

Franklin Elementary News

Week of Dec. 3—6, 2007

Dates to Remember

- 12/7/7 **Retirement "Send Off" for Mr. Horrigan Half—time of Varsity Basketball game. Tip -off at 7:00 pm**
- 12/12/07—12/14/07 **Santa's Christmas Shop**
- 12/24/07 **No School—Winter Break Begins**
- 1/2/08 **School Resumes**
- 1/18/08 **Half-Day for Students**
- 2/15/08 **No School for Students District-Wide In-service**
- 2/18/08 **No School—Presidents' Holiday**
- 2/29/08 **Elementary Early Dismissal 1:20 pm**
- 3/6/08 **P/T Conferences Jr. K—5 ... 4:30—8:30 6th—12th...4:00—8:00**
- 3/21/08 **No School—Good Friday**
- 3/31/08—4/4/08 **No School—Spring Break**
- 5/26/08 **No School—Memorial Day**
- 6/6/07 **Last Day of School**

Mrs. Hicks' Corner

Thank you for sending your children to school ready to work during this busy holiday season. We appreciate all you are doing to make sure your children are well-rested and well-nourished.

Candy Bar Sales ended on Monday, November 26. If you have any candy still out and/or money, please bring it in to the office immediately.

In case you missed it in last week's newsletter, we have agreed as a staff that we will not be hosting student gift exchanges in the classrooms for Christmas this year. Instead, the students will have the opportunity to go to different activity areas in the gymnasium for fun and games.

Thanks to all who helped "Fill the Franklin Grocery Cart"

for Project Christmas. We wish Mr. Horrigan, CAPS Athletic Director, all the best as he begins his retirement. His celebration will be Friday, Dec. 7, during half-time of the Varsity Boys' Basketball game.

Enjoy your weekend with your family and friends.

Joy Beth Hicks

Ideas From Bill Doherty, author of **The Intentional Family: Simple Rituals to Strengthen Family Ties:**

1. Create rituals around the meal. For example, set the table together. Or have appetizers like you would at a nice dinner party (even if it's carrots and celery!).
2. Don't start asking all the questions that we parents ask, 'til people have a little food in them (especially if you're eating late as many of us tend to these days). I know *I'm crabby*, and I wouldn't want someone pressing me with questions about my day before I've had a bite to eat.
3. Don't ask those "going nowhere" questions that frustrate them as much as their answers frustrate you, "How was your day?" "Fine." Ugggh.
4. Instead, pay closer attention to what they're interested in talking about. Ask them about stuff they like to talk about.
5. Make it a priority to eat together. Period. Give them a snack if you know you're going to eat late; the social part trumps the 3-square meals thing. Change your own darned schedule if you need to. And when those teens have activities every night at dinner, sometimes you have to "be the parent," says Bill, and "lead!" You explain that the family meal is too important and so they have to cut something loose. What a concept that is.

PTO DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

- 11** PTO meeting **DURING LUNCH**
12-14 Holiday Shop during school hours
14 Movie Night at 6:30-
 "Polar Express"

Please...

... Send a note to school with your child in the morning when they will be going home with someone else, or in any way that is different from their routine after-school pick up/drop off plans.

..Call 876-5200, before 3:00 pm if you have a last-minute need to change your child's after-school bus or pick up plans. This gives us time to get a note down to the classroom before the end of the school day.

WEBSITE

For more information about CAPS Schools, School Closings , Delays, and School Calendars, try

vikingnet.org
 Our Newsletter is always there!

CASA VOLLEYBALL

*Applications are now available for CASA Volleyball for girls in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades.

*Applications are due by December 21st.

*Volleyball Dates: January 12, 19, 26 February 2, & 9

*Session will run from 9am to 11am in the High School Performance Gym

*Cost is \$25 and each girl receives a T-Shirt

Lunch News

If you have been approved for Free/Reduced Lunches, and have received a bill for charged lunches or breakfasts, you are still responsible to pay for those charges. Regulations for meal benefits do not allow us to start free or reduced priced meals until the application has been processed. For that reason, all charges prior to such an approval are the responsibility of the household. If you have any questions, you can call 876-5014.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Would you like to be a Big Brother
 or a Big Sister?

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wexford County is looking for volunteers. There are MANY children on our waiting list, and caring adults are desperately needed. It only takes a couple hours each month.

Call Rebecca at 231-920-4016