



IRISH PRIDE PRESS

March 2017 Newsletter

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Important dates:

- Feb. 27-March 3
Read Across America
- March 3
4K & K
Registration
8:00-3:00
- March 8
Art Fundraiser
orders due
- March 12
Daylight
Savings Time
begins-turn
clocks ahead
- March 14-31
Summer School
online
registration
- March 20-April 3
Paper Recycling
- March 23
End of 3rd
Quarter
- March 24
No School
- Plastic Bag
Recycling
Nov. 13-April 15

Continue to save
**Box Tops for
Education**

We are a NUT
FREE School.
**No Homemade
or Store Bought
Baked Goods.**



Principal's Corner

It is hard to believe that we have almost completed two-thirds of the school year this upcoming month. Thank you to all the parents that participated in Parent/Teacher conferences at the end of February. This is a very important part of our home/school partnership.

If you have a student in grades 3-5, please read the Wisconsin Forward Exam section in this newsletter. This is our state assessment, so we hope to have all our students in attendance during the testing window. Please do what you can to avoid appointments and vacations during this time. As always, we understand children get ill.

Dr. Seuss is celebrating his birthday in March, why not pick up and read a classic Dr. Seuss book. His first book, *And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street* was published in 1937. Dr. Seuss whose real name was **Ted Geisel**, died in 1991. *Hooray For Diffendoofer Day!* (1998) was his last book which was written after Ted's death, based on his sketches and notes. He wrote and illustrated a total of 44 books. He does have other book titles, but these were done collaboratively with other authors or illustrators.

Dr. Seuss Fun Week and Freedom Food Pantry

Freedom Elementary School will be celebrating Dr. Seuss Fun Week, February 27– March 3. This is a week dedicated to encouraging literacy and to honoring the beloved children's author, Dr. Seuss. Students will enjoy special dress-up days, special school lunches and Seuss books. During this week students are encouraged to bring in non-perishable items for the Freedom Food Pantry. A drawing for posters will take place for students who bring in pantry items.

- 4 Kindergarten—Toothpaste/Deodorant
- Kindergarten—Deodorant/Toothpaste
- 1st Grade—Body Wash/Soap
- 2nd Grade—Body Wash/Soap
- 3rd Grade—Shampoo/Conditioner
- 4th Grade—Paper Towels/Napkins/"TP"
- 5th Grade—Paper Towels/Napkins/"TP"



Ms. Zabel - Coordinator

Wisconsin Forward Exam Grades 3-5

What is the Wisconsin Forward Exam? Students will take the Wisconsin Forward Exam between March 28-April 12. This assessment will be used to gauge how well students are mastering the Wisconsin State Standards. The Forward Exam is given at:

- *Grades 3-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics
- *Grades 4 and 8 in Science and,
- *Grades 4, 8, and 10 in Social Studies

Immunization Requirements 2016-2017

Varicella (Chickenpox) second dose phase
Grades Kindergarten through 12

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
Grades Kindergarten through 12

Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis Booster)
Entering Grade 6

There is an exception to the Tdap requirement: Students who received a dose of tetanus or diphtheria vaccine within **5 years** of entering a grade for which Tdap is required are not required to receive Tdap vaccine.

Summer School

Summer School in the Freedom School District is just around the corner and it is time to start thinking about options for your child. Summer School is an opportunity to continue the educational process and keep your child connected to learning over the summer months. The Freedom Area School District will be offering Summer School 2017, at Freedom Elementary School, for elementary and middle school students, in one session. The session will be five weeks: *June 12 through July 13, 2017*. There is no school on July 3 & 4. You will soon be receiving information regarding something new in Freedom; Online registration for summer school 2017! I have been working with the administrative team, summer school staff and the technology coordinators in our district to build and launch this new and exciting registration process. You can mark your calendars with the following dates: Online Registrations Window (March 14-March 31, 2017), Final day to pay course fees (April 13, 2017). We are excited to offer this new registration process that will utilize the convenience of modern technology. A listing of Summer School classes is enclosed with this newsletter.



Mother and Son Rockstar Dance

Freedom Elementary will hold its annual "Mother and Son" Dance on Friday, March 17 from 6:00-7:30 pm in the elementary gym. You may pre-order the following: A picture opportunity will be available for \$10.00 each and will be photographed by Lifetouch. If you misplaced your flier, there is one attached in this newsletter.



PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News

We will be holding a Spring popcorn fundraiser from March 1 - 15 to raise money for Artist in Residence. Delivery of the items will be April 6. Packets will be coming home with your children soon. Pizza parties will be offered to the top selling rooms.

The Family Fun Night date has been changed from April 7 to March 23. We will be hosting a night at Funset Boulevard from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm. The \$5.00 wristbands will give you unlimited use of bumper cars, playground, carousel, train and laser tag. Wristbands must be purchased prior to event. Look for a flyer and order form soon. Proceeds will benefit playground items.

Thank you for helping make the school dance so successful. We collected \$144 for the Freedom Food Pantry. We hope your family had fun!

Our Brain Bowl was held the Jan 31 and Feb 2. The kids did a great job answering the questions. Thank you to the volunteers that helped. We raised approximately \$6,000 and pizza party winners will be announced soon. PAC offers teachers \$100 to be used for items in the classroom. This money will go towards these items.

We collected \$631 during the Paper Recycling Drive in December. The next one is March 20 – April 3.

Visit our website at www.freedompac.org for meeting agendas and minutes. "Like" us on Facebook at Freedom Elementary P.A.C. (Parent Activity Committee).

The next meeting: **March 20 at 6:00 pm, in Room 22 (Art room), at 6:00 pm**. Free babysitting is provided by the Freedom High School National Honor Society. Please come join us!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Erin Lenhardt at aelenhardt@gmail.com or call 851-3266.



Read Aloud Tips

Reading aloud, for 15 or 20 minutes a day, is very important because it builds your child's desire to read. Whether your child is already reading or hasn't yet begun, it is a great time to start reading aloud regularly. Here are a few tips to help you get the most out of your reading aloud time together.

***Encourage Participation:** Take turns saying the lines in a dramatic or silly voice. Stop occasionally and ask if your child can predict what will happen next.

***Get Comfortable:** Offer your child soft mats or pillows to sit on.

***Remove Distractions:** Make your reading spot as quiet as possible so your child can focus on the story. Consider turning off the television to avoid interruptions.

If you have any questions on literacy, please contact me at the elementary school.

Happy Reading, Mrs. Anderson, Reading Specialist



Battle of the Books

The results have been tallied for the Battle of the Books Competition from Friday, February 17, 2017. There was a 2-way tie for both first and second place which took us to the tie-breaker questions and to spelling!

The winners were:

- 4th place was The Reading Machines
- 3rd place was The Library Lovers
- 2nd place was The Irish Bookworms
- 1st place was TAG

Congratulations to ALL groups for all of their hard work!



Congratulations to the Battle of the Book Winners. They will compete in the state competition from Freedom Elementary School.

Gr. 3, 4, 5 Concert: "Rockin' Through the Years"

On Monday, March 13, the 3rd, 4th & 5th graders will be presenting their winter concert. The performance will begin at 6:00 pm at the High School Fieldhouse. Students will meet their homeroom teacher between 5:30 & 5:50 pm. You will be treated to many of your favorite hit songs from the 1950's, 60's and 70's by artists such as Elvis Presley, Little Richard, The Beatles, The Beach Boys, and Bob Seeger. Students are expected to dress up and stay for the entire concert. We will be ending with a fantastic finale that includes all of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders!



Mr. Fox's class is practicing the song, "Old Time Rock and Roll" for their concert on March 13.