

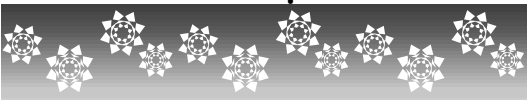
# January 2008

## Happy New Year!

Garland Elementary School  
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### From the Principal's Desk

*Email address: [twood@sad46.org](mailto:twood@sad46.org)*



Happy New Year! Welcome 2008! I wish all of our families the happiest of new years, and may this one bring you health and time to spend together as a family.

We're close to being at our half-way point of the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester. Progress reports will be going out later this month. You should be receiving them on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our Extended Day Program is well underway (formally known as the After School Program). Our staff is working very hard in this program with the children who were referred. This program offers services to students needing individualized help in reading, writing, and math. Student eligibility came from referrals from classroom teachers. If you have any questions about your child in the program, you may call Bryant Farrar, the coordinator of the program or me.

Please take note of the enclosed calendar for this month and note the No-School Day we have on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 to recognize Martin Luther King Day.

We're working extremely hard to be aware of who's in our buildings and for what purposes to keep our children and staff safe. You'll notice that ALL staff, including myself, is wearing ID badges too. This is to help visitors, when in our building, to identify who is staff and who are visitors.

Thank you to all who came to support their children and listen to our Holiday Concert in December. Mrs. Fournier and Mr. Phillips worked hard, as did the children, in preparing for that day. It was very impressive to see the amount of support from the adults in our community. I am very proud of the support this community gives to their children.

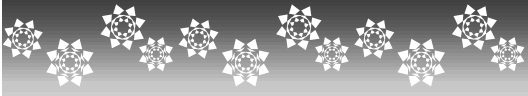
As always, please feel free to call me, email me, or stop into my office whenever you have questions, comments or concerns. We're here for you and I'm always interested in hearing from parents and community members.

May you enjoy the winter months and activities that come around this time of year with your families and best of luck with your New Year's resolutions!

Sincerely,  
Terry L. Wood  
Principal

## News from Miss Gibney - Kindergarten

Email address: [agibney@sad46.org](mailto:agibney@sad46.org)



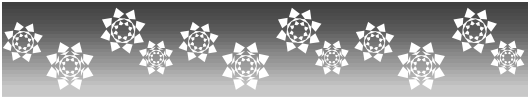
Hello again families! Welcome back from a much needed vacation. I hope you and all of your loved ones had a happy and relaxing holiday. December was a short month but we sure had a lot to do. We studied three different holidays that occur in December: Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas. We learned about the people who celebrate each holiday and the traditions that go along with each of them. For Hanukkah we made menorahs, for Kwanzaa we made hand-woven mats, and for Christmas we made garland to decorate the tree in our classroom. We also wrote the words that we think of when someone says "Christmas." The students came up with "toys, decorations, lights, snowflakes, Santa, reindeer, etc." They each got to decorate a paper bulb with pictures of the things we wrote about. These children are so artistic and creative! We read the book The Twelve Days of Christmas, sang the song, and then changed the words to make it Kindergarten's Twelve Days of Christmas. We were fortunate enough to have the principal, Mrs. Woods, come in and hear us sing the version that the kids wrote. The week before vacation we wrote a letter to Santa and sent it off to the north pole. The students told him that they had been very good this year and asked him to bring them some gifts. They also asked him how his reindeer were able to fly.

In math we are continuing to work on counting up to 20, writing the numbers with the correct formations, and comparing quantities. We will be wrapping up our unit of communities next week and hopefully have some guest speakers.

Lastly we would like to welcome the latest addition to our class. Nathan joined our group this week and we are so glad to have him!

## News from Miss Burnett - Kindergarten

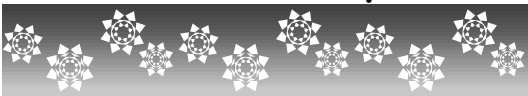
Email address: [hburnett@sad46.org](mailto:hburnett@sad46.org)



Hello! I hope you all enjoyed your holidays! We had a very busy month, we never slowed down. We finished our lessons on Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas. We also read a little about how kids from other countries call Santa different names than we do here in the United States. Also we learned that in some countries they have shoes they put outside for Santa to fill instead of stockings hung up. We also had a fun time making our handprint calendars. The kids couldn't believe how many different things you could make with a handprint. Ask your child if they can name all the months of the year! We have been talking about the different holidays in the months and learning to name all 12. December brought us some wonderful books. We got to read all kinds of stories about Santa, reindeer, snowmen, Grinch, and what Christmas is all about. We will continue working on our penmanship, sight words, and writing. We also will soon be starting a new unit in math. I also wanted to thank the parents who donated food to our party, we got to eat and watch Charlie Brown's Christmas! Enjoy all the snow.

## News from Mrs. Gay - First Grade

Email address: [kllyg@sad46.org](mailto:kllyg@sad46.org)



Happy 2008! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with your families. We sure had a fun time here at school. This year we celebrated a little differently in our classroom. We had a Rudolph theme as we learned about how special each and every one of us are. We learned that just like Rudolph, we all look different on the outside which is only part of what makes us special. What really makes us special is what's on the inside. For our holiday celebration, we make "Praise Pockets". Each child was asked to write something special about each one of our classmates on a special piece of paper. At our holiday party, we filled our praise pockets with positive comments from our classmates and teacher. The kids really seemed to enjoy reading what nice things their friends had to say about them. It's always a special gift to have someone say something nice about us!

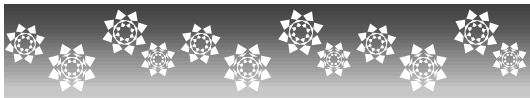
As we begin the new year, we will also begin our next unit of study on Habitats. We will be learning about ponds, forests, deserts, the Arctic, the Savanna, and will revisit oceans. With this unit, I'm hoping to have the children do a project on the habitat of their choice, so please be looking for that information to be coming home.

In our math program, we will be finishing up Unit 3, Story Problems, and moving onto Unit 4 called, What Would You Rather Be? It is a unit on data analysis. The unit has three investigations on sorting, collecting and representing data, and comparing age data.

In our language block we will be focusing in on our guided reading as usual. We will also continue looking at the 6+1 Traits of Writing during writer's workshop time and finish our Author Study of Jan Brett. Our next author study will be on another favorite author of mine Kevin Henkes. During our center time, we will begin a new word study program called Buddy Study. This is a weekly five day program for studying individual words. I have a feeling that before long, many kiddos will be working on the second grade list! Wow!!!

## **News from Mrs. Michaud - First Grade**

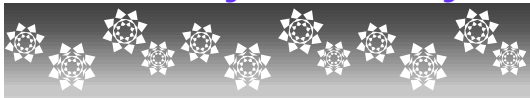
*Email address: [vmichaud@sad46.org](mailto:vmichaud@sad46.org)*



In Science, we will be learning about the Arctic and Woodland habitats, the animals that live in these habitats and their food chains. During this study we will also be learning about non-fiction book features and how those features help the reader. In math we will begin Unit 4, What Would You Rather Be? This unit includes sorting shapes and buttons, collecting and recording data as well as comparing data. In reading and writing, we will be looking closely at how authors organize their writing to help the reader and making sure our writing is organized so that it can be read easily and fluently. Please ask your child to share what they are learning in school by asking them about something we are learning about this month. Explaining what they are learning will help them develop a deeper understanding. Homework this month will include a reading chart where I am asking you to listen to your child read for 15 minutes 3 days a week along with the usual math homework. Thank you for supporting your child's learning by being a part of their learning experience.

## **News from Mrs. Gudroe & Mrs. Sands - Second Grade**

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Happy New Year! We will be beginning some new routines as the new year starts! In reading, we will start Reading Workshop, which will introduce us to more independent reading strategies and deeper comprehension techniques that will be carried over into third grade. We will continue guided reading groups during this time, however students will be exploring different genres, author studies, book discussions, etc. We are excited to begin this new model for reading!

At writer's workshop, we will continue to work through the writing process and explore different ways to publish our stories. Please check out our moodle page to hear our stories from November and December! We will also be moving towards more peer conferencing during the revising and editing process.

Last month we discussed Holidays Around the World and this month we will continue with a geography unit on mapping and using different types of maps for different purposes.

We will continue our unit Stickers, Number Strings, and Story Problems in math. The focus of this unit is computation and computation fluency - addition and subtraction. We will also continue to work on strategies for adding more than two numbers (combinations of 10, doubles, and near doubles). We will also get into place value

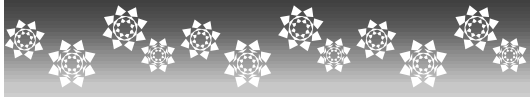
and investigating even and odd numbers.

This month we are also beginning a new author study. We will be reading and exploring books written by Doreen Cronin. She has written several books, such as Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type, Giggle, Giggle, Quack, Diary of A Fly, Diary Of A Spider, and more! We will be investigating her writing style and craft through read alouds, writing, and other fun activities! If you have any books written by Doreen Cronin that we could share, we would love to borrow them!

Have a wonderful start to the New Year!

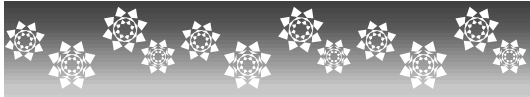
## News from Mrs. Watson - Library

*Email address: [lwatson@sad46.org](mailto:lwatson@sad46.org)*



Happy New Year Everyone!! Last month sure was an exciting one. We read a lot about Christmas and different traditions. The "book borrowing" is going great!! The kids are really enjoying it, if you see a book come home please send back to school by the following week for library. Thanks for you help.

## PTF News



Our next PTF meeting will be Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 6:30. Hope you can come.

Thank you for sending in all the Campbell's Soup labels and Box Tops. This is an on going fundraiser that lasts all year long.

We want to thank all of the parent volunteers for coming in to help during our craft fair. The kids LOVED it!! They got to go shopping for family members without their families.

We would also like to apologize for any missing items in your Yankee Candle fundraiser. Yankee Candle had a lot of fundraisers this fall and had a hard time keeping up with them all. If you are still missing anything else please let us know.

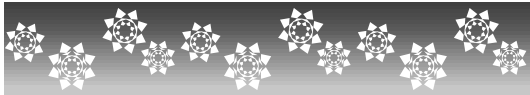
We are starting a Little Ceasars fundraiser that will run through Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. This will be back before the Super Bowl!!! It will make a great treat to have during the Super Bowl!!!

We hope you have a wonderful January, and we will keep you updated as to what we have planned.

Thank you for all your support.

## News from the School Nurse

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### Winter Safety Tips

Whether winter brings severe storms, light dustings, or just cold temperatures, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has some valuable tips on how to keep your children safe and warm.

#### What to Wear:

- The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.

### **Hypothermia:**

- Hypothermia develops when a child's temperature falls below normal due to exposure to cold. It often happens when a youngster is playing outdoors in extremely cold weather without wearing proper clothing.
- As hypothermia sets in, the child may shiver and become lethargic and clumsy. His/her speech may become slurred and his/her body temperature will decline.
- If you suspect your child is hypothermic, call 911 at once. Until help arrives, take the child indoors, remove any wet clothing, and wrap him/her in blankets or warm clothes.

### **Frostbite:**

- Frostbite happens when the skin and outer tissues become frozen. This condition tends to happen on extremities like the fingers, toes, ears, and nose. They may become pale, gray, and blistered. At the same time, the child may complain that his/her skin burns or has become numb.
- If frostbite occurs, bring the child indoors and place the frostbitten parts of his/her body in warm (not hot) water. Warm washcloths may be applied to frostbitten nose, ears, cheeks and lips. Do not rub the frozen areas.
- After a few minutes, dry and cover him/her with clothing or blankets. Give him/her something warm to drink.
- If the numbness continues for more than a few minutes, call your doctor.

### **Winter Health**

- If your child suffers from winter nosebleeds, try using a cold air humidifier in the child's room at night. Saline nose drops may help keep tissues moist.
- Cold weather does not cause colds or flu. But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent hand washing and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the bend of his/her elbow may help reduce the spread of colds and the flu.

*Healthy children learn better!*

*Emily Poland, RN*