28 D4

JUNE	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
	31 NO SCH	1 D5	2 D6	3 D1	4 D2
	7 D3	8 D4	9 D5		

Please keep an eye out for more information to come on Field Day, Fifth Grade Farewell and Family Bingo Night!