

OCTOBER, 2011 NEWSLETTER

BURWELL & DIST. #70 ELEMENTARY

IMPORTANT DATES:

No School	Oct. 5
Longborn Pride Assembly @ 2:15	Oct. 7
Fire Safety Assembly w/John Hogmire 2:15	Oct. 12
End of 1st Term	Oct. 14
Parent/Teacher Conferences (Elementary Only)	Oct. 21
Life Touch Picture Retakes	Oct. 24
Jump Rope for Heart	Oct. 26
FALL BREAK NO SCHOOL	Oct. 28
HALLOWEEN Classroom FALL Parties	Oct. 31

Quote of the Month!!!

"Life doesn't require that we be the best, only that we try our best."

H. Jackson Brown Jr.



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

GORDON GOODMAN, PRINCIPAL

Pitching In

Would you like your child to be more responsible, hardworking, and persistent? Here are some ideas for working as a family to help your youngster develop these important traits.

A group approach

Thinking of herself/himself as a "team player" can encourage your child to be more responsible. Explain that your family operates as a team. Everyone must play a part to get things done.

Example: You take him/her shopping for clothes and sports equipment. He/She chooses their outfit each morning and keeps track of their batting glove and bat.

Hard workers wanted

Your child probably has regular chores to do. You can motivate them to work extra hard by placing "want ads" on the refrigerator. Choose a challenging job, and offer a benefit.

Example: Wanted—a hardworking family

member to clean out a corner of the basement. Reward—a place for for your child and their friends to play.

Sticking it out

Working toward small goals can make it easier to complete a big task. Perhaps your family room needs a fresh coat of paint. Write down the steps (move furniture and lay down drop cloths, prepare walls, roll paint on walls, paint the trim). Tell your child you'll take a fun break after each step is done (go to the playground, take a bike ride).

Home & School Connection



PARENTS AND STUDENTS: THERE IS A COLLECTION OF LOST AND FOUND THAT WILL BE ON DISPLAY DURING PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES.

Birthdays

October
 1-Chloe Copsey
 4-Andrew Schissler
 5-Mason Plock
 -Hagen Stout
 6-Logan Simpson
 8-Mrs. Curry
 9-Ethan Krause
 -Cayden Owens
 -McKenna Soncksen
 10-Gracie (Bernt) Conrad
 -Mrs. Galvan
 11-Montana Duffield
 12-Karissa Gideon
 -Cory Jochem
 24-Jesse Dowling
 25-Mrs. Smith
 -Trista Summers
 26-Mrs. Goochey
 -Alex Gideon
 29-Dylan Petersen

Parent Power:

There are many ways you can support your child's learning and school. Here are just a few ideas:

- ◆ Spend a few minutes every evening looking over handouts your student brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day.
- ◆ Tell your child's teachers if you can help them out at school or home.
- ◆ Make sure teachers know you appreciate their efforts. From time to time, send a thank-you note or an e-mail.
- ◆ Contact your student's teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together will help your child succeed.
- ◆ Attend conferences, parent meetings and school events regularly.

From the Library Mrs. Goochey



We have had an exciting start to our school year in the library. This year's 4th grade held a bake sale at last year's book fair and made over \$1000 for new books in the library. The library was able to purchase almost 100 new books with the money raised. The 4th grade class has been checking out the new books for about a month now and they are really enjoying reading the books that they helped select!

The 2nd grade class will soon be starting its Passport to Mexico. We kick off the Passport with a look at Mexico's Day of the Dead celebration. Mexican families honor their loved ones who have passed on by having altars in their homes and decorating cemeteries. It is a holiday very similar to our Memorial Day.

The 5th grade class has begun its Passport to Germany. The class has been decorating schultutens (a paper cone filled with candy and little toys) and will be delivering them to the Kindergarten class. German parents give their Kindergarteners a schultuten on the first day of school.

The 6th grade library class is reading Newbery and Caldecott award-winning books. The two awards are the top prizes given to children's literature—the Newbery for outstanding literature and the Caldecott for outstanding picture books.

Geography Club has had a good turn-out for September. We are following the Big Ten this year and will be predicting what teams will be in the championship game. We traveled to the northeast region of the United States this past month and tried Boston cream pie, a popular dessert in the state of Massachusetts.

Attendance for the morning Brain Power classes has been outstanding! So far, there are over 75 kids coming Tuesday through Thursday. We have already had a buzzer competition and a Jeopardy tournament.

Good luck to all the students working very hard toward their AR goals for the 1st quarter!



It's fall!

Mrs. Goochey

Sixth Grade News

Joy Schott

“You owe me a check for \$540 dollars this week!” requests sixth grade teacher Mrs. Schott of one of her students. Schott’s sixth grade classroom is buzzing with checks and balances this year! With checkbooks provided by the local Pathway Bank, the students are learning the value of money and keeping track of their own finances. Even though we are working with fictitious dollars and cents the students are taking on the challenge positively. Each week they have the opportunity to earn an income for good behavior and being a responsible student. They are “charged” for “misdemeanors” such as blurting out in class-\$50, talking when asked to be quiet-\$100, bullying-\$500, late homework-\$100 per assignment, bringing back their TAKE-HOME folders each week-\$50, and no name on paper-\$100. This could lead to a very expensive weekly budget, but the return for good behavior is at a minimum, \$1000 per week. The students will work towards the purchase of a “new car” with the funds they have in their accounts. Three categories of automobiles will be available for purchase at the end of the quarter; the sports car, the economy car, and the “old jalopy”. The “Checkbook Discipline” Plan has been a successful tool in teaching about responsibility and finances.



District 70 News

We are thankful for & enjoying the beautiful fall weather we are having!! Every day we are outside is a day full of fun & activity.

We are busy reading and working towards our Accelerated Reading goals for the first quarter. One student has reached his goal! Mrs. Christen has just finished reading the Chronicles of Narnia series to us, which she started last spring. It was an awesome series!

In Music, Mrs. Garwood is teaching the 4th, 5th, & 6th graders to play piano pieces. We are working to learn the notes, counting the beats, and use correct **fingering**.