

Turtle Tales

THE NEWSLETTER OF TURTLE LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL No. 8, 08-09

CALENDAR

January 19-January 23

Monday, January 19

No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Tuesday, January 20

7:45 a.m. African Music Ensemble

7:50 a.m. 4th Grade Orchestra

Student Council **Kidz Klozet** Collection

Wednesday, January 21

7:45 a.m. 5th Grade Band

7:45 a.m. 4th Grade Choir

Artist in Residence, **David LaRoche** visits
Grade 3

Student Council **Kidz Klozet** Collection

Thursday, January 22

7:45 a.m. 5th Grade Choir

Special Ed to Target

Artist in Residence, **David LaRoche** visits
Grade 3

Student Council **Kidz Klozet** Collection

Jump Rope for Heart

4:30-7:30 p.m. **Journey to Algebra**

Friday, January 23

No School-Teacher Work Day

(elementary students only)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The important thing isn't what happens to you, but what happens through you."



Principal Points by Craig Sundberg

Running an effective parent involvement program with everything from open house programs and parent-teacher conferences to curriculum brochures, visitations, district newsletter, classroom newsletter, Turtle Tales newsletter, memos, fliers- not to mention web site, Mounds View Messaging and e-news messaging- can get complex and even complicated. With email, our automated calling systems, voice mail and internet sites, we have more communication tools than ever before. What remains first and foremost is how we communicate the progress of your child. Most often we do that with our end of quarter conferencing and our progress reporting format. Our first progress report will be coming home with students the last Friday in January. It will be our district's first attempt at an electronic based report form. As with anything new, we may run into some glitches. We will work diligently to correct or modify as we see needed. As a district we are working toward consistency in content, format and rationale with this newly designed report card. We will be looking at integrating a common language across all elementary schools. These progress reports will be generated from our new student information system (TSIS) and will allow teachers to evaluate and monitor individual student progress over time. Our teachers will be receiving training during the week of January 12 and we are hoping that all will go well. Please direct any individual concerns you may have over the format and design of this new progress report to me or Mr. Johnson here at Turtle Lake. Please keep in mind that the progress report is just one of the ways we hope to communicate with you regarding the progress and achievements of your student. "Happy New Year" to all and my best to you in 2009!

THEME OF THE WEEK

I Follow the Ideals of Great Americans Like Martin Luther King, Jr.

- Try to solve problems with others in a peaceful way and without violence.
- All people are created equal and everyone should be treated with dignity and respect.
- The world would be a better place to live if we all treated others as we ourselves want to be treated.

CALENDAR

January 26-January 30

Monday, January 26

7:50 a.m. 5th Grade Orchestra
7:00 p.m. PTA Meeting, Turtle Hall
Lauren Stringer, Author/Artist visits Turtle Lake
Turtle Tales submission deadline

Tuesday, January 27

7:45 a.m. African Music Ensemble
7:50 a.m. 4th Grade Orchestra
Lauren Stringer, Author/Artist visits Turtle Lake

Wednesday, January 28

7:45 a.m. 5th Grade Band
7:45 a.m. 4th Grade Choir
Lauren Stringer, Author/Artist visits Turtle Lake

Thursday, January 29

7:45 a.m. 5th Grade Choir
Special Ed to Courage Center
7:00 p.m. TL Choir at Chippewa
Lauren Stringer, Author/Artist visits Turtle Lake

Friday, January 30

7:45 a.m. Chess Club, LMC
7:50 a.m. Student Council, Staff Lounge
Lauren Stringer, Author/Artist visits Turtle Lake

DATE TO NOTE:

Please note there IS school for elementary students on *Monday, January 26th*. The calendar shows the day grayed out, which would indicate no school for all students. The day should not have been grayed out because there is school for elementary students. No school for middle and high school.

THEME OF THE WEEK

Maximize Your Listening

- We show respect and care for another person when we really listen to them.
- Real listening means not only being quiet when someone else is speaking, but also asking questions to show that you want to understand.
- Only action brings a goal to life. Take one small action step this week towards reaching your New Year's goals.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Always speak the truth and you'll never be concerned with your memory."

Student Council News

On December 15th, grade 4 Student Council members went shopping at Target for the Gifts for Others program. Students purchased coats, snow pants, hats, mittens and toys for the program.



During the month of December grade 5 students made fleece tie blankets for the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Over 80 blankets were made and given to families to help stay warm this winter. This project was sponsored by Student Council.

Collection for Kidz Klozet

Kidz Klozet is a new store founded by two Turtle Lake parents to provide FREE clothes to children in need. During the week of January 20th-22nd, Student Council will be collecting new and gently used children's clothes. We respectfully ask that all items be new or gently used, clean and in good repair. If we would not wear an item, we do not expect our guest to do so either. All donations are tax deductible. Receipts will be provided upon request.

Items specifically needed:

Coats, snow pants, boots, hats, scarves and mittens
Clothing, shoes and socks
Backpacks and NEW school supplies
NEW personal care items (soap, shampoo, tooth etc.)

New infant items for expectant mothers

Brown paper bags

Financial contributions (100% of the contributions go to the store to purchase items for storage, displays or family needs)

Items not accepted: furniture, toys, car seats and baby equipment

Kidz Klozet is located in Elim Baptist Church in Northeast Minneapolis.



Jump Rope For Heart

Turtle Lake on January 22nd

Help us raise money for our nation's number 1 and number 3 killers---cardiovascular diseases and stroke. Letter and envelope will be coming home soon.

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Respect, Responsibility, and the Right to Learn!

Turtle Lake Elementary School

1141 Lepak Court
Shoreview, MN 55126
Craig Sundberg, Principal
Darin Johnson, Student Services
Assistant

School Hours

School day begins at 8:50 a.m.
Students enter building at 8:35 a.m.
Kdgn a.m. session: 8:50-11:30 a.m.
Kdgn p.m. session: 12:40-3:20 p.m.
School dismisses at 3:20 p.m.
Early release days dismiss at 11:50 a.m.

Office Hours

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Important Phone Numbers

Office.....651-621-7700
FAX.....651-621-7705
Voicemail.....651-621-6100
Attendance.....651-621-7701

E-Mail

firstname.lastname@moundsvIEWSchools.org

District Website

www.moundsvIEWSchools.org

Turtle Lake Website

www.moundsvIEWSchools.org/turtlelake

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Turtle Tales is published semimonthly.
Past volumes are available on our school's
website:

www.moundsvIEWSchools.org/turtlelake.

Copy deadline for issue No. 9 '08-'09

.....Monday, January 26

Publication date for issue No. 9 '08-'09

.....Friday, January 30

Items for submission may be e-mailed to
Sandra.solheim@moundsvIEWSchools.org or
brought to the office.

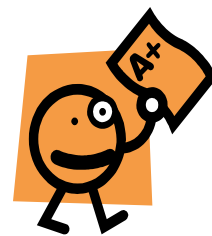


Turtle Lake
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mounds View Public Schools

New Report Card Format Coming January 30, 2009

On January 30, 2009, your elementary student will be coming home with this year's first progress report card. The district is working towards consistency in content, format, and rationale with a new elementary report card. The new format has common language across all elementary schools. The report cards are generated from our new student information system and will allow teachers to evaluate and monitor individual student's progress over time. This is one of the first steps in the development of personalized learning plans.



Technology Task Force: Volunteers Needed

In an effort to integrate technology into instructional strategies, Turtle Lake has been looking at options for funding technology (Smart Boards etc.) in classrooms.

We will be putting together a group of parents/teachers to help brainstorm ideas on ways to generate funds for this project. Please contact PTA Co-President, Jenni Bruess (sjbruess@comcast.net) or Principal Craig Sundberg if you are interested. The first meeting is scheduled for January 29th at 9:00 a.m. in Mr. Sundberg's office.



Para Recognition Week is January 20-26, 2009

The Governor of the State of Minnesota has proclaimed
the week of January 20-26, 2009

PARAPROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK.

Paraprofessionals—THANK YOU for all you
do here at Turtle Lake.



Mounds View Community Education—New Programs

Join MV Community Education for exciting
classes that are fun and imaginative.

Information available online at

www.moundsvIEWSchools.org/comm_edu/

PRODUCT COLLECTION NEWS

It's a New Year and a new classroom challenge! In January, the classroom who brings in the most box tops, milk caps, Campbell's labels, Tyson labels, ink cartridges or cell phones will win an ice cream party. We will begin collecting on Friday, January 9th and the last day to bring in your items for this challenge is Friday, January 30th.

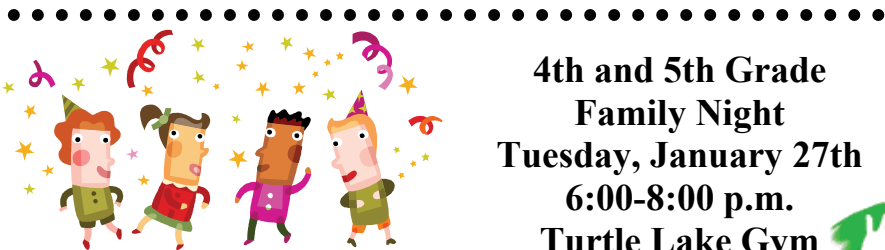
My Coke Reward Points for Education
Donate your Coke Reward Points to Turtle Lake! Register at www.mycokerewards.com to help us collect points to earn rewards for our school.



NOTE REGARDING THE STUDENT DIRECTORY

A class list supplement has been sent home with all students who ordered a directory. Please insert in the back of your directory.

If you had requested a new directory, due to problems with printing or missing pages, please contact Kristi Wheeler at kristinannw@msn.com or 651-483-6155. Thank you for your patience and we apologize for any inconveniences.



**4th and 5th Grade
Family Night
Tuesday, January 27th
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Turtle Lake Gym**



4th and 5th graders (and your families!)- don't forget to come to the **DANCE PARTY** next Tuesday, January 27th. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Gym! No RSVPs needed. For questions, please contact Megan McGough (651) 490-9762 or Lori Gray (651) 592-3500.

Gifts For Others

To the Turtle Lake Community:

It is a distinct privilege and honor to be part of the Gifts For Others program. I have the unique opportunity to interact with those who are giving as well as those who are receiving gifts. Generosity, goodwill and compassion define the heart of Turtle Lake students, parents and staff. Sincere gratitude, expressions of humility and heartfelt appreciation characterize those families who benefit. As I delivered the gifts you provided, tears – more than words -- spoke sentiments of thanks.

From start to finish, Gayle Holle and Diane Kuehn coordinated the effort. Their administrative skills and caring spirits assured ongoing momentum and that details were completed. With the help of many other parent volunteers, several hundred ornaments – detailing specific gift requests -- were cut and displayed on two trees. In addition to all the other behind-the-scene details, as gifts arrived, they were sorted and organized for delivery.

To all who contributed to the Gifts For Others program, thank you so much.

Sincerely,
Tim Howard
School Social Worker
Turtle Lake Elementary School



Science Fair

**March 30th, Grades 1, 2 and 4
March 31st, Grades 3 and 5**

More details coming soon in science class!

WORD OF THE WEEK

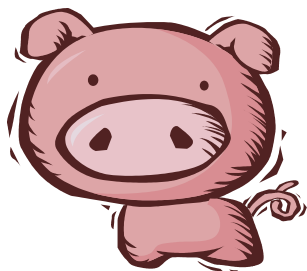
Word of the Week

Week of January 19th: Puny

Definition –smaller and weaker than normal

Book: *Piggie Pie*

Author/Illustrator: Margie Palatini / Howard Fine



Week of January 26th: Sturdy

Definition –physically strong and thick

Book: *Paul Bunyan*

Author/Illustrator: Steven Kellogg



Authors and Illustrators Visit Turtle Lake

Thanks to the generosity of the Turtle Lake PTA, Lauren Stringer, a Minneapolis author and artist, will spend a week-long residency at Turtle Lake School from January 26-30, 2009. During her visit, Lauren will teach students about the book-making process and work with them to fold an origami creature (based on her work for *Fold Me a Poem*) and write a poem about it. She will also meet with each classroom in grades 1, 2, and 5 to create and write. Lauren most recently created the illustrations for *Snow*, written by Cynthia Rylant. Order forms for three of Lauren's books – *Fold Me a Poem*, *Snow*, and *Winter is the Warmest Season* – were sent home with students. Orders needed to be turned in by Monday, January 12th in order to ensure enough time for delivery prior to January 30th. To learn more about Lauren and her work, visit her website at <http://www.laurenstringer.com>.

The PTA is also sponsoring a visit from Julie Jersild Roth, author and illustrator of *Knitting Nell*, a story about a young girl who loves to knit and finds ways to reach out to others through her hobby and work. Julie will work with kindergarten students on February 9th and 10th during their specialist time. She will talk about how she works and teach the children to finger-knit. Kindergarten students received an order form this week should they wish to purchase a book for Julie to personalize during her visit. Those forms also needed to be returned by Monday, January 12th. To learn more about her, please visit her website at <http://www.juliejersildroth.com>.

Third grade students will enjoy three visits from David LaRochelle in January and February, also sponsored by the PTA. David works extensively with the students to create an original story, revise it (with help from David's personal comments to them), and design illustrations for it. Turtle Lake's third graders have enjoyed this opportunity for over a decade, and David is a popular figure when he visits our school. Third graders received an order form to purchase personalized copies of two of David's books – *The Best Pet of All* and *The End*. As with the other forms, this needed to be returned by Monday, January 12th for prompt ordering and book delivery. To learn more about David, visit his website at <http://www.davidlarochelle.net/>.

Fourth graders will also work with an author. Joyce Sidman will work with them the last two weeks of February as they compose poetry and learn about word choice, process, and images. More information about this will come in a future edition of *Turtle Tales*. To learn more about Joyce, visit her website at <http://www.joycesidman.com/>.



DRESS WARM!



With winter weather here, this is a reminder that students do go outside for recess every day with the exception of rainy/wet days or days when the wind chill index is lower than -10 degrees F or the temperature is less than 0 degrees F. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather.

LATE ARRIVALS

We are experiencing very long lines of cars during morning drop-off which is resulting in many students being tardy to class. Our school day begins at 8:50 a.m. which means students need to have taken care of their backpacks and coats and be in their classroom at this time. With over 100 cars dropping off students in the morning, this can result in a long line in front of the school. Please plan and perhaps allow a little extra time in the morning to get your student here between 8:25 and 8:35 a.m. at which time they are allowed in the building to go to their classrooms.



DATES TO NOTE



Monday, January 19

No School--
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Friday, January 23

No School--Teacher Workday

Monday, February 16

No School--Presidents' Day

Thursday, March 5 &

Friday, March 6

No School--Conferences

Monday, March 16 through

Friday, March 20

No School--Spring Break

Thank You

Thank you for giving copies of your favorite books to the Turtle Lake LMC (library) in celebration of your birthday, half-birthday, or simply in celebration of a wonderful book!

Mr. Buesgens: *Brava, Strega Nona!*
Sheri Anderson(mentor): *Snow What Fun!*
Maria LaMere: many- *Magic Tree House books*
Christina Mehrkins: *Song that Never Ends*
Ella Erickson: *Madeline and the cats of Rome*
Off to first grade
Horse
That Book Woman



New Language Classes Deserve Translation

Our Community Education department has distributed its 2009 Winter/Spring youth enrichment catalog. Among the offerings, you'll notice a variety of language classes for elementary school students.

It is important to note that this enrichment program is not the outcome of the School Board's current work towards investigating options for introducing a language to our elementary and middle schools next year. Here are some important distinctions:

The **Community Education language program** will:

- Serve students who choose to participate in kindergarten through fifth grade
- Require a fee for participation
- Offer multiple languages
- Hold classes before and after school and on Saturdays
- Supplement classroom instruction

The Mounds View School District currently proposed, a **World Language program** next year would:

- Require all students in grades 4 - 8 to take one consistent language
- Incorporate classes into unit studies time in elementary schools and into Allied Arts offerings in middle schools
- Be cost neutral because classes would be taught by classroom teachers who are also licensed to teach the language
- Move students to progressively higher levels of skill

To learn more about the Community Education language program visit www.moundsvIEWSchools.org/pdf07/cc09.pdf. To learn more about the World Language Task Force, visit www.moundsvIEWSchools.org/taskforces.asp.





Let's get ready for Carnival!



Mark Your Calendars

This year's carnival is
Saturday, February 28th

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We have calculated the number of volunteers needed to help make this year's carnival a success. Please use the attached volunteer form and return it to school with your child. We need approximately 125 volunteers for each shift during the carnival. You can volunteer as a family or with friends. If you have a high school student who is looking for community service time, this is a fun way to earn those hours.

Turtle Lake

Carnival Donation Days

Thursdays - Jan. 29th, Feb. 5th., and Feb. 12th

Donations of the following will begin to be collected the end of January:

- Candy bars—multi-packs of regular size bars
- Bingo prizes (ideas include—\$5 and \$10 gift cards, CDs, DVDs, books, video games, outdoor games, card games, board games, Legos)
- Books for our used book sale room
- Prepackaged Bakery Items (i.e. box of Twinkies, Little Debbie's, etc.)

If you wish to make a cash donation, please identify the donation as "carnival shopping".

Getting Involved

We would now like to invite YOU to join in the fun and help us make this the best carnival yet!

- Would your family like to sponsor a specific carnival game? You could pick your game or activity and donate to help provide that event for the kids! Maybe some families in your neighborhood would be interested in going in on a sponsorship together?
- Are you a business owner or service provider? Would your business or company like to sponsor a carnival game or silent auction donation? Maybe you would like to provide a special prize for a game? Maybe your art supply company would like to sponsor face painting? Maybe your real estate firm would like to provide the soda for the concession stand? You can help direct your donation as you see fit!
- Do you work? Maybe your employer would consider sponsoring our Carnival? Please ask for Turtle Lake! We can help provide any information or forms required, or help answer any questions! Maybe there are extra marketing dollars in your budget at work – and looking for a great cause to help Turtle Lake School! Maybe you know of a service or item that your job would help provide as a donation. Please ask and help us! It can't hurt to ask, even if they say no!

All sponsors will be credited throughout the Turtle Lake community! We will acknowledge all carnival game sponsors at the game! Signs at each game room will be visible by all carnival attendees! All silent auction items will be credited with their sponsor! In addition, we will be providing a full listing of all corporate and family sponsors thru Turtle Tales after the carnival!

Any donations would be greatly appreciated and used to benefit Turtle Lake School. You can help direct any and all sponsorships. We are suggesting a \$50 donation for a shared carnival game sponsorship and \$100 for a private carnival game sponsorship. If you would like to help the Turtle Lake Carnival with any sponsorship or donation, please contact Betsy Rewald (651.503.8549, BetsyRewald@CBBurnet.com)



TURTLE LAKE
 CARNIVAL VOLUNTEERS



Please take a moment to consider how you can help make the Turtle Lake Carnival a success. Volunteers are needed in various areas before, and the day of carnival. Volunteering can be a great family event. Fill out this form noting you and/or your family's volunteer selections and return it to school with your child.

I can help in one or more of the following areas (please **check** the areas that interest you).

Carnival Set Up: February 27, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. _____

Carnival Button Sales: February 23 - February 27, 8:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. _____

Day of Carnival: February 28

Ticket Sales: _____ Concessions: _____ Games: _____ Face Art: _____

Silent Auction: _____ Hair Spray: _____ Nails: _____

Gorilla Arm Wrestling*: _____

Shift Time:

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. _____ 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. _____

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. _____

Carnival Clean Up: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. _____

Build a frame for the gorilla arm*: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ # of Volunteers: _____

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Thank you for volunteering!
Please return this form to school with your child.

* New event this year! Students have a chance to arm wrestle a gorilla. Need volunteers to wear the arm and arm wrestle! Also, looking for someone to help build a frame for the gorilla arm wrestling event.