

February 2021

From The Principal's Desk

Dear Lincoln Families,

Happy February! I hope that you and your family are doing well and staying healthy. We continue to be grateful for continued in-person learning and being at school together each day. It is so important for our students to be able to learn, grow and interact with their teachers and with one another. We know it has not been easy. Quarantines are frustrating; learning at home can be challenging. Our teachers and staff have been wonderful with providing materials and support when students are learning at home, and parents...you have been fantastic to work with throughout this whole year! We are so thankful for all of you!!

Gameball Run 2021 is just around the corner! We had an exciting week of Coin Wars in late January with a back and forth "battle" between 3rd, 4th and 5th grades! In the end, our 3rd grade students collected the most points and won the competition, along with some extra recess at a later date. The best news is that nearly \$7000 was raised for the Children's Hospital of Illinois in Coin Wars alone!!

Next Thursday, our community will join together (socially distant) for the 2021 Gameball Run. We encourage you and your family to take part in your own "virtual run" through your neighborhood in support of the Gameball Run. You may also consider completing your walk/run at Morton High School, where the track will be open for all Gameball Run participants with music (there will be no popcorn as in past years). At Lincoln, our teachers and staff will join our Miracle Kid Hudson Chan (1st grader) and his family for a walk around our school neighborhood, starting at 4 pm on 2/11. Maybe we will see your family out and about!

What's still to come for Gameball Run:

-Kona Ice Day: Wednesday, Feb., 3rd: Kona Ice will be sold after school (early dismissal day) with 20% of all sales going towards our Gameball Run collection amount. Kona Ice can be purchased for \$3, \$4 or \$5 and must be eaten outside before/after lunch.

-Gameball Run Day: Thursday, Feb. 11th-Wear your Gameball Run t-shirt to school on Thursday in support of the virtual run!

I've spent a lot of time communicating about the morning drop off routine during the past couple of weeks. Thank you to those drivers who have been making changes to their morning routines to ensure the safety of our students. Most mornings, you will see Mrs. Peterson or myself outside helping to keep the traffic moving. Help us do that by following the routine and important reminders about drop off later in this newsletter.

We truly miss seeing our parents at school throughout the day...Artistic Adventures, lunchtime visitors, party helpers, library helpers, special read aloud guests...we miss seeing all the ways that you are involved with our school. However, I'm so grateful that we are able to see your children for in-person learning each day! We have made it over 100 days of in-person learning, and that is something to celebrate! Thank you again for all that you have done to make this school year such a successful one!

Ms. Julie Albers, Principal

A Note From the Assistant Principal

It is February and we are still rocking in-person instruction!!! I am so proud of our school community and all the hard work, patience, and support you have provided us this school year. We continue to work hard and savor every day we get to teach, your children, in person. This time of year is usually abuzz with Open House and the Lincoln Carnival. While we will miss these winter activities, we will focus on staying healthy through the end of the school year. I hope you all stay warm and healthy!

Mrs. Michelle Peterson, Assistant Principal

Lincoln Elementary School Newsletter February 2021

BEFORE SCHOOL DROP OFF ROUTINE



Thank you to all families who have been helping to ensure a safe, efficient drop off routine each morning before school.

Recently, Ms. Albers and Mrs. Peterson have been outside to remind drivers to utilize the entire drop off zone by pulling up the farthest sign, when possible, in front of the school.

When drivers pull up to this sign to drop off students, it allows more cars behind to pull forward as well, helping to facilitate a more efficient drop off routine for our families. **THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS CHANGE TO YOUR DROP OFF ROUTINE! IT HELPS SO MUCH IN KEEPING THE LINE MOVING WHEN YOU PULL ALL THE WAY TO THAT FAR SIGN!**

After a few weeks of administration supervision at before school drop off, we still see a couple of safety issues which are concerning and need to be addressed:

-Students who are exiting cars on the driver's side. We see this happening with just a few families...but it is unsafe! The drive in front of the school has two lanes of traffic; one for

drop off and the other for through traffic (for staff members who are arriving to school and parking, for parents who are parking to bring something inside, for drivers needing access to handicapped accessible parking). When students exit a car on the driver's side, they place themselves in danger by exiting into the through lane of traffic. In addition, the student then has to walk between cars to enter the building. Exiting on the passenger side of the car eliminates both of these safety concerns and ensures a safe exit for students.

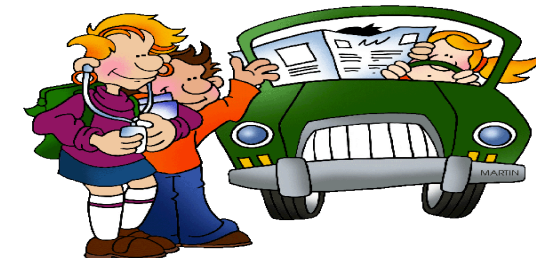
-Parents who stop their cars in the drop off line, get out of the car and assist their child exiting the car. Even if you think it is just taking a minute or two to do this, the line of cars begins to back up behind the stopped car and the bottleneck begins. Take care of the good byes, kisses and hugs before getting in the car to eliminate the back up in the drop off lane. Still want to help your child exit the car? Then use the through lane, find a parking spot, help your child out of the car and cross with your child at the crosswalk to ensure they get into the school safely.

-Parents dropping off students on Nebraska Avenue instead of using the drop off lane. While this might be more convenient for a parent, it's not safer. Children should not be crossing through the crosswalk without an adult walking them through the walk. We know there are parents who enjoy walking their child to the school entrance. We appreciate that some parents like to park their cars, then

safely accompany their child through the crosswalk to the school entrance. However, students should not be crossing through the crosswalk without an adult. Since bringing this issue to everyone's attention, we've seen a decrease in the number of students who are using the crosswalk without an adult. Thank you for your attention to this safety concern.

Patience is the name of the game at morning drop off time. If all drivers pull up as far as they can in the drop off zone and children safely exit their cars on the passenger side, it should take just a few minutes to get through the line.

The majority of our drivers have helped to improve the morning drop off routine...and we sincerely thank you for your patience! We hope all drivers will help follow these guidelines to ensure a safe drop off zone every morning. Please be sure to share this information with grandparents, caregivers, older siblings, etc. who might be dropping off your kids in the morning. THANK YOU SO MUCH!! (And I'm sorry that article was soooo long!!)



philipmartin.info



WINTER WEATHER DRESS REMINDERS FOR RECESS

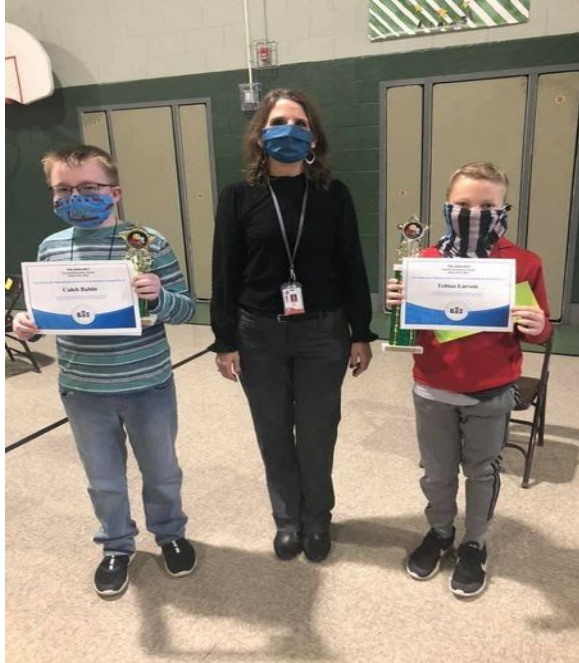
The students go outside for recess when the temperature (factoring in windchill) is above ten degree Fahrenheit. It's important, even in colder weather, for our students to get outside, exert some energy and get some fresh air.

Recess is about 15-20 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. 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!

SPELLING BEE CHAMPION IS CROWNED!!

Congratulations to 5th grader Tobias Larson for winning the 2021 Lincoln Elementary School Spelling Bee by correctly spelling the word *discord* in Round 11. Battling through 10 more rounds of tough words were sixth graders Caleb Babin and Adah Stanfield. Caleb secured the runner-up position in Round 21 by correctly spelling *sibilant*. Tobias and Caleb will represent Lincoln at the District 709 Spelling Bee on February 8th at MHS. All of the contestants impressed the audience as they spelled some challenging words that would stump many adults! We were able to allow one audience member for each participant, while maintaining a safe distance for all. Students watched the competition in their classrooms, via MPTV. Thank you to Mrs. Knepp, our coordinator and to Mrs. Auxier and Mrs. Dalberg, our judges.

Pictured below are Caleb Babin, Mrs. Knepp and Tobias Larson.



Row 1: Kacey Pickerill, Anderson Boss, Bradley Stoehr, Will Mettelmann, Trevor Estes, Adah Stanfield, Izzy Ripka (on iPad), Brody Stetzler, Adam Herring.

Row 2: Presley Lange, Carly Babin, Max Gardiner, Collin Jones, Caleb Babin, Tobias Larson, Penelope Drake, Bennett Reid, and Abby Brooks.



ROAR!

The following students were caught in the months of December and January 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: Owen Birch, Kensington Boss, Dylan Stephens, Lincoln Miller, Meghan Mulconrey, Halle Witzig, Grayson Valerio, Nicholas Klockenga, Kellen Striegel, Knox Parnham, Ava Kiddy, Alex Warning, Josh Huff, Kamarion Stubbs, Olivia Harper, Selah Hangartner, Karsyn Turner, Abigail Koch, Hayes Austin, Natalya Dillard, Noah Lewis, Vivian Weaver, Liam Drake, Reed Stephens, Preston Bell, JJ Getz, Lorelei Zimmerman, Sam Graber, Tate Larson, Brody Tindall, Elliot Konsky, Henry Fleer, Emmie Finet, Lauren Bassett, Bennett

Louwens, Finn Stealy, Jimm Malavolti, Nora Stetzler, Tucker Hoelscher, Karson Wright.

First Grade: Tripp Linville, Alison Knapp, Otto Geist, Ella Geist, Tad Johnson, Colin Phillips, Annie Carter, Dominik Stetzler, Elena Clark, Brynn Campbell, Eli Gorshe, Daniel McAllister, Joshua Moser, Wyatt Smith, Zovi Sharum, Alex Stoehr, Genny Kneller, Mason Schultz, Gigi Gardiner, Emmett Cook, Ashton Mucciante, Layton Strohkirch, Jax Hayes, Abbie Gosteli, Forbes Levy, Hudson Chan.

Second Grade: Briggs Overcash, Charlotte Valerio, Madison Stephens, Dillon Hinch, Jayden Hoffmire, Charlie Klopfenstein, Ashton Williamson-Conklin, Madyn Bush, Nathan Boyer, Mason Stephens, Easton Mills, Grant Schelkopf, Nora Mettelman, Zachary Joos, Emilaya Rogers, Kamden Racich, Madyson Strenzel, Easton Reid, Eli Hawkins, Aubree Joos, Liam Hoelscher, John O'Brien, Kinley Hill, Daphna Stickling, Rosie Hamer, Marley McDonald, Levi Parnham, Klair Bethel, Hudson Shepherdson, Ashlyn Putman, Matthew Estes, Ali McClery, Scarlet Clark, Chylee Fagerburg, Matthew Klockenga, Manning Schmidgall, Mila Ralston, Jerry Coulter, Evan Gosteli, Carter Brown, Kinsley Shepherdson.

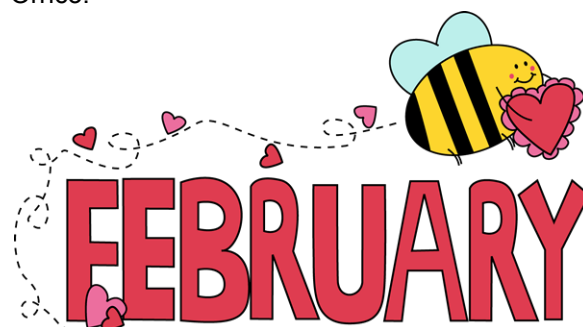
Third Grade: Nixon Albers, Allison Carter, Quinn Roehm, Tate Miller, Wes Couri, Harlow Sharum, Layton Kaluza, Zenek Richrath, Emerson Sauder, Nolan Hinz, Hudson Zeller, Tatym Wagenbach, Cameron Kennay, Anna Werries, Abryna Odari, Peyt Malson, Connor Donnelly, Addie Allen, Colton Huff, James Whalen, Fisher Roehm, Olivia Myers, Nyokyee Stubbs, Seth Joos, Mark Knapp, Rose Smith, Ben Volpert, Tytus Linville, Aimee Beeney, Keeley Kemp, Anna Beeney, Zeelan Dick, Payton Johnson, Paisley Smith, AJ Johnson, Garrett Koch, Isabella Carlson, Allison Walraven, Christian White, Colton Strohkirch, Asher Dellinger, Jovie Zimmerman, Rhet Taufer, Brendan Kiddy, Miles Greene, Titus Hangartner, Reese Warning, Carter Knapp, Sophie Dollinger, Pax Lowder, Asher Dellinger.

Fourth Grade: Quinn Hellinga, Max Gardiner, Chase Bunton, Carly Babin, Kaila Phillips, Juliet Tewksbury, Henry Austin, Reese Chapin, Will Auxier, Schaeffer Friend, Kade Darcy, Miley Roosa, Kinley Casabonne, Bridget Knapp, Andy

Ripka, Liam Carter, Lily Middleton, Hunter Stephens, Nolan Shepherdson, Ava Donaldson, Norie Campbell, Kaitlyn Simpkins, Rylan Jones, Reagan Miller, Jemma Farrell, Sophie Nestrud, Lainy Barrick, Elsie Parnham, Trevor Estes, Luke Kraft, Lexi Ames, Olivia Brooks, Gabby Nichols, Maggie Hunsley, Asher McClarren, Adam Herring, Kenna Bethel, Drew Clark, Ryan Schelkopf, Noah Hoog, Layla Stroud.

Fifth Grade: Owen Watts, Declan Rogers, Miley Darche, Jason Roath, Jack Hoyland, Piper Wagenbach, Quinton Gilfillan Jones, Ciera Huff, Kenley Mahr, Knox Carey, Morgan Smith, Nolan Smith, Camden Tarter, Ava Althiser, Max Greiner, Scarlett Boeker, Toby Larson, Max Tucker, Gaige Gray, Lucas Cox, Hailey Bassett, Brooklyn Cotton, Presley Lange, Keegan Wright.

Sixth Grade: Maddie Winkel, Alec Julien, Kaylee Hitz, Oliver Irion, Logan Preston, Mia Orrico.



Important February Dates:

Fri., 2/5: Third Quarter Mid Term

Mon., 2/8: District 709 Spelling Bee at Bertha Frank at 3:30 pm; Good Luck Tobias Larson and Caleb Babin!

Tues., 2/9: Reading/Math Challenge
2:45-4:00 pm

Wed., 2/10: Pre School Developmental Screenings at District Office

Thurs., 2/11: Gameball Run Day! Wear your Gameball Run shirts to school; virtual run at 4 pm

Fri., 2/12: Valentine's Day parties can begin at 1:30 pm or later

Sat., 2/13: Need Girl Scout Cookies? Drive Up Cookie Pick Up from 9 am-6 pm at District Office parking lot

Sun., 2/14: Need Girl Scout Cookies? Drive Up Cookie Pick Up from 11 am-5 pm at District Office parking lot

Mon., 2/15: No School for President's Day

Tues., 2/16: Reading/Math Challenge 2:45-4:00 pm; School Board Meeting 5:30 pm at District Office

Tues., 2/23: Reading/Math Challenge 2:45-4:00 pm

Dear Parents,

As we continue to keep our families safe and healthy, it is also incredibly important that we take care of ourselves by connecting with others who can lift us up and provide us with emotional support. Child and Family Connections is a Nonprofit Organization that provides early intervention services as well as social emotional consultative services to our community.

Child and Family Connections has recently set up monthly ZOOM support group meetings where parents of children with special needs can form relationships with others, discuss their concerns, and learn different techniques to care for themselves and their families.

Upcoming Dates

March 1, 2021

April 5, 2021

May 3, 2021



For more information on how to join the support group, you may contact Shannon;

Call or Text: 309-360-9743

Email: Sdault@cicfc.org

Molly Winkler

School Social Worker

FEBRUARY LINCOLN LITERACY!



Our **AMAZING** teachers have been working all year to help your child fall in **Love** with reading!

Ask your child what they love about reading!

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS:

Reading **FICTION!**

Reading **non**-fiction!

Reading about characters like **ME!**

Reading about **MAGICAL** places or creatures!

SNUGGLING up with a good book!

Reading something **FUNNY!**

Reading about a **TOPIC** I'm interested in!

★ WHAT DO YOU LOVE BEST ABOUT READING?

Don't leave your personal reading time for **AFTER** the kids go to bed! Having your child see you reach for a book for enjoyment will help them see that reading **OUTSIDE** of school is an activity everyone can enjoy! Whether it's a magazine, newspaper, or a novel, make **your** reading practices available for your child to see! Sharing with your child why you read and what you **Love** about it can help them see how reading can bring that same joy to their lives and is something they can enjoy into adulthood!

★ GOALS FOR FEBRUARY:



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



olivia.gabbert@mcusd709.org



Lincoln School PTO

News and Views

January/February 2021

Here we are already at the end of January!! Just like everything this past year, PTO has had to make changes and cancelations along the way. We have some great things in the works in the upcoming months that we hope can put a smile on everyone's faces! Since we are unable to hold the carnival, we are planning to create an awesome Covid friendly version of the carnival in conjunction with the Day of Awesomeness in the spring. Our carnival basket committee is in the process of organizing some classroom basket ideas in order to have some version of a basket raffle. The sixth grade has been asked to design a t-shirt for this unique event! The PTO book fair that is normally held during open house has been postponed. We are hoping to reschedule it during the school picnic in May. Also in the works, as talked about at our January meeting was the discussion of creating a walking path around school property. Ms. Albers will be writing a grant to submit to the Morton Community Foundation for additional funding. This would be a great asset to both the school and the community. Also discussed at the January meeting was playground improvements. PTO funds could be used for improving some drainage issues we have with mulch and dirt washing out in heavy rains. These items will continue to be discussed at upcoming PTO meetings.

Our hospitality committee headed up by Erin Jones, has been doing a wonderful job treating our staff each month with lunch and little treats, all from local businesses. We thank all families who have donated money each month thus far. Third grade hosted in January, followed by second grade in February. PTO will also be celebrating our support staff/aide appreciation in March and teacher appreciation in May. Our staff truly appreciates your generosity.

PTO will have the President and Secretary Positions open for the 2021-22 school year. These positions are a 2 year commitment. We also have some committee openings coming available for Co-chair of Hospitality, Vendor fair, After School Adventures, and Family Fun. We thank our 6th grade parents, Allison Vershaw and Christy Getz, whose students will be moving on the MJHS next year for helping with these positions! All committee positions are flexible, with no term limits. If you are interested in any of these positions or have any questions, please contact Rebecca Schelkopf, PTO President, at rebeccaschelkopf@yahoo.com or 309-369-4095.

Thanks,

Rebecca Schelkopf, PTO President



PTO is looking for the following volunteers

***PTO President**

***PTO Secretary**

These 2 positions will begin during the 2021 school year and are a 2 year commitment position. Both work closely with the PTO Board and Lincoln Administration for the betterment of Lincoln School!

***Carnival Chair/Co-Chair**

***Carnival Volunteer Coordinator**

***Co-chair of Hospitality**

***Vendor fair Chair**

***After School Adventures Chair**

***Family Fun Committee Chair**

These positions are also available for the 2021 school year with great flexibility with co-chairs and years of commitment. We would very much like to fill the positions so we can continue all of the fun we have always been able to offer the students, families and staff of Lincoln School.



Upcoming PTO Important Dates:

Feb 3 – Kona Ice Fundraiser for Gameball Run after Early Dismissal

Feb 11 – Gameball Run Virtual Community Run

2020-21 Yearbooks

Be sure to get your 2020-21 Lincoln School Yearbook ordered TODAY!

Order online at

ybpay.lifetouch.com

Yearbook ID Code: 13571721

Yearbooks are \$12 each

Order deadline is March 5th

We've been able to be in-school all school year so we're creating lots of fun and memories – don't miss out!



This year, we are honored to have first grader, Hudson Chan, along with his family serve as our Lincoln School Miracle Family. Please visit our Morton Gameball Run website at www.MortonGameBallRun.org/miraclefamilies to see Hudson and other miracle family stories) or visit our Facebook page at Gameball Run.

We are SO grateful for your competitive spirits with our coin wars! In just five days, we were able to raise \$6,976.69 towards our fundraising total! Congrats to our 3rd graders for winning the competition and earning an extra recess! We will announce Lincoln's grand total of fundraising in our next newsletter! We are SO appreciative of all of your support!



Here are some great ways to still support the fundraising efforts at Lincoln School!

Wear Your Gameball Run T-shirt on Thursday, February 11

We ask that everyone wear their Gameball t-shirts on Thursday, February 11 in support of our efforts and OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois! T-shirts are still available for purchase at MHS for \$10

Gameball RUN - Thursday, February 11th - 4 pm

Morton Gameball Run is taking to the streets of Morton! Current tiered mitigations prevent us from gathering in one place. However, Gameball Run has always been a family fun COMMUNITY EVENT, so let's move through the streets of Morton!

When? Thursday, Feb 11th 4-5 pm

Where? Walk, run, jog or trot anywhere you are comfortable through the streets of Morton

Why? To continue the tradition of supporting Gameball Run, Children's Hospital of Illinois, our Lincoln School Miracle Family and all those cared for at the hospital!

#CantStopWontStopGBR