

Calvin Coolidge School

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Welcome Back! I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year. As I returned to work this week and began to look at my calendar to plan the weeks ahead, the amazing level of support and involvement of our PTO once again stands out. The upcoming weeks are filled with events that enrich the educational lives of our students, raise much needed funds for our school, help foster community and spirit or are just fun! Thank you to the numerous volunteers that make the following upcoming events so successful: Mathletes, Military Bridge, Kids Nights, Blood Drive, Pizza Lunches, Special Lunches, Art Docent, Great Books and the Devils Hockey Night. Thank you also to the parents who coordinate the numerous ongoing events and fundraisers at Coolidge School. As we move into 2008 I look forward to and thank you all for your continued support and involvement as this is what makes Coolidge School special.

Mark your calendars (click here for the complete January calendar)

January 10th- 5th grade band concert 2pm

January 15th- 2nd grade book club

January 23rd- Coffee with the Principal 9:30 am ("Mastering Mathematics")

January 30th- Shelly Klein Parent Presentation ("Balanced Literacy")
7pm@EMS

Manners Matters

As you know, the Coolidge School theme this year is Manners Matter. Each month the staff to reinforce this theme stresses a different point of emphasis. During the month of January we will reinforce the notion that Manners Matter when there is a conflict (problem) with a classmate. During classroom discussions and

lessons teachers will review positive means of conflict resolution. This theme will be integrated with Dr. Martin Luther King's message of unity and non-violent protest.

3rd Grade Goes Holiday Shopping in the Computer Lab

With the objective of introducing our third grade students to the features of an Excel spreadsheet, Ms. Levine's classes did a little shopping on their own this holiday season. Every student was given a printout of a Toys-R-Us flyer specifically geared to ages 8-11. Then, students were told that their teacher had generously given them \$100 to spend. Infusing their math curriculum and their current study of estimating, Ms. Levine taught her students how to format three columns- What I'd Like, Actual Price & Estimate. Formulas were then inserted in the cells so the totals would be added automatically and the students could see an ongoing sum of the actual price and estimate. Once that was done, the students proceeded to shop and fill in their spreadsheets. The lesson was further differentiated when those who finished more quickly, were asked to figure out the most that they could buy with \$100 and the least that they could buy with the \$100. It was a very festive lesson and the kids learned a lot about Excel in this real-life problem-solving experience.

Holiday Concerts and Sing-Along

All students are to be commended for their wonderful performances during our holiday shows last month. A huge thank you goes out to Mrs. Allen and Ms. DiTursi for their talents and work with our children. Just before the break, students took part in our holiday sing-along that has become a tradition at Coolidge School. In addition to the many holiday favorites, students enjoyed singing and clapping along to our "Cougar Pride" song. [Click here for photos of these events!](#)

Instrumental Music Podcasts

[Click here](#) for a link to the second podcast in a series created by instrumental music teachers Eric Weidman and Gene Gurick. This podcast features a statement by Coolidge Principal Mr. Famularo.

Spelling Bee

Our fourth and fifth grade students are competing in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Classroom level competitions have already been held with finalists advancing to the school-level final spelling bee on Friday, January 11th at 9:30 am in the Coolidge School gymnasium. Our school champion will advance to regional competitions competing against students from other towns. Congratulations and best of luck to all participants. Please note, all parents and students are encouraged to log onto www.myspellit.com for valuable spelling resources and activities.

Coffee with the Principal

Our next Coffee with the Principal will take place on Wednesday, January 23rd at 9:30 am in the Coolidge School Media Center. Please join Mr. Famularo and Mrs. Perry, Coolidge School Math Specialist, for an interactive discussion titled "Mastering Mathematics". [Click here for more details on this event!](#)

Principal's Book Club

Attention Second Graders! It is not too late to sign up for the Principal's Book Club to be held on the evening of January 15th. We will be discussing the book Song Lee and the 'I Hate You' Note by Suzy Kline. [Click here for a flyer for this event.](#)

Wyckoff District Offers Preschool Program

The Wyckoff School District is offering a general education preschool program for Wyckoff three and four year olds with tuition set at \$2500 for the 2008-2009 school year. The program will be housed at Sicomac School. The hours for three year olds will be 8:50 to 11:35 a.m. The hours for four year olds will be 12:35 to 3:10 p.m. Monday through Friday in accordance with the Wyckoff school calendar.

The integrated preschool program is a nursery school program that incorporates the education of special education children with that of general education preschoolers. To be eligible, a general education child must be three or four years of age on or before October 1, 2008. A birth certificate, copy of immunizations and proof of

residency will be required of those students admitted to the program.

All children in the program will attend a morning or afternoon session five half-days a week. There are seven openings for four year old general education students, and five for three year old general education students. Students will be screened for admission to the program. The annual tuition for the program will be \$ 2500.00. Parents will be responsible for transportation. Applications for general education preschoolers may be picked up at Coolidge, Lincoln, Sicomac and Washington Schools. An application form is also available at www.wyckoffschools.org. The deadline for application submission is February 1, 2008.