

# Murphy Elementary Newsletter

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Jeff Stanton, Principal  
Laura Van Y, Dean of Students  
Jerri DePuy, Secretary



## Mark your Calendar!

- It is not too early to start thinking golf! Watch for more information to come home on our Annual Murphy Golf Outing. It will be Saturday, June 2nd. We will be looking for teams, sponsors and volunteers. It's a great day of fun!
- Our Mother-Son & Daddy-Daughter Dances will be April 24th & 25th. Watch for more details coming in the next newsletter.

## Thank You!

Murphy Staff would like to thank all the organizations and individuals for their generosity during the holiday season. Many of our families received gift cards, presents for under the tree and food to help with their holiday meals.

## Lost and Found

There are many items in the lost and found. Please stop in or encourage your child to check and see if anything looks familiar.

## LINKS Sucker Sale

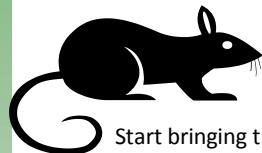
LINKS is having a sucker sale on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for end-of-the-year activities. Each sucker will cost \$1.00. Thank you for your support!

## Scheduling & Information Night

### Rolland-Warner Scheduling and Information Night, for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders

5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be getting a visit from Rolland-Warner councilors on February 19<sup>th</sup> during the school day. They will hand out scheduling information to the kids.

Thursday, February 26, 2015, from 6pm to 7:30pm, there will be a meeting at Rolland-Warner for parents and students to answer any questions. There will also be a question and answer night at Murphy in the library on Friday, February 27, 2015, from 3pm to 4pm.



## The RAT RACE is Here!

Start bringing those cans and bottles in!! For those of you who have no idea what the RAT RACE is, the explanation is simple: Every year, Murphy students send in all their returnable cans and plastic bottles they've been saving and use the money to support technology for our school. It's a competition for Murphy students. They just need cans and bottles to power them up.

The rats started Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> and runs through Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> (this includes Super Bowl Sunday on February 1<sup>st</sup>.) Children bring in returnables to their classrooms. They are counted daily and do a grand total at the end of the week.

If you choose, you can take the cans/bottles back to the store yourself and then send in the bottle receipt to be counted. **We will accept receipts through February 6<sup>th</sup> to give parents time to take bottles and cans back from the big Super Bowl parties.** You can also make a one time, maximum cash donation of \$10 per student in place of bringing in returnables. We ask that the cans & plastic bottles be rinsed. Alcoholic beverage cans will also be accepted this year as long as they are rinsed. Please no glass containers.

The competition is between all the classrooms at school. At the end of the competition, the overall winning class (bringing in the largest amount of cans/bottles for the week) will receive a special prize.

## BOGO Book Fair

### Buy One Get One Free Book Fair coming to Murphy in May 2015

Tentative dates and times to buy books are as follows:

- Friday, May 1 — 8am-4pm
- Monday, May 4 — 8am-4pm
- Tuesday, May 5 — 8am-4pm
- Wednesday, May 6 — 8am-4pm
- Thursday, May 7 — 8am-4pm
- Friday, May 8 — 8am-10am

## Ready to Spell

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade are gearing up and practicing for the annual Spelling Bee. This event is designed to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts and develop correct English usage.

Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, contestants will square off in the Murphy gym. Fourth graders are invited to watch, as are parents of the contestants.

The top two winners will go on to participate in the county-wide bee.



## Title 1 Corner

(Brought to you by Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado, and LD OnLine)

### A Fresh Look at Your Home Library

The New Year is a great time to take a fresh look at your home library. Having interesting things to read at home is a great way to keep kids motivated.

At right are a few questions to ask yourself about your home library. Some simple changes on your part can help you create an amazing home library, and help your young reader start this New Year on the right reading foot!

*Take the time this New Year to consider your home library. Your reader will be glad you did!*

*For a quick guide to choosing good informational books for young kids, see this article:*

[www.ReadingRockets.org/article/26050](http://www.ReadingRockets.org/article/26050)

*And for more information on creating a literacy-rich home, visit our section on children's books:*

[www.ReadingRockets.org/article/c435](http://www.ReadingRockets.org/article/c435)

### Does your home library offer...?

- A variety of books? Kids love to read all sorts of materials, including books, magazines, newspapers, and poems. Consider including travel brochures, street maps, and programs from school plays.
- Books written at a variety of reading levels? It's important to have some books that are easy for your child to read, but it's also good to have some that can be read most successfully with an adult. This balance enables your child to feel confident with some books, and grow as a reader with others.
- Some method of organization? Sometimes grouping books by topic or series helps your child find other books they might like to read. Grouping books using book baskets also help kids find a book more easily than a crowded shelf.
- Lots of nonfiction material? Even the youngest readers love to read about real places and things. These materials often include photographs, maps and charts full of interesting information.
- Lots of choice? Find creative ways to add books to your library. Playgroup book swaps, yard sales, and used book stores all offer affordable ways to add to your collection.

## Students are Jumping to Save Lives!!

### March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> during P.E. Class

Dear Parent/Guardian:

**On March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> during PE classes**, our school is holding its annual **Jump Rope For Heart** to help the **American Heart Association**. All students will be having fun jumping rope & doing other heart-healthy activities.

While encouraging community service, it is also an **educational program**. Messages of staying tobacco free, eating right and exercising as a lifestyle choice are reinforced while the students raise dollars critical to the development of life-saving research.

Unfortunately, heart disease and stroke are the No. 1 and No. 3 killers in America today. **Do you know someone who has been affected by heart disease, stroke, or other heart related illnesses? Or perhaps someone who has benefited from the research funded by the American Heart Association?**

Family and friends are welcome to support your child's volunteer efforts by making contributions. Your student will be given a collection envelope for that purpose. **Checks for all donations** should be made payable to the **American Heart Association** and submitted by **March 6<sup>th</sup>**. As a 501© status non-profit organization, donations are tax deductible. We are asking the students to ask for their parents help collecting donations. Please help them think of trusted adults that they can ask to support their school's Jump Rope for Heart program and the American Heart Association. We do not support children going door to door!

Your child can **even** raise funds on-line! *Step by step instructions about our **simple** on-line donation program are provided on the envelope.*

Those who collect donations can receive thank you gifts shown on the envelope based on the amount of money they raised. Our school also has the chance to earn **free physical education equipment** to help keep the students active!!

If your employer has a **matching gift program**, please indicate the matched amounts on the collection envelope and include the completed form provided by your employer or HR Department. The American Heart Association will take care of the rest.

Please support our event and this worthwhile community service project

Sincerely,  
Mr. Baginski, Physical Education Teacher



# Successful Skills Honor Roll – Trimester 1

## Mrs. Hayes

### 3rd Grade

- Briana Belanger
- Hannah Dennis
- Nicholas Dennis
- Darby Fales
- Ginger Grzyb
- Briana Hearit
- Alexander Makela
- Christian Marra
- Essa Mashni
- Nickola Mashni
- Logann Michals
- Jordan Owens
- Alexandra Shepherd
- Raiden Smith
- Connor Stiff
- Gabriel Warnke
- Zachary Yens

## Mrs. Chouinard

### 3rd Grade

- Halle Baldwin
- Kaden Capstick
- Robert Chenhalls
- Kyle Chouinard
- Ryan Clark
- Scott Lake
- Evangeline LeClaire
- Brandon Li

- Kamryn Loomis
- Sophia Mazur-Batistoni
- Sephora Miller
- Shay Mullaney
- Luke O'Donnell
- Zakery Olejniczak
- Olivia Pachucki
- Elle RaCosta
- Shane Ross
- Logan Woollard
- Michael Davis
- Brian Donovan
- Brett Fletcher
- Lukas Hart
- Mia Hobbins
- Brandy Hurley
- Brenden Keahl
- Jacob LaBar
- Sydney Rodriguez
- Esmeralda Sanchez
- Ava Satkowski
- Lily Williams

## Ms. James

### 3rd Grade

- Alexis Barrett-Kurek
- Fiona Betzold
- Robert Dusten
- Sylvia Herrera
- Josie Jacob
- Lydia McClain
- Nevaeh Moshier
- Alaina Przekora
- Owen Roberts
- Samantha Rogers
- Joseph Voss
- Elijah Weber
- Charleah Whipple

## Ms. Steele

### 4th Grade

- Nathan Bergstrom
- Andrew Campbell

## Mrs. Withey

### 4th Grade

- Kasie Beard
- Kaitlyn Buchanan
- Nicholas Champane
- Emily Duncan
- Carter Dundas
- Ryan Garwolds
- Ellamae Gilling
- Henry Kalisz
- Lexi Martinez
- Allyson McNulty
- Sydney Meister
- Julia Osentoski
- Michaela Ray
- Lilly Sauve
- Sophia Smith

- Kelsey Smith
- Bryson Stewart

## Mrs. McCreedy

### 4th Grade

- Kaeleigh Fletemier
- Sylvia Gajewski
- Gabriella Mirza
- Madison Muller
- Kendrik Schneider
- Collin Skindell
- Michael Steffler

## Mrs. McCreedy

### 5th Grade

- Hayden Baldwin
- Lindsay Campbell
- Jade Caron
- Melissa Herrera
- Simeon Kirk
- Colin Preston
- Megan Ragge
- Alicia Rowley
- Ashtyn Salayko
- Nicholas Staley
- Jeremy Williams
- Michael Williams

## Mrs. Nugent

### 5th Grade

- Kayden Appleton
- Lauren Aragonas

- Marlie Fletcher
- Cameron Fritz
- Coral Grzyb
- Caleb Jarvis
- Makenna Lange
- Gwyneth Lee
- Ryann Makowski
- Avery Parsons
- Kaylee Smith

## Mrs. Phillips/Mrs. Homer

### 5th Grade

- Peyton Ballard-McCrandall
- Emily Chouinard
- Nathan Curry
- Daniel Curry
- Aurora Dwight
- Paige Erla
- Delaney Granger
- Jamie Hayden
- Alyson Jacob
- Gabrielle Keahl
- Morgan Lange
- Alyvia Li
- Constance Lord
- Paige Meister
- Colin Mullaney
- James Pachucki
- David Satkowski



## Join us Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>!!!

A workshop designed to share kindergarten expectations and provide materials to support parents as they prepare their child for Kindergarten.

**Bring your child and experience Kindergarten Readiness activities together.**

A positive first school experience is an important step to building a life-long love of learning and a great relationship with school. In this workshop, participants will learn about the essential academic and social skills needed to support a child's beginning school experience. Sara Taylor, a LCS district learning coach, and Ann Robb a LCS kindergarten teacher, will share parent guides and tips to help children with kindergarten transitions.

**Who:** Parents and Caretakers of 3-5 year olds

**When:** Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 5pm-6pm

**Where:** Schickler — Kdg. Room, 2020 Oregon Rd, Lapeer

Please RSVP to Lapeer Community Schools Administration Building (250 Second St, Lapeer MI 48446) by Monday, February 23rd, 2015.

**Questions?** Call 810-538-1644, or e-mail [staylor@lapeerschools.org](mailto:staylor@lapeerschools.org)

**I/We will attend the 5pm-6pm workshop on Tuesday, February 24th, 2015**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone #**

**Please note:** Kindergarten Registration for LCS will take place at Round-Up on March 24th & 26th, 2015.



# MURPHY ELEMENTARY

## PTC HAPPENINGS

### January Flashback

No events are planned for January with the PTC, we let the holidays wind down and plan the remaining events of the year. We did, however, have a meeting for which we had a “class with the most parents in attendance wins...” contest for some hot chocolate! We had a nice turnout of parents so thank you to those who were able to attend. There was a TIE for the winning classroom between Mrs. Withey and Mrs. Gardner! The PTC will be serving up hot cocoa with marshmallows to these classrooms in early February!

**What has the PTC has done lately?** While most of the money that the PTC raises goes towards things that tend to be taken for granted (bussing, supplies and publications), we also fund miscellaneous things that come up throughout the school year. At January’s PTC meeting, we voted to purchase headphones for the iPad’s that the kids use at school. The iPad’s are such an asset to learning however, as you can imagine, with a classroom full of them going at once, it can get distracting. The headphones will allow the kids to be able to focus on their own iPad activity without hearing their neighbors.

### February Preview & News

**The next PTC meeting** will be on Wednesday, February 18th at 8:30 am in the library.

**Chris Cakes** is THIS MONTH ☺☺☺ Mark your calendars and plan to attend this crazy event. Pancakes literally fly through the air! Join us on **Friday, February 27** between 4:30 and 7:30. It’s only \$5 for all you can eat! Bring your appetite..... We are looking for volunteers to help out with the event. If you can spare a few hours to help with set up, clean up or manning the sausage, syrup and beverage station, take money at the door or perform table clean up during the event, please let Holly Grzyb - hollymgrzyb@gmail.com know. We are looking for someone to coordinate this event – work with the Chris Cakes guys to finalize, set up the volunteers, if you can do that (we’ll help you out – don’t worry) – raise your hand!



### Crafters



### Day

**Murphy Crafters Day** is right around the corner – March 21 from 9am – 9pm. You should have received a flyer in your child’s backpack, but if it mysteriously disappeared, shoot us an email at [murphy\\_ptc@yahoo.com](mailto:murphy_ptc@yahoo.com) and we’ll hook you up with a sign up sheet. This event is for anyone who wants a day to themselves to work on their craft whether that craft is painting, sewing, knitting, card making, scrapbooking or whatever. Got a project you just want to get done and need some “me” time? This is the event for you! We will need a few volunteers for this event as well for set up, clean up and meal/snack serving throughout the day. We’ll even give you ½ off the regular \$40 admission price if you want to do your craft and help (i.e. you will get a seat for the event). Email Robin Buchanan ([mibigbird@yahoo.com](mailto:mibigbird@yahoo.com)) if you are interested.

**It's Shocking** what's coming to Murphy this spring! You've heard of flamingo's showing up in mass in people's yards??? Well, we've got LIGHTNING BOLTS! You can choose to shock someone by loading up their lawn with these little beauties! Stay tuned for more details! If you are interested in being on the "Murphy Shock" team (the ones who will be putting said lightning bolts on lawns), please let us know! This will be a fun, fun, fun event!!!! Thank you, thank you to Holly Grzyb's husband, Terry, for manufacturing all of the lightning bolts. We got to see them at the last PTC meeting and they are truly A\*W\*E\*S\*O\*M\*E!!!



The PTC has an easy to remember **email address!** [MURPHY\\_PTC@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MURPHY_PTC@YAHOO.COM) Please feel free to use it at any time to email us questions or comments. Our meeting minutes, newsletters and general messages will be coming out from this email address so add us to your list!

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

Some things that the PTC sponsors that we do not ask for a ton of volunteers for but yet yields serious results is the collecting and turning in of labels, boxtops and bottlecaps. Please read below for the items we do collect. You'd be amazed at how much money these bring in for very little effort. We thank our volunteers – Jennifer Meister and April Lebar who collect, trim and bundle or enter these!

**Juice Pouch Brigade** – Don't forget that we collect empty juice pouches. So help us help the environment and turn them in. Please try to make sure the pouches are clean on the outside, empty on the inside and leave the straw in (this prevents that little bit of juice that usually remains in the bottom from leaking out).



**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. Box tops go directly to your child's teacher. Campbell's soup money is pooled together and then used to purchase additional supplies.



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

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 – Holly Grzyb, [hollymgrzyb@gmail.com](mailto:hollymgrzyb@gmail.com) Vice-President – Dawn Ray, [raydawn4@aol.com](mailto:raydawn4@aol.com), Treasurer – Crystal Paton, [drakecrystal22@yahoo.com](mailto:drakecrystal22@yahoo.com), Secretary – Debbie Martinez, [debbielexi@yahoo.com](mailto:debbielexi@yahoo.com), Communications Liaison – Robin Buchanan, [mibigbird@yahoo.com](mailto:mibigbird@yahoo.com)