

January 2014 News

Belated Happy New Year! The staff of TLCS enjoyed the Winter Break and are quickly getting back in the rhythm of school life. Below are items of note for the month of January.

Monday Holiday: Martin Luther King Day falls on Monday, January 20th this year. School will be held Tuesday through Friday that week. Middle and High School students will start the week Tuesday with "Green Day" block schedule.

Robotics: TLCS is excited to debut a Robotics program this school year. Participating TLCS High School Students compete in a challenge which was revealed last Saturday. The group has six weeks in which to create a robot which will best fulfill the challenge. A regional competition where schools will demonstrate their robots will be held mid-February. The TLCS Robotics Club has received a \$13,000 grant to implement the new program and also received a laptop grant. Thanks to the many volunteers who are assisting with various facets of this venture from concept and design to fabrication.

Parent Conferences January 31st:

Trimester II parent conferences are set for Friday, **January 31st**. Elementary teachers schedule appointments with parents while middle/high school teachers are available from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for drop-in conversations about student progress. Please set this event on your calendar and plan to attend.

Immunizations:

The immunization review—a report which verifies to the state that all students are in compliance regarding immunizations—occurs this month. Students whose immunizations are not up to date must receive needed immunizations or ultimately be exempted from attendance. Kindergarten and seventh grade are especially times when updates may be required. If your child requires additional immunizations, you will receive notice from the school. Thank you ahead for your cooperation in this.

Immunizations may be obtained by your child's physician or the Lane County Health Department.

Emergency Closures:

Going into winter, we realize that storms often affect our ability to maintain a normal school schedule. In order to keep parents informed of emergency closures or delays, the home page of the Blachly School District website <www.blachly.k12.or.us> will immediately be updated with schedule adjustments (unless internet connections are affected by the weather). In addition, the "parent" dropdown has a link to information

about school closures. Major local television and radio stations also publicize school closures on the air as well as on their websites. Normally, school closure information will be published no later than 6:30 a.m.

Illness:

Though we strongly advocate for consistent student attendance, we recognize that illness is easily spread at school. If your child is running a fever, vomiting, or has other severe symptoms of illness, please notify the office and keep him/her home to recuperate.

Preventing the spread of germs can help all of our children remain well. Please utilize the recommendations below when someone in your household is ill:

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or cough/sneeze into your elbow (affectionately known as the "vampire cough").

- Wash your hands often.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Stay home if you are sick (see symptoms above).
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible.

Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade News: The K-2 classes enjoyed learning about giving during the holidays by adopting a family and bringing, food, toiletries, toys and clothes to share with them. We recognize that generosity is an important character trait for students to interact with and this was a joyful opportunity for them.

Memo from Carol Wennstrom (volunteer Counselor):

We are pleased to announce that the Positive Behavior Instruction and Support (PBIS) program is well under way. In November and December, we had weekly drawings of the names of students who entered TLC or Laker Pride cards. These cards are given by staff to students when they are observed doing the right thing or showing exceptionally good behavior.

Each week, 4-5 students received prizes (for example, cool pens and pencils, candy, sports clothing, sticky note pads, free Cinnabon certificates, free personal pizza certificates).

The students love getting those rewards for positive behavior!

We also awarded monthly prizes with a little bit more monetary value. So far we have received donations from the following businesses: Bi-Mart, Wal Mart, Cinnabon, Abby's Pizza, Lakeview Grocery, Grocery Outlet, WinCo, Jack in the Box and the OSAA.

We continue to solicit donations of prizes and if you know of a local business that might be interested in supporting our efforts to build good citizens, please leave a message at the school for Carol Wennstrom. We plan to continue this program through the school year.

At the end of the year, we are planning some big rewards for which all students with TLC cards will be entered.