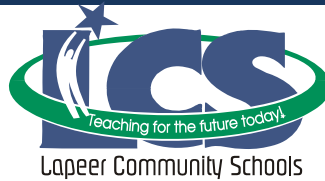


Murphy Elementary Newsletter

1100 Pratt Rd
Metamora MI 48455
Phone: (810) 538-2345
Fax: (810) 538-2346



Scott Warren, Principal
Laura Van Y, Dean of Students
Jerri DePuy, Secretary



TALENT SHOW

The Murphy Talent Show is scheduled for May 10th in the evening at Lapeer East auditorium. Stay tuned for more details to follow.

EMERGENCY CARD UPDATE

Please remember, if your cell phone, home phone or your work has changed, be sure to let the office know so that we may update your records.

The office has made telephone calls to cell phones and home telephones, only to be told they have been disconnected.

This is very important when we need to get in touch with parents right away.

REPORT CARDS

The end of the 2nd Trimester is fast approaching! Report cards will be **sent home with students** on Thursday, March 21th.

They will come home in an envelope. The parents will review and keep the report card. Please sign the envelope and then return the envelope to the teacher.

Third trimester report cards will be **mailed home** to the parents using this same envelope.

LCS to Make Up Canceled School Days

LCS to make up canceled school days in excess of six. Visit LapeerSchools.org for more information.

In the coming months, students and staff of Lapeer Community Schools will make up canceled school days in order to receive full state funding.

Public school districts across the state receive six "forgiven" days to account for necessary school closures due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, especially inclement weather. The two days in December during which many districts across mid-Michigan closed due to rumors of security threats are included in the count. Currently all LCS schools except Turrill Elementary must make-up two days at the end of the school year in order to receive full state funding.

"Unfortunately, we've experienced an inordinate number of cancellations this year due to circumstances outside our control," said LCS Superintendent Matt Wandrie. "In this district we will always err on the side of student safety, even if it means extending our academic year a few days."

The new year-end date for all schools except Turrill and Murphy, who has an extra day due to no electricity, will be Monday, June 17, 2013. Murphy's last day will be Tuesday, June 18th. If any more additional days are canceled, days will be added to these dates.

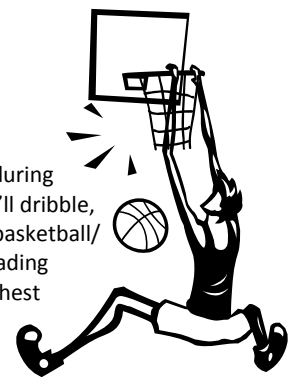
Turrill, our year-round elementary school, operates on a balanced academic calendar with a shorter summer and more frequent breaks than the traditional calendar. In this case, the canceled days will be made up on March 15 and May 3, days previously scheduled as off days.



March is Reading Month!

Game On! Murphy students will be taking it to the hoop to enjoy some great reading during the month of March! Every year, we celebrate reading during March, and this year we'll dribble, pass, shoot and score as we give in to March (Reading) Madness – our own version of basketball/reading fever! Our students will have the opportunity to participate in an At-Home Reading Challenge during March, tracking the time spent reading to rack up minutes for the highest team score! We'll celebrate reading with our entire families on Family Reading Night, which will be held at Murphy Elementary on Tuesday, March 26 from 5:30 – 7:30.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a great evening! Please watch for more information regarding our Reading Month festivities, and remember, at Murphy, *Reading is a Slam Dunk!*



Teacher Requests



Class assignments for the 2013-2014 school year will be tentatively made in the spring. Many considerations go into these placement decisions. Parents sometimes have preferences of the teachers that they want for their children. While it is not always possible to accommodate all such preferences, we will consider parents' written requests as placement decisions are made.

A Student Placement Request form can be picked up in the office that needs to be filled out. To insure that your requests are available to us when we make these decisions, we ask that all placement requests be submitted by May 16, 2013.

FOURTH/FIFTH GRADE DANCE

Murphy Student Council members are in the beginning stages of planning a dance for the fourth and fifth graders. The dance is being planned for Thursday, March 28th immediately after school for an hour. More information will be sent home as soon as it is available.



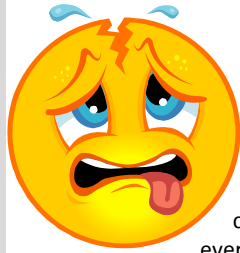
JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Collection envelopes are due on Friday, March 8th. Students should see Mr. Baginski if they have questions.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Murphy Elementary School Presents our 12th Annual Murphy Golf Scramble Saturday, June 1st, 2013 at Metamora Golf & Country Club, Metamora MI 48455. Watch for more information to come home! We are looking for golf teams & sponsors! Help is needed for this event to take place. If you are interested in becoming part of the golf committee, please contact Jerri Deputy in the office.



Morning Headache!

If you are one of our parents who drive your child(ren) to school every morning, you have likely experienced our traffic flow headache! Because we don't have the option of putting in another driveway, we need to all work together to help traffic flow as smoothly as possible, while still getting the students into the building in a safe and timely manner.

Here are a few ideas/suggestions we're asking every family to try.

- Be sure your child is ready to get out of the vehicle when you stop. They should have their coat on and back pack near them, if possible. If you need to stop and get out of the vehicle to help your child, then we would encourage you to pull into a parking spot in the lot.
- Please pull forward as far as possible before you let your child get out of the vehicle. If we could get everyone to pull up to the far west end of the sidewalk towards the end of the gym, before you let your child out then that will gain several stopping slots for us and it should help alleviate the backup of vehicles onto Pratt Rd.
- A reminder that the bus loop **is for buses only**. The buses do not all come in at the same time every morning so we need to keep that loop open for them. It's a hectic time of day for all of us and we all need to work together to make it as easy as possible for everyone.

Help Us and Sign the Pledge!

On December 19, 2012, Mrs. Duncan's third grade class set up a *Buy Michigan* booth at lunchtime for the 2nd-5th graders at school. As part of a social studies project on Michigan's economy, they set up a display of a variety of Michigan made products and handed out samples of Michigan made potato chips made by *The Great Lakes Potato Chip Co.* They then asked students to sign the pledge below:



I pledge to play an active role in building a strong, vibrant, and diverse Michigan economy. I will be a part of the solution by speaking positively about the state, learning about our products and services, and making a concerted effort to buy from Michigan businesses. I will Think Michigan First!

In all, they collected 121 student pledges and we'd like more! Help us in our **PLEDGE COLLECTION DRIVE** by visiting this site: http://www.buymichigannow.com/pledge.php?action=take_the_pledge.

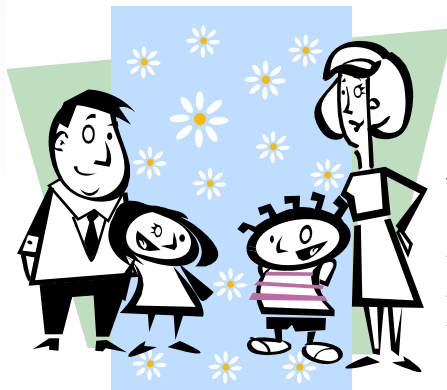
Join us in our efforts to support buying locally! Encourage your friends and family to sign the pledge, too! If we can help them reach their goal of 10,000 pledges, we can help prevent one Michigan business from moving elsewhere.

RAT Race

Despite two of our collection days not happening due to school cancellations, we still managed to have a great response to our RAT Race competition. Mrs. Withey's class won the competition with a total of 1630 donations of pop cans, bottles, receipts and cash donations. Our overall total for the whole school added up to \$865. This money will be used to support our literacy programs. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to come in and supervise the collection and took the bottles back to the stores for us! You are greatly appreciated!



Congratulations to Parker Duncan for his winning design for the RAT race t-shirt.



Let's Dance!

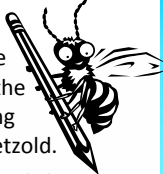
17th Annual Mother/Son & Daddy/Daughter Dance

Join us for a fun filled evening of dancing in the Murphy school gym. Dance tickets are \$7.00 each. Tickets include D.J. music, dancing, refreshments and one FREE 4x5 photo per couple. Tickets will go on sale the week of April 8th. The Mother/Son dance is scheduled for Friday, April 26th and the Daddy/Daughter dance is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th.

More information will be coming home soon!

CONGRATULATIONS!

We would like to congratulate the winner of the Murphy Spelling Bee, Ireland Betzold.



The winning word she spelled was GARMEN. She will now go on to compete in the Lapeer County Spelling Bee. Good Luck Ireland.

We would also like to thank our judges for helping out, Pat Wright, Greg Koski and Mrs. Van Y.

JOIN US AT THE ROUND-UP



LCS Kindergarten & Early Fives

The program is for all children who will be 5 years old on or before November 1st of this year.* The program will be full-day Kindergarten held five days a week.

When/Where

Tuesday, March 26 OR Wednesday, March 27
1 PM - 7 PM on both days

Lapeer Community Schools
Administration and Services Center
(250 Second Street in Lapeer)

Parents Please Bring:

1. Your Child
2. Your Child's Original Birth Certificate
3. Your Child's Certified Immunization Record
4. 2 Proofs of residency (Picture ID & either utility bill, lease agreement, etc.)
5. Your work phone numbers and emergency contact names and phone numbers.

Questions??? Call (810) 667-2401

*State law has recently changed the kindergarten birthdate requirement. For waiver information for children with November 2nd - December 1st birthdays please contact (810) 667-2401 or join us at round up. Waivers must be completed by June 1st for students to enroll for the upcoming school year.



Save time at Round Up!

Enrollment form available online at www.lapeerschools.org

Preschool Programs

LCS Tuition Based Preschool

A tuition based preschool program for 3 and 4 year olds.

Head Start

A federally funded preschool program for children 3-5 years of age meeting qualifying factors, including children with disabilities.

Great Start Readiness Program

A state funded preschool program for 4 year olds meeting qualifying factors.

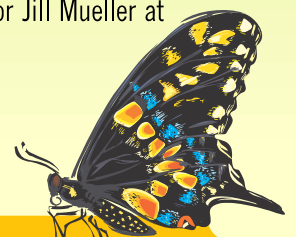
Questions?

About Head Start?

Call Jane Hoover (810) 245-1206 or Teresa Gorsuch (810) 245-6065

About GSRP, LCS Preschool, or any other Kids and Company Program?

Call Melanie Berry or Jill Mueller at (810) 667-2454



Visit the Butterfly Tent At Kindergarten Round Up!



BOOK DRIVE

Everyone knows that Murphy students love books! Let's get the books you have sitting around at home into the hands of some new readers.

Murphy Elementary will be collecting new and gently used books during the week of March 18 – March 25. The books collected will be used to expand teachers' classroom libraries and supply the book swap. Remaining books will be donated to the Family Literacy Center.

More details will be coming to you soon. Start sorting your books now and our book drive will be a huge success!

March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Bear Fair Ends	5 Piston reading Assembly—Gym 2:15 Student Council 3pm-4pm	6 Jump rope for Heart World Read Aloud Day	7 Jump rope for Heart 2nd Grade Bake Sale	8 Jump rope for Heart 2nd Grade to Longway Planetarium 9 am-2 pm	9
10	11	12 5th Grade presentation for 6th Grade 8:15 am-9 am	13 PTC Meeting 8:15 am	14 End of 2nd Trimester	15 NO SCHOOL	16
17	18	19 Building Council 8:45 am Popcorn sale Student Council 3pm-4pm	20	21 Report Cards home 3rd Grade Back Sale	22 Latsa Pasta 4:30 pm-7 :30 pm	23 Basketball game with the Lions and Administration 7 pm at Lapeer East
24	25	26 Family Reading Night 3rd Grade Science Fair 1st Grade Poetry Night in Library 5:30 -7:30 pm Kindergarten Roundup 1 pm-7 pm	27 Kindergarten Roundup 1 pm-7 pm	28 4th and 5th Grade Student council Dance 3 pm-4 pm	29 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK BEGINS through APRIL 5th	30
31 Easter						

MURPHY ELEMENTARY

PTC HAPPENINGS

February 2013

Chris Cakes Kudos! A special shout out to Girl Scout Troop 13356 and their leader Karla for helping out at our event! Their assistance was greatly appreciated. We had many parent volunteers as well including new families to Murphy – we can't do these events without the parent volunteers so many thanks to them as well. We had 379 people through the doors. Our 50/50 winner was Casey Aragon. And a BIG thanks to the Dennis family for donating 5 large vinyl signs that we can now use year over year for this event.



Lotsa Pasta is coming up soon! Mark your Calendars – March 22 from 4:30 – 7:30. We are looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of it – from set up and serving through clean up. This is a big event for the PTC and it takes a big group of people to work it so that we don't have a few giving all their time. With many volunteers we end up having people only working short shifts. If you are interested in helping, please contact **Kim Dundas - kahdundas@gmail.com -- 810-664-1001.**

***** **Free Money for the PTC and Murphy** *****

The following activities raise money for the PTC and hence the teachers and school. These are not out of pocket to the parents but can really add up. Please read below to remind you of ways to contribute which will cost you no extra money. Ya gotta like that! ☺



Collecting Box Tops and Campbells Soup Labels! These are a very effective way to get money and supplies into your children's classrooms and do not require any money out of pocket from you.



Amazon.com

This is a no-brainer! The only catch is that you **MUST** start your Amazon shopping at the special Murphy link – go to www.lapeerschools.org/murphy, then click on the Amazon link at the bottom of the page. Murphy PTC receives money based on total purchases. There is no personal information shared with us regarding what you purchased. You can even use the school link to purchase books for Kindle readers too, **EVEN FREE** books count as items purchased!!



Are you a CocaCola product drinker? Then collect the bottle caps and enter the points for Murphy School. You can select the school to donate to.

The Next PTC meeting is March 13th at 8:15 in the library.

Murphy Elementary PTC is on Facebook. **“Like” us on Facebook** to get the scoop on our events.



Feel free to contact the PTC board at any time. PTC Contact Information: President – Missy Olejniczak, misolejniczak@yahoo.com
Vice-President – Kim Dundas, kdundas@sbcglobal.net, Treasurer – Kathryn Dennis, kathden@gmail.com, Secretary – Debbie Martinez, debbielexi@yahoo.com, Communications Liaison – Robin Buchanan, mibigbird@yahoo.com

LOTZA PASTA NIGHT

FRIDAY

MARCH 22ND

4:30 - 7:30PM

AT

MURPHY ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL

(PRATT RD.)

DRIVE-UP CARRY OUT
AVAILABLE!

PRE-PAY

KIDS 5\$ ADULTS 7\$

TICKETS AT THE DOOR

KIDS 7\$ ADULTS 9\$

*KIDS 3 AND UNDER FREE

50/50 DRAWING

FEATURING ITALIA GARDENS
OF DAVISON

DINNER MENU:
MOSTACCIOLI
(BUTTERED, MARINARA
OR MEAT SAUCE)
SALAD
BREAD
BEVERAGE
DESSERT

COME AND SUPPORT
THE STUDENTS OF
MURPHY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

MISSY OLEJNICZAK 810-678-3737

KIM DUNDAS

586-915-2294

