



December 2018

### From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

What a crazy week of weather here in Central Illinois! In my six years here in Morton, I don't recall us taking any true "SNOW" days. We have been out for frigid cold temperatures, but not for snow. And in one week, a blizzard warning AND a tornado warning!! Hopefully you and your family did not experience any issues with our severe weather on Saturday. No matter the type of weather, a look at the calendar tells us that it's definitely December! As usual for this time of year, the next three weeks will fly by! I encourage you to keep up with our school and classroom activities by watching the Lincoln School Facebook Page (please like our page!) and school website, by paying close attention to newsletters and notes that come home from your child's teacher and by keeping an eye out for reminder email blasts over the next three weeks. As a reminder, school is dismissed at 11:55 am on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> for Christmas break and resumes on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

Please note that our upcoming K-1<sup>st</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade Christmas programs will again take place at Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center at Morton High School. Please look for specific information from Mr. Roche about performance needs. In general, each evening's first performance begins at 6:30 pm and the second performance at 7:30 pm. We ask that if your child is a part of the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade programs that you arrive no earlier than 7:00 pm so that the audience from the previous performance can easily exit the theater before the next audience enters. Dates and times are listed in later in this newsletter.

I also wanted to bring your attention to information in the newsletter about one of our Lincoln families, the Babins. Jason Babin, parent of Caleb (4<sup>th</sup>) and Carly (3<sup>rd</sup>) has just finished treatment for Stage 4 Burkitt's Lymphoma. However, he is still unable to work. His brother-in-law has organized a fundraiser in which he will run from Dunlap to Morton (26.2 miles) on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. He will arrive at Lincoln around 11:30 am and we are hoping to have a big crowd to welcome him

*after his run and support the Babins. There will be a bake sale here at that time; Kona Ice will be here as well, with all funds raised going to the Babin family. Please read the article in this month's newsletter to learn how you might be able to help the Babin family.*

*We have so much to celebrate and be thankful for this Christmastime, but we know there are those in our community who need to be remembered and supported. Many families find themselves in great need this holiday season. While we typically find ways to remember and help during Christmas, let's all work together to ensure that we remember and help those who need our support and prayers throughout the year, not just in December. We also thank those who serve in our Armed Forces, keeping us safe while being away from their families during this holiday season. We all know how wonderful it is when we have all members of our family together to celebrate Christmas, so we continue to keep our servicemen and servicewomen in our thoughts and prayers while they are away from their own families.*

*I am grateful for this wonderful school community in which I work...and am thankful for our staff, students and families who make up our amazing Lincoln School community. My wish for each of you is a happy and memorable Christmas, filled with laughter, love and peace.*

*Ms. Julie Albers, Principal*

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#### **A Note From the Assistant Principal**

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year from my family to yours! Every year the time from turkey to tree is always a whirlwind. Excitement fills the air with the anticipation of the holiday season. I hope your family can find time to relax and enjoy this joyous time of year. We have a full schedule planned at Lincoln through the end of the year. Hopefully we will see all of you at a Christmas concert, choir concert or classroom holiday party!

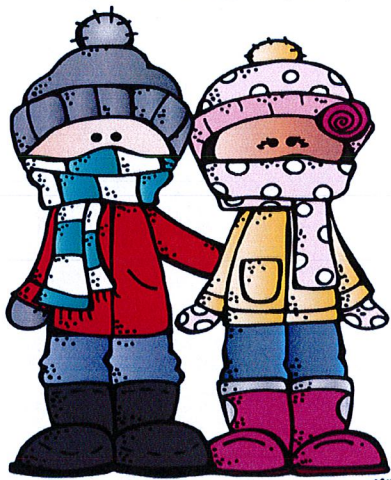
Mrs. Michelle Peterson, Assistant Principal



# Lincoln Elementary School Newsletter

## December 2018

### WINTER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY



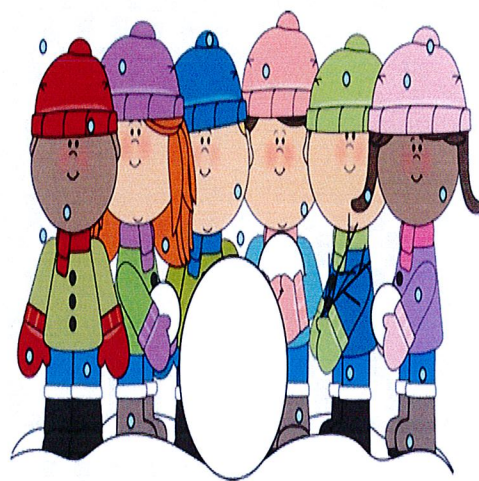
The unexpected snow and "blizzard" in November reminded us that now we will need to start thinking about dressing for winter weather and playing outside in the cold during recess.

The students go outside for recess when the temperature (factoring in windchill) is above ten degree Fahrenheit. It's important, even in colder weather, for our students to get outside, exert some energy and get some fresh air.

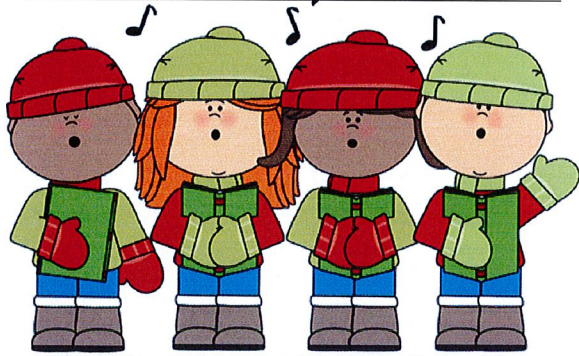
Recess is about 20 minutes long (a little less by the time the students get their cold weather gear on!), and we try to get our students outside as much as the weather allows. We do allow students to play in the snow on occasion; students will need to have snow pants and snow boots (not fashion boots) to play in the snow, along with mittens/gloves and a coat. Students should bring a different pair of shoes

to wear during the day (and for PE) and change into their boots for recess.

It is important that children are appropriately dressed for outside play; please make sure that your child has cold weather clothing-coats (with zippers that work), hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, snow boots, snow pants-so that they can play outside on cold weather days and stay warm while they are outside! We appreciate your help!



## Upcoming Christmas Musical Performances



Again this year, the Lincoln Christmas programs will be performed at the Bertha Frank

Performing Arts Center at Morton HS. Each grade level will perform its own program, lasting about 30 minutes. We ask that families who do not

have children in other performances leave the auditorium area in a timely manner so that families for the next performance can easily find a place to sit.

### PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 10,  
2018:**

Kindergarten: 6:30 pm

1<sup>st</sup> grade: 7:30 pm

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18,  
2018:**

2<sup>ND</sup> grade: 6:30 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> grade: 7:30 pm

Students are asked to arrive about 15 minutes before their grade level's scheduled performance and meet their teachers in the cafeteria at MHS. The cafeteria can be accessed through the lobby area of Bertha Frank.

Students will practice at Bertha Frank on Monday, 12/10 (K-1<sup>st</sup>) and Tuesday, 12/18, (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>) and will travel by bus with their teachers to the daytime rehearsals. Please refer to the email from Mr. Rocke for specific details; contact the office if you have questions.



*Fifth and Sixth Grade Parents:*

*Mark your calendar for these December musical performance dates:*

*Saturday, 12/8: Band Concert at 3 pm at  
MJHS Gym (6<sup>th</sup> grade band)*

*Thurs, 12/13: Orchestra Concert at 7 pm  
at MHS West Gym (6<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra)*



# Miles for Jason Babin

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

11-12 pm at Lincoln

Elementary



Many of you know this Lincoln family-Jason and Amanda Babin, and their kids Caleb (4<sup>th</sup> grade) and Carly (3<sup>rd</sup> grade). Jason has been battling State 4 Burkitt's Lymphoma and just received his last chemotherapy treatment on November 30<sup>th</sup>. However, Jason still has a long road ahead of him in his recovery. He has been unable to work during the past several months while receiving treatments. Amanda has missed work as well, accompanying Jason to medical appointments, chemo treatments and being with him during this time.

To help raise funds for the family, Amanda's brother Taggart Vanetten will be running a full marathon from

Dunlap to Morton on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. He'll begin in Dunlap at approximately 8 am and anticipates that he will be arriving in Morton at Lincoln around 11:30 am.

We are hoping to have a big crowd welcome Taggart at the end of his run and show support for the Babin family. How can you help?

-Visit the "Miles for Jason" Facebook page to learn more about the run and connect to the Go Fund Me link to donate to support the Babin family.

[https://www.gofundme.com/miles-for-jason-babin?fbclid=IwAR1qMoDo-](https://www.gofundme.com/miles-for-jason-babin?fbclid=IwAR1qMoDo-GaKLXIF8HCAJAZ9QOhCYg2s-lotRTYSULH1RX9hOABM4GzYqWQ)

[GaKLXIF8HCAJAZ9QOhCYg2s-](https://www.gofundme.com/miles-for-jason-babin?fbclid=IwAR1qMoDo-GaKLXIF8HCAJAZ9QOhCYg2s-lotRTYSULH1RX9hOABM4GzYqWQ)

[lotRTYSULH1RX9hOABM4GzYqWQ](https://www.gofundme.com/miles-for-jason-babin?fbclid=IwAR1qMoDo-GaKLXIF8HCAJAZ9QOhCYg2s-lotRTYSULH1RX9hOABM4GzYqWQ)

-Volunteer to provide baked goods (cookies, brownies, Chex Mix, Puppy Chow, etc.) for a Bake Sale to be held at Lincoln while waiting for Taggart to arrive. All funds raised will be donated to the Babin Family.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c45abae22a5fe3-bake>

-Be at Lincoln School to welcome Taggart after his run and show your support for the Babin Family on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> between 11 am-12 pm. Kona Ice will also be here at that time (11am-12 pm) and will donate 50% of their sales on that day back to the Babin family!



## Lincoln Students Help to Set Cup Stacking Record in PE

If you recall, our Lincoln students participated with other students across the nation as part of the World Sport Stacking Association attempt to break a world record on November 8<sup>th</sup> during PE classes! The goal was to help set a Guinness World Records mark in sport stacking with having the most people sport stacking at multiple locations in one day.

Well...we did it! Lincoln Lions helped to set the record with 624,390 people stacking in multiple locations in one day! In all, 2,833 schools and organizations from 25 different countries helped to set the record.

The previous record was 622,809 people stacking together in one day. Thank you to Mr. Becker, Miss DeBoer and Miss Schmitt for allowing our students to participate in this fun activity!



## Notes from Nurse Annette

With our cold and flu season upon us, it is good to review some healthy habits for our Morton students!

If your child has vomited, has a fever of over 100° or has an illness that you feel may be serious or contagious, please keep him/her home until fever or illness free for 24 hours. This includes coughing, diarrhea and sore throats. If your child has been diagnosed with strep throat or conjunctivitis (pink eye), s/he needs to be on the prescribed antibiotic medication for a full 24 hours before returning to school.

Remember that teaching your child good hand hygiene is the BEST way to prevent the spread of germs! It is also not too late to get flu shots, too! This will help with the strains of influenza that the CDC feel will be most prominent this flu season.

Lice continues to be an issue in all schools. It is a very common problem, especially for kids. Lice are contagious, annoying and sometimes tough to get rid of. While they are frustrating to deal with, lice aren't dangerous. They don't spread disease, although their bites can make a child's scalp itchy and irritated and scratching can lead to infection. It's best to treat head lice



quickly once they are found because they can spread easily from person to person. If a child is found to be with lice at school, s/he does not need to be sent home from school immediately (though a parent will be contacted and may choose to pick up a student in order to begin treatment). A child may return to school after the administration of a proper lice treatment. If a child is found to be with lice at home, we ask that parents please let us know so that we can treat the classroom areas (carpet, reading pillows, etc.) as well.

Morton 709 policy is that we will notify parents of a child found to be with lice; other students' parents will not be contacted. We encourage you to make lice checks a regular part of home hygiene as you care for your children.

A good reference for information and tips regarding care for your child's health is [kidshealth.org](http://kidshealth.org). I am also glad to be an additional resource to assist our families in the Morton 709 school district. Have a healthy winter!

**Nurse Annette Kelso**

[lincoln.nurse@mcusd709.org](mailto:lincoln.nurse@mcusd709.org)



**ROAR!**

The following students were caught in the month of November for following our ROAR

expectations. Our students can be caught by any adult in the building for being responsible, on target, acting like a leader or being respectful. Congratulations to these students!

**Kindergarten:** Manning Schmidgall, Madison Stephens, Charlotte Valerio, Matthew Estes, Bentley Myers, Addison Knute, Hudson Shepherdson, Hunter Dea, Klair Bethel, Kinley Hill, Owen Reddy, Brooklyn Schwartz, Luke Gronewold, Trevor Ricci, Nora Mettleman, Evie Hare, Charlie Klopfenstein, Mila Ralston, Quinn Manley, Corbyn Kyle, Delaney Zimmerman, Elowen Knoblauch, Mason Stephens, Kinsley Shepherdson, Carter Brown, Madyn Bush, Jayden Hoffmire, Eli Hawkins, Brylee Burget, Cruz Kyle, Ary Keyser, John O'Brien, Emilaya Rogers, Rosie Hamer, Tripp Yordy, Daphna Stickling, Matthew Klockkenga, Lewis Zauke, Kamden Racich,

**First Grade:** Reese Warning, Fisher Roehm, Wesley Couri, Layton Kaluza, Isaac Carlson, Colton Huff, James Kirk, Carter Knapp, Pres Malson, Brooksley Robeen, Livvy Habegger, Tate Miller, Garrett Koch, Nixon Albers.

**Second Grade:** Nathanael Ulysse, Abe Hoffman, Spence Kohtz, Hunter Stephens, Parker Whitaker, Schaeffer Friend, Olivia Brooks, Elsie Parnham, Alexis Ames, Bridget Knapp, Kate Gronewold, Molly Ricci, Juliet Tewksbury, Max Gardiner, Willie Ronk, Lainy Barrick, Logan Friend, Norie Campbell, Henry Austin, Trevor Estes, Rylan Jones, Miley Roosa, Trent Bozarth.

**Third Grade:** Landry Robeen, Max Nestrud, Collin Jones, Savannah Westbrook, Marley Mills, Noah Clauser, Jessie Ronk, Victoria Le Tourneau, Owen Irion, Jason Roath, Penelope Drake, Morgan Smith, Nolan Smith, Hailey Bassett, Molly Habegger, Bennett Reid, Kaiden Nelson, Declan Rogers, Lucas Cox, Isaac Gosteli, Presley Lange, Logan Beeney, Kylee Brown, Faye Brown, Kate Beckerdite, Elijah Kunz, Lamon O'Neal.



**Fourth Grade:** Jack Blosser, Jude Parnham, Mya Reed, Jessica Knapp, Brock Underwood, Brayden Tindall, Alyssa Schumm, Maggie Linville, Kherington Vershaw, Jenna Tarter, Piper Poshard, Cooper Campbell, Oliver Irion, Weston Bieneman, Bailee Geason, Maggie Getz, Kayden Johnson, Brenyn Cowley, Finn Johnson, Abby Brooks, Moira Miller, Izzy Ripka, Morgan Armstrong.

**Fifth Grade:** Reese Naas, Allie Anderson, Cade Darche, Emma McElyea, Vanessa Bjorling, Harrison Dea, Gavin Heinold, Gil Poshard, Jacob Orr, Rayne Bent, Kenna Perhay, Gage Petrov, Zackary Tucker, Bode Mills, Brooklynn Bowman, Gideon Miller, Isaac Parr.

**Sixth Grade:** Brenden Dollar, Clay McKee, Mason Hoyland, Gavin Patterson, Natalie Hauter, Amanda Shook, Lily Smith, Alex Camacho, Josh Kolacki, Talan Winkel, Andrew Brooks, Rylen Tanner, Allison Werries, Will Seaman, Sydni Hoffman, Sariah Hoffman, Ethan Green, Colleen Day, Luke Geason, Miles Leman, Cole Rinkenberger, Hannah Bankert, Gideon Snyder, Trevor Chapman, David Walters.

### **Toys for Tots Collection Site**

Lincoln Elementary School (as well as all District 709 schools) is again a drop off location for the Toys for Tots program. The Marine Corps collects the NEW toys (not used please), which are given to children in the Peoria area who may not otherwise receive a new toy for Christmas. There is a drop off box located in the hallway just inside the school entrance. We appreciate your consideration. Toys will be collected through Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.



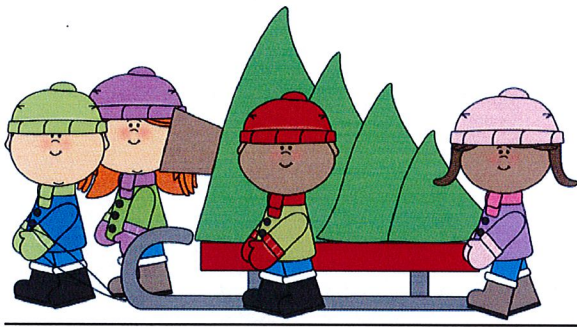
### **Communication on Snow Days**

As we head into winter, please remember that Morton 709 rarely has snow days (Well...except for last week!). On the occasion when school will be closed or dismissed early due to inclement weather, the district will send emails, text messages and/or phone messages to inform you of any changes in the school day. In addition,



these weather-related changes will be posted on the school and district Facebook pages and on local television stations. *If your phone number or email address has changed since the beginning of the school year, please be sure that we have the most up to date phone number and email address on file in the school office. You can email changes to Mrs. Bakirdan ([jennifer.bakirdan@mcusd709.org](mailto:jennifer.bakirdan@mcusd709.org)) or to Mrs. Spinder ([sueann.spinder@mcusd709.org](mailto:sueann.spinder@mcusd709.org)).*

***Thank you for your help to ensure that we have accurate information on file.***



### **Important December Dates:**

**Wed., 12/5:** 1:10 pm Early Dismissal for Teacher Professional Development; Kona Ice here after school at 1 pm

**Fri., 12/7:** PTO Family Movie Night; doors open at 6 pm; "Elf" begins at 6:45 pm in cafeteria

**Sat., 12/8:** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert 3 pm at MJHS

**Mon., 12/10:** Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Christmas Programs at Bertha Frank (MHS)  
6:30 pm: Kindergarten  
7:30 pm: First Grade

**Thurs., 12/13:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade Orchestra at 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra Concert 7 pm at MHS West Gym

**Fri., 12/14:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade to Sing Christmas carols at Restmor Nursing Home 1:15 pm

**Fri., 12/14:** Morton Elementary Choir performs the National Anthem at Peoria Rivermen hockey game; 7:15 pm

**Tues., 12/18:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Christmas Programs at Bertha Frank (MHS)  
6:30 pm: Second Grade  
7:30 pm: Third Grade

**Thurs., 12/20:** Classroom Christmas parties can begin at 1:30 pm (or later)

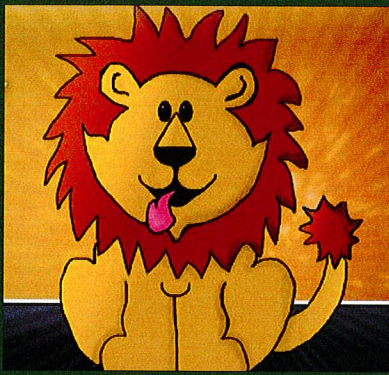
**Fri., 12/21:**  
-All School Christmas Sing 9:30 am  
-School Dismissed at **11:55 am** for Christmas Break



**School will resume on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

**Have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!**





*Lincoln School PTO*  
*News and Views*  
**December 2018**



*The Holidays are upon us (crazy weather and all)! As we close out 2018 and begin a new year shortly, we thank you once again for helping to make Lincoln School such a wonderful place for our students and staff! Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

*~ Stacy Litersky*

*PTO President*

# **Save the Date...2019 Lincoln School CARNIVAL!**

## **Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5-8pm**

If you'd like to help with carnival planning and set up, please contact Carnival Co-Chairs Nikki Albers at 309-264-8779 or Megan Nestrud at 309-648-8505.



### **PTO Important Dates:**

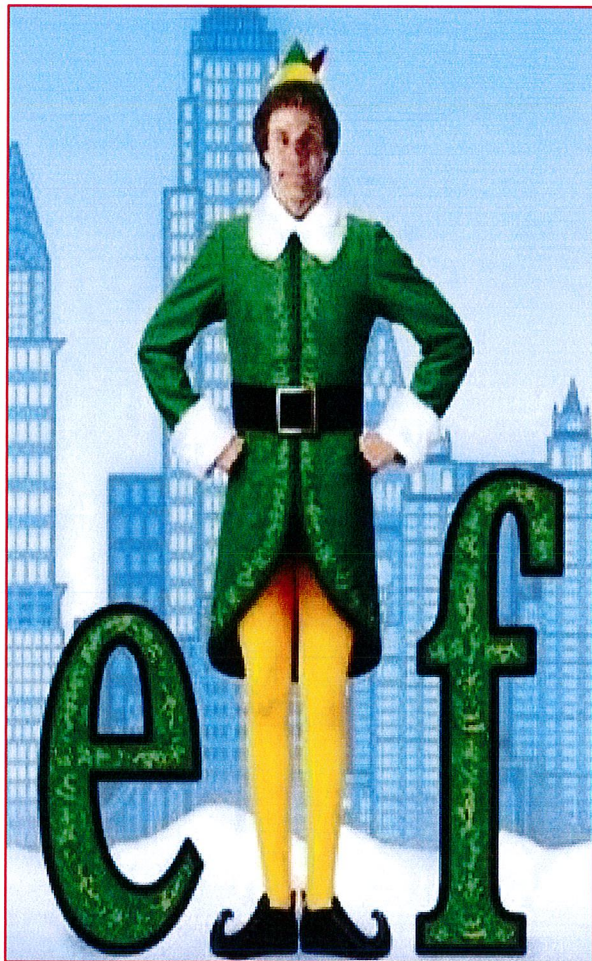
- Jan 8 (TUES): PTO Meeting at 7 pm
- Jan 9: Kona Ice & Early Dismissal
- Jan 23 – Feb 1: Gameball Run
- Fundraising Campaign



### **Teacher Luncheons**

Our last staff lunch for 2018 will be next week Thursday, December 15th. The 4th grade will be hosting this lunch - thanks to all who have signed up! January 17th lunch will be hosted by the 3rd grade parents. If you would like to help with either of these lunches please contact Jaime Farrell- [jandifarrell@gmail.com](mailto:jandifarrell@gmail.com). Thanks so much! *We couldn't do this without you!*





# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lincoln Family Christmas Movie Night!

Friday, December 7, 2018

Doors Open: 6:00 pm

Movie: 6:45 pm

Bring your blankets, sleeping bags, chairs and don't forget to wear your pajamas for a comfy night with your Lincoln friends and family!

*\*Children must be accompanied by an adult.\**

Popcorn and water will be available free of charge. KONA ICE will be available for purchase with 20% coming back to Lincoln School!

Sponsored by the Lincoln PTO Family Fun Committee.

## CARNIVAL RAFFLE BASKETS

Classroom teachers are picking their basket themes for the raffle now so be on the lookout before Christmas Break begins... **This will allow you to take advantage of post holiday sales!** Just a brief explanation of how the Basket Raffle works at the carnival on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Each classroom chooses a basket theme
- Each student brings in a new item of their choice or a monetary donation for us to purchase items for the basket. (You could also ask friends or parents to go in with you to get a bigger item for the basket.)
- The basket committee collects the items and creates the classroom baskets.
- Beginning March 20<sup>th</sup> after school and at the carnival, we will sell raffle tickets for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.
- A winner will be chosen for each basket at the end of the carnival!

We look forward to a GREAT & EXCITING basket raffle again this year! Thank you for your support!



Please be sure to sign up for the Kroger Rewards program to effortlessly earn money for **Lincoln School!** Our school code is **YA371**. Check the bottom of your next Kroger receipt to see when your annual renewal is up and to be sure to Join OR Renew your membership! You can register online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com) **USE YA371 for Lincoln Elementary School**



This Christmas season – and every day in between – shop AmazonSmile to effortlessly support Lincoln School PTO of Morton! [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)

It's an easy way to help make a HUGE difference for Lincoln School!





# Spirit Committee News:



The Spirit Committee would love to congratulate Mrs. Knepp's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class and Mrs. Mosby's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class for winning the canned food drive (this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running for both, Mrs. Knepp and Mrs. Mosby to win!)

We had **strong** competition between a few classes that gave us super results!!

As a school, we collected over 2,200 items! Both B.A.C.E. and We Care, Inc. in Morton were overjoyed with our donations!

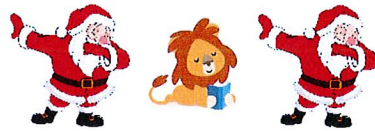
Thank you to everyone who donated, to our hard working 6<sup>th</sup> graders who helped collect and count our donations all week long and to all the teachers, students and parents who loaded and delivered the items! Together, we all helped to make many needy families' holidays a little brighter this Christmas Season!



**Classroom Trophies**



# LINCOLN LITERACY!



Does your child hate to read? Do they only read what is required? This month's tips can help you with resistant and frustrated readers!



## IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!



If your child has a difficult relationship with books, start small!

### ★IF THEY ARE A FRUSTRATED READER:

Confidence is key! Rereading familiar books, or easier reads, and praising your child's success is going to help build their confidence and start to change their perception of themselves as a reader. (Easier texts are also **GREAT** for fluency!) Communicate with their teacher about the positives he/she is seeing in the classroom as well as the goals they have for your child, and reinforce these at home! If you're frustrated, they're frustrated, so take a deep breath and take a break if a book becomes too challenging.

### ★IF THEY JUST DON'T LIKE READING:

They haven't found the right book yet! There are books about **EVERYTHING**! Search online, your local library (the Morton librarians are **FANTASTIC**!), or even your child's teacher--they know all the **BEST** books! Getting your child hooked on a topic, genre, or series can be the kickstart to a love of reading!

Encourage reading for pleasure not just assignment. Getting time to read should be a gift, not a punishment.

### ★IF THEY'VE FALLEN OUT OF LOVE WITH READING:

Go back to where it all started. Create that comfy space, open up your child's favorite book, and **READ TO THEM!** Your child is **never** too old to be read to, and hearing you read helps them hear what good readers sound like! Show excitement about looking forward to reading the next chapter and connect positive experiences with the act of reading.

### ★GOALS FOR DECEMBER:



As always, please contact me with any and all questions related to literacy!



[olivia.gabbert@mcusd709.org](mailto:olivia.gabbert@mcusd709.org)