Happy Holidays!

As always, December is such a busy month and the days never seem long enough to accomplish everything we need to do. During this holiday season please sit back and enjoy the time with your children. They truly are only young once and the time goes by so quickly. I hope each of your has a wonderful break and the New Year brings much peace and joy!

Mrs. Frederick

Show your Mustang Spirit.
Wear Blue and White or Spirit Wear on Fridays.

December 2017

Principal: Mrs. Christine Frederick
Assistant Principal: Mrs. Patricia Steinmeyer

Holiday Party Information

Holiday class parties will be held on

Friday, December 22

Kindergarten AM: 10:45-11:45
Kindergarten PM through 5th grade 2:30-3:15

Here are a few reminders to help our festivities run smoothly:

* Volunteers are allowed into the building to begin set-up at 10:30 for AM Kindergarten and at 2:15 for 1st through 5th grades and PM Kindergarten.
* Please remember that only assigned classroom party helpers are allowed in the classroom.
* Party helpers are to sign in and collect their party helper badges in the LLC. Please enter the LLC through door 2.
* Parents who were assigned to the party will be permitted to take their child(ren) at the end of the party time, but will not be able to take “friends” unless a note from the other child’s parent has been received. You will be required to sign your child(ren) out before leaving. Teachers will have a sign out sheet available in their classrooms.
* If you prefer your child not participate, please let your child’s classroom teacher know and alternative activities will be arranged. The parties take up about the last hour of the day and the rest of the day includes reading, math, science, and all the fabulous things that happen at Pleasant Hill School on a daily basis.
Reading Strategy...Do the Words and Pictures Match?

An important accuracy strategy that good readers use to help gain meaning from text is to use the pictures and ask “Do the words and picture match? Pictures help to confirm that the words being read make sense. Illustrations can provide hints to help students decode new words. Sometimes, beginning readers feel like they are “cheating” when using the pictures. It is important to let your child know that it is “okay” to use the pictures.

How Can You Help Your Child Use This Strategy at Home?

1. Start with beginning reader books that only have a few words on the page. The pictures will give support for figuring out the meaning of new words.

2. When reading with your child, spend time modeling how you can look at the pictures, photos, maps and graphs. Talk about your thinking so that your child can hear your thought process.

3. Reading pictures also includes the captions! This is a powerful reading strategy when reading nonfiction. Remind your child to read the captions when studying for quizzes, doing research or looking for a deep understanding of the text.

Thank You for Your Continued Support at Home!
Dear Families,

Please consider how you might help Pleasant Hill and District 200 with our annual *Christmas Sharing* Collection. Last year over one thousand district families received gifts, food and support. One goal of Christmas Sharing is to be able to feed a family for a week. Please see reverse side for grocery items needed. We will be accepting donations through December 1st through your child’s classroom.

Please consider donating the following items:

- **Home Products**: Shampoo, soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, diapers, etc. (Target or Walmart gifts cards)
- **Non-Perishable foods**: canned or boxed goods that have *not yet expired* (Grocery Store gift cards too!)
- **Clothing**: New or clean and gently used clothes for all ages (especially winter clothing items) – *please place in box or bag with a tie*
- **Toys, Puzzles & Board Games**: New or clean and gently used for children up to 18 years old (gift cards work too!)

We know this can be a busy and stressful time of year. Your generosity would be very much appreciated by families who could use a little extra support around the holidays. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mary-Kate Short  
School Social Worker  
Pleasant Hill Elementary School  
(630) 682-2100 Ext. 4028  
mary.short@cusd200.org
Pleasant Hill’s Mission

- Coming to school to learn
- Acting in such a way that I will be proud of myself and others will be proud of myself and others will be proud of me
- Respecting myself, others and the Pleasant Hill Learning Environment
- Encouraging everyone to keep my school safe and clean

The Pleasant Hill Chorus will be performing a Holiday Concert on Monday, December 18th at 7:00 in the gym.
Silver Spoon Winners for the month of November

The silver spoon is awarded to the class that earns the most “Mustangs” for their good behavior during their lunchtime for one week.

11/6  Mrs. Bimschleger, Mrs. Grisamore, Mrs. Williams
11/13 Mrs. Clubb, Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Williams

Support Pleasant Hill PTA
COOK’S NIGHT OFF
@ JIMMY JOHN’S ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
10:30AM TO 9:00PM

JIMMY JOHN’S
543 S. SCHMALE RD.
CAROL STREAM, IL
630-588-7001

Pleasant Hill Food Drive
December 19th-21st this month!

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

As the weather continues to get colder and more than likely snowier please remember a few things:

Dress your child appropriately as they will be going outside weather permitting (hat, gloves, coats).

Boots and snow pants are required to play in the snow during recess time. Children will have outdoor recess everyday unless the temperature or wind chill drops below 0 degrees. Please make sure your child is dressed warmly.
You can find Community School District 200 in the app store.

[Images of app store logos and a QR code]

Happy Holidays
The decision to close school because of snow, extreme cold, or other emergency will be made as close to 6 a.m. as possible. Dr. Jeff Schuler, Superintendent, will record a telephone message to be delivered to the households of all District 200 families and staff announcing the closing by 6 a.m. For you to receive this message, your current phone number must be on file with your child's school. Families may also check school and District answering machines and the District's home page (www.cusd200.org) for closing information. Local radio and TV stations will also be informed and announcements should be made over the following radio and television stations:

- WGN Radio 720
- WBBM News Radio 78
- CBS Channel 2
- NBC Channel 5
- ABC Channel 7
- WGN Channel 9
- Fox Channel 32
- CLTV News Channel 48
Closing information is also available by:

Online: [www.EmergencyClosings.com](http://www.EmergencyClosings.com)

E-mail: Sign up for personalized e-mail notification at [www.EmergencyClosings.com](http://www.EmergencyClosings.com)

Facility Search: You will need to enter "Dist 200" or your child’s school name along with the city that the school is located in at [www.EmergencyClosings.com](http://www.EmergencyClosings.com) to search.

We will only announce when schools are closed.

If schools are not closed, parents and guardians have the option to keep their children home from school due to safety concerns. Children kept home due to weather conditions will have an excused absence.

Radio and TV stations are likely to report closings as Community Unit School District 200 or CUSD 200 and not list individual schools. Please listen to these announcements carefully as there are several District 200 school systems in the metropolitan area.

If it is necessary to close school once classes begin, students will be dismissed based on information parents provide at registration. While the school will make every attempt to reach parents, it is not always possible. In those cases, the emergency information provided by parents at registration will be used. Please be certain that the school office has current names and phone numbers of your family’s emergency contacts. It is suggested that you discuss these emergency arrangements with your child.

Factors that influence the decision include the amount of snow anticipated and on the ground, road conditions, temperature and wind chill, bus availability and potential schedule delays, and the arrival time and projected duration of weather conditions.

The District will base its decision on the following information:

- The bus company believes that they can run all of their bus routes in a timely manner and deliver our students safely to school.
- The District 200 facilities' department is confident that they can keep our driveways, walkways, doorways and parking lots cleared sufficiently for pedestrians, cars, and emergency vehicles.
- The municipal street departments servicing District 200 can maintain all of the streets in an acceptable manner.
- The weather forecast supports our decision.
- The decisions being made by neighboring school districts.

Decision on the cancellation of after school and extracurricular activities will be made by 2:00 PM by District administration and may be unique for Elementary, Middle, and High School levels. Information about cancellations will be made available:

- on the CUSD 200 website
- through the telephone calling system
Elementary Testing for the Program of Accelerated Curriculum and Enrichment (PACE) Grades 2-5

For the 2018-2019 School Year, please note that all Second Graders will be screened for PACE in February 2018 using the Cognitive Abilities Test. More information will follow in January 2018. Parents of second graders who are eligible for further PACE testing based on the Cognitive Abilities Test and/or local assessments will be notified at the end of February. Testing will qualify students for the following 2018-2019 classes:

3rd Grade PACE Mathematics
3rd Grade PACE Reading

In March 2018, the PACE Office will host testing for currently enrolled in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Students in Grades 3-5 may be recommended for testing by their Teacher and/or Parent. The deadline for a Parent to request PACE Testing is Friday, January 12, 2018. This testing, which will include the CogAT 7 and subtests from the Iowa Assessments, will qualify elementary students for participation in one of the following 2018-2019 classes:

4th and 5th grade PACE Mathematics
4th and 5th grade PACE Reading
6th grade Fast Paced Mathematics
6th grade Fast Paced Language Arts

Please Note – Students currently in PACE Program Classes do not need to re-test for 2018-2019.

Students currently attending a private school and/or home schooled, but reside in the District 200 Attendance Area, are also eligible for PACE Program Testing.

Testing will take place at each elementary school around the first or second week of March, and will be scheduled around mandatory PARCC testing. Parents who register their students by the Friday, January 12, 2018 deadline will be notified by mail about specific testing dates & times prior to testing.

Parent Testing Referral Forms can be found on the District 200 website www.cusd200.org under Departments > Student Learning > Gifted Education > Parent Referral Forms

Please contact the District 200 PACE Office at (630) 682-2024 or email PACE@cusd200.org with any questions.
## District 200 Mobile Pantries for 2017

*Generously Sponsored by the Wheaton Noon Rotary Club & Others in the Community*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Outreach Center, 345 S. President St., Carol Stream</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Villagebrook Apartments, 278 E. St. Charles, Carol Stream</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 24</td>
<td>Lowell Elementary School, 312 S. President, Wheaton</td>
<td>4pm – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>Johnson School, 2S700 Continental, Warrenville</td>
<td>4:30 - 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Washington Elementary, 911 Bridle Lane, Wheaton</td>
<td>4:30 - 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>Outreach Center, 345 S. President St., Carol Stream</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Villagebrook Apartments, 278 E. St. Charles, Carol Stream</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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For more information, contact Northern Illinois Food Bank at (630)443-6910 or visit:

www.SolveHungerToday.org
Drugs? Not My Child... with Tim Ryan
Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Wheaton North High School, 701 W. Thomas, Wheaton
A truly educational keynote, Tim explains who today’s addicts truly are; how they get their hands on heroin, opiates, and other substances; the startling death rates amongst addicts – young and old alike. Woven into Tim’s facts and figures is both his own harrowing story of heroin addiction, incarceration, and losing his own son to an overdose. Through this presentation, audience members will recognize how the heroin pandemic affects--and requires the help of--an entire community; discover avenues for immediate and sustainable treatment and recovery; and learn what is being done to address the pandemic and how to get involved.

How to Raise Resilient Children with Jackie Rhew, LCPC, CADC
Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Monroe Middle School, 1855 Manchester Rd., Wheaton
This presentation will review specific interventions designed to assist children in managing their anxiety as well as promote increased motivation, healthy goal setting and active school engagement for the child. Factors that contribute to school avoidant behaviors as well as ways to early identification of maladaptive coping responses will be explored. Attendees will learn how to develop parenting strategies to assist their children with healthy coping responses and engage them in effective communication and language that promotes self-advocacy and independence.

SPANISH PRESENTATION - Does Your Child Have a Smartphone? Learn How to Keep Your Child Safe with Ferney Ramirez
Wednesday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. at Johnson Elementary School, 2S700 Continental Drive, Warrenville

Parents, Teens, Parties & the Law - Panel Discussion with State’s Attorney Bob Berlin, Dr. Michael Maniacci and Social Worker Marc Anderson
Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Wheaton Warrenville South High School, 1920 S. Wiesbrook Rd
Your child wants to attend or host a party where alcohol will be present. How do you handle this? What are the legal implications for children who drink underage? What are the legal implications for parents who host parties where alcohol is present? Parents will learn the strategies to have conversations with their children that focus on the potential outcomes of attending a party with alcohol present and also how to help their child decline invitations to parties.

Registration is free. Call or text Traci at (630) 270-9678 or email traci.burnham@cusd200.org to indicate your choice of sessions. If you have questions about workshop content contact, Traci Burnham at (630) 784-7226.
A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

As we are approaching into the colder weather seasons, or as we so commonly know it in the nurse’s office as “cold and flu season”, we would like to remind everyone of good practices to keep you and your child healthy. We want everyone to stay healthy, especially with the holidays and winter break approaching. As much as we love seeing your children daily, if they truly are sick, it would benefit your child to stay home and rest. Deciding when to keep your child home is not always an easy decision. If you are not sure if you should send your child, feel free to call the health office and a nurse can help you with the decision. However there are some situations that your child needs to stay home.

Please keep your child home if he/she presents with any of the following signs or symptoms:

1. **Bad Coughs/Cold Symptoms** which interfere with your child’s ability to keep up with school activities, a constant runny nose or continual coughing.

2. **A skin rash or red eye** from an undetermined cause. Your child may return to school with a doctor’s note stating your child is cleared to attend school.

3. **Any illness that is accompanied by decreased energy and an inability to sustain usual daily activity level.**

4. **Diarrhea or Vomiting** - Your child should be symptom free for at least 24 hours (without use of medication) before returning to school.

5. **Fever of 100° or greater by mouth** - Your child should be fever-free (without use of medication) for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

6. **If antibiotics are prescribed, they must be given for 24 hrs before your child may return to school.**

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO AS A PARENT TO BOOST YOUR CHILD’S IMMUNE SYSTEM

- Be sure they get **plenty of rest** each night. Children of elementary age should be going to bed approximately at 8-9 PM. As they are winding down, keep the electronics to a minimum as the light can keep them awake longer.
• Washing our hands frequently. It is an ideal time to review with your child the importance of handwashing, as well as when and how it is properly performed.

• Keep hands away from your face. Hands pick up germs and bacteria all throughout the day, and the most direct route to get you sick is on and around your face.

• Covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing with either a disposable tissue or your sleeve.

• Drinking plenty of fluids, especially water.

• Eating the recommended amounts of fruits and vegetables, which are high in vitamins.

• Remember stress and fatigue can affect your body’s ability to fight infections.

• The yearly flu immunization is recommended to keep you and those around you healthy.