

## **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held the evening of November 9<sup>th</sup> and the afternoon of November 10<sup>th</sup>. This is an important time for you to meet with your child's teacher and ask questions. Teachers will have recommendations of how you can help your child at home. We need to work at team to ensure that all children are successful in school. Studies show that parents who are active in their child's education shows their children tend to do better in school. Please look for a letter from your child's teacher regarding setting up a time for your conference. We will do our best to meet your schedule to ensure that you are able to attend.

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## **A SAD GOODBYE**

It is with sadness that we say good-bye to Mrs. Jen Cram, a grade 2 teacher. Mrs. Cram has worked in this district for 18 years. It was a difficult decision for her to make but she is looking forward to having more time with her family. Mrs. Cram touched many student lives and she will be missed at the Vickery School. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her in the community. She will be finishing up on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> but will return for Parent/Teacher Conferences on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Joyce Fowler, who was a teacher in North Carolina and has returned to the area with her family, will be replacing Mrs. Cram. She has been working in the resource room for the past two years. She is excited to begin.

We are also saying good-bye to Ms. Shannon Davis. Shannon has worked in this district for 7 years as an educational technician in our library program and in our Title I math program. Shannon has taken a full time position in Bangor. We wish her well also.

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## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

Nov. 4 – Flu Shots  
AM- Vickery School  
PM – Manson Park  
Nov. 4-10 – Manson Park Book Fair  
Nov. 7 – Report Cards go home  
Nov. 7 – School Board Meeting  
@ Warsaw Library - 7:00 pm  
Nov. 9 – Evening Conferences  
Nov. 10 – Early Dismissal  
Nov. 10 – Afternoon Conferences  
Nov. 11 – Veteran's Day  
No School  
Nov. 23 – Early Dismissal  
Nov. 24-25 – Thanksgiving Break

## **MANSON PARK BOOK FAIR**

The Manson Park Book Fair will be held from November 4-10<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds from this book fair goes back to the teachers to help purchase books for their classroom. We appreciate your support. The Book Fair will be open during the evening of parent/teacher conferences for those parents that might be purchasing books for the holiday season.

## **BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

As I shared with you on my last newsletter, there were a few parents who did not want their child to have breakfast here at school. If you do not want your child to ever have breakfast here at school, we ask that you send a note telling us that they are eating breakfast at home. There are many studies that show if a child eats breakfast he/she will do better in school. We have seen a decline in students eating the free breakfast. If we do not have enough participation in this program it may not be able to sustain itself. Please make sure your child eats a good breakfast.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**School lunch is \$2.05. Please send in the appropriate amount when paying for your child's hot lunch!**

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**PARENT TIPS**

This article comes from [kidshealth.org](http://kidshealth.org). This is a great website for all parents.

[KidsHealth](#)> [Parents](#)> [Positive Parenting](#)> [All About Reading](#)>

**Everyday Reading Opportunities**

Finding time to read is important to developing literacy skills for all kids. And there are many easy and convenient ways to make reading a part of each day — even when it's tough to find time to sit down with a book.

**Finding the Reading Moments**

Car trips, errands, and waits in checkout lines and the doctor's office are all opportunities for reading. Keep books or magazines in your car, diaper bag, or backpack to pull out whenever you're going to be in one place for a while. Even if you can't finish a book, read a few pages or discuss some of the pictures. Encourage older kids to bring favorite books and magazines along wherever you go.

Other reading moments to take advantage of throughout the day:

- in the morning, before breakfast or getting dressed
- after dinner, when kids are relaxed
- bath time (with plastic, waterproof books)
- bedtime

Reading opportunities are everywhere you go. Read signs aloud to your baby while you're driving. Ask your preschooler to "read" pictures on boxes at the store and tell you about them. And have older kids tell you what's on the shopping list.

Even routine tasks around the house, like cooking, can provide reading moments. With younger kids, read recipes aloud; ask older kids to help by telling you how much flour to measure. Give your child a catalog to read while you look at the mail. Ask relatives to send your child letters or e-mail and read them together.

Even when you're trying to get things done, you can encourage reading. If your child complains of boredom when you're cleaning, for instance, ask him or her to read aloud from a favorite book to you while you work. Younger kids can tell you about the pictures in their favorite books.

And make sure kids get some time to spend quietly with books, even if it means bypassing or cutting back on other activities, like time in front of the TV or playing video games.

Most important, be a reader yourself. Kids who see their parents reading are likely to join them and become readers, too!

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**CIPS UPDATE**

During our in-service day on October 27<sup>th</sup>, staff participated in a workshop that began our two-year process of looking at formative assessments and how that data can impact our teaching and student learning. On a daily basis staff are collecting data both formally and informally for the purpose of improving student learning on your child regarding how they are doing in all academic areas. All staff were given the book, *Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning* by Jan Chappuis. This past summer 4 staff members attended a four-day workshop presented by Ms. Chappuis, which was offered by the Department of Education. In the text staff read, "...in other words, the achievement gains realized by students whose teachers rely on formative assessment can range from 15 to 25 percentile points, or two to four grade equivalents, on commonly used standardized achievement test score scales." As a district team we have begun sharing the work we did this past summer. This process will take us into next year. I will share with you through my newsletter the progress we are making.

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