

The Blake Buzz

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FEBRUARY 2012

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The Principal's Perspective

Dear Blake Families!
When the weather turns cold and snowy, one of my favorite things to do is to get a good book and READ! And although life is hectic, I try to make time to read with my kids every night. Research tells us that the benefits of reading with your children are enormous. It promotes language acquisition, reading comprehension and overall success at school. In fact, some researchers say that just having books in your

home improves performance. Jim Trelease, author of The Read Aloud Handbook, says that this success is due to a simple equation! He says that the more kids read, the better they get at it. The more they like it, the more they get at it, the more they like it. The more they do it! And the more they read, the smarter they get! So this winter, take some time to snuggle up with your kids and a good book... it will do everyone good! For good ideas on books to read, check out Jim



Third grader Lindsey Coleman caught in a good book!

Trelease's handbook, or visit the public library. The librarians there always are up on the latest and greatest reads for kids!

Have a wonderful February. Happy Reading!

Tina Cassidy

Important Dates:

February 7—Chairs for Charity Volunteer Mtg.

February 9—Leukemia/Lymphoma Society Assemblies

February 10—Valentine Parties (Parent Volunteers go to classrooms at 2:15)

February 14—Blood Drive Assemblies

February 15—PTO Mtg. 6:30PM Blake Cafe

February 16—Early Release

February 16—K-Kids Induction

February 17—No School—Teacher Inservice Day

February 20—No School—President's Day

First Grade Celebrates 100 Days of School!

Can you believe that 100 days of school have already passed? Our first graders know this for a fact because they have counted them all! They spent the day doing "hundreds" of things.

Pictured on the right are Gavin Kurka and Noah Robinson from Mrs. Sullivan's first grade classroom in their very fashionable Hundred's Day hats!



Helping Hands Preschool Registration 2012/13 School Year

Starting February 1, Helping Hands Preschool will begin peer model pre-registration for 2012-2013 school year. Helping Hands Preschool provides federally mandated preschool services to children 3 to 5 years of age with disabilities and offers a developmentally-appropriate preschool to a select number of peers. Peer mod-

els are age 3-5 and must be 3 years of age by September 30th of the enrollment year. Helping Hands is in session Monday-Thursday. Each session is 2-1/2 hours long. For the 2012-2013 school year, there are approximately 12 peer model openings in the AM session and 12 peer model openings in the PM session, depending on age of students. Pre-registration

forms will be available on-line starting February 1 by going to www.medinacityschoolsdistrict.org, click on Student Services on the main page, then choose Helping Hands Preschool from the menu on the left side of the page. Please contact Kathy Loop, Northrop Elementary, at 330-636-4601 if you have any questions.



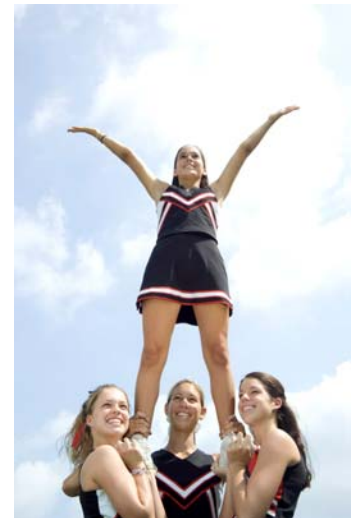
Thank you to everyone that participated in our magazine sale fundraiser! Those funds help with special events and supplies for classrooms! We appreciate your support!

PTO Night at Ruby Tuesdays is March 7 & 8. PTO will receive 20% of all proceeds! Please consider a night out at this family-friendly restaurant to help out Blake's PTO!

Flyer Central

Don't forget to check Flyer Central every Wednesday for new community postings. Just go to the district web site at www.medinacityschoolsdistrict.org and click

on the Flyer Central icon on the front page. The latest postings are: Girl Scouts Daisy by Mail Program and Medina High School Youth Cheer Camp.



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration has begun for the 2012-13 school year. Forms are available on the web-site, www.medinacityschoolsdistrict.org; click on the "New Student Registra-

tion" button. After you have completed your forms, call 330-636-3100 to set up an appointment with Registration. Upon completion of all paperwork, you will be assigned a

screening appointment - Blake's screening day is Thursday, May 10th. Please see the attached flyer at the end of this newsletter for more info!

K-Kids Updates

K-Kids will be having two fundraisers to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We will have a kick-off assembly on February 9th to learn a little about Leukemia & Lymphoma and why raising money for them is important.

On Valentines Day, February 14th, we will be having a bake sale. Items will be \$.50 and will be sold during lunch. We are asking for bakery donations. Donations can

be brought to Mrs. Koerper's or Mr. Stanley's room Feb. 13th or 14th. We are asking items to be wrapped (or put in a baggie). Please put in a few items that would be worth \$.50.

From February 13th - 16th we will be having a Guess the Baby Contest. Staff members will bring in baby pictures and the students will be able to guess who they are. The student who guesses the most correct will win a prize. Small boxes will be sent home at

the beginning of February for students to collect change and earn money by doing jobs. They will then use that money to make a donation to be able to participate in the Guess the Baby Contest.

Thank you for all of your help in the past. We were able to donate over \$100 to The Eliminate Project that Kiwanis is sponsoring!

If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Koerper or Mr. Stanley.



Chess Club Starts!

52 Blake students attended the start of Blake's 2011-2012 Chess Club on Wednesday, February 8. A special thanks to Mr. Fenn for organizing this fun activity and to Mrs. Downey and Mr. Miller for helping to supervise!



A Request from the Office

For years, our policy for student dismissal has been to "have a routine way home" such as always riding the bus, or riding in a carpool, etc. Then for an occasional change, a parent needs to send a book-bag note to the classroom teacher notifying him/her of the way a child will go home for that day. This serves two purposes. First

it prevents confusing the students who frequently panic at dismissal time because mom or dad said, "I MIGHT pick you up after school", and now the child doesn't know what to do. Second, it prevents last minute scrambling to locate a parent and confirm the change in plans. We make all attempts to keep instructional inter-

ruptions to a minimum, so please try to make these plans in advance. Of course, emergencies and unexpected events happen and we will gladly direct these messages to the appropriate teacher, but we ask that you attempt to avoid late calls to school to make changes in transportation arrangements.

Changing Contact Information: Please make sure that if any of your contact information changes throughout the year to update your contact information and email addresses in the PAM system and notify the office of the changes. Thank you!



H. G. BLAKE
ELEMENTARY

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www.medinacityschooldistrict.org

**Valentine's Parties
will be held on Fri-
day, February 10.
Parent volunteers
can go to classrooms
starting at 2:15 for a
party start time of
2:30!**



**We're on
the web!**

*Growing and
Learning Together*

**Remember that there is NO SCHOOL on Feb
17th or Feb 20th!
Enjoy the long weekend!**

Birthday Books

A big thank-you to all students that donated "Birthday Books" to our library for all students to enjoy! Following are the new titles that were added!

Sydney Lewis

"Gingerbread Girl"

Andrew Rohlen

"A Day in the Life: Sea Animals Shark"

Sydney Herter

"bees, snails, & peacock tails"

Kyle Dominak

"LMNO peas"

Andy Miller

"Tarantula"

Zach Kirschnick

"Labrador Retriever"

Kasey Kirschnick

"Golden Retriever"

Lauren Robinson

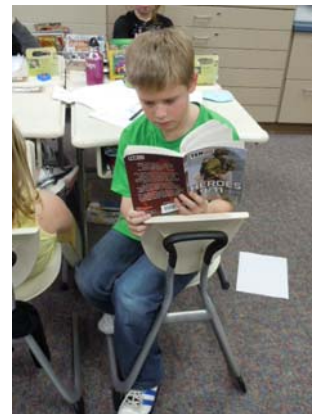
"the Trouble
with May Ame-
lia"

Meagan Figler

"The Books Of
Elsewhere"

Bennett Myers

"Skippy jon
Jones Class Ac-
tion"



Intra-district Enrollment Option for 2012-2013

Applications will be available to all Medina City Schools' students who wish to attend an elementary or middle school other than the they are assigned within the school district during the 2012/2013 school year. This option is based on enrollment numbers, as well as space and staff availability. Class assignments are made only to those grades that are at the district class size less one. Intra District Enrollment Applications will be available on the Medina City Schools Website as of Monday, April 2, 2012, at <http://www.medinacityschooldistrict.org> (go over to Administration then scroll down and click on the link to the Student Services page to find the link to Intra District Open Enrollment Op-

tion) or call the Office of Student Services 330-636-3090 to receive the paperwork through the US Mail. Completed applications will be accepted at the elementary and middle school offices or at the Central Office from Monday, April 2, 2012 through Friday, June 30, 2012 for the 2012/13 school year. Parents will be notified in writing of their child's acceptance/non-acceptance no later than the second week of August of 2012. Assignments may be revoked in reverse order of date received (last in, first out) if enrollment figures no longer allow for additional classroom space.

Parents whose children are approved for this Intra District Open Enrollment Option are responsible for

transporting their own children.

As a matter of information, Medina City Schools does NOT allow students from other school districts to enroll in the Medina City School District under the **Inter District Open Enrollment Option**. However, Medina City Schools DOES allow students to leave the district for another district under this enrollment option.

For more information, please contact the Office of Student Services at 330-636-3100.

Medina City Schools

Kindergarten Registration 2012-2013

** Please note: Medina City Schools Kindergarten is a $\frac{1}{2}$ Day Program*

Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Beginning January 25th you can go to www.medinacityschooldistrict.org and click on the 'New Student Registration' button on the home page. The registration packet is a fillable online document. Please thoroughly complete the forms on your computer, review, and print the entire packet. If you do not have access to a computer, go directly to STEP 2.
Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Contact Laura Milton at (330)636-3100 to set up a Registration Appointment.
Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Upon completion of all Registration Paperwork, Laura Milton will assign you a Screening Appointment in your child's home school building:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Northrop Monday, May 7thHeritage Monday, May 7thBlake Thursday, May 10thWaite Friday, May 11thFenn Thursday, May 10thCanavan Wednesday, May 9thGarfield Tuesday, May 8th
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Building Screening: Our building personnel are excited to have this opportunity to meet & greet our future students in their home schools

Any Questions?

Please contact Laura Milton, Registration, at 330/636-3100

