

Murphy Elementary Newsletter

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



Mark your Calendar!

☑ Murphy Talent Show

Tryouts are March 9, March 16 & March 23. These are all Mondays right after school. Sign up for a tryout slot in the tech lab.

The show is May 15th at 6pm at the Lapeer High School auditorium.

☑ Murphy Golf Outing

Murphy Golf Outing is Saturday, May 30, at the Metamora Golf Club. Tee off time is 8am. Registration forms are now available for golfers and sponsors.

☑ Fine Arts Open House

Please join us for an amazing upcoming event on May 19 as Murphy presents our Spring Fine Arts open house 5-7pm. The music and art department open house will be at 5-7pm and will feature musical performances from Mrs. Pake, Mrs. Dodson and Mrs. Gardiner classes who will present a performance of Seussical Jr.

The art department will be showcasing the students' art work all around the building! Look for more information and details very soon!!

2015 Murphy Spelling Bee

On behalf of the Murphy Staff, we are very proud of our fifth graders who participated in the Spelling Bee this year. It was obvious the students studied hard for this event. In the end, Andy Dulin became our first place champion! He will go on to represent Murphy Elementary at the Lapeer County Spelling Bee on March 18th at Rolland Warner Middle School. Our second place winner was Emily Chouinard. She will act as an alternate if need be. The third place honors go to Jeremy Williams. Thank you for an exciting competition spellers!

We would also like to say a special thank you to Mrs. Duncan for being our pronouncer this year and Mr. Hutton for taking care of furniture set up and equipment needs. Thank you Mrs. Simion, Mrs. Jordan and Mr. Nugent for volunteering their time to be our Spelling Bee judges.

Spelling Bee participants: Kayden Appleton, Nathan Curry, Delaney Granger, Shelby Hudson, Simeon Kirk, Alivia Li, Paige Meister, Caleb Moran, Harley Moran, Colin Mullaney, Brandon Opalewski, Josh Plummer, Cole Stevens, Jasper Stonehouse, Michael Williams.



Left to right

Jeremy Williams (Third Place)
Andy Dulin (First Place)
Emily Chouinard (Second Place)



READ ON!

Murphy students will be **READING LIKE ROCK STARS** as we gear up for March is Reading Month. Every year, we celebrate reading during March, and this year our playlist is long and loaded with fun! Our students will have the opportunity to participate in an *At-Home Reading Challenge* during the month, tracking the time spent reading to rack up minutes for the classroom challenge. We will host Michigan author Buffy Silverman on March 10th. She will share her love of both science and writing with every Murphy student. Parents are invited to attend an evening author event at Murphy from 5:30-6:30pm. We'll celebrate reading with our entire families on *Family Reading Night*, which will be held at Murphy Elementary on Tuesday, March 24 from 5:30-7:30pm. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for some great fun next month! Please watch for more information regarding our Reading Month festivities, and remember, at Murphy Elementary, **reading rocks!**

Welcome Author Buffy Silverman!

Michigan author, Buffy Silverman, is visiting Murphy Elementary on March 10th.

She will talk to Murphy students about two of her favorite subjects: science and writing. Buffy will help students discover that they are *all* nonfiction writers and that "nonfiction rocks!" Ms. Silverman has written more than 60 books and over one hundred articles, stories, and poems for magazines and educational publishers. An evening presentation has also been made available for parents *and* school age children.

Please save the date to attend this author presentation at Murphy Elementary on March 10th from 5:30-6:30 pm. Ice cream will be served and books will also be available for purchase and signing after the event.



100th Day of School

Murphy 1st and 2nd graders had fun dressing like they were 100 years old on the 100th day of school. The classes moved from room to room participating in many activities. Each child had to bring in 100 items to work with. The teachers also got in on the fun.



Jump Rope for Heart

During the first week of March, all students will be participating in Jump Rope For Heart in P.E. class. Students have the opportunity to collect funds for the American Heart Association. If funds are collected, they are due to school by **March 6th**.

The first thank you gift is splatter duck, which is obtained by the first \$5 collected and returning the duck coupon. The remainder of the thank you gifts will be ordered at the conclusion of the event in early March. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Baginski at kbaginski@lapeerschools.org



5th Grade Band Concert

The Murphy 5th Grade band had their first performance on February 12th at Lapeer High School. The students performed a variety of pieces including a special performance of "Let's Go Band" along with the high school jazz band.

Great job band!



Murphy's Second Annual Science Olympiad

Murphy's Second Annual Science Olympiad was a great success and a lot of fun! ***Many, many thanks to everyone who helped with the event!*** Thank you to all the career volunteers who headed up each room - Officer Setter and Officer Miller from the Metamora Police Department, For Mar Nature Preserve, Mr. Wohlschlegel from Lapeer High School, and Mr. Boxey from Sky Warn; the Chimeras Robotics Team; our photographer April LaBar and all the parents, NJHS, and NHS members who volunteered and helped it run so smooth. You were awesome! Thanks also to Metamora Lions, Lapeer Optimist, Lapeer McDonalds, LCBT, and Mobile Gas for donations that allowed us to run this free of charge. It was great to see so many kids come out and get excited about science! Murphy students are amazing!

Science Olympiad Committee: Erica Aragonas, Danielle LeClaire, Crystal Patton, Nina Miller, and Ann Mazur



Murphy Drop-Off and Pick-Up Refresher



Winter months are busy times in our parking lot. We have many more car riders at this time. The following is just a refresher that will help keep our students safe and our line moving efficiently.

Drop-Off – Please...

- Pull as far forward in the loop as possible. Even though you may be going past the entrance, it helps fit several more cars in line so we're not backed up into the road.
- Stay in your car if you are going through the loop. If you would like to get out and help your child with bags/coats/etc., please park in the lot and walk them up.
- Have students get out the door closest to the curb.
- Parents parking in the lot, please wait for the crossing guard to stop traffic. We may hold you up for a few seconds to get more cars through the loop faster.

In the Loop Pick-Up – Please...

- Pull close to the car in front of you to fit more cars.
- If the loop is full and backed up to the entrance, pull around and continue the loop along the south end (along Pratt Rd) of the parking lot. Please be wary of people who are doing this and try not to cut in front of them.
- Stay in your car. Our staff will help students get into cars.

Walk Up Pick-Up

Many parents prefer to get out of cars and walk up to get their child. Please follow these procedures if you choose to do this.

- Park as far to the west end as possible. (See following for reason why)
- **Please do not cross in front of the loop line.** This not only slows the loop line way down, but it is very dangerous.
- Please be courteous to other drivers and let people in when appropriate.
- Please walk up to the grade level lines to get your child. Do not call them to you as many kids will run in front of cars without paying attention.

The unfortunate thing is, I have yet to see a school drop-off/pick-up procedure that doesn't have its flaws. We are just packing a small parking lot and loop with more cars than it was designed for. The fact is, when we follow these simple tips, we can make things more efficient, but it will never be perfect. We appreciate everyone's cooperation to make it work the best it can.

~Mr. Stanton, Principal

STUDENT COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

January 14, 2015

Dear Student Council Parents:

- The Murphy Student Council has been very busy! As you may have heard, they just had an election for Student Council Officers. Everyone running for an office gave a speech, and they did fabulous! It takes a lot of courage to get up in front of your peers to speak, and they all handled it brilliantly. The election results were so close for all positions (one vote determined the results for most positions). The new officers are:
 - President - Emily Chouinard
 - Vice-President - Allyson McNulty
 - Secretary - Ryann Makowski
 - Treasurer - Jade Caron
- They collected over 50 coats/snow pants/hats & mittens during the December Coat Drive. St. Paul in Lapeer was very excited to receive them!

The kids did a great job counting all of the can goods during the December can food drive. They generously gave up their recess time to help with the can food drive.

What's next?

February - The student council will host a fun filled spirit week. It will be the week of February 16th. They will be selecting the dress up days during a January meeting.

March - The student council is going to host a 4th/5th grade dance after school on March 12. They will do all the planning, decorating and budgeting for the event. They voted to donate the funds raised from the event to Lapeer's Adoptable Animals. We will have a guest speaker from that organization at a meeting to discuss all of the care that they provide to homeless animals.

Parent chaperones will be needed for the dance! Look for more information to come home with your student soon.

The students involved with Murphy Student Council are doing great things!!

MURPHY ELEMENTARY



PTC HAPPENINGS



February Flashback



Chris Cakes is on Friday, February 27 between 4:30 and 7:30. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this crazy event. Pancakes literally fly through the air! It's only \$5 for all you can eat! Bring your appetite..... We always need more volunteers – if you can help, please contact April LaBar – ajlabar@gmail.com.

What has the PTC has done lately? This month the PTC purchased 4 6' tables for use by the school and PTC for various events. The tables we had previously were destroyed in a boiler flood. The PTC also voted to donate some Murphy Lightning Bolts to the spring Golf Outing.

March Preview & News

The next PTC meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18th at 8:30 am in the library. We will be having another attendance promotion – this time the class with the most parents in attendance will receive cookies! Come join us!



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 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) if you are interested.

Coming Soon! In cooperation with the *Pickle Barrel* of Metamora, \$20 gift certificates good for hanging basket for Mother's Day, the school gets \$5 per gift certificate sold! Promotion to begin mid April. Stay tuned...



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 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!



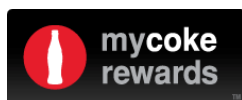
Earn Money with Amazon.com - Start every Amazon purchase with www.lapeerschools.org/murphy, then click on the red link at the bottom of the page.

Remember to use the school link to purchase books for Kindle readers too, because even free books count as items purchased.

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. We have collected 12,633 points as of 2/17/15! These points are now redeemable for gift cards instead of just catalog items! If you can enter the points and donate them that would be the best, but if you cannot, send them in and we'll enter them for you.



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
Vice-President – Dawn Ray, raydawn4@aol.com, Treasurer – Crystal Paton, drakecrystal22@yahoo.com, Secretary – Debbie Martinez, debbielexi@yahoo.com, Communications Liaison – Robin Buchanan, mibigbird@yahoo.com

Murphy Elementary Tee Off For Technology Golf Outing



Saturday, May 30, 2015
At
Metamora Golf & Country Club



**Please join us for the 14th Annual
Tee Off for Technology Golf Outing**

"Helping Students connect to the world..... TODAY!"

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Use of Driving Range
18 Holes of Golf with Cart
Course Contests
Team Photos
Buffet-Style Awards Dinner
Door Prizes & Raffles

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration 7:30 am
Shotgun Start 8:00 am
Lunch On the Course
Awards Dinner 1:00 pm

EVENT FEES

Registration- \$85 per golfer/
\$340 per foursome
Dinner Only Guest- \$25

For additional information, please contact:

Missy Olejniczak 810-656-9423 or misolejniczak@yahoo.com

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

A great way for your group or business to do a bit more!

Event Sponsorship \$3,000

Sponsor's name will be included as the official title of the golf event and all aspects of the event's activities. Sponsorship also includes, course signage, recognition on all event materials and special recognition at the awards dinner. Includes golf for eight and awards dinner.

Platinum Sponsorship \$1,500

Sponsor's name will be featured on course signage, event materials and special event hole signage throughout the day. Includes golf for four and awards dinner.

Gold Sponsorship \$1,000

Sponsor's name will be featured on event materials and hole signage. Includes golf for four and awards dinner.

Beverage Cart Sponsorship \$500

Sponsor's name will be featured on a beverage cart throughout the day.

Hole Sponsorship \$100

Sponsor's name will be featured on signage at one hole.

Donations Welcome!!!

Donated raffle and prize items are appreciated.
Donors will be acknowledged at the awards ceremony.

Registration Information

Captain _____ Shirt Size _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Player 2 _____ Shirt Size _____

Player 3 _____ Shirt Size _____

Player 4 _____ Shirt Size _____

Sponsorship Level _____

Total \$ _____

Method of Payment:

Cash Check Credit Card

Number _____ Exp. _____

Please make checks payable to: Murphy Elementary

Mail registrations and payments to:

Murphy Elementary

1100 Pratt Rd. Metamora, MI 48455