

The Ray News

September 6, 2011

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!!!

Important News

- ❖ **WELCOME BACK!!!** We hope that everyone had a fun and fulfilling summer! This is going to be an outstanding school year filled with many exciting learning opportunities. We are looking forward to working with each and every one of you this year.
- ❖ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR...** The Upper El Curriculum Night will be Thursday, September 8, 2011 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the gym. We look forward to meeting all of you and providing you with important information about 5th grade. We encourage all 5th grade families to attend curriculum night. Students who join us will receive a reading pass they may use on any of this year's reading calendars ☺
- ❖ **5TH GRADE BAND...** On Thursday your child will learn more about 5th grade Beginning Band. This year they have the opportunity to take either Band or Spanish. There will be a meeting in the gym on Thursday, September 8, 2011 immediately following the Upper El. presentation. If your child is interested in band please plan to attend. **As a family you will have to make a decision on which class your child will attend by Monday, September, 12. We have attached a sign-up form with more information.**
- ❖ **READING CALENDAR...** We have attached a reading calendar for the month of September to this week's Ray News. This calendar is to track independent reading minutes at home and this assignment also counts as a reading grade. **It is due the first week of October.**
- ❖ **REMINDER...** Our school day begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. with the exception of Fridays. On Fridays students will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m. Students not in their homeroom by 8:30 will be considered tardy.
- ❖ **ATTENTION PARENT PARTNERS...** Each homeroom is in need of a homeroom parent, art parent, and calendar parent. If you are interested in assisting in planning special events, helping in art, or changing our Ray calendar in the upper el throughout the year, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. THANK YOU!!!

What's Happening?

This week students will be participating in team-building activities. Our main focus for the week is to build a safe environment in which students feel comfortable and are able to learn.

In reading, we will focus on the summer reading novels by Jerry Spinelli. Students will be discussing the main events in each novel and creating a comic strip. Students will also be sharing their visual representations of the characters that they created during the summer.

Students will begin to focus on the literature of Chris VanAllsburg this week in Book Club. Additionally, students will become more familiar with the roles and expectations of Book Club.

Special classes will begin on Wednesday. Please make sure that your child brings gym shoes for Physical Education on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

SAY CHEESE



Mark your calendars! On Tuesday, September 13th, students will have their fall pictures taken. Students will be sent home with a proof and an order form on picture day.

Please visit Chatfield School's website!!! You will find our weekly newsletters, school events, handouts, and other important announcements under 5th grade. We are hoping that this will be a useful tool throughout the school year!

www.chatfieldschool.org



Important Dates

September 6	First Student Day of School
September 8	Upper El. Curriculum/ Meet the Teacher Night 6:30-7:15 Gym
September 8	Introduction to Band for 5 th Grade 7:15 Gym
September 13	Picture Day
September 13	Flag Football Lynch @ Chatfield 4:30
September 15	Flag Football Chatfield @ Murphy 4:30
September 20	Flag Football Chatfield @ Bishop 4:30
September 22	Flag Football Turrill @ Chatfield 4:30
September 27	Flag Football Chatfield @ Schickler 4:30
September 29	The Grand Tour & Grand Pie for Grandparents 6-7:30
September 29	Flag Football Maple Grove @ Chatfield 4:30



CLASSROOM ECONOMY

The Ray Community operates a classroom economy throughout the year in which students create a monetary unit, design currency and earn money for classroom jobs while learning about personal finance. We also have a "Ray Community Store" where students can use their money to purchase items. We are looking for families that might be able to donate small items that students could purchase at the school store. We would appreciate any of the following items to start our school store...

MECHANICAL PENCILS, COOL PENS, NON-PERISHABLE INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED SNACK ITEMS, CANS OF POP, LOCKER DECORATIONS, BOOK COVERS, POSTERS, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU THINK 5th GRADE STUDENTS MIGHT ENJOY.

*** THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!! ***



HOW CAN I CONTACT AN UPPER EL TEACHER???



Upper El Teachers can be reached by phone before school from 8:00-8:30 a.m. or after school from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Feel free to e-mail questions or concerns at anytime.

TEACHER EXTENSIONS
CHATFIELD SCHOOL (810-667-8970)

Mrs. LaForge X210

Direct phone number: 810-538-1710

e-mail: klaforge@chatfieldschool.org

Mrs. Lange X206

Direct phone number: 810- 538-1706

e-mail: mlange@chatfieldschool.org



Dear 5th Grade Family,

We are excited to announce that students have the opportunity to take beginning band as part of their regular school day this year! Students have the opportunity to choose from Spanish or Beginning Band. Students who choose to take Band will still take P.E. during specials time. If your child decides to take band they cannot drop the class until it is discussed among parents, homeroom teacher, and school directors. Keith Corbett will be teaching beginning band this year and is very excited to start band as soon as possible. There will be an informational meeting about band on Thursday, September 8 in the gym immediately following the Upper El. presentation. We are asking families to make a decision about which class your 5th grade student will take by Monday, September 12.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs. LaForge, Mrs. Lange, & Ms. Lynch

Please return the bottom of this letter with a selection, parent and student signature by Monday, September 12.

Students Name: _____

Choice (Band or Spanish): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____