
Eastport Newsletter

December 2009

Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Guardians;

It seems as though we just finished Halloween and we are starting December! Until a few days ago, I continued to see Halloween candy in the packed lunches in the cafeteria!

With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, we tend to keep December rather quiet with activities. The Twin City Holiday parade, Santa's Secret Shoppe and the 4th Grade Christmas Program are the only evening activities planned at school for this busy month.

The entire staff and I wish you the happiest of holidays. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanza we hope that your holiday is filled with family, friendship, and peace.

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2nd (Wednesday) - Community Christmas Parade

DECEMBER 8th (Tuesday) - Santa's Secret Shoppe

DECEMBER 11th (Friday) - Picture Retake Day

DECEMBER 15th (Tuesday) - Christmas Program

DECEMBER 17th (Thursday) - Backstage Studio Presentation

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE - The last several years, Eastport Elementary has participated in the annual Community Christmas Parade. We meet as a school and walk in the parade behind a banner that shows who we are! The kids (and teachers) have a great time. A permission slip with details about where to meet, where to pick the kids up etc. will have been sent home by the time you get this Newsletter. In order for your child to participate, **WRITTEN PERMISSION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE SCHOOL**. If you misplaced your paper, please contact the school for another.

SANTA'S SECRET SHOPPE - Eastport Elementary has Santa's Secret Shoppe AFTER school hours. Elisa Moreland is in charge of this. The Shoppe is in operation from 4:30 to 7:00. If you would like to help, please call the school or Elisa (922-4714). Help is needed to wrap gifts and to help the children pick out their presents.

PICTURE RETAKE DAY - If your child was absent or you were unable to purchase pictures on picture day back in September, retake day is Friday, December 11th. Watch for envelopes and/or flyers to come with more information concerning this event.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - The high school gym has been the location for our annual Christmas Program the last couple of years. Sporting events are very important in the life of our school and with all of the different sports available to students, the gym is a very busy place. In view of that, we are cooperating with Trenton Avenue Elementary and alternating years with them for the use of the gym for an All-School Program. It is Trenton Avenue's turn to use the High School facility, so our program will be limited this year. **The 4th Grade will provide the Christmas program here at Eastport on December 15th.** It will start at 7:00. While we regret that the entire school cannot participate, we hope you will come and support the 4th graders.

BACK STAGE PRESENTATION - During the Christmas season, different groups offer to come to the school to present special Christmas programs to the students. The BACK STAGE DANCE TROUPE from New Philadelphia has been here at Eastport the last couple of years and the kids really enjoy their show. They will be here on Thursday, the 17th. Their production this year is "How the Grinch Stole Christmas". We hope to have some of our other groups, such as the Claymont High School Show Choir come as well. These programs are during the day so you don't need to worry about the kids wanting you to take them to an evening performance.

STUDENT PICK-UP PROCEDURE - The construction is finished on 12th Street in front of the Water Park. The wider street is very nice and will be great for parking this summer when the Water Park opens. I would remind you; however, you may still NOT park on the street across the street from the school. It continues to be an unsafe method to pick-up your child. The procedure that has been established whereby you remain in your car and pull up to the persons by the fourth grade sidewalk where your children are put in your car for you is what we will continue to follow. We feel that this is the safest way to be sure your child is with the person you want him/her to be with and WE know where we put your child.

INCLEMENT WEATHER - With the Holidays, we also have the Winter Solstice and the other four letter word S-N-O-W. A lot of times the weather is so bad that it is considered unsafe for the busses to travel. We call these Snow Days. IF you are in question about whether there is school or not, Channel 9 television (as well as some of the Cleveland stations) and the radio will give you that information. A paper will be coming home within the next week reminding you of the television and radio stations that will routinely give the information on Claymont.

CANNED FOOD - The High School students provide a Christmas Program to some of the less fortunate families in the district. Part of the program includes a food basket. Eastport Elementary collects canned foods to help fill those baskets. The students bring in the food and put it under our school tree. We sincerely hope that you will help us help others.

CAT'S MEOWS - In cleaning out our back room, we found quite a few Cat's Meows of Eastport. In case you wonder what a Cat's Meow is, it is a little wooden replica of a building. The replica looks like the building and has a little black cat on it somewhere. The cat is either sitting in front of the building or on a window sill someplace on the building. The back of the replica gives a description of the building it represents. The cost for this \$15. If this interests you, please call the school.

PTO CORNER

*****REMINDER** - Texas Roadhouse Gift cards make great Christmas gifts. The school will receive 15% (\$1.50) for each \$10.00 gift card sold. The following specials apply:

\$30 in gift cards— 1 free appetizer \$100 in gift cards— 1 free dinner coupon
\$150 in gift cards—double dinner coupon

If you are in need of them, either call the school or Lisa Johns (922-6560).

We are so fortunate to have such a supportive PTO. In case you wonder what YOU do for us:

Weekly Readers	Individual Audio DVDs
Scholastic News	Pizza parties as prizes
Moveable Write-On Boards	Celebration Day Materials
AR Prizes	Native American Program
Mark Wade Program	Infatable Game World (last day celebration)
Star Lab	Mush Husky Program
Mustang Pins	"I LOVE THIS SCHOOL" program
Family Fun Night	"Dr. Exhaustus takes on Doom and Gloom
Teacher Monies for classroom supplies	

WHEW!!!! WHAT A LIST!!!! WITHOUT YOU, NONE of these things would be possible for OUR kids. We TRULY APPRECIATE EVERYTHING you do. YOU provide things that the kids would otherwise NEVER get to have here at school.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!!!