March 2013
Calendar Dates

Monday, March 4
Kdg. Registration,
1:00—6:00 p.m. in the
computer lab

Friday, March 8
Read-A-Thon

Tuesday, March 12
PTO meeting, LMC, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 14
Staff Dev.,
Dismissed at 11:30 a.m.
No 4K p.m. class

Friday, March 15
March Meltdown
Family event
5:30 - 8 pm

Monday, March 18—Friday April 12
Restaurant "Night" at Chili’s Restau-
rants (East and West)
Voucher required (watch backpacks)

Thursday, March 21
Market Day pick up, 3:30—4:30,
Bobcat Gym hallway
Family night at LaFollette, 6—8

Mon, March 25—Mon, April 1
Spring Break

Tuesday, April 2
School Resumes

PRINCIPAL CORNER
Dear Families,

The months are going by very quickly. With March comes
the hope for Spring and longer days of sunshine. We’ll all
take that.
The Month of February brought with it our annual 4/5
Math Fest competition against other East side Madison
schools. Elvehjem ended up winning 10 ribbons at the fest.
Congratulations to a great group of students who repre-
sented Elvehjem at the fest.
As the month of March unfolds I will be receiving alloca-
tions from the district for the 2013-2014 school year.
The Elvehjem staff and I will be working with these allo-
cations to proceed with class configurations for our next
school year. Please carefully read the policy I have en-
closed that describes how class lists are worked on and
accomplished at Elvehjem. Your input as parents is a very
important part of the process. I will also be sending home
the policy process in your child’s backpack the first week
of March. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing spring
break at the end of March.

Respectfully,

Craig R. Campbell
Principal
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 or gloves. If your child has misplaced any of these items, be sure to check our lost and found in the hallway by the library!

COLD LUNCH FROM HOME
If you bring cold lunch from home and need to purchase a milk, the cost is 50 cents. Milk is only free when paying for a school lunch.

EXCUSED ABSENCES
Please call 204-1406 (Safe Arrival line) to report an absence, not the main office. Please remember to provide a REASON for your child's absence when you call the Safe Arrival line. If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent for a reason other than illness/appointment or if your child will be absent for multiple days (example—a preplanned vacation), please use the “Excused Absence Request” form so that the absences are excused. This form also assists teachers with planning make-up work. If there is an excess of absence/tardies, the child's name will be referred to the Elvehjem social worker.

2013-2014 LVM KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
Kindergarten registration will be on Monday, March 4th from 1:00-6:00 p.m. in the computer lab for students not already enrolled in a 4K program. Enrollment is now online. www.mmsd.org. You can enroll at home or at school during registration hours. If you enroll at home, bring your printed paper to registration with the required items. If you have a child who will be 5 on or before September 1, 2013 and are not able to come in on Monday, please register online at mmsdenroll.org and come to the Elvehjem office to complete your registration.

Please bring in these required items:
- proof of residency (MG&E bill, phone bill, lease, etc.)
- proof of age, (birth certificate, Medical Assistance card, Passport) and 
- immunization records
The school does not need to keep these items, but must verify them with the enrollment form.

KINDERGARTEN SCREENINGS
Tuesday, March 19/Wednesday, March 20
The purpose of Kindergarten Screening is to evaluate the readiness skills of all students; screening does not indicate whether or not your child can attend Kindergarten. The screening offers the staff and you a direction on how to best serve your child's individual needs.

Parents who have serious questions about their child’s readiness may discuss their concerns with Mrs. Kim Miller (School Psychologist), or Mr. Craig Campbell (Principal).
2013 JUMP ROPE FOR HEART
JRFH was a big success again for our 21st year. All students in grades K-3 participated in JRFH during their regular Physical Education classes. Students in these grades jumped in many different ways, trampolines, jump ropes, hurdles and hula hoops. Fourth and fifth graders participated in a special after school event. Together we raised $4,713.00 for the American Heart Association. Our top fund raisers are: Alex Jukarta in Mrs. Drexel's class, $255.00, Brian Siegler in Mrs. Bernard's class, $225.00 and Izzy Harvey in Mrs. Jab's class, $220.00.

We would like to thank the following people who helped to make our 21st year a success; Carrie, Patrick and Kaelen McDonald, Emily and Christine Zamber, Nikki Krenke, Sherri Purnell and Jake Draze. Thank you to Premium Water for donating bottled water for the jumpers and Gabby Stein for putting together the music cd.

Thank you all parents who brought in apples and oranges for the jumpers.
All JRFH prizes should be at Elvehjem sometime in late February.

Respectfully,
Julie A. Stein
Nicole Olson
Physical Education Teachers

SPELLING BEE WINNERS
Congratulations to Ben Galles, winner; & Luke Vitale, runner up, in our Elvehjem Elementary 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!

NO DROP OFF ZONES—REMINDER
Please remember that there is no drop off or pick up for unauthorized persons in the staff parking lot or in front of the school building. The Madison Police Department will be out in the next few weeks observing drivers and potentially ticketing anyone dropping students off or picking students up in NO DROP OFF/ PICK UP ZONES. Thank you.

LVM PTO CORNER
We would like to thank all the families who participated in the FUN FAIR in February. We are happy to say that the raffle baskets were a success and we thank everyone who donated to these baskets.

We hope you will be excited to join us for our March Meltdown on Friday, March 15th from 5:30—8 pm. This fun family friendly evening will include a Chili Cookoff/dinner, Board Games and an all school Art Show. Mark your calendars!

We also look forward to working with Chili’s Restaurant from March 18th through April 12th as they host Restaurant “Night”. Watch for vouchers in your student’s backpack, or visit our website or Facebook page.
ABC Funds, Easy as 1,2,3!
The Foundation for Madison's Public Schools' ABC Funds provides schools an opportunity to fundraise without administrative challenges which can impede efforts. Individual schools, PTOs or booster clubs, and individuals have the opportunity to create an ABC Fund for a special program or project that benefits students. FMPS manages all of the clerical work by acknowledging donors, handling the accounting, processing and writing checks as well as helping promote fundraising efforts. This extra support gives you the ability to focus on making your fund's goal a reality. The Foundation currently has 38 ABC funds benefitting both specific schools and district-wide endeavors. These funds support a diverse collection of programs by contributing to scholarships, capital projects, arts, and athletics. The ABC Funds provide students with a vast array of opportunities to enrich their educational experiences. For example, the FMPS Breakfast ABC Fund provides free breakfast to students who qualify for reduced-price lunch. This district-wide fund provided more than 55,000 free breakfasts during the 2011-12 school year! Randall School established an ABC Fund to renovate and maintain the Olive Jones Park Playground. The fund supports the playground which is used by Randall students and neighbors all year round. These examples demonstrate the wide-range of ABC Funds, providing new possibilities and improvements throughout the Madison Metropolitan School District.

The Foundation for Madison's Public Schools is dedicated to creating opportunities and developing partnerships between schools and the community. If you have questions regarding ABC Funds or would like to learn more about the Foundation, please visit our newly revamped website at www.fmps.org. To stay up-to-date on all FMPS news and events, join our email list via our website!

ELVEHJEM IS TURNING 50!

This is a very exciting year for Elvehjem Elementary School, 50 years ago Elvehjem opened its doors to our community. That first year and many after, Elvehjem was a K-6 school. Now as a 4K-5 school we would like to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 4th. We will be hosting an Open House for current families, alumni and former staff. There will be opportunities to glimpse what the school looked like during the last 50 years and see the changes that have been made to our wonderful school!

Please spread the word to anyone you know who has attended Elvehjem and help us make this an event to remember!

If you are interested in making a donation to the Elvehjem Endowment Fund in honor of our 50th Anniversary, please visit http://www.fmps.org/donate/?type=school and highlight Elvehjem Elementary in the drop-down box. Donations are tax deductible and many employers will match your donation. Thank you for supporting our Endowment Fund.
PARENT REQUESTS FOR NEXT YEAR

It is once again time for us to begin thinking about the coming school year. For teachers this means planning for curriculum, programs, budget, materials, and of course, deciding on class placements.

Class placement decisions are among the most important decisions that we make each year. We want and need every child to experience success and joy in learning every year. We know how directly classroom composition, style and environment can affect each student’s success in learning. We also know how important the blend of students in a classroom is to all our students’ learning. As you may well imagine, it is a great challenge to attend to the needs of each child as an INDIVIDUAL and to the needs of each classroom as a WHOLE. Please review the following information on the process for class placement.

Philosophy of Class Placement: We believe that all classes should be “balanced”. This means that each classroom should include both boys and girls from a variety of backgrounds, with a variety of ability levels, from a variety of geographic locations and with a variety of special needs and talents. We also believe that the primary focus of the class placement process should be on the child’s welfare. In order for this to occur, the adults who know the child best should have input into the class placement process. It is the responsibility of the principal to approve and finalize all pupil placements.

This philosophy continues to guide our class placement process. We work to create balanced classrooms that attend to the needs of each individual and the class as a whole.

If you feel it is important that you talk with someone about the class placement process, please call me or write a letter concerning the needs of your child. Letters should not be sent to the classroom teacher. As you write the letter, we ask that you NOT request or comment about a specific teacher. Requesting a specific teacher by name will not be considered in the selection process. This letter is due to Mr. Campbell by April 5th.

We place great value on the success and well-being of every one of our children. We will do our very best to ensure that best placement for the best possible year for each child and class in our school. The creation of balanced classrooms, which takes many factors into consideration, is by no means a scientific process. It is complex. It is difficult. Be assured that we will work to keep the best interests of each child in mind as we make classroom placement decisions.

Your support and understanding as we move through this process will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Mr. Campbell, Principal
WILL YOU BE MOVING OUT OF THE ELVEHJEM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA THIS SUMMER?

In order to plan more adequately for the fall 2013 program at School, it is necessary to determine the approximate enrollment in classes next school year.

If your child/ren will not return to Elvehjem School for the 2013-2014 school year, please fill out this form and return it to the office by March 29th.

List the name/s of any child not returning next school year.

CHILD’S NAME______________________________________ GRADE _____ ROOM ______

CHECK ONE:

_____ We plan to enroll in a parochial or private school this fall.
   Name of parochial school: ________________________________

_____ We plan to move from Madison by September. We will be moving to:
   City: __________________________________  State____ _____________________

_____ We are moving to another area within the Madison School District.
   Name of new school: ________________________________

_____ Other reason (please describe) _____________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature _________________________ ___________ Date _____________