



RODGERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2012

Mrs. Cindy Sam, Principal Mr. Chris Loria, Superintendent
Mrs. Martha Kliebert, Director of Special Education
Mrs. Cheryl Agrusa, Secretary Mrs. Amy Gettleson, Secretary
Lake Shore Public Schools Website: www.lakeshoreschools.org

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Our Mission: We Grow Responsible Learners
Rodgers Expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe

Winter is here, sort of!! Ice fishermen are disappointed and salt trucks are parked, but it's a great time for our students to be working hard toward their goals. We are very proud of their hard work and the growth they are making is noticeable. Our school improvement goals focus on reading comprehension, writing fluency and math concepts. To improve reading comprehension the students and staff are working on constructing responses from the text, using details to support their answers. This skill will be invaluable on all assessments as well as throughout their academic careers. Writing fluency is practiced throughout the week and encourages students to get as many words on the paper as possible in a short amount of time. It is really a brain exercise that helps develop thoughts, and then ultimately getting those thoughts into meaningful sentences and paragraphs. Again, this will also be a useful skill necessary for all academic areas. Lastly, the math goal is to use journals to keep track of concepts learned in class and then expand on them with drawings, vocabulary, descriptions etc. We realize that all students learn differently, and this allows students to come to the correct answer using a variety of strategies. Setting high expectations, creating meaningful routines that can easily be followed and supporting your children by checking their homework is a small, yet very meaningful part our parents need to play in the continued success of your children. We work very hard here to move your children forward. We will move even farther with continued parental support. Have a cozy, and relaxing February.

Upcoming Events

Please check out your teacher's newsletters and the Rodgers Calendar online for more information.

- Feb 1- Bagel Sale
- Feb 3- Heier Spirit Day
- Feb 6- 10 Candy Grams for sale at lunch
- Feb 8- Early Release 1:54pm
District Open House at LSHS at 6:30pm
- Feb 10- Specials Teachers Spirit Day
- Feb 16- PTC Meeting at 7:00pm in Media Center
- Feb 17- Wilson Spirit Day
- Feb 20- No school, Winter Break
- Feb 22- Early Release 1:54pm
- Feb 24- Quinlan Spirit Day
- Feb 27- School Board Meeting at 7:30pm

Kindergarten Registration

It's hard to believe but kindergarten registration has begun again! If you have a kindergarten age student or know of a neighbor who has a kindergarten age child; please let them know that we will be accepting registrations starting Wednesday, January 4th, 2012 from 8:00am to 4:00 PM. Registration packets are available in the front office.

There will be a District Kindergarten Open House at Rodgers on March 14th at 5:30pm

Parent Corner

Positive Behavior Support

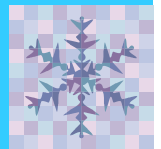
Our students work hard on a daily basis trying to be their best. We reward positive behavior with PBS tickets throughout the week and a raffle occurs at our Friday assembly. Each month students who have met the behavior goal are invited to attend a reward event planned by our PBS team. This month the students will bring in board games and have the opportunity to play games with their friends and drink hot cocoa. February's reward is in the planning stages, but promises to be entertaining. The theme is Fun Winter Olympics.

Parent Teacher Club

At the last meeting we discussed the success of the Holiday Shop. Shopping is already underway for next year's sale with lots of great merchandise already purchased. The Chuck and Dave's delivery is Thursday, Feb 2 after 2:00pm. The next meeting is February 16th at 7:00pm in the Media Center. All welcome. Please come and share your ideas, hear what is being planned for you children and get to know some of the staff and parents who work with your kids.

Cold Weather Rainy Day Procedures

We will let students into the building at 8:00am on days that it is raining or below 20°F. Indoor recess is also provided on days such as these. Please send your child to school with the appropriate clothing so they can be comfortable. If you don't have the resources to get these items, please let us know and we will get your child the appropriate clothing they need.



Classroom Environmental Requests

If you would like to have input as to what type of classroom you'd like your child to be in, you can fill out an environmental request form in the office. We make every effort to place your child in the best environment for their needs and many criteria are taken into consideration when placing children. We cannot guarantee any request but will do our best to accommodate your wishes. Requests can be found in the office. All requests need to be returned to the office by Friday, February 24 at 3:30pm.

What's New??



5th Grade Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the students who participated in the school spelling bee. Elizabeth Stacheit put up quite a fight but eventually became the runner up to Ava Lawson who never wavered on any of her words. She had to spell “extraordinarily” correct. All 30 participants tried very hard and were well prepared. I am very proud of all of them.



The top 30 spellers



The winner of the 5th Grade 2012 Spelling Bee– Ava Lawson

Brainstormers Presents.....

Our students had an amazing experience with a performance group called Brainstormers on January 24th. I wrote a grant to help pay for the performances and this activity is funded in part by **THE MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and **THE MICHIGAN HUMANITIES COUNCIL**. (For more information visit Michiganhumanities.org or www.michigan.gov/arts or call 517-241-4011)The PTC has generously offered to help pay for a portion as well. They will be back on April 12th to perform some of the students stories with the help of our student audience.



What's Going On ???

Speech and Language Information



What is Pragmatic Language?

To communicate do you have to talk? Have you ever had a conversation with someone in a noisy restaurant? You can see that they are talking but can't hear them. Through facial expressions and body movements, you UNDERSTAND what they are saying!! This is called non-verbal or pragmatic language. Pragmatic language is often called social language because it is necessary when communicating in social situations. In order to communicate effectively we listen and often without knowing it, we watch what the other person is doing with their body, arms and face. Conversational skills, turn taking, reading emotions, understanding hidden messages and inferences in conversations are all part of pragmatic language.

What does Pragmatic Language Look like in School?

In elementary school Johnny and Mary are playing ball on the playground. Johnny throws the ball and hits Mary in the face accidentally. She makes an angry face, stomps her feet and walks away. Johnny doesn't read her angry facial expression and body movements, he begins to follow her and call her a quitter. Johnny didn't understand what happened and ends up in trouble.

Another school situation could be during free choice a child chooses to play alone. We may call him a loner, but he/she may not know how to ask another child to play, or once he/she starts talking, they may not be able to carry on a conversation or take turns when playing a game. This is all part of pragmatic language.

What can be done to improve Pragmatic Language?

Students can learn to improve their pragmatic / social / nonverbal language in Speech & Language Therapy. In Social Skills groups, through pictures, role plays and games students learn to understand what facial expressions and body movements actually mean. Speech and Language Pathologists also work on improving eye contact, understanding personal space and meaning of the tone of one's voice, giving speaker feedback, turn taking when talking, staying on topic, and repairing the message so the listener can understand.



If you have any questions, please contact your School Speech and Language Pathologist.

Student Council

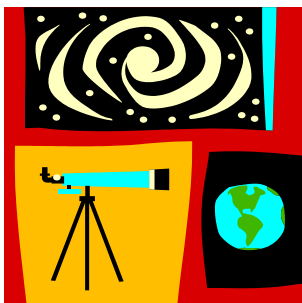
Student Council will be selling Valentine Candy Grams at lunch for \$1 each the week of February 6 through February 10. If you would like to buy your son or daughter a Valentine Candy Gram, please put the money in a sealed envelope with the students name, who it is from, teacher, and a small message. Candy Grams will be delivered on Tuesday, February 14. Please address the envelope to Ms. Ryan. Thank you!

We will be holding another hair drive in **June of 2013**. Please consider donating your hair to Wigs 4 Kids. Hair must be at least 8 inches long in a pony tail to donate, so start growing now! Last year our Wigs 4 Kids fundraiser was a great success. **We donated over 21 pony tails and \$1000.** Rodgers was able to "adopt" a young girl in need of a wig with that monetary donation. She has wrote to us and sent in pictures. Mrs. Kling is working very hard to make a memory box of what she sent us so everyone can enjoy it and see how we were all able to help our community by working together.

SMENCILS are back and will be on sale in the cafeteria during lunch and during conferences for \$1.00 each! The sale will take place March 1 through March 9th!

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Rodgers Elementary Science Olympiad team has been practicing very hard for their events. They have been learning about anatomy, building structures, circuitry, insects, graphing, rocks, the solar system, and weather just to name a few. They will be competing on Saturday, March 10 in the South Macomb Science Olympiad tournament and again on Saturday, May 5 at the county tournament against over 80 other schools in the surrounding area!



February Newsletter Blurb from the Library!

Thanks to a very successful December book fair, February started with the arrival of 80 beautiful new books! Students have been busy during both Library visits and Technology days in the computer lab. Kindergarteners can locate the information books, storybooks and practice mouse and keyboarding skills. Our 1st graders know how to look for their favorite authors and practice beginning word processing skills. 2nd graders continue to take Accelerated Reader tests each week to strengthen their reading comprehension and now can log in using their passwords and save their work to the network. Our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders distinguish characteristics of fiction vs. non-fiction books and have practiced accessing student email accounts. We are also learning to use the Internet safely and responsibly. We have used lab time to access digital resources (both reliable and authoritative) to get research for class assignments. Look for information coming home regarding the March book fair in the coming weeks! The book fair will be open during all Parent-Teacher Conferences!!!

Community Corner

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AND AUXILIARY #129

Free Clothing Swap

February 22, 2012

11 AM – 4 PM

Disabled American Veterans Hall #129

47326 Dequindre, Utica, MI 48317

Contact person: Charly Mathews

586-739-5267 (during drop off or day of swap times)

<http://www.wxyz.com/content/news/see...WiC3fcGug.csp>

Free Dental Care for Kids One Day Event

Feb 11th from 8am-1pm

Dental Care of the Future

3080 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026

586-293-8750

Rodgers Collects:



We collect the following items to support our school activities such as school assemblies, classroom projects, and school wide projects::

- Box Tops for Education
- Capri Sun or other juice pouches (without straws)
- Empty, clean chip bags



Pasta for Pennies Collection



When: January 30– February 17

What: Classrooms compete for lunch at The Olive Garden and other class prizes

How: Students bring in \$\$ and put it in the collection box.

Why?: To help find a cure for leukemia and lymphoma (diseases that affect both children and adults)

District Open House

On Wednesday, February 8th, the district is hosting an open house at the high school from 6:30-8:00pm. If you, your friends or neighbors would like to see programs offered by our district please plan on coming. There will be displays and information about our schools and programs. Schools of choice applications will be available as well.

Safety First, Please

Drop Off/ Pick Up

The most important part of my job is to make sure your children are safe. In order to do that we have put some procedures in place for dropping off and picking up your children.

Dos

1. Please treat busses like ambulances. They contain our precious children and need to be treated kindly. Please stay out of their way and yield to them if necessary.
2. Leave 2-3 minutes earlier and the line for drop off will not be nearly as long
3. Park in the Harper Lot in the morning and walk your child up to the building, there are several spots available.
4. If you pull around vehicles in the drop off lane, please do so slowly, some kids exit from the left .(not recommended)
5. Be patient, we are doing the best we can:)

Don'ts

1. Don't park on L'anse at any time at posted No Parking No Standing No Stopping signs
2. Don't leave your car in the fire lane in the circle drive. This is a fire lane and a ticket in the fire lane is much higher than a parking ticket!!!
3. Don't stop on L'anse and let your child out and let them cross the street and parking lot to get to school. This is very dangerous.
4. Don't park in the back lot, as this is for staff only and is also very dangerous for students to be walking through.



CITIZENS OF THE MONTH

January 2012

KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Pillars – Laila Burwell, Gregory O'Neal
Mrs. Reed – Michael Dillon, Savanna Smith
Ms. VanNess – Emma Lucido, Michael Roda
Mrs. Wood – Aubrey Bohlen, Tabitha Rose

FIRST GRADE

Ms. Lathrop – Chloe Brdak, Cassidy McEvoy
Ms. Quinlan – Carlie Chamberlain, Anthony Edge
Mrs. Semack – Ryan Peters, Skyler Reeves
Ms. Wilson – Dawson Peltier, Mikayla Roussin

SECOND GRADE

Mrs. Leszczynski – Tayah Herr, Darrin Patman
Ms. Ryan – Emily Furneaux, Blake Gosselin
Mrs. Zelenock – Nevaeh Kempinski, Owen Pirog

THIRD GRADE

Mrs. Barnett – Taylor Harvath, Andrew Roda
Mrs. Dzurisin – Joshua Delisle, Stephanie Firchau
Mrs. Nicholl – Alyssa DuPont, Ian Ginardi

FOURTH GRADE

Mr. Heier – Miya Bowman, Christina Pennington
Mrs. McGuire – Zoie Harlan, Bret Hilgendorf
Mrs. Rancilio – Ashleigh Deveroux-Tucker, Jacob Kimball

FIFTH GRADE

Mrs. DiCosmo/Kraus – Ariel Bohlen, Jonathan MacFarland
Mrs. Filie – Victoria Butkowski, Cameron Pietrzak
Mr. Gillich – Cecilia DuPont, Joel King

ECSE PROGRAM

Ms. Keeble AM – Landon DeLong
Mr. Quinlan AM – Russell Stambaugh
Mr. Quinlan PM - Joseph Mangold

CI – LOWER & UPPER

Mrs. Franckowiak – Isaac Lindsey
Mrs. Farris – Garret Christian

AUTISTIC PROGRAM

Mrs. Dina – Matthew Borza
Mrs. Holmes - Genesis Prince