

SHADY HILLS ELEMENTARY

DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



Congratulations Star Students!

Our Star Students chosen for the month of November celebrated their accomplishment with their families in the SHES cafeteria. These students are shining examples of the best of our community here at Shady Hills Elementary. Congratulations to Leroygotti Thomas(K), Bailee Dyer(1), Skyler Capps(2), Roux Bryant(3), Michael Ferrer(4), Henry Bissell(5) and Hayden Boehmer(P.E.). The Student of the Month chosen from our Star Students for November was Leroygotti Thomas. Way to go!

12/07

SAC meeting 3:30pm

12/07 – 12/11

Holiday Food Drive

12/07 – 12/10

K-2 Mobile Dental Van

12/10

LOCOMO 5:30pm – 8:00pm

12/14 – 12/18

Holiday Shop

12/15

Winter Concert 7:00pm

12/17

Star Student Awards 2:00pm

12/17

Cookies & Cocoa w Santa

12/18

Paw Points Celebration

12/21 – 01/01

Winter Break



A Letter to our Parents:

Dear Parents,

As you know, attendance at school is very important. When students miss school, even for legitimate reasons that are excused, they miss important instruction in the classroom. Over time, missed instruction can cause students to struggle academically. This is especially true in subjects like mathematics where the curriculum builds upon previous content. As a school and as a district, we are trying to work with families to improve attendance. This year we have a system called the Early Warning System (EWS) that tracks student attendance, student discipline referrals, and academic course failures. On a regular basis we pull reports that let us know if a child is “on track,” “at risk,” or “off track” in these three areas. We will be sending home an attendance letter with all students who meet the “off track” criteria for attendance each quarter; you may have already received one of these letters. The letter is sent home from our school social worker, Pat Malone, who is helping to monitor our school attendance. If you have questions related to your child’s attendance, start with a phone call to your child’s classroom teacher. We understand that some absences can’t be avoided such as when a child is very sick or an emergency arises such as a death in the family. We also understand that sometimes children are absent for special occasions which also provide students with unique opportunities that can be just as valuable as attending school. What we ask parents to do with the attendance letter is consider how your child is doing overall. If your child is succeeding academically and behaviorally, then his or her attendance is probably not a major issue at this time. If that’s the case, just take the letter as a simple reminder that your child has missed “x” number of days of instruction but at this point is still doing well. If your child is **not** doing well academically in particular, you may want to consider how his or her attendance could be a factor that is contributing to the difficulties. Also consider how missing instruction is impacting the school’s ability to help your child improve. Then think about ways you might be able to help your child reduce the number of days he or she is late to school, leaves early, or misses the entire day. Consider this, a child who misses an average of 14 days in a school year will lose over an entire year of instruction by the time they are done with 12th grade (14 days a year x 13 years=182 days). Please know that these attendance letters are for the purpose of improving your child’s education. Our goal is the same as yours, your child’s success. We can’t do our part, without your child here.

Respectfully,
Mr. Barker
Principal



Great American Teach-In 2015



STEM Fair

All 3rd through 5th grade students are invited and encouraged to participate in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Fair at SHES. Backboards and supplies will be provided to students and parents who stop in to attend the workshop Thursday, 01/28/16 between 3:00 – 7:00pm. Completed projects are due back at school Monday, 02/22/16 to be judged. Start thinking of project ideas!

PTO NEWS

Hi there,

We hope that your Thanksgiving was happy and filled with love and family. First we would like to thank everyone that helped and participated in this years Fall Festival! Without teachers, staff, volunteers and the PTO team it would not have been a success! We thank all of you for all your help and participation. We had several new faces join us and we hope to continue to see you all. We love meeting new parents and volunteers! Please let us know if you have any ideas that you would like us to consider to make it even better next year!

Next up is Christmas! Our favorite time of the year! We are excited to announce we are doing a Holiday Shoppe this year. The kids will have fun shopping on their own (with a little help from our elves) for their loved ones at their very own Shoppe. The Shoppe will open December 14th and run through December 18th from 9-2 every day! Keep your eyes open for more information that will be coming home soon.

Santa is coming to town! On December 17th Santa will visit for our annual Cookies and Cocoa with Santa! Come tell Santa what's on your wish list. Bring your camera! We will have crafts for the kids to do too! There will be more information coming about this too but put it on your calendars now, you won't want to miss it! The Holiday Shoppe will also be opened for a short time toward the end of the event if you have some last minute items you'd like to purchase.

The Shady Hills PTO wishes your families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May all your wishes and dreams for the new year come true!

Thanks,

PTO



Holiday Food Drive

SHES is having a Holiday Food Drive sponsored by the PTO. We will be collecting non-perishable food items to distribute to selected families in our own community. Food will be collected the week of December 7th through the 11th. Students can place their donations in the food collection boxes located by their classroom door. The classroom that contributes the highest number of pounds of food will be awarded a **pizza party**. Suggested items to donate are:

- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Pasta & pasta sauce
- Macaroni & cheese
- Soup
- Crackers
- Canned tuna
- Potato & stuffing mix
- Jello
- Cake/muffin mix

No glass containers, please.