February 2015

Calendar Dates

Friday, January 30
Report cards go home

Monday, February 2
4K & 5K Registration, 2:00—6:00 p.m.

Friday, February 6
NO SCHOOL
Professional Development Day

Monday, February 9
Overture, 3rd grade, 9:30 – 11:30

Tuesday, February 10
PTO meeting, LMC, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4
Gymnastic equipment leaves

Tuesday, March 10
PTO meeting, LMC, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 13
NO SCHOOL
Professional Development Day

Wednesday, March 18
Bounce House

Thursday, March 19
Parent/Teacher conferences
dismissed at 11:30 a.m.,
no 4K p.m. class

PRINCIPAL CORNER

Dear Families,

January has come and gone and we have so much to be proud
of. As 1st semester comes to a close, you have received your
child’s progress report to communicate academic progress. If
you have any questions, please contact the teacher. Partners-
ships between families and teachers are vital to our school.

As a community we pulled together on a number of occasions
to help each other as well as people around the world. Recent-
ly, the cold weather caused a leak in one of our water services.
I am so proud of the staff and students during this exciting
time. The district maintenance and grounds department
worked quickly to ensure we had water and bathrooms and got
the water back on in less than 2 hours. I will be debriefing
with the district to discuss any changes that would improve
this process.

Many classes worked together to make sock puppets and
games to give to children in Thailand as part of an exciting
project in collaboration with a community member as part of
the Global Volunteer Project, teachers and students in grades
3-5 mentored students in K-2 during Bobcat Days, Jump Rope
for Heart collected money to help the American Heart Associ-
ation and our 4th and 5th graders participated in the LVM
Spelling Bee.

Bobcat All-stars will begin 2nd semester. Each month teachers
will select one student from their class who demonstrates
safe, respectful and responsible behaviors on a daily basis. All
Bobcat All-stars will have lunch with me and receive a special
prize. We have so many students making positive choices at
LVM that we want to highlight as many students as possible.
These are just a few of the wonderful projects and activities
happening at Elvehjem. I am looking forward to what we can
accomplish 2nd semester!

Sincerely,
Sarah Larson
4K and 5K Registration

Registration for 4-year-old kindergarten (4K) and 5-year-old kindergarten will be **Monday, February 2, 2015 from 2:00 – 6:00 PM**. Children are welcome to accompany parents, but they are not required to attend registration.

All families will need to provide the student’s proof of age (birth certificate or official medical record) and proof of residency (utility bill, lease or mortgage).

Pre-register mmsd.org/4K (for 4 year olds) or mmsd.org/kinder (for 5 year olds) and print off a verification form to bring along.

**Information for 4-year-old children:**
All children who are four years old on or before September 1, 2015 and live in the Madison Metropolitan School District are eligible to participate in the 4K program. 4K is not required. **4K Registration is only for families that have a child who has not been in a MMSD early education program or for families who are new to MMSD.** The program is offered free of charge, but there is a $40 consumable materials fee. Find out more at mmsd.org/4K or (608) 442-2933.

**Information for 5-year-old children:**
A child must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2015 to register for Kindergarten. **Kindergarten registration is only for families that have a child who has not been in a MMSD 4-year-old kindergarten (4K) or early education program or for families who are new to MMSD.** Parents of children who currently attend a MMSD 4K or early education program do not need to register again and will only need to attend the enrollment date at their child’s school in August. Find out more at mmsd.org/kinder or contact your school.

Families that have an incoming Kindergarten student who would like to be considered for the 2015 MMSD Summer School program must fill out enrollment and parent questionnaire by March 16. For additional information regarding the 5K MMSD Summer School program, please contact the Summer School Office at 663-1914.

**PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS:**
As the weather changes on a daily basis, please be sure that your child has a warm coat, snow pants, boots, hats and mittens/gloves. If your child has misplaced any of these items, be sure to check our lost and found behind the LMC. If your child is in need of these items please contact Jenny Markwiese 204-1455.

**HEALTH POLICY REMINDER**
As you plan festivities around upcoming holidays and events, please remember our health policy. The district policy states that we only serve healthy foods during the school day. Please use your best judgment when sending treats to school and please be aware if there are any food allergies within your child’s classroom. Thank you!

**REMINDER**
**PLEASE CALL THE SAFE ARRIVAL NUMBER IF YOUR CHILD IS SICK OR TARDY OR HAS AN APPOINTMENT. THE NUMBER IS 204-1406. IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE COMING IN LATE, PLEASE INDICATE IF HOT LUNCH CHOICE A OR B.**

**Friday, March 20**
Fun Fair, 6:00—8:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 27**
End of 3rd quarter (43 days)
Read-A-Thon (tentative)

**March 30—April 6**
SPRING BREAK—NO SCHOOL
PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

On the Second Monday of each month, before the PTO meetings, we will be having a parent information session. During these sessions, we will review the progress our school is making as well as highlight a subject area to help our parents understand what their child is learning at school. February 10 from 5:45-6:30 will be focused on Technology. During this time, our Library Media Tech Specialist, Ms. Ochoa-Podell will be sharing the Library Portal with parents. The Library Portal is a tool families and students can use to partner with the school. On the Library Portal you can find specific websites for each grade level, book recommendations, ebooks, and much, much more.

LUNCHROOM EXPECTATIONS

Please send healthy choices (such as juice, water, or a thermos of milk) to drink with your child’s cold lunch. Soda pop is not allowed at school. This includes party size bags of chips are not allowed. We appreciate your help and support with this matter.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES @ LVM

Elvehjem Elementary School is looking for lunch room helper volunteers and reading volunteers. Many of the students at our school would benefit from reading to or having an adult read to them.

PARKING LOT REMINDER

You may have noticed a police officer in front of school or in the staff parking lot recently. We would like to remind you that there is no dropping off in front of the school or the staff parking lot. Please do not park in or drop off in the lot unless you have permission from the school.

Global Volunteer Network

A community volunteer, Janice Binter (owner of Studio 924) will be traveling to Thailand in early February as a volunteer with the Global Volunteer Network, http://www.globalvolunteernetwork.org/ She will work with the Chaing Rai Hill tribe children in their childcare centres. She will be based in Chiang Rai a village in northern Thailand.

Thank you to all the parents who brought in material for the sock puppets. Jan Rohde organized this event. She and a few other teachers made sock puppets for classroom students.

SPELLING BEE WINNERS

Congratulations to Jalece Brown, 1st place winner and Tony Ponty, 2nd place winner, in our Elvehjem School Spelling Bee. Congratulations are extended to all 4th and 5th graders who participated in the Spelling Bee and who displayed maturity and courage in their efforts!
LVM PTO CORNER

Fun Fair is Coming!
Mark your calendars for Friday, March 20, for Elvehjem’s annual Fun Fair, an evening of carnival games, basket raffle, activities, prizes, and socializing for the entire family! NEW THIS YEAR: A Silent Auction! Stay tuned for more information about the fabulous items that will be available to bid on.

In planning ahead for this popular event, we are looking to our families and community for help with the following:

Class Art Projects. Help a classroom teacher create a unique classroom project for our silent auction. Create your own project, search online for ideas, or ask the PTO for some suggestions.

Silent Auction Donations. Have any memorabilia, gift cards, or other special items you’re not using but think someone else might love? Donate them to our silent auction, and we’ll turn your item into $$ for our school.

Classroom Baskets. Classrooms create gift baskets based on a theme such as Sports, Chocolate, Spa, or Pets, and we draw a winner for each basket via a raffle. Look for information to come home from your teacher about your classroom’s basket theme, and help contribute small items to fill it.

We’ll have more opportunities to help with the Fun Fair as we get closer to March 20, but would like to start creating/collecting these items right away. Please contact Patti Ross at rosspl22@gmail.com if you’re able to help with a classroom project or contribute to the silent auction. Thank you!

PTO Funds
Thanks to everyone who purchased Chip Shoppe products or has made donations to the PTO this year. We raised $4,500 from our Chip Shoppe sales and will use this money to purchase technology for the school, once the district determines which system/systems they will be supporting going forward (iPads, Chromebooks, etc.) Once that decision is made, the PTO will be able to make further technology purchases for our school, in addition to supporting other activities and initiatives for students and teachers. Thank you so much for your financial support!