



*Creative, Quality Education
Pre-K through 8th Grade*

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March Newsletter 2017

From the Associate Director Ms. Melissa's Desk:

March is here and spring is just around the corner! The unseasonably warm weather has allowed students to be outside on the playground quite a bit. Even though it may seem warm in the morning, the weather can change quickly throughout the school day. Please make sure your child is prepared for any of the changes. This month we have spirit week, the talent show, spring break, and the first day of spring!

A huge thank you goes out to Laurie and Jon Geiger for once again organizing and hosting an amazing Valentine's Dance. Students, parents, and staff had a blast dancing and winning prizes. Thanks to all the classes at CNS for helping with the decorations. The playroom was magical.

Locally Grown is just around the corner! We are still in need of sponsors. Please visit with your favorite local business about sponsoring the event. There are extra letters and sponsor level sheets in the office. The deadline for sponsors to turn in logos to the office is March 24th. We will continue to take sponsor donations past the March 24th due date.

Looking ahead to April: Student-led conferences will be held April 6th and 7th. Your child's classroom teacher will be sending out more information soon. There will be no school those days.

Spring break is next week, March 13th-17th. The school will be closed. Please have a safe and restful break! I will see you all on Monday, March 20th.

March Happenings:

Spirit Week:

March 6th - March 10th we will be celebrating our school with spirit week! Below is a list for each day.

Tuesday-Favorite Color day

Wednesday-Crazy Socks/Pajama day

Thursday-Favorite Character/Favorite Team day

Friday-CNS Spirit Wear day

No masks or scary costumes, please. Thank you!

Talent Show:

It's not too late for your child to sign up for the talent show. They may sign up in the foyer of the main building. The show will begin at 1:30 on Friday, March 10th.

Ongoing Fundraisers:

Neighborhood Co-op Wooden Nickels

For any purchase requiring a bag, if you bring your own, you will receive one wooden nickel per transaction to donate to CNS. Just drop the wooden nickel in the box at the Co-op exit and we will get five cents for each one. Please shop at the Neighborhood Co-op and take your bags. This is an easy way to help raise money for our school.

Amazon Smile

Do you like to shop from Amazon? If you select Carbondale New School through the Amazon Smile program, a portion of proceeds benefits our school. Visit www.amazon.com.

Kroger Card: PLEASE ENROLL!!!

Are you signed up for the Kroger Card? You can designate CNS to get a percentage back of your grocery purchase. This is an easy way to help CNS. Currently we have only 9 families enrolled in this. Please take the time and enroll. Every little bit helps. Those who shopped from September 1st to November 30th helped us earn \$68.28. Let's get some more families signed up and increase this amount.

Additional Information:

Artsonia

Artsonia is a website where CNS uploads pictures of your child's art. You can invite family and friends to view the artwork and become fans. Various items can also be purchased with your child's art. Visit www.artsonia.com. I love this website for my own child, you should check it out!

Winter Weather

Hopefully we will not need this, but March can have some crazy weather. Please note that if inclement weather occurs, Channels 3, 6, and 12 and radio stations WINI, WQUL-FN, and WSIU will be notified if school is canceled. CNS does not follow the closing procedures for the surrounding area's public school systems.

Rebate Opportunities

There are no rebate opportunities available at this time.

Volunteer Opportunities

The following volunteer opportunities are available:

Clean the CNS banner.

Wash mop heads.

Provide after school activity on the playground once a week.

Locally Grown Sponsorship (you will receive 3 service hours if you bring in a sponsor)

From the March Board Meeting:

The March board meeting was short but productive. We discussed the future of Locally Grown, the location, progress made with the event, and whether it will be worthwhile with the number of sponsors we have this year. Suggestions were made to help bring in more sponsorship. Tristan Throgmorton informed the board of the progress made updating the fire safety of the modular building. There was also discussion on getting more families to enroll in ACH to pay tuition. The next board meeting, which is also the Corporation meeting, will be held April 6th.

From the Buildings and Grounds Committee:

There was no meeting in the month of February.

From the Curriculum Committee:

The curriculum meeting was held Friday, March 3, 2017. Due to many illnesses, Sarah Curtis and Jeremy Slagoski were the only ones in attendance. They discussed the results of the parent survey and made plans for further discussion to address some of the points parents made. Science, theme-based instruction, and more hands-on learning seem to be important overall. They also talked about innovations for the classroom in general, and Sarah is going to research internships for SIUC students with the main office.

Sarah brought a draft of a short questionnaire for teachers and will refine that questionnaire, ask for feedback from the committee via e-mail, and if approved it will be distributed to the teachers to include their feedback in the next meeting's discussion. There is no date for the next meeting.

From the Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee met Feb 10. Chad, Ying and Dong attended the meeting. The committee discussed the survey and how make the best use of the data. Ying produced a comprehensive data analysis and several charts to show the outcome of the survey. Dong collected diversity related data about the Southern Illinois area and on public and private schools. The committee discussed extensively how to move forward and organize diversity-related activities. The date for the next committee meeting will be announced soon.

From the Communications Committee:

There was no meeting in the month of February.

From the Fundraisers Committee:

There was no meeting in the month of February. The next Locally Grown meeting will be held March 23rd. Courtney and Adam Haddick will be coordinating Locally Grown and the plant sale.

Wish lists

Ms. Carla

- washi tape
- extra fine tip markers and pens (.5mm or smaller)
- AAA batteries
- gift cards to Petco, Wal-Mart, Kroger for Hershey and Quags
- Barnes and Noble gift cards to help with books
- Amazon gift cards to help with books and printer cartridge

Ms. Melissa

- tape (masking and Scotch)
- index cards
- Post it notes
- Amazon gift cards to help with books

Ms. Kathy

- Playdoh
- Large tree cookies to make paths.
- Extra socks, underwear, and gloves

Ms. Laurie

- Ms. Laurie needs T-shirts for next year's craft show that will be crocheted into mats
- Clean, empty steel food cans for a musical instrument project

Office

- Copy paper
- bandaids
- expo markers
- new dry erase board for the gate
- Canon 240XL printer cartridges (black and color)
- metal binder clips (small and large)
- 3 ring medium sized binders (new)

Buildings and Grounds

- Large shed to house outdoor equipment
- Deck boxes to house equipment in certain zones
- Basement windows
- Hay or straw or wood chips to help with playground mud
- Monetary donations to help pay for any of the above items

Calendar of Events:

March 8: Communications Committee meeting 5:00

March 13-17: Spring Break

March 23: Locally Grown Meeting

April 6: Corporation Meeting at 6:00

April 6-7: Student-Led conferences

Have a wonderful March!