

Churchill



Chatter

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Churchill Elementary

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"Churchill Chatter"

"Churchill Chatter" is a monthly publication for all students, parents and staff of Churchill Elementary School.

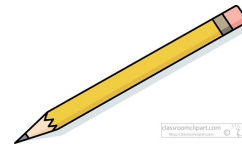


<https://www.facebook.com/churchill308>



Principal Notes

Dear Churchill Families:



As you know, February was American Heart Month. Students participated in the Heart Obstacle Course in physical education, while all staff wore red on Friday, February 28th.

The students and staff enjoyed the all school Play Day on February 5th.

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

Our 5th graders demonstrated citizenship and leadership by volunteering at Feed My Starving Children in February.

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

The Home & School Association organized a very successful Open Gym Night and Daddy/Daughter Dance in February!

Mr. Piatek, Principal, Churchill Elementary School

630-636-3810

lpiatek@sd308.org

Upcoming Dates to Remember



Saturday, March 7 — HSA Fun Fair/Spring Fundraiser 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Tuesday, March 10 — One Book, One School Event 6:00-7:30 pm

Thursday, March 12 — HSA Meeting 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 17 — No student attendance, Teacher Institute Day

Wednesday, March 18 & Thursday, March 19 — P/T Conferences

March 10, 11, 12, 18 & 19 — 5th Grade will be taking the Illinois Assessment of Readiness Testing (IAR)

Monday, March 23 - Monday, March 30 — Spring Break

Tuesday, March 31 — Students return

Tuesday, March 31 — Culver's Night, Kindergarten Team Serving

Thursday, April 2 — Spring Picture Day

LRC Update

Our One Book, One School experience this year was AMAZING! We read *Little Dog, Lost* by Marion Dane Bauer. It touched the hearts of each and every one of our students and staff! Please remember to join us for our family night on Tuesday, March 10 from 6:00-7:30! If you have not yet returned your order form, please do so by Monday, March 9!



We also have our spring book fair coming up! It will run April 3-14. We need many volunteers to make this a success. If you are interested in volunteering, please use the link to the SignUp Genius below. Thanks!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4CAFAB29A4FB6-spring2>

Mrs. Caffarello, LRC Director



Character Counts!

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
- Cooperate
- Get involved in community affairs
- Stay informed: vote
- Be a good neighbor
- Obey laws and rules
- Protect the environment

Heidi Miller, Character Counts!

PE Activities



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 weeks we will be starting our spring fitness testing. We will challenge ourselves in a few physical activities such as the 50 yard dash, the pacer, push-ups, and sit-ups. All of these activities help us to improve our health, and our goal is to beat our own personal records. Right before spring break we will celebrate March Madness and play some basketball games 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 6th! E-mail tclason@sd308.org for a log sheet or check your Peachjar messages for the information.

Mark your calendar for Churchill's Annual Field Day on Monday, May 18! 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!

*Brittany Lindeman (630-636-3857)
Tom Clason (630-636-3848)
PE Teachers*

Notes from the Music Room

March has arrived, and we've seen a few hints that spring is on its way! Spring is always an exciting time musically as we have several upcoming events.

If you would like to talk to me about your child's progress in Music class, I will be available for conferences Monday and Thursday mornings, March 16th and March 19th, from 7:30-8:30 a.m. I will also be available after school from 4:00-5:00 p.m., on Wednesday and Thursday, March 18th and 19th. **If you would like to schedule a conference, please email me at 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.



The third grade musical is coming up on Thursday, April 23rd! 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 4th and 5th 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 6th 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 students will listen to, sing and play songs that have question and answer (call and response) form. We have previously learned about steady beat and will talk about beats that are silent (rests). We are also learning to sing, read, and write tunes using the solfege syllables of sol and mi.

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, E, and A) 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 students will be spending the month of March working exclusively on their musical, "A Kid's Life!" The musical will be performed on Thursday, April 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Fourth graders are currently reviewing the notes on the treble staff in anticipation of learning to play the recorders. They will be receiving their recorders and begin playing them the second week of March. This will continue through about the 3rd or 4th week of April. After that, they will also work on creating their own musical compositions to perform on their recorders.

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.

Julie Van Camp, Music Teacher

HSA Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and donations are needed for this year's Fun Fair and Spring Fundraiser. To help make this a successful event, sign-up here: www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b48a9a72ba1f58-funfair

Calling all bakers! OBOS is seeking donation of individually wrapped baked goods for Family Night on 3/10. Items will be sold at a bake sale benefiting local dog shelters. To donate, sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4DACA622A6F49-onebook>

Thank you for making supporting Churchill HSA and making these events amazing for our community! Contact us anytime with questions or suggestions at ChurchillHSA@gmail.com



Healthy Tips from Nurse Tracey

Hand washing is a hot topic here at Churchill! The students have been amazing and responsive to the five step washing posters from the CDC that I have posted throughout the school. Students have been focusing on when and how to wash hands and proper coughing and sneezing techniques to prevent the passing of germs.

There are 5 steps to washing hands:

1. Wet hands
2. Apply soap
3. Scrub for 20 seconds
4. Rinse
5. Dry

For information please visit the CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html>



Art Room Update

K Kindergarten: In March kindergarten students will be creating artwork inspired by the book 'If the Dinosaurs Came Back', learning how to create a detailed city skyline that has been taken over by their favorite type of dinosaurs.

1 1st 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 2nd Grade: In March 2nd grade students are learning about the unique views from porthole windows that are found on ships and submarines. Students are creating realistic underwater artwork from the point of view of their own porthole windows, adding underwater details, fish, and other interesting underwater animals.

3 3rd Grade: Students are learning about the unique architecture of Medieval Castles. Students created castle landscapes, focusing on the unique structural details found exclusively on castles of the middle ages.



4 4th 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 5th 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 multiply around a central point of a circle.

artsonia

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>

Heidi Miller, Art Teacher