

# Churchill



# Chatter

March 2019

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## Churchill Elementary

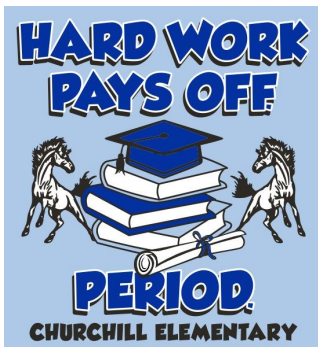
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### Principal:

Mr. Larry Piatek

### Asst. Principal:

Dr. Denise Gildon



## "Churchill Chatter"

"Churchill Chatter" is a monthly publication for all students, parents and staff of Churchill Elementary School. Please submit any news items to Pam Werling at [pwerling@sd308.org](mailto:pwerling@sd308.org)

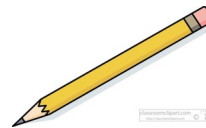


<https://www.facebook.com/churchill308>



## Principal Notes

Hello Churchill Families!



As you know, February was American Heart Month. Our students did a great job participating in the Kids Heart Challenge. We raised \$2,191, and our goal was \$1,500!!

What an awesome "One Book, One School Parent Night" we had on February 7th. Thanks for attending and making it such a memorable event!

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered during the Valentine's Day parties. I went in all the classrooms, and all the students had a great time!

Thank you to everyone who attended our February Culver's Night.

We will be participating in the following upcoming awareness days:

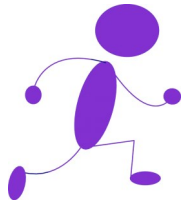
- 3/21 - Down's Syndrome Awareness Day (wear bright or multi-colored socks)
- 3/22 - Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day (wear green) The actual date is 3/25 while we are on Spring Break.
- 4/3 - Autism Awareness Day (wear autism awareness t-shirts or light blue) The actual date is 4/2 when students are not in attendance.

*Mr. Piatek, Principal, Churchill Elementary School, 630-636-3810*

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Saturday, March 2 — HSA Daddy/Daughter Dance 6:00-8:00 pm
- Thursday, March 7 — Rosati's Night
- Friday, March 8 — SIP Day, Early Dismissal at 12:30 pm
- Monday, March 11 - Friday, March 15 — Illinois Assessment of Readiness testing (formerly known as PARCC)
- Saturday, March 16 — HSA Fun Fair 11:00 am-2:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 19 — HSA Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 20 & Thursday, March 21 — Parent/Teacher Conf.
- Monday, March 25-Monday, April 1 — Spring Break
- Tuesday, April 2— Election Day, No Student Attendance
- Thursday, April 4 — Spring Picture Day
- Thursday, April 4 — Rosati's Night





## March PE News

During this school year we have been exercising and growing, and now it is time to show how much we have improved. In the coming months we will be working on our dribbling skills and starting our spring fitness testing. We will challenge ourselves in a few physical activities such as the 50-yard dash, the pacer, and sit-ups. All of these activities help us to improve our health, and our goal is to beat our own personal records. In the spring, many of the students will practice putting in Churchill's 18-hole mini-golf course in the gym.

Don't forget to try out the Raging Waves Plunge Into Fitness program to earn a free pass to the water park! The fitness sheets are due no later than April 5<sup>th</sup>! E-mail [tblason@sd308.org](mailto:tblason@sd308.org) for a log sheet or check your Peachjar messages for the information.

**Mark your calendar for Churchill's Annual Field Day on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>!** With the great support of our Home and School, staff, administration and parent volunteers, our annual field days have been a huge success. Volunteer information will be coming home shortly. We hope to see you this year!

We also wanted to give a big, big, big, THANK YOU! The projector in the gym is amazing and it has already had a positive impact on student learning!

*Brittany Lindeman and Tom Clason  
Churchill P.E. Teachers*



The month of March celebrates the Character Counts pillar of **Citizenship**! To show support for the pillar, students are encouraged to wear the color **purple** on Wednesdays. Churchill students demonstrate good citizenship in many ways inside and outside of school. Here are some things you can talk about with your children to encourage them to be good citizens!

- ◆ Do your share to make your school and community better
- ◆ Get involved in community affairs
- ◆ Cooperate
- ◆ Stay informed: vote
- ◆ Be a good neighbor
- ◆ Obey laws and rules
- ◆ Protect the environment



## Notes from the Nurse



As everyone is aware, it is germ season! Please remind students to frequently wash their hands. This is one of the most researched and supported defenses against the spread of germs. As a good practice, wash all winter gear at least weekly.

It is cold outside, but when temperatures permit, we like for the kids to get outside for fresh air and movement. Please make sure they are coming to school with hats, scarfs, gloves, coats, and snow pants. Also, as it warms up it gets super wet and muddy outside, so please provide a change of clothes in back packs for your students. I do keep donated clothes for kids to change into, however that supply is very limited. Which brings me to my next item: if you have pants for K-5, both male and female, that you are looking to donate, please consider the RN office.

PACERS begin in PE March 4. If your student has a breathing issue that I am not already aware of, please let me know. If your student uses inhalers, please make sure I have those in my office. The PE instructor will also announce that at the beginning of all classes.

*Tracey A. Dawson BSN, RN  
Churchill Building Nurse*



## Notes from the Music Room

The third grade musical is coming up on Thursday, April 11th! The evening performance will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will include all of our third graders. Everyone is invited to come to this special event!

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Choir has also been working hard and learning all their songs for the SD308 Choral Festival which will be held in the main gym at Oswego East High School on Wednesday evening, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Again, you are all invited to this exciting performance. Here's what's in store for music classes during the months of March and April:

**Kindergarten:** Question and Answer form and Rests in Music—Kindergarten students will listen to, sing and play songs that have question and answer (call and response) form. We are also learning to sing, read, and write tunes using the solfege syllables of so and mi.

**First grade:** The first grade students are learning how to sing, read, and write the solfege syllables of sol, mi, and la on a two line staff. This will lead into learning the letter names for those notes (G, A, and E) so that we can play them on our classroom instruments. We will also be talking about how notes can move by step, skip, leap and repeat.

**Second grade:** Students are also focusing on melody by learning to sing, read, and write the solfege syllables of do, re, mi, sol, and fa. They will also be composing using the syllables and the 5-line treble staff.

**Third grade:** The third grade students will be spending the month of March working exclusively on their musical, "It's Saturday!" The musical will be performed on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Fourth grade:** Students are currently learning to play the recorders and improve their music reading skills. This will continue through about the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April. After that, they will also work on creating their own musical compositions to perform on their recorders.

**Fifth grade:** The fifth graders are currently finishing up a unit on the Instrument Families of the Orchestra. We will be assessing their understanding of the families next week. For the remainder of March, we will be working with the solfege syllables of the entire major scale and learning to sight-read some simple pieces of music through singing and playing instruments.

If you would like to talk to me about your child's progress in Music class, I will be available for conferences Monday, Thursday, and Friday mornings, March 18<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup>, and March 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 7:30-8:30 a.m. I will also be available after school from 4:00-4:30 p.m., on Wednesday and Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. **If you would like to schedule a conference, please email me at [jvancamp@sd308.org](mailto:jvancamp@sd308.org) or call me at 630-636-3851 and leave a message.** If the above times will not work for you, I'm sure we can figure out a different time to meet—I'm more than happy to work with your schedule.

*Julie Van Camp, Music Teacher*

## Celebrating The One and Only Ivan

February was such an exciting month of reading at Churchill! We completed our second year of One Book, One School by reading The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate. On February 7 we celebrated the completion of the book with a school wide Skype visit with the one and only Katherine Applegate! She discussed the process of publishing a book, and many students were able to ask her questions. However, the highlight of our time with her was being able to meet her dog Stan, who was the inspiration for Bob in the book. In the evening we celebrated with other Churchill families with pizza, fingerprint art and Kahoot! It was an amazing experience for both the students and staff! If you'd like to view the photo gallery from the event, please click on the following link: [Click here to view photo gallery](#). We can't wait to see which book is chosen for next year!



## Library Book Update

Many parents have inquired about being able to see which library books their child has checked out. Here are the directions for how to do that:

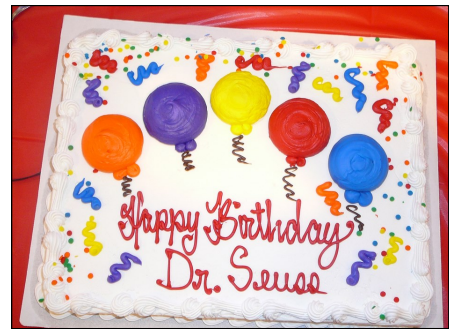
1. Follow this link: [library.sd308.org](http://library.sd308.org)
2. Click on Churchill Elementary School
3. In the upper right hand corner, click on Login.
4. Use your student's ID number and password. Ask your student if you're unsure what this is.
5. Click on the My Info tab.
6. If your student has any books checked out, they will be shown here.



*Sarah Caffarello, LRC*

# From the Art Room

**K Kindergarten:** To kick off March and in celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Kindergarten students have been creating Dr. Seuss inspired art. Students have been creating a 'Mezerka' bird based on an animal in the book If I Ran the Zoo. These birds display all of the colors of the color wheel in rainbow order. Later in March Kindergarten students will be creating artwork inspired by the book If the Dinosaurs Came Back, learning how to create a cityscape that has been taken over by their favorite dinos.



**1 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** First grade students are ushering in Spring thoughts by learning about the large colorful close up flower paintings of famous artist Georgia O'Keefe. Students are creating their updated version of O'Keefe flowers by creating large colorful flowers with beautiful symmetrical butterflies.



**2 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Second grade students are learning about the famous New York artist James Rizzi and his colorful and funny cartoon cities. Students are going to be creating their own Rizzi inspired cityscape with sky scrapers that have funny comical faces. Students will be practicing their painting skills as they add a colorful pop art element to their designs.

**3 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Third grade students are creating a colorful flower still life, inspired by the art by Vincent Van Gogh. Students learned about three types of balance artists use, and are incorporating all three types in their colorful, eye catching, spring inspired flowers in a vase.

**4 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Fourth grade students are learning about the celebrations and history of the National Cherry Blossom festival that kicks off spring each year in our nation's capital. Students are going to be creating Japanese inspired cherry blossom scrolls in honor of this historical festival.

**5 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Fifth grade students are learning about radial balance and how it is used in art, through detailed stained glass rose windows to the detailed sand mandalas of the Tibetan monks, this type of art is truly eye catching. Students are going to be creating their very own radial designs by learning how to create a simple design and have it multiple around a central point of a circle.



**Churchill Artsonia Site:** Artsonia is an online art portfolio website for your student where you can catch up on all the wonderful artwork your student is creating in the art room. Artsonia is a great way to keep family members near and far updated on the all the wonderful art pieces your child creates throughout their years at Churchill Elementary. If you have not logged into the account set up for your child previously in the year, please email Ms. Miller to send you a login key. <[www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com)>

*Heidi Miller, Art Teacher*