

Sturgeon Bay Elementary School Sloop

February 2010



The SLOOP is the monthly newsletter for the Sturgeon Bay elementary schools. Please expect future editions to be delivered home one per family on the first "school" Monday of each month by the youngest elementary-aged student in your family. It also can be found on the district's website at www.sturbay.k12.wi.us

Principal: Mrs. Ann Smejkal
746-2815 or asmejkal@sturbay.k12.wi.us

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IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

February 1	Open enrollment period starts
February 1	Pre-school Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 8	Pre-school Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 10	K-5 Early Release (11:00 AM) Teacher In-service in afternoon
February 10	100 th Day of School Activities
February 12	Valentine Parties
February 17	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM at Sturgeon Bay High School Library
February 19	Open enrollment period ends
March 1	Preschool Screening/Registration
March 9	K-5 Early Release (11:00 AM) Teacher In-service in afternoon
March 12	NO School - Teacher's Convention
March 16	PTG Meeting 6:30 PM in Sawyer LMC
March 16	Sawyer School concert - 12:30 PM in the High School Auditorium
March 25	Sunrise School concert - 12:30 PM in the High School Auditorium
March 26	K-5 Early Release (11:00 AM) End of quarter teacher recordkeeping
Mar 29-Apr 2	Spring Break



VALENTINE EXCHANGE

Elementary students will exchange valentines on Friday, February 12. PTG room parents may ask some of you to bring some type of treat or beverage for a short classroom party. Happy Valentine's Day!



MORNING DROP-OFF REMINDER

Parents, please remember that students should arrive on the school playgrounds after 7:20 AM as there is no supervision until that time. If you are dropping a child off to catch the bus to another school please be sure to be there by 7:20 AM as the buses will not wait past the transfer of students from one bus to another. Also, all students are expected to be outside on the playground

until they line up to come into the buildings at 7:40 AM, unless weather warrants the entire student body to be inside. Thanks for reviewing this procedure with your child(ren).



PRESCHOOL SCREENING & REGISTRATION FOR CLASS OF 2010-2011

A free Preschool Screening for children who reside in the Sturgeon Bay School District and will be four years old on or before September 1, 2010, will be held on **Monday, March 1**, at Sunset School Early Learning Center. Your child will participate in a short screening of communication skills, general knowledge, and motor skills conducted by district specialists. A developmental screening by district specialists also will be part of this scheduled appointment. Parents who are on our census list will receive either a screening and registration packet or a preschool registration packet (if they were already screened in October) in the mail the first week of February. If you have not received a packet or know of a new family in the community that has a child eligible, please call the Sunset School Office at 746-5855 for more information.



KINDERGARTEN READINESS

There are children who meet the age requirement for a kindergarten program, but may not be developmentally ready. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child's readiness, please discuss this with a kindergarten teacher, School Counselor Patsy Vollrath or Mrs. Smejkal. Our staff has prepared an informational television program to help you. "Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten?" will be aired on Cable Channel 98 or Digital Channel 990 from February 15 to March 1 on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 10:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM. Each individual child's maturity and readiness is important to consider; some children benefit from the gift of time!



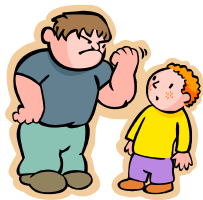
ENROLLMENT FOR 2010-2011

Important information regarding the enrollment of elementary school students for the 2010-2011 school year was sent home in the report card envelopes of elementary students, PS - 5. Please review the information, and complete and return the enrollment form by this Friday, February 5. The information is essential for our use: first, in determining how many sections of each grade will be offered and, second, to make specific teacher and student class assignments. You also were sent a copy of your current emergency card. Review the information and either make the necessary changes or indicate "No change." Your prompt return of both of these items is appreciated.



OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD STARTS

Under the open enrollment law, **February 1-19** is the time period during which families must apply for enrollment to a district other than their district of residency for the 2010-2011 school year. Application forms may be obtained from Kathie Brunette in the District Office, 1230 Michigan Street, beginning February 1. Completed applications must be submitted to Kathie Brunette in the District Office (not at one of the elementary schools) no earlier than 7:30 AM on February 1 and no later than 3:45 PM on February 19, during regular office hours. If your child has already been accepted, you do not need to reapply. Please call Mrs. Brunette at 746-2807 with any questions.



TAKE A STAND, LEND A HAND

Students at Sunrise School are learning to "take a stand and lend a hand" to stop bullying. Through a series of special events during the week of January 11, students and their families learned about bullying and what adults and kids can do to TAKE A STAND and not tolerate bullying and LEND A HAND to prevent it. Students practiced specific techniques with instructors from CLIMB Theatre, spent time playing games and reading with other students, heard special morning announcements made by their schoolmates (at school and on the radio!), enjoyed a family dinner, received t-shirts and participated in a student-led assembly with an inspirational presentation from Tim Pflieger from the Team Leadership Center. Thank you to the following organizations for helping to make the week such a success: Sturgeon Bay PTG, Econo Foods, Door County Service Coalition, Raibrook Foundation, WDOG-the Big Dawg and Team Leadership Center. Students will participate in a variety of activities to reinforce our "Take a Stand, Lend a Hand" program throughout the rest of the school year. Our goal is to have our families, staff and students work together to create a culture at Sunrise School in which bullying becomes a problem of the past.



NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK

March 8-12 is National School Breakfast Week. This year the catch phrase is School Breakfast-**Ready, Set, Go!** We try to concentrate on getting a great start to the day by eating a healthy breakfast.

Once again ballots will be passed out mid-February to each class to choose the student's favorite school breakfast. The winning breakfast from each grade will be featured during the National School Breakfast Week. Our cafeterias will be decorated with the Ready, Set, Go! theme, which poses the question: "What does School Breakfast get you ready for?"

We received a grant for Sunset School, entitling us to provide a free breakfast for all of the kindergartners every day of the Breakfast Week. The parents and siblings of those Sunset students will be invited one day during that week to participate in a free breakfast with their student as well. Breakfast is eaten in the classroom each morning, usually the first thing at the start of the school day.

Participation for breakfast in the classroom in our elementary schools is good, with an average of 56% of students eating at school. Parents, remember that free, as well as reduced price students are eligible to receive a free breakfast. Cost for others is \$1.75, which includes milk, a fruit or juice, and a protein and grain/bread or 2 grains/bread. If you think you may qualify for free or reduced meal status, there are forms available on the school website under the lunch program, or in all the school offices. This information remains confidential.

If you do NOT ever wish your child to get breakfast at school, please contact your child's teacher. **READY, SET GO!!!**



PTG NEWS

(Message from PTG President, Laura Lewens) Our next meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, March 16, in the Sawyer School Library. All parents and teachers are welcome to attend. We will be discussing teacher appreciation week activities, next year's fundraising program and much more. Please continue to save your General Mills Box Tops, Milk Caps, Econo grocery receipts, Our Family UPCs, Tyson A+ Program, Coke Rewards and the Campbell's Soup UPCs. Money raised through these efforts help to support programs and events for our children.

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

February 2010

Sturgeon Bay Elementary Schools
Ann Smejkal, Principal



SHORT NOTES

New kid

Does your youngster's class have a new student? Your child can make him feel welcome by playing with him at recess or sitting together at lunch. If your youngster is the new kid, suggest that he get involved right away. Activities like scouts, band, and chess club can help him make friends.

Number patterns

Build your child's math skills by giving her number patterns to solve. Start simple (2, 4, 6, 8, ?). She should notice that you add 2 each time, so the next number is 10. To make the patterns harder, combine addition and subtraction. *Example:* 2, 7, 6, 11, 10 (the pattern is + 5, - 1). Let her make up patterns for you, too!

Apologies in action

Remind your youngster that it's polite to say "I'm sorry" when he makes a mistake. And it's even better to follow up his apology with an action. If he breaks his sister's toy, he can say, "I'm sorry. I'll try to fix it now."

Worth quoting

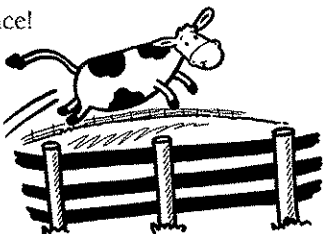
"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

William Butler Yeats

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What runs around a cow pasture but never moves?

A: A fence!

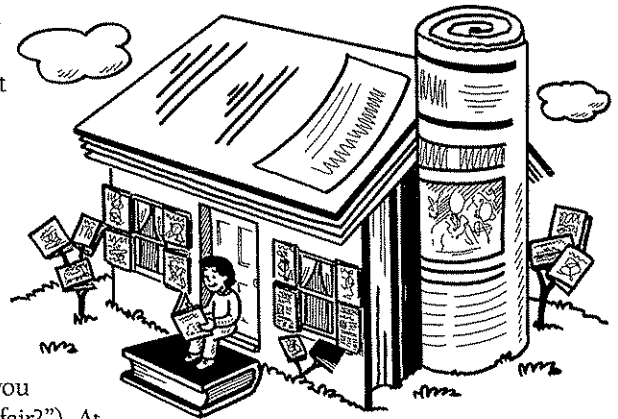


Unlocking nonfiction

From books and magazines to textbooks and newspapers, nonfiction reading is a big part of your child's life. Help her get the most out of her reading with these ideas.

Surround. Leave newspapers, coffee table books, magazines, and how-to books around the house. Ask questions to encourage your youngster to read them ("Did you see the story about the county fair?"). At bedtime, choose nonfiction read-alouds, such as *Insectlopedia* by Douglas Florian. Before you read, say, "Let's see what we can learn about bugs." When you finish, mention something you discovered ("A praying mantis eats bees!"), and ask your child to share a new fact.

Connect. Your youngster can soak up facts more easily by linking them with what she sees. If she's reading about magnets, ask her to explain how your refrigerator magnets work ("Magnets are attracted to iron or nickel, so the refrigerator must contain one of those metals").



If you're visiting out-of-town relatives, take along a guide about the area you're going to.

Expand. Reading the same information in several nonfiction sources can help your child understand a topic better. For a history chapter on ancient civilizations, she might visit the library to check out *Mummies, Pyramids, and Pharaohs* by Gail Gibbons or *Adventures in Ancient Greece* by Linda Bailey. Ask her what information appears in both her textbook and the library books. Encourage her to share new facts with her teacher or class.♥

Show your love

It's important to tell your youngster you love him—and it's also nice to show him. Here are a few good ways:

♥ Set aside time for just the two of you on a weekend. Play board games or visit a park.

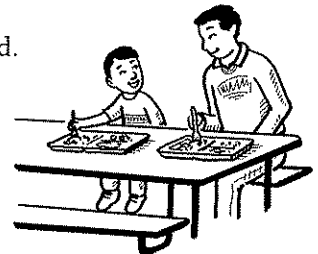
♥ Surprise your child by joining him for lunch at school.

♥ Let him stay up late for a family walk around the block. Warm up afterward with hot cocoa.

♥ Learn to say "I love you" in several languages.

Use a bilingual dictionary or an online translator like www.wordreference.com.

♥ Make your youngster's favorite meal. Or use cookie cutters to shape his pancake or sandwich into a heart.♥

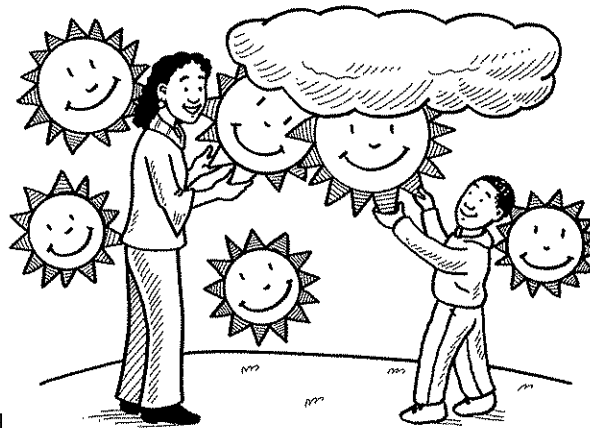


Positive thinking

Look on the bright side! Help your child have an optimistic outlook in life, and he'll do better at bouncing back when things don't go his way. Encourage positive thinking with these ideas.

Set an example

Your youngster will follow your lead when he hears you making the best of a situation. For instance, if you're stuck in traffic, suggest singing songs or playing a word game together. During tough times, find something positive to say ("I know money has been tight, but it has helped us realize what is really important").



Find the silver lining

Teach your child that good things happen even on bad days. When he complains about an argument with a friend or an art project he didn't like, listen to his feelings. Then, help him think of something that made him happy ("I got an A on my spelling quiz").

Imagine the outcome

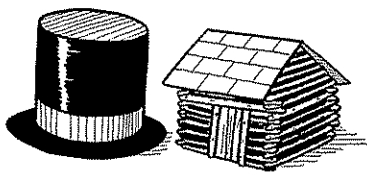
If your youngster is worried, ask him to think of the worst-case scenario ("If I mess up during my report, everyone will laugh"). Then, have him picture what's more likely to happen ("Some people might laugh, but my friends would be nice"). If your youngster thinks realistically about the situation, he will be less apt to worry. ♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Honoring presidents

Two famous presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, were born in February. Your child can celebrate their birthdays with two presidential projects.

Make a monument. Many monuments have been built to honor presidents. Ask your youngster to design her own for a president she has studied. *Examples:* a giant pen for Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence; a rocket ship for John F. Kennedy, who set a goal to go to the moon.



Create a display. Have your child choose a president and think of items to represent his life. For Lincoln, she could include a top hat and a log cabin (built from pretzel rods and peanut butter). For Washington, she might cut out a star for the one he wore as a general and draw the flag of his home state of Virginia. ♥



Q & A

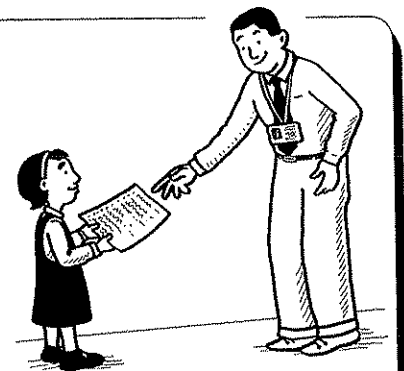
Class assignments

Q: Lately my daughter hasn't been finishing assignments in class, and she has to complete them for homework. What should I do?

A: Talk to your youngster's teacher to find out what may be getting in her way. If she is performing on grade level, she may just need to work more efficiently.

Remind her that it's okay to give her eyes a break occasionally by looking around the room. But she shouldn't let herself get distracted. For example, if she has 10 math problems, she might keep her eyes on the paper until she has finished 5 of them.

Finally, if your daughter does bring classwork home, have her complete it before she visits friends or plays. She'll be more motivated to finish in class if she knows it will cut into her free time at home. ♥

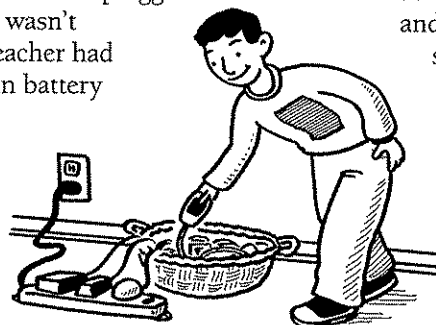


PARENT TO PARENT

Our unplugged household

My son's class has been learning about ways to protect the environment. One day while I was looking for my cell phone charger, Bradley found it plugged in, although my phone wasn't attached. He said his teacher had told him that plugged-in battery chargers use power even when they're not charging anything. That gave him an idea: our family could use less electricity.

So Bradley collected all of our chargers (cell phone, video camera, MP3 player) and put them in a basket next to a power strip. He asked us to unplug chargers when we're not using them and to turn the power strip off if nothing is charging. We're not wasting as much electricity now—and Bradley's already thinking of ways we can save water! ♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU FEBRUARY 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5
Cheerios String Cheese Apple	PB & J Uncrustable Sandwich Banana	Mini Bagel Peanut Butter Graham Gripz 100% Juice Box	Smuckers Maple Flavored Waffle Banana	Kix Cereal Pretzels Oranges
Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 11	Feb 12
Cocoa Puffs Cereal Bar String Cheese Applesauce Cup	Blueberry Muffin Goldfish Cheddar Crackers Grapes	Kellogg's Jumpstart: Apple Jacks Cereal Elf Grahams 100% Apple Juice	Cinnamon Toast Crunch Cereal Bar Trix Yogurt Banana	Golden Grahams Cereal String Cheese Apple
Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19
Kellogg's Jumpstart: Frosted Flakes (reduced sugar) Blueberry Pop Tart 100% Apple Juice	PB & J Uncrustable Sandwich Banana	Corn Flakes String Cheese Grapes	Mini Bagel Cream Cheese String Cheese Oranges	Fruity Cheerios Cereal Bar Goldfish Pretzels Apple
Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26
Cocoa Puff Cereal String Cheese Apple	Kix Cereal Trix Yogurt Banana	Kellogg's Jumpstart: Frosted Mini Wheats Elf Grahams 100% Apple Juice	Blueberry Muffin String Cheese Banana	Smucker's Maple Flavored Waffle Oranges
Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5
Mini Bagel Cream Cheese String Cheese 100% Juice Box	Trix Wholegrain Cereal Bar (1/3 less sugar) Graham Gripz Banana	Cinnamon Toast CrunchCerealSnack String Cheese Grapes	PB & J Uncrustable Sandwich Banana	Cheerios Goldfish Cheddar Crackers Applesauce Cup

2% White Milk is included with each breakfast

ELEMENTARY LUNCH

FEBRUARY 2010

Milk is included with every lunch: 2% white, skim white, and skim chocolate
 Those taking lunch also receive peanut butter and jelly at no extra charge when wheat bread is served.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5
Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Peas & Carrots Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread	Chicken Quesadilla Shredded Lettuce/Salsa Corn Fresh Fruit Tortilla Chips	Popcorn Chicken Lt Ranch /Ketchup Fresh Veggies & Dip Applesauce Cup Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread	Hot Dog on a Bun Tri Tater Rosy Applesauce Fresh Fruit Condiments	Hamburger on Bun Cheese Slice Tater Tots Diced Peaches Fresh Fruit Condiments
Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 11	Feb 12
Chicken and Gravy Mashed Potatoes Cranberries Steamed Carrots Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread	Turkey & Cheese Wrap Shredded Lettuce Tater Tots Baby Carrots Flour Tortilla&Tortilla Chips Condiments	1/2DAY NO LUNCH SERVED	Chicken Nuggets BBQ Sauce/Ketchup Au Gratin Potatoes Green Beans Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Lettuce Salad Lt Ranch & Lt French Diced Pears /Fresh Fruit Breadstick Valentine Cookie
Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19
Cheese & Sausage Pizza Shredded Lettuce Lt. Ranch/Lt. French Fresh Veggies & Dip Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread	Hamburger on Bun Cheese Slice Tater Tots Steamed Carrots Fresh Fruit Condiments	Breaded Fish Nuggets Au Gratin Potatoes Cole Slaw Baby Carrots Ketchup/Tarter Sauce Wheat Bread	Chicken Patty on a Bun Seasoned Potatoes Mixed Fruit Corn Condiments	French Toast Sticks Cheese Omelet Tri Tater Strawberries Fresh Fruit Syrup
Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26
Chili with Pasta Shredded Cheese Fresh Veggies & Dip Diced Peaches Fresh Fruit Saltines	Hot Dog on a Bun Tater Tots Baked Beans Fresh Fruit Condiments	Tacos Lettuce---Cheese Tomatoes----Salsa Corn Applesauce cup Flour Tortillas	Hot Ham & Cheese /Bun Potato Wedges Rosy Applesauce Green Beans Condiments	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Fresh Veggies & Dip Fresh Fruit Tortilla Chips Saltines
Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5
Chicken Nuggets BBQ Sauce/Ketchup Au Gratin Potatoes Green Beans Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread	Pizza Casserole Lettuce Salad Lt Ranch & Lt French Corn Fresh Fruit Garlic Toast	Ham & Cheese Wrap Shredded Lettuce Pasta Salad Applesauce Cup Fresh Fruit Condiments	Mini Corn Dogs Scalloped Potatoes Steamed Carrots Rosy Applesauce Wheat Bread Ketchup	Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Lt Ranch/Lt French Diced Pears Fresh Fruit Wheat Bread