

**ROCHELLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #231  
444 N. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
ROCHELLE, IL 61068**

Volume 30

May 15, 2009

Number 9

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

May 25	No School	Memorial Day Observance
May 29		Report Card Day – last day of attendance
May 29	7 PM	8 <sup>th</sup> grade promotions at RTHS

**AREA FOOD RESOURCES**

As household finances become tighter and children are home for the summer, food is in strong demand for local families. Here are some helpful resources to support your family's food supply.

Angel Food Ministries: By buying food from first rate suppliers at substantial volume discounts, Angel Food Ministries is able to provide families with approximately \$65 worth of quality nutritious food for \$30. Angel Food Ministries does not use out-of-date food or inferior products. Each month's menu is different and consists of fresh, frozen and packaged food. The cost for a box of Angel Food is \$30. There is no purchase limit for boxes of Angel Food. There are no applications or qualifications necessary to purchase. Generally, one box of Angel Food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week or a single senior citizen for almost a month. Angel Food Ministries participates in the Food Stamp Program <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/>. For more information, please contact Ashton United Methodist Church 815-453-2328. May orders are due May 17th and ready to be picked up May 30th.

Monthly Monday Suppers: Located in the Fireman's Social Hall (formerly K of C building) at 311 6th Avenue in Rochelle. Doors open at 4:45. Food served from 5-6:30pm on the first Monday of each month. The next meal will be available on Monday, June 1st. This program is an outreach of the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry of St. Patrick Catholic Church. For more information, please call St. Pat's at 815-562-2370.

Rochelle Christian Food Pantry - 770 W. Lincoln Ave., 815-562-6654

Hand In Hand - 414 Cherry Ave., 815-561-1420

Northern Illinois Food Bank, 630-443-6910

<b>ROCHELLE MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>
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Joe Schwartz, Principal  
Rick Dornink, Ass't Principal

562-7997

### **RMS PTO NEWS**

Thanks to the RMS PTO for providing the staff with treats during Teacher Appreciation Week. The staff enjoyed the treats and is thankful for the support of the PTO.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will enjoy a wonderful graduation dance on Friday, May 29, from 9:00-11:00 PM. Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring the dance.

The RMS students and staff want to thank the RMS PTO for all the support during the 2008-2009 school year. Special thanks to the following board members: Angie Balcombe, Teresa Ricketts, Michelle Pease, Brenda Wendling, Stephanie Barrington, Angela Eraas, Angela Seldal and Yvonne Brass.

The RMS PTO welcomes all parents to their monthly meetings. Please plan to be involved for the 2009-2010 school year. Next RMS PTO meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

### **REPRESENTATIVE PRITCHARD VISITS TEAM 7-1**

Representative Robert W. Pritchard (R-70th District) visited Rochelle Middle School on Tuesday, April 14th, to speak with Team 7-1 students. Mr. Pritchard taught students how the Illinois General Assembly works and how a bill becomes a law. He interacted with students using vivid examples of laws related to the driving age and school attendance requirements, as well as sharing some of his personal experiences as a lawmaker. The students responded positively with thoughtful questions and became more aware of their rights and responsibilities under the law as a result of his visit.

### **8TH GRADE GRADUATION**

Eighth grade graduation is scheduled for Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at Rochelle Township High School. Information has been sent home with your 8<sup>th</sup> grader that is important for you to see.

## Tilton School

**Tony Doyle, Principal**

**562-6665**

### OLD STONE SCHOOL

Trip back in time...fifth graders in Mrs. Deutsch and Mrs. Brown's classes went back in time recently. The classes visited Old Stone School, part of the Rockford Museum Center at Midway Village. Students dressed like students from the 1890's and brought lunches that might have been typical of the day. During their day at the school, students worked with slates, did memorization exercises, practiced handwriting with a stick pen and ink and learned what life 100 years ago was like. A big thank you to PTO for helping fund to the trip.

### THIRD GRADE ROCKS

One way the Tilton 3rd graders are building fluency in their reading is through creating a classroom Musical BIG BOOK The kids are choosing one classroom song. The lyrics to the song will be enlarged and pasted on several pieces of construction paper with the kids designing each page. The final product will be a laminated flip chart. Students will sing their chosen song with the words available to them. Repeated reading of the words through song will not only increase the students' fluency, but is a fun and easy way to read!

Flat Stanley is on his way throughout the United States! The Tilton 3rd graders have read the book Flat Stanley, by Jeff Brown. We had fun sending letters to family members in the community and outside of the state of Illinois asking them to show Flat Stanley what they do from day to day and to write about it. We are anxiously waiting to get these letters back to see what Flat Stanley has been up to! Once he returns, we will read and display on a map about his many travels.

### GOODBYE MRS. CONNOR

Students and teachers say "good bye" and "thank you" to Mrs. Connor. Mrs. Connor is a Rochelle High School teacher, retiring after teaching 30+ years of teaching Child Care Careers. Tilton School has been blessed with her many high school teacher aides and reading buddies. We thank her for her service and friendship.

### 2009 SPRING SING

All students took part in our 50's-60's Rock & Roll Spring Sing. The event was filled with song, dance and good times. Thanks to Ms. DeJaeger, Mr. Madere & Mrs. Elson for their part in putting this event together.

### FOURTH GRADE TALENT SHOW

Our first annual fourth grade talent show was nothing short of American Idol in talent and spirit. The contestants sang, danced and performed stand-up comedy. We look forward to next year's event.

## CENTRAL SCHOOL

**Jean Kisner, Principal**

**562-8251**

### CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The students of Central continue to learn about Character Counts. They are asked to practice the six Pillars of Character, (Trustworthy, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship), while at school. Based on the pillars, the teachers nominate a good citizen from each classroom. From those students, the teachers choose one student to be the **good citizen** from the grade level. Those students chosen for the month of April are: Ryan Paxton, kindergarten, Jacob Childers, first grade, Aron Diaz, second grade, Taylor Phillips, third grade, Allison Nixon, fourth grade and Myah Braden, fifth grade. These students received a gift card from Wal-Mart, a certificate, and had their picture taken for the Character Counts display in the hallway by the principal's office.

### **MRS. FRANKFOTHER'S CLASS EXPLORES**

Mrs. Frankfother's fifth grade class has been studying rocks and minerals in science. On Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, her class took a trip Mequoketa, Iowa, to explore the caves at Mequoketa State Park. They saw lots of interesting rock formations, and even some bats. They had a great time and would like to thank all the chaperones who went with them, Mr. Ormond, Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Walters, Mr. and Mrs. Bulta, and Mr. Frankfother.

### **UNDER THE SEA**

Students in Miss McMahon's classroom have been studying under the sea animals for science and reading this month. Three students had the opportunity to research an animal of their choice, type up facts about that animal and make an informational poster with the information they found. The students practiced what they typed and presented it to several adults and classes at Central School. This was hard work and they all did a fantastic job! Please visit the website to view photos.

### **CHINESE ACROBATS**

Rochelle Elementary students were treated to a performance by The Fabulous Chinese Acrobats on April 20. The students were enthralled by such feats as juggling, tumbling, plate twirling and whip cracking. You may view photos of this assembly on the website.

### **JUMP ROPE FOR HEART EVENT A SUCCESS**

On April 15, students at Central School in Rochelle jumped all over heart disease and stroke by participating in Jump Rope For Heart. The students raised more than \$1700 for the American Heart Association and helped celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fundraising event.

Donations raised during the event help fund research to fight heart disease and stroke and also support the American Heart Association's public and professional education programs. Heart disease is the number one killer in America and stroke is number three.

"This year's event was a huge success," said Mrs. Hintzsche, the physical education teacher and coordinator. "This was the first year that we have participated in Jump Rope for Heart and the response was overwhelming. Our goal was to raise \$1500. With the economy the way it is, I was worried that we would not meet that goal. It just goes to show how generous people are even when times are tough."

By reaching that goal, students got to vote as to which staff member would kiss a pig. Since the monies collected exceeded the goal, more than one staff member was chosen to kiss the pig. Those staff members receiving the most votes and kissing the pig were Mrs. Kisner, Mrs. Kessen and Mr. Haws. To see who puckered the best, visit our website!

### **AMAZING DINOSAUR**

The next time you visit Central School, take a walk upstairs to Mrs. Ebert's classroom. In conjunction with second grade science, former Central School students, Jodie and Jamie Wyatt, used their artistic talents to create an awesome dinosaur mural over Mrs. Ebert's classroom door. Students were amazed as the dinosaur progressed. Thank you Jodie and Jamie!

## **ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT**

Did you know that it takes about 700 gallons of water per minute to put out the fire in a single room with average contents? Academic enrichment math students learned this and much more when fire fighter William LaFleur visited their classroom. Students learned to calculate how much pressure must be applied to overcome the friction loss in various types of hoses. The calculations need to take into account not only the diameter and length of the hose, but also the type of nozzle in use. We already knew that fire fighters had to be strong and brave. Now we know that they also need to be good mathematicians!

## **PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (P.A.C) NEWS**

On Saturday, May 2, 2009, eight parents from our district attended the Fourth Annual Statewide Bilingual Parent Summit in Oak Brook, IL. The conference is sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education – Division of English Language Learning. The sessions included the following topics: Parent Advisory Council responsibilities and Illinois Bilingual Education program rules – The DREAM Act and Financial Aid for a College Education: “What Parents Need to Know” - Educational Programs Essential for English Language Learners including Early Childhood and Special Education – The Rights of Immigrant Students. Parents decided to attend different sessions and then share about what they learned. They will be presenting a summary of this very informative summit on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Central School's cafeteria. This meeting is also considered the last meeting of this school year. An election will take place for next year's P.A.C. Committee positions. Everyone is invited to attend to vote on who will be the president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary. Your vote counts! Parents will be speaking in Spanish but there will be a translator available. Hope to see you there!

## **MAY SCHOOL**

**Barbara Cantlin, Principal**

**562-6331**

## **FOURTH GRADE**

Illinois author Betty Carlson Kay who writes about the Lincolns and their families visited the fourth graders April 14. She came dressed as Mrs. Todd Edwards and told the true story of her little sister Mary Lincoln and stressed Mary's good points while acknowledging her faults.

The presentation was followed by a question and answer period. The students very much enjoyed this sometimes humorous and very interesting tale.

May School students recently participated in the Pennies for Peace Program to aide Pakistan and Afghanistan in their efforts to build local schools in an attempt to keep these children free from terrorism. In one week, the May students raised \$371.57 in change! The students all read the book, *Listen to the Wind*, and then generously gave in order to better the lives of students their age in these war-torn countries. May School students and staff appreciate RTHS for all their help with the Pennies for Peace program.

### P. E. Page at May Elementary School

Hello and welcome to our physical education page for the month of May.

Mr. Hernandez has been busy working with the students this past month. Students have been actively participating in a variety of activities.

Classroom Activities - This past month, the kindergarten through 2nd grades have been busy participating in a juggling unit. Students were learning how to use items such as scarves and beanbag cubes to enhance eye hand coordination. We are currently participating in a striking unit.

The 3rd through 5<sup>th</sup> grades have been working on fitness testing. Students were tested in five areas: flexibility, arm strength, stomach strength, quickness and endurance. We have been participating in a striking unit as well over the past few weeks.

Home Activity - May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. For a link to acquire more information on this, visit [www.aahperd.org/Naspe](http://www.aahperd.org/Naspe). We will be participating in our annual Mustang Run on Friday, May 22nd. Students are encouraged to get outside and exercise as much as possible to help maintain a healthy lifestyle. This summer would be a great opportunity to continue keeping physically fit to obtain this.

Thanks for your time each month. Have a great, active summer and we will see you next fall! -Mr. Lodico

## **LINCOLN SCHOOL**

**Lisa Goddard, Principal**

**562-4520**

### **END OF THE YEAR IN FIRST GRADE**

Our class is very excited about going to Brookfield Zoo on May 14th! We will be able to see many of the animals we have been studying during the year. Our class is also looking forward to opening our First Grade Time Capsules that were "buried" way back in August. We will be able to see how much we have grown and how our handwriting and drawing skills have changed over the year. Students will be able to read a special letter that was written to them from mom and dad. First graders will also be organizing all of our monthly writing journals to take home. We will compare and contrast our writing from the beginning of the year with our May writing journals to see how much we have learned! A summer skill packet will be sent home with all 1Y students during the last week of school. Every first grader has worked very hard this

year. Please work with your child on the skills in the summer packet and continue to read every day!! Have a great summer!! ~Mrs. Yochum and Mrs. Sparrow

## **SECOND GRADERS KNOWING THE IMPORTANCE OF READING**

Second graders were thrilled to get out in the fresh air of White Pines Park in Oregon, Illinois for our final field trip of the year. The experience was filled with nature hikes, first aid awareness, and a genuine appreciation of the beauty of the outdoors. As the school year comes to an end, ensure that your child continues to read at every opportunity. Making reading a consistent routine will prepare him/her for the coming year and promote the love of reading. Incorporating math games and hands on work with money will also strengthen his/her comfort level in relation to these real-world skills. Enjoy your summer! ~Ms. Zilm, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Kida

## **P. E. PAGE AT LINCOLN**

Hello and welcome to our physical education page for the month of May. Mr. Hernandez has been busy working with the students this past month. Students have been actively participating in a variety of activities.

Classroom Activities - This past month kindergarten through 2nd grades have been busy participating in a juggling unit. Students were learning how to use items such as scarves and beanbag cubes to enhance eye hand coordination. We are currently participating in a soccer/kicking unit. The 3rd through 5th grades have been working on fitness testing. Students were tested in five areas: flexibility, arm strength, stomach strength, quickness and endurance. We have been participating in a kicking unit as well over the past few weeks.

Home Activity - May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. For a link to acquire more information on this, visit [www.aahperd.org/Naspe](http://www.aahperd.org/Naspe). We will be participating in our annual Fun Run on Wednesday, May 13th. Students are encouraged to get outside and exercise as much as possible to help maintain a healthy lifestyle. This summer would be a great opportunity to continue keeping physically fit to obtain this.

Thanks for your time each month. Have a great, active summer and we will see you next fall! ~Mr. Lodico