

THE BLUE BANNER

SPRINGPORT ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2009

Springport Public School Web Site: springportschools.net

Dear Families,

We are offering a Springport Elementary t-shirt for students, parents and staff to purchase. The front logo of the t-shirt was designed by Sarah Sussex a 5th grade student, and the back "S" logo includes all the student and staff names. T-shirts are available in 3 different colors (Kelly Green, Sport Grey, Light Blue), in both student and adult sizes. Cost is \$7.00 each or 2 for \$12.00. Please check your child's backpack for an order form. A sample t-shirt will be on display at the Winter Walk Through. Additional order forms will be available in the office and at the Winter Walk Through. Order Forms must be received no later than **Friday, January 15, 2010**.

WHAT'S UP IN ART!

Art classes at Springport Elementary have been in strong competition for the Stars of Art Award this year. Many classes try very hard to be their best during art class to earn three "crayons" each week. Classes can earn a crayon for coming in well and listening to directions at the start, working well and staying focused, and cleaning up well at the end of class. **The Stars of Art winner for November was Mrs. Prine's 3rd grade class.** They worked very hard as a group to create a quiet work environment and helped each other to follow the rules well. With this win, every 3rd grade class has won the award this year! So, keep it up 3rd graders and continue being great star artist examples for the rest of the school. **November's Artist of the Month is Sydney Shafer from Mrs. Gonzalez's 3rd grade classroom.** Sydney is a great example of a student that follows my 4th rule for art; Try your best! She always puts forth her best effort, has strong focus while working, and creates beautiful pieces of art. Sydney is always polite and very helpful. She follows directions well and uses her class time wisely. Congratulations Sydney and keep up the great work and attitude!

Nutrition Fun In Springport

Springport Elementary students are having lots of fun in their nutrition class cooking, tasting, and growing great foods. The first grade class learned all about carrots and made a delicious carrot soup to taste in class. Many of the third and fourth graders prepared home-made apple bars for the entire district to sample! Finally, Friday Food Tastings have really taken off. One Friday a month, the Growing Together Nutrition Program is setting up a table with healthy food samples, recipe cards and healthy eating tips! This year we've tasted great foods such as salsa, fruit salsa with cinnamon chips, kale chips, and hot chocolate! Stop by and see us! We're looking forward to many more fun cooking activities throughout the year!

Scholastic Book Fair: Dec 14-17, 8:45 AM-2:15 PM,
in the Music Room and during the Winter Walk Through.

Winter Walk Through: December 16th 6:00-7:30 PM

Girl Quest Soup/Sandwich Supper: December 16th
5:00-6:30 PM (before walk through). \$5.00 adults /
\$3.00 students.

WINTER WALK THROUGH BAKE SALE

The fourth graders will be having a bake sale during the Winter Walk Through to help raise funds to go toward their Mackinac Trip 2010. We need your help. Please bring in baked goods, ready to sell, to the elementary office before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16th. Thank you for your support.

More on back...

"Mr. Scrooge!"

The Fifth Grade will be presenting the holiday musical, "Mr. Scrooge," Tuesday evening, December 15, @ 6:30 in the Elementary Cafeteria. Watch and listen as Mr. Scrooge is visited by ghosts who look suspiciously like Springport fifth graders! Ring in the Christmas season by enjoying this fun presentation.

MARINES TOYS FOR TOTS

There will be a drop box for new (unwrapped) toys in the Elementary or Middle School office for anyone that wants to participate. The plan is that the toys will stay in the area. Final drop off date will be **Thursday, December 17th**.

Nite Lights presents Winter Wonderland December 12-23~American1 Event Center~6-9 PM

The Springport 4th graders have entered the Holiday Tree Decorating Contest at the American 1 Winter Wonderland. Please support us by attending the event and voting for our tree #31. The tree with the most donations wins all the money for the other 43 trees! \$10.00 per carload includes Santa's Castle, 12 Days of Christmas (puppet show, refreshments and more), Nite Lites which are 1-1/2 miles of over 1 million lights, and the Holiday Forest. If you are unable to make it and would like to make a donation for our tree, please see one of the 4th grade teachers or contact Brandy Neelis 517.392.7023. All proceeds will go towards the Mackinac Trip. Thank you for your support!!

PRESCHOOL NEWS

The Springport Preschool Annual Thanksgiving Dinner/Program was Tuesday, November 24th. The students made pumpkin and apple pies, cinnamon bread, and cooked a turkey. They performed two finger plays/poems, the Bear Hunt, and the Turkey Wobble. Thank you to all the families that attended, and helped make the program a huge success.

**CHRISTMAS VACATION
DECEMBER 21, 2009 - JANUARY 1, 2010**

Accelerated Reader Reward Store

As you know, often a student's success in life is determined by their ability to read well. With all the action games and extracurricular activities students participate in, they often don't take the time necessary to practice their reading skills. The elementary school has set up the Accelerated Reader program to motivate and reward children for the books they do read. Rewards work very well to encourage young readers. Would you consider watching for sales or visiting the dollar stores and picking up small, inexpensive items that could be used for rewards? We would greatly appreciate any contributions you could make, and you may have some new ideas that would encourage the students to read. Items that have been popular in the past are: bouncy balls, bubbles, sticky hands/animals, erasers, matchbox like cars, small dolls, party favors (man with parachute, clickers). We know that financial times are tight right now with many families, just as they are here at school, so any contribution, no matter how small, would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, you may contact:

Katie Tahtinen at 857-3465 x219 or
Katie.tahtinen@springportschools.net

Help us buy more books for Elementary students by donating loose change or \$1. There is a collection box in the Elementary office. Thank you for your support!!

CP FEDERAL CREDIT UNION NEWS December 2009 - Save, Share, Spend

The most important things your child should know is how to divide their money into three categories - Save, Share, Spend. Help them set up a plan to allocate their money each time they receive it. Try this:

1. Have them pay themselves by setting money aside in a savings account.
2. Have them choose a charity or organization they would like to support.
3. Allow them to use a portion of the money for an appropriate purchase.

As an incentive to encourage the habit of saving at an early age, consider matching amounts children put into their savings account. See you every Thursday!