



Danbury Elementary

Volume 11, Issue 15

December 11, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I don't know if I am missing the snow or glad we haven't had our first snowstorm yet! But time continues to pass by, so I wanted to share with you two of our upcoming events.

Tonight the PTO will be having a great family event. Families are welcome to bring a dish and come to our potluck starting at 5:00 p.m. After the potluck, families will compete in a gingerbread cookie decorating contest. The PTO will supply you with the cookies and supplies needed to create your family in this creative way. Winners will be selected by our panel of judges. Children will also have an opportunity to design their own wrapping paper. If time permits, we will show one of the classic holiday movies.

We will continue our tradition of gathering as a school community on the last day prior to our holiday break. Family and friends are invited to join us for our annual School Sing-Along on Wednesday, December 23rd at 11:30 a.m. We will gather as a school community in the multi-purpose room to sing some holiday songs and have some delicious cookies. Students will be dismissed at noon on this day.

I hope you can join us for these upcoming events. Have a great weekend!

Fun in First

In the beginning of the month, our guest reader, Mary Lyn Ray came. She inspired the students when she responded, "There's a story there, I see it. You all have a story to write."

Boy oh boy, have they been writing! As the classroom teacher, I have been bouncing from story to story, working on decoding and reminding students of spelling rules and irregularities. Reading tends to be an easier task than writing; remember your student can get easily discouraged.

In class, we start on a small moment and build upon that; such as a watermelon seed is the small moment within the whole watermelon. Many young writers may enjoy illustrating the steps of the story first. Encourage your child to label the picture and add details to enhance the story. Have your writer reread their story, typically they find changes to make and details to add in.

What a wonderful gift to inspire young writers and readers.

Small Moments

Big Topic 	One day there was snow on the ground!
Smaller Topic 	I went outside to play in the snow.
Small Moment 	I went sledding while I played in the snow.

A Note from ITC

With the holidays and vacation time upon us, many families will be searching for gifts and entertainment over the weeks. Making the decisions of which.....

- movies to go to?
- books to read?
- video games to play?
- websites to explore?
- apps to download?
- dvd's to rent?
- TV shows to watch?
- devices to buy?

It is incredible and exciting how many choices we have at our fingertips, but it can feel overwhelming trying to determine what you feel is the **best** choice for your child. Is it...

- Age appropriate?
- Contain violence?
- Educational?
- Sending a positive message?

Common Sense Media (www.common sense media.org) can help guide you in making informed decisions about what media you choose for your child. The website rates all of the above media, considering what values you may be looking for in what your child views. It is a treasure trove of finds and I can't say enough good stuff about it as a parent and educator!



Common Sense Media keeps their content current. Look for their Holiday Gift Guide for technology and media ideas. If you do not have access to the internet and are interested in what Common Sense Media has to offer, please contact me at DES and I will provide you with a paper copy of the information.



100+ Holiday Gift Ideas for
Kids of All Ages

Happy Holidays!
Mrs. Plankey

Newfound Nutrition

Lunch Menu Week of Dec 14-18, 2015

Monday

BHOP Pizza
Carrots
Garden Salad
Assorted Fruit

Tuesday

Steak N Cheese Subs
Grilled Peppers & Onions
Fries & Pickles
Garden Salad
Assorted Fruit

Wednesday

Breakfast for Lunch
Fresh Fruit Salad
Garden Salad
Assorted Fruit

Thursday

Roasted Chicken
Pasta Salad
Green Beans
Garden Salad
Assorted Fruit

Friday


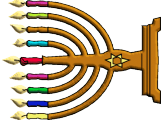


Franks on WW Roll
Homemade Baked Beans
Spinach
Garden Salad
Assorted Fruit

Breakfast \$1.25
(reduced \$0.30)
Lunch \$2.50
(reduced \$0.40)
Milk \$0.35

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December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 	3	4	5
6 	7	8 PTO Meeting 4:30pm	9	10	11 PTO Family Christmas Event 5-7:30pm	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Project Promise Movie 6:30 NRHS	19
20	21 	22	23 Sing-Along 11:30am Early Dismissal Noon	24 Holiday Recess	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31 See you January 4th!		