

Lincoln Elementary School

Newsletter

November 2022



From The Principal's Desk

Dear Lincoln Parents and Families,

Our schoolwide theme for November is GRATITUDE. There is so much to be grateful for during this time of year. Throughout the month, we will spend time at our Morning Assembly and during our administrator classroom visits focusing on an "Attitude of Gratitude." We will also participate in the "25 Day Gratitude Challenge" each morning, talking about something new each day to be grateful for. We encourage you to share an "Attitude of Gratitude" at home as well. We are grateful and thankful for each one of you!

Thank you to all who generously donated to our B.A.C.E. Coat Drive sponsored by our PTO Spirit Committee last month. Those new and gently loved coats have been given to Gayle Westbrook at B.A.C.E. for distribution to children who need a new warm winter coat this season. Thank you to PTO President Natalie Friend and Crissy Stephens who helped to organize the collection.

Looking ahead to the rest of this month, our annual We Care/B.A.C.E. Food Drive collection begins on November 14th and runs through Friday, November 18th. This is always a "friendly" competition between our classes, but those in need will be the big winners from our food drive. We thank you in advance for your donations to help others in our community in need as we approach the holidays.

In December, we will present our Christmas programs for Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades. These special Christmas programs will be presented at the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center at Morton High School. Please see information inside of this newsletter for specific dates and times for our Christmas programs! (These dates are also listed on the Calendar of Events that you received at the beginning of the school year).

Mrs. Julie Horchem

A Note From the Assistant Principal

Mrs. Michelle Peterson

A collection of winter clothing items including a purple sweater with a green and yellow patterned band, a brown coat with a fur-lined hood, a blue and orange striped scarf, a brown hat, pink gloves, and a blue hat with a white pom-pom.

Though we've had beautiful fall and unseasonably warm temperatures, we know that cold winter weather will soon be here. Even with colder temperatures, it is important for our students to continue to have outdoor recess whenever possible. Outside recess allows students to be active and enjoy a little fresh air. Typically, students will go outside when the temperature or wind chill is 10 degrees or higher. Recess is about 20 minutes long (a little less by the time the students get coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves boots, etc. on!), so we try to

get our students outside as much as the weather allows. There will be times when it's simply too cold or windy to go outside. We do allow students to play in the snow on occasion; students will need to have snow pants and snow boots on to play in the snow. 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. We appreciate your help in making sure our students are appropriately dressed!

Please remember that our school dress code has changed in that students should "dress for the weather," meaning that there is no requirement for when students can/can't wear shorts during the school year. We remind students and parents to keep in mind that we will go outside for recess as much as the weather allows us to.



Kindergarten-Third Grade Christmas Programs to be Presented in December

Each year in December, our Kindergarten through Third Grade classes, under the leadership of Mr. Rocke, our general music teacher, present their Christmas programs at the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center at Morton High School on two nights. We look forward to hosting our families for two nights of Christmas programs at MHS!

We have set aside December 12th and December 15th for our K-3rd grade Christmas programs:

Kindergarten and First Grade-Monday, December 12th

K at 6:30 pm

1st at 7:15 pm (approximately)

Second and Third Grade-Tuesday, December 15th

2nd at 6:30 pm

3rd at 7:15 pm (approximately)

A big thank you to Mr. Rocke for preparing our students for this special

performance. Also a shout out to our district transportation department who will shuttle students to/from Lincoln and MHS for those two days for their rehearsals. Mr. Rocke will be sending home additional information about arrival times, dress, etc. as we get closer to our performances. We just wanted to make sure you added these dates to your holiday calendars!



Reminders for Drop Off Time in the Morning

As the weather starts to turn to colder mornings and more winter-like weather, more and more students will be dropped off at school in the mornings. Anyone who has dropped off their student anytime after 8 am knows how congested it can be coming from both the north and south on S. Nebraska Avenue, turning into Lincoln School. You must have a bit of patience on those mornings!

Both of our crossing guards-Ms. Konieczny and Mrs. Hardman-do their very best to make sure all students are able to safely cross the roads near the school. Cars turning into the parking lot coming from the north seem to have the most difficulty with our drop off procedures around that time. We'd like to remind everyone that a driver headed south cannot start to turn into the lot and block the northbound traffic on Nebraska. Please make sure that you have left room behind your car for traffic on Nebraska Avenue when you turn into the lot and that you are not blocking the driveway.

We realize the beginning of the day procedures can be a bit frustrating, especially if you are waiting in line to drop off. Everyone needs to have a bit of patience at drop off time. There are very little to no traffic issues when parents drop off between 7:45-8 am, so you might consider an earlier drop off time to accommodate your family needs.



PLANNING FOR GAMEBALL RUN IS UNDERWAY

We are already beginning to plan for this year's Gameball Run, our district's philanthropic efforts for the Children's Hospital of Illinois, located at OSF-St. Francis in Peoria. This will be the 11th year of this amazing community event, and the 11th year that Lincoln Elementary School has participated in Gameball Run! Each year, our community comes together to raise funds for the CHOI. These activities include business and personal sponsorships, a 60 minute run at MHS and a wide variety of fundraising activities at all Morton 709 schools in January and February. Each school identifies a "Miracle Family" and that family's story is highlighted as part of the Gameball Run events. These families have utilized the services of CHOI and want to give back by sharing their family's story.

Lincoln School's Miracle Family for 2023 is the **Wertz Family**; parents Bob and Darci, along with their son Grant, who attends MHS and **their "miracle kid," Colton who is in 5th grade at Lincoln**. We'll learn more about the Wertz family story, how CHOI has impacted their lives and find out more about Lincoln's Gameball Run efforts in the months ahead. For now, mark Thursday, February 9th as the date for the Gameball Run at MHS and Friday, February 10th as the date for the Gameball Run Game at MHS. Lincoln's Gameball Run fundraising efforts are led by Stacy Litersky and Heather Walter.



REMINDERS FOR STAYING HEALTHY DURING COLD AND FLU SEASON

With our cold and flu season upon us, it is good to review some healthy habits for our Morton students! We want students to be at school as much as possible, but if your child is not fever free for 24 hours, has vomited within the last 24 hours or has flu-like symptoms (uncontrolled coughing, congestion, lingering sore throat, etc.), we ask that you keep them at home until they are well. As your child's parent, you are most familiar with their medical needs and can make a determination about the need for any kind of test, along with input from your primary care physician. We realize that it's tricky sometimes to determine if it's strep, the flu, just a typical winter sickness or even COVID.

Please know that when our administrative assistants or our administration request more details about a child's absence, we are only doing so in order to maintain the health and safety of all students. We appreciate your detailed information when reporting your child absent/sick.

In addition, 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 emphasizing good hand hygiene (as we do at school) 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.

Lincoln is 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 and are

grateful for your donations. Toys will be collected through Friday, December 16th. We thank you in advance for your generosity and thoughtfulness.



News From Mrs. Poshard and the Library

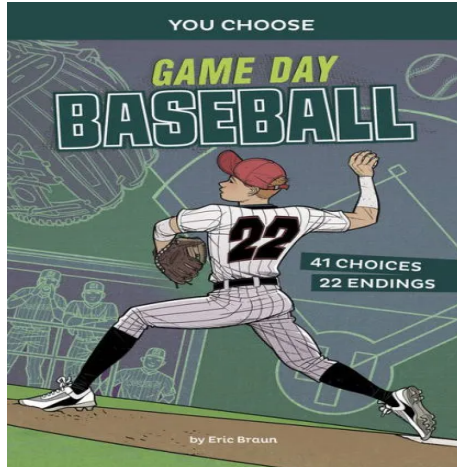
Thank you so much to the PTO and our wonderful families for the fabulous Literati book fair we recently held in the library. Because of your wonderful support, we were able to add over 60 new books to our library! Here are just a couple of those new titles:



Everything's better with a donut.

Lindsay Cooper is about to start middle school. In her free time, she works at her family's restaurant, The Park View, handing out the world's most delicious donuts at the Donut Dreams counter. Her grandmother started the counter as a way to send Lindsay's dad to college, and Lindsay wants to use her job the same way—to make her dream of going to school far away from her small town a reality.

Home feels different ever since Lindsay's mom passed away two years ago. And not having her mom around to help her get through the start of middle school doesn't help her "first day of school" angst. But with her cousins Kelsey and Molly by her side, not to mention her BFF Casey, Lindsay soon discovers family and friends go a long way towards filling any hole in your heart. And life can still be as fun as a pink donut with rainbow sprinkles!



Batter up! Your team has made it to the championship baseball game, and your choices can mean the difference between a triumphant victory and a heartbreaking loss. Will you steal the base or stay put? Will you throw a fastball or a curveball? Try to get the double play or settle for one out? The pressure is on. Do you have what it takes to lead your team to the big win?



Lions Caught ROAR-ing!

Congratulations to these students who were caught ROAR-ing by demonstrating Respectful, On Target, Kind and Responsible behavior in October!

Kindergarten: Grant J., Abree K., Jericho H., Blair B., Jack D., Lucas C., Haddie M., Charlie K., Aiden H., Eddie A., Theo A., Italia H., Elizabeth G., Carter G., Laina W., Laurel W., Ben W., Sadie S., Baer N., Molly M., Stormy T., Kayla P., Lauren M., Tucker S., Bennett H., Max M., Maya S., Eden L., Savannah W., Jackson O., Jaxon H., Daxton S.

First Grade: Evie H., Quinn H., Hayden L., Jessup K., Connor R., Evelyne C., Kamp W., Ivy T., Lucas G., Wynn P., Caroline C., Josie N., Cam P., Abel C., Geneva Z., Hazel L.

Second Grade: Dane H., Mckenzlee W., Owen B., Elliot K., Nicholas K., Brynlee K., Grayson V., Noah G., Logan V., Tytus W., Ava K., Reed S., Kolbie K., Lincoln M., Liam D., Natalya D., Noah L., Joshua H., Colin C., Henry F., Walter G., Will J., JJ G., Dylan S.

Third Grade: Deagan R., Cordelia R., Bella L., Josh S., Oliver A., Alison K., Otto G., Penny N., Jack H., Livie M., Colin P., Alex S., Henry J., Ty A., Elsie R., Adrian B., Penny N., Sydney P., Josh S., Layton S., Anna P., Emmett C., Jaxon H.

Fourth Grade: Finch S., Madyn B., Matthew E., Jake R., Landon K., Easton M., Jerry C., Max Z. Aubree J., Scarlet C., Evan G., John O., Charlie K., Matthew K.

Fifth Grade: Reid M., Isaac C.

Sixth Grade: Taryn M.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Tues., 11/8: No School-Election Day

Wed., 11/9: Chess Club 2:45-3:30 pm

Thurs., 11/10: K-3rd Grade Lego Club (Groups 2 and 3) 2:45-3:30 pm; K-3rd Grade Read Aloud Club 2:45-3:30 pm

Fri., 11/11: No School for Veterans Day

Mon., 11/14: PTO Canned Food Drive begins

Tues., 11/15: School Board Members Appreciation Day; MHS Madrigal Tour; Madrigals will perform for Lincoln students at 8:40 am; Reading and Math Challenge 2:45-4 pm

Wed., 11/16: Chess Club 2:45-3:45 pm

Thurs., 11/17: PTO Teacher/Staff Luncheon hosted by 5th grade parents; K-3rd Grade Lego Club (Groups 2 and 3) 2:45-3:30 pm; K-3rd Grade Read Aloud Club 2:45-3:30 pm

Fri., 11/19: Last day for PTO Canned Food Drive

Wed., 11/23-Fri., 11/25: No School for Thanksgiving Break

Mon., 11/28: Lincoln PTO Meeting at 7 pm in south vestibule; child care provided

Tues., 11/29: Reading and Math Challenge 2:45-4 pm

Wed., 11/30: Chess Club 2:45-3:45 pm

Thurs., 12/1: K-3rd Grade Lego Club (Groups 2 and 3) 2:45-3:30 pm;

Fri., 12/2: PTO Christmas Movie Night at 6:30 pm in Cafeteria

Mon., 12/5: 5th and 6th Grade/MEC Christmas Choir Concert at Grace Church @ 6:30 pm

Wed., 12/7: 11:55 am Dismissal; no Chess Club

Mon., 12/13: K-1 Christmas Programs at Bertha Frank at MHS (2nd at 6:30 pm; 3rd at 7:15 pm)

Tues., 12/14: 2-3 Christmas Programs at Bertha Frank at MHS (2nd at 6:30 pm; 3rd at 7:15 pm)

Wed., 12/15: Chess Club 2:45-3:45 pm

Lincoln PTO NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2022



a quick note

Whew, October was a busy one, but so much fun! Once again, I want to express my gratitude to our Lincoln families, friends and community for your generosity during our fundraising campaign. Thank you for your support of the PTO!

Thank you also for your coat drive donations last month. We were able to meet all of the needs for B.A.C.E. and beyond. What a blessing to them! Our book fair was also a great success and the reward dollars earned from your purchases went towards new Birthday Books and new books for our school and classroom libraries.

I hope to see you on November 28th at our final PTO meeting of 2022, we do not meet in December.

Natalie Friend

UPCOMING Events

Nov 14-18 - Canned Food Drive

Nov 17 – Teacher Luncheon

Nov 28 – PTO Meeting

Dec 2 - Holiday Movie Night

Dec 7 – Early Out Day with



SUCRÉ

☒ SWEETS AND SOCIALS ☒
choc chip cookie dough & hot chocolate

Dec 15 - Teacher Luncheon

Dec 19 - LaGondola Day

Jan 9 - PTO Meeting

Hospitality COMMITTEE

Thank you Lincoln families for providing a delicious meal for our teachers during conferences!

5th grade families will host this month's luncheon on Nov. 17. The sign up is linked in the newsletter and will be emailed out shortly. Sign ups will close Nov. 15th.



The December luncheon will be hosted by 4th grade families.

Many Thanks!

KyMBER Poppins

elsenpeterkyMBER@gmail.com

Looking AHEAD



The **Canned Food Drive** is the last full week before Thanksgiving. This is always a fun week of giving!

Save the date for **Holiday Movie Night** on December 2nd. Details to come.

On December 19th, you can eat **LaGondola** and benefit the PTO. Simple and so delicious! Flyers will go out in December.

Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES

★ [Canned Food Drive](#)

★ [November Teacher Luncheon \(5th Grade Families\)](#)

★ [Hometown Holidays Village Ice Skating](#)

(Proceeds from skate rentals will benefit all Morton PTOs. The Lincoln PTO has been asked to help with volunteers on Sunday, November 27th. See the sign up for more information.)

We completed another great Step It Up Fundraising Program raising a total of **\$57,041** with an additional **\$2,500** in sponsorship money for our Lincoln School t-shirts!

STEP IT UP!

WORK HARD, PLAY HARDER!

A Few Interesting Numbers from the Step It Up Fundraiser:

- \$57,041 raised, through 1,156 donations
- 268 families participated in fundraising efforts
- 4,068 donation requests were made - either by text, email, social media or personally
- 430 students raised \$10 or more

We are so fortunate for the incredibly generous families within Lincoln school. THANK YOU!! Your donations allow our PTO to continue to support the programs our teachers and students have come to know and love.

A huge THANK YOU also to our Lincoln t-shirt sponsors!
Please consider supporting these local businesses:



*Friends of Lincoln
School PTO*



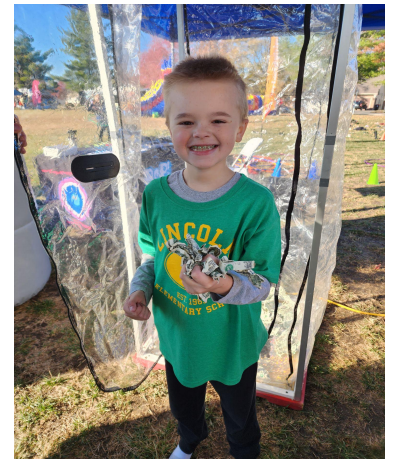


DAY OF AWESOMENESS!

Last Friday (on one of our last beautiful Fall days), we held our Day of Awesomeness! Students enjoyed obstacles, inflatables, video games, hula hoop contests and tug-a-war! It was an awesome day of fun made possible by our awesome volunteers who gave of their energy and time all day long!

Special thank you to: Mary Miller, Krista Bethel, Jodi Wagenbach, Brooke Hermann, Lyndsey Parnham, Autumn Cook, LeAnne Klopfenstein, Emily Howell, Mary Simpkins, Holly Yordy, Staci Leuchtenberg, Emily Skidmore and Kayla Thompson!

Thank you to Crissy Stephens and Krystal Miller for all of your efforts and organization with the school t-shirts!





LINCOLN'S ANNUAL CANNED FOOD DRIVE

NOVEMBER 14-18

The season of giving is here! The Lincoln PTO is asking for your help to restock local food pantries! We will be collecting personal hygiene and nonperishable food items for B.A.C.E. and WeCare/TCRC. Donations will be used within our community to help those in need.

Items should be dropped off at homeroom classrooms.

Volunteers are needed to help with the boxing up of donations every afternoon and to help with delivery on Friday after school. Scan the QR code to learn more and sign up!



- CANNED FRUIT
- CANNED VEGGIES*
- SOUPS
- CHILI BEANS
- CHIPS
- BREAKFAST ITEMS
- CEREAL
- CRACKERS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- TOILETRIES
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- DISHWASHING LIQUID
- PAPER TOWELS
- TOILET PAPER
- DEODORANT
- HAIRBRUSHES
- RAZORS
- SOAPS
- Q-TIPS

**PLEASE NO GREEN BEANS
OR RAMEN NOODLES**



The class from each hallway, with the most donations will win one of the coveted traveling trophies! Updates will be posted daily on the Lincoln Facebook page and the PTO Bulletin Board.

**Donations must be received by 1:00 PM on Friday to be included in the final count.*

