

# Chestnut Chatter

Covington Elementary School Newsletter

November 2024

## Parent Lunches

We are looking forward to having our parent lunches again this year. Please see the schedule below for your child's scheduled day and please let us know if you plan to attend, but did not hand in your RSVP.

Monday, Nov. 4	KG
Wednesday, Nov. 6	Grade 1
Monday, Nov. 11	Grade 2
Wednesday, Nov. 13	Grade 3
Monday, Nov. 18	Grade 4
Wednesday, Nov. 20	Grade 5

## The Gift of Sharing

Once again, the students and staff will be sharing the spirit of Christmas by participating with our local Amvets in the annual food drive. Food barrels will be placed throughout our school building from November 4 through December 11. Everyone is encouraged to donate food items (no glass containers please!) to this worthy event. The classroom with the highest tally of donated food items will receive a special prize. Please help support this food drive, which will benefit many local families.

## Veterans Welcome

We are excited to be celebrating Veterans Day on November 8, 2024. All veterans are welcome to attend this special event in the new gym. Our high school FFA will be hosting the event again this year. Breakfast will be served, starting at 8:20 am and our assembly will follow. Detailed information was recently sent out through Final Forms. We ask that you please RSVP. You can do this through our district website if you did not receive the information through an email.

## Counselor's Corner

Mean Behavior vs. Bullying

### Being Mean:

- Occasional hurtful comments or actions, often unintentional, like teasing or excluding someone. It happens once or infrequently and may not be targeted.

### Bullying:

- Repeated, intentional behavior meant to harm, intimidate, or dominate another person. Bullying involves a power imbalance and can be physical, verbal, or social.

### How Parents Can Help:

#### Listen Without Judgment:

- Encourage your child to share, believe them, and validate their feelings.

### Work with the School:

- Talk to teachers or school counselors if bullying occurs.

### Role-Play Responses:

- Practice assertive language, walking away, or seeking help.

### Monitor Online Activity:

- Guide your child on safe online behavior.

### Teach Assertiveness:

- Help your child say, "Please stop, I don't like that," calmly.

### Encourage Positive

### Friendships:

- Support friendships with kind, inclusive kids.

### Model Respectful

### Behavior:

- Show calm conflict resolution.

### Resources For Parents:

-*The Bullying Workbook for Kids* by Raychelle Cassada Lohmann

-*The Bully, The Bullied, and the Bystander: From Preschool to High School- How Parents and Teachers Can Help Break the Cycle*

-*Bullied: What Every Parent, Teacher, and Kid Needs to Know about Ending the Cycle of Fear* by Carrie Goldman

### Resources for Kids:

-*Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon* by Patty Lovell

-*Stick and Stone* by Beth Ferry

-*Real Friends* by Shannon Hale

-*Jennifer Chan is Not Alone* by Tae Keller

-*Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

## Student Council News

Student council members voted on officers in early October. Congratulations to the following:

President **Cheyenne McMillion**

Vice-President **Trent Tobe**

Secretary **Tempe Smith**

Treasurer **Zeke Feight**

Members have been busy the last month. Student council members sold Pumpkin Grams that were delivered on October 31st to students' homerooms. Fifth grade members assisted with the book fair, helping younger students to make purchases.

All student council members worked hard to plan a fun-filled Red Ribbon Week. This year's national theme was **LIFE IS A MOVIE, FILM DRUG FREE**. The theme is a reminder that Americans across the country make significant daily contributions to their communities by being the best they can be because they live drug-free!

The school store is open as of October 1st. The student council is working hard to provide excellent service to their classmates. Please try and remember to make a line in front of the store when you are making purchases and know in advance what you would like to purchase. Inventory and prices are available on the school website, as well as with their homeroom teachers.

### Upcoming events:

- **Hide and Seek, Find the Turkey**- small paper turkeys will be hidden around the school for students to find!
- **Candy Cane Grams**- Students and parents can pay a dollar to send a treat and a note to a student at Covington schools.
- **12 Days of Christmas**- Twelve holiday-themed dress-up days leading up to winter break.

## School Nurse News

### Clinic Reminders:

**Screenings:** 2024 -2025 screenings are in full swing! Good hearing and vision are vital to school success throughout your child's school experience. Vision screening is provided to students in K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and as well as students new to our district. Hearing screening is provided to students in K, 1, 3, 5, 9, 11 and as well as new students to our district. If you have any questions about your child's screenings or need any assistance in making an appointment, please contact the school nurse.

**Prescription (Rx) Medication-** Students are encouraged to take Rx medication outside of school hours, whenever possible. If Rx medication must be administered during the school hours, a written "physician's request for Administration of Medication by School Personnel" must be completed by the physician and signed by the parent. This includes any inhalers or EpiPens that the student may be carrying with them. These forms can be found in the clinic or online.

**Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications-** In order for students to receive OTC medications at school, including cough drops, a "Parent Request for Administration of OTC Medications at School" form must be completed by the student's parent. The school stocks some OTC medications, however it is encouraged that parents provide any

medication they wish their student to be given. OTC medication forms can be located in the clinic or online.

**When to Stay Home-** Flu season is upon us! Here are some reminders of when to keep students home. Severe cough, unknown rash, Temperature of 100 or greater, diarrhea, vomiting, live head lice, or an undiagnosed eye infection. Students must be kept home until **24 hours fever, vomiting, or diarrhea free**. Students must have a doctor's note when returning with a rash. Illnesses are going to spread. However, by following these guidelines, we can hopefully keep the spread to a minimum.

**Communication:** Please be sure that the emergency contact information on Final Forms is correct for your student. The Remind App is a quick, convenient way to communicate minor details. So the nurse may send notifications through Remind about your student. Therefore, it may be beneficial to turn notifications on. If there are any questions about keeping your child home, please contact Nurse Crystal.

## B.E.S.T.

### Buccs Elementary Support Team

The beginning of the year has been a busy time once again for B.E.S.T! We started off the school year with our annual Walk-a-Thon in October. The weather was perfect and we had amazing volunteers! Congratulations to the Kindergarten and Fifth Grade Classes for being the most spirited and winning the donut class party! Our students raised over \$17,000! As our biggest fundraiser, this money is used for things like teacher-requested classroom materials, as well as fun educational programs. This money also allows us to help provide our students with field trips like Brumbaugh Fruit Farms, SunWatch Indian Village, Columbus Zoo, Ohio Caverns and more. We are also planning a fun educational assembly this year for the students! None of this would be possible without the support of the parents and community. Thank you for supporting B.E.S.T. and Covington Elementary!

We also have a few fundraisers coming up soon that we hope to involve the community in.

Wings & Rings- November 20th

Culver's- January 13th

We love providing for our staff and students and couldn't do it without our great volunteers! We would love to see you, and your amazing ideas, at our next meeting on November 5th, at 6 p.m., at the elementary school in the K-2 pod. Check out our Facebook page, B.E.S.T. (Buccs Elementary Support Team) to keep up to date on all our fun adventures and ideas for our students and staff. If you have questions, please feel free to email, call, or text Kierstan Redmon, our newly appointed Parent Coordinator, at [thecovingtonbest@gmail.com](mailto:thecovingtonbest@gmail.com) or 937-214-5735.