



The Ram Report

Rousseau Elementary School – 3701 South 33rd Street – Lincoln, NE 68506

CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 14 NO SCHOOL
- 21 NO SCHOOL
- 22 *Ram Report* Deadline
- 22-26 Missoula Children's Theatre (Artist in Residence Program)
- 25 Report Cards sent home with students
- 28 PTA Board Meeting
6:30 p.m.
- 29 PLC Early-Release Day (details below)

EARLY-RELEASE DAY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

-BUSSES WILL RUN ACCORDINGLY-

Morning Kindergarten will be in session from 9:00-11:14 AM

Afternoon Kindergarten will be in session from 12:04-2:18 PM

Students in Grades 1-5 will be dismissed at 2:18 PM



JANUARY 26, 2008

From the Principal's Notepad



Dear Rousseau Families,

What do you do when your town is overrun by ravenous rats? Find out when Missoula Children's Theatre returns to Rousseau School and, with a cast of more than 50 Rousseau students, presents THE PIED PIPER on Saturday, January 26th, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Southwest High School.

Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT), the nation's largest touring children's theatre has been touring extensively for more than 30 years now from Montana to Japan, and will visit nearly 1,100 communities this year with 30 teams of Actor/Directors. A tour team will arrive in Lincoln on January 21st with a set, lights, costumes, props and makeup - everything it takes to put on a play... except the cast. The actor/directors will hold an open audition and cast 50-60 Rousseau students to perform in the production. The show will be rehearsed during the week of January 22-25, culminating with two public performances on January 26th. All MCT shows are original adaptations of classic children's fairytales... a *twist* on the classic stories you know and love. Also included in the week-long residency are grade-level workshops presented to all students by the actor/directors. Creativity, social skills, goal achievement, communication skills and positive self-esteem are all characteristics that are attained through participation in this unique, educational project. The Missoula Children's Theatre mission is *the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts*.

Auditions for the production will be held on Tuesday, January 22nd, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the Rousseau gym. Additional audition and rehearsal details are included in this issue of the Ram Report. Tickets for THE PIED PIPER will go on sale, at school, on Wednesday, January 23rd.

Our thanks to the Rousseau PTA for again making this artist-in-residence week possible. We had a wonderful experience in 2006 and are sure to have the same this year.

Most sincerely,
Sue Braun

**KELLY THIEMAN
ROUSSEAU SCHOOL
PSYCHOLOGIST/COUNSELOR**

My name is Kelly Thieman and I am Rousseau's school psychologist and counselor. Last year I served as Rousseau's school psychologist, but this year I have added the role of school counselor, which gives me the opportunity to be in the building more often. Being a school counselor is a new



position for me and I am enjoying getting to know the students and working closely with

more teachers.

I may confuse some students, though, because last year my name was Ms. O'Brien. Over the summer I got married and my name changed to Mrs. Thieman. I graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and received my graduate degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. I am in my fourth year of being a school psychologist and I started my career working for Area Education Agency 13 in Council Bluffs, IA. I moved to Lincoln last year when I got engaged.

In my free time I like to spend it with my nieces and nephews, hang out with my friends, and spend time outside. One of my favorite activities is to run or jog. I hope to run a marathon someday but I know it will take a lot of hard work and dedication. I feel setting and having goals in life gives you purpose and a chance to better yourself. I hope to give the students at Rousseau Elementary the tools they need to better themselves in school and in life.

**ROUSSEAU
PTA®
everychild. one voice.**



The Books and Beyond Reading Incentive program begins February 1st! Donations of small prizes and individually wrapped candy are much appreciated. Last year, we went through almost 5,000 prizes! Please leave donated items with the office. Thanks for helping make Books and Beyond such a fun and successful activity at Rousseau!

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Quick, before they grow up.

COMING SOON!

**ROUSSEAU SCHOOL FAMILY NIGHT
LINCOLN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28
5:00-7:30 P.M.**

(MORE INFORMATION IN NEXT RAM REPORT)

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PTA FUNDRAISER

Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough re-orders will be January 18-22. Ordering information will be sent home with students on January 18 in Friday Folders.

IT'S SNACK TIME!!

Fifth Grade will be selling bags of popcorn on January 30,31, and February 1 for 50 cents. The proceeds from the popcorn sales will go towards the 5th grade field trip to the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island.

Outdoor Recess

Please help students in dressing appropriately for the winter weather. Coats, hats, and mittens/gloves will be necessary as teachers plan for outdoor recesses on days when the temperature and/or wind chill are above 0 degrees. To insure dry and comfortable feet for the remainder of the school day, only students with snow boots will be allowed off the playground slab when snow is on the ground. We ask that students not wear their snow boots throughout the school day. A pair of shoes should be sent with students.

***KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION
MARCH 13 & 14***

Rousseau School is updating their Kindergarten list for the 2008-09 school year. If you have not been contacted by the Rousseau Office and will have a child attending Kindergarten next year please call 436-1165.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE ROUSSEAU CHARACTER COUNCIL**

Thanks so much to all who contributed to the Rousseau Candy Cane Drive. Rousseau School sent a total of \$840.22 to The Lighthouse and Operation Santa Claus! The Character Council sold over 4,000 candy canes!!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!

We continue to ask for your assistance in making drop off and pick up times a safe experience for all Rousseau students. Just a couple of safety reminders - stopping on the north side of Calvert Street to load and unload children is prohibited. We continue to see children, waved over by a waiting driver, crossing in the middle of Calvert Street. Also, please do not park in the north or south staff parking lot when loading and unloading students. Please use the designated spot in front of the school for loading and unloading and help children be ready to exit the car as soon as possible to keep the traffic moving. The curb cut-outs on 33rd Street are meant for day care vans and quick loading and unloading. Please do not exit your vehicle if you are stopping in this area. Your cooperation and patience with these safety practices is appreciated.

In addition to the two entrees listed on the January lunch menu there will also be daily salad choices.

Monday-Chicken Caesar Salad

Tuesday-Diced Turkey Ham Salad

Wednesday-Oriental Chicken Salad

Thursday-Chicken Ranch Salad

Friday-Turkey Ham Chef Salad

**The Lincoln Children's Zoo and our school have teamed up.
For each membership sold through this fundraising program,
our school receives \$5.00!**

Please help our school by purchasing your 2008 Lincoln Children's Zoo membership through our school using the membership application form on the reverse side.

***Send the form/payment directly to the Zoo before April 1, 2008.**

The Lincoln Children's Zoo has several membership options to choose from.

Family Membership - \$60

A Family Membership equates to **OVER \$235 +** in value and is packed full of benefits!

- Unlimited visits** to the Lincoln Children's Zoo
- FREE** or discounted admission to over 120 Zoos across the country.
- FREE** admission to Boo at the Zoo and **FREE** admission to Winter Weekends
- Reduced price** for Zoo classes and early sign up
- Specials** at the Safari Café and discounts at the Gift Shop
- Huge savings** on Birthday Party packages.
- Members-only** coupons and special members-only **parties**.
- Zoo Tracks **Newsletter**

If you go more than twice, it pays for itself!

NEW

Gold Card Membership - \$85

For the train and pony ride enthusiast, this membership is for you!

- All the benefits of the Family Membership
- PLUS**
- **Two FREE** day passes to Henry Doorly Zoo
- **\$.50 discount** on pony rides
- **\$.50 discount** on train rides

NEW

Family Fun Pack Membership - \$150

For the family who wants an enriching zoo experience, this membership is the one to choose.

- All the benefits of the Family Membership
- PLUS**
- **\$.50 discount** on pony / train ride tickets
- **4 FREE** day passes to the Henry Doorly Zoo – 2 adults/2 children
- **Dinner with the Director Events** – An educational and entertaining evening with John Chapo, the Zoo's executive director. Families are treated to a catered dinner. Kids get up close a personal with a different animal each month and enjoy behind the scenes tours of the Zoo. Held once a month in June, July and August.
- **FREE Guest Add On.** Bring a friend, free of charge, each time you visit the Zoo.
- **Wake Up The Zoo Mornings** – The Zoo will open one hour early on select days. Beat the heat and crowds. Enjoy a simple breakfast in Zooville Village with a special furry guest and listen and learn from our zookeeper as he/she tells you all about your dining partner.

Additional Membership Options include:

Grandparents Membership – Two grandparents & all their grandchildren	\$60
* Grandparents can also purchase the Gold Card \$85 and Family Fun Pack \$150	
Individual Plus One – One adult and one guest	\$50
Nanny - one named adult authorized to use your Zoo card	\$15
Add One – bring a guest each time you visit the Zoo	\$15
Dual Membership with the Children's Zoo (Offer ends April 30, 2008)	\$110

Complete the application form on the reverse side and mail it with your payment to:
Lincoln Children's Zoo, 1222 South 27th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502.
Program ends April 1, 2008.

Lights, Camera... ACTION!!
Rousseau School and Missoula Children's Theatre
presents...
THE PIED PIPER

Auditions for Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) production of THE PIED PIPER will be held on Tuesday, January 22nd, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the school gym. There are roles for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Approximately 50-60 Rousseau students will be cast to appear in the show with the MCT actor/directors. **There is no guarantee that everyone who auditions will be cast in the play.** Students wishing to audition must complete the permission form below, arrive at the scheduled starting time and stay for the entire two-hour session. The first rehearsal begins approximately 15-30 minutes after the audition so students who are selected for the cast must plan to remain for rehearsal.

This is a group audition – **no advance preparation is necessary**, but a SMILE never hurts. Students should be ready to come and have a good time! It's a LONG process so please bring your very best listening ears and lots of patience.

Rehearsals will be conducted on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, January 23-25, from 3:45 – 8:15 p.m. in the gym and in the music room. Although not all cast members will be needed at every session, those auditioning **MUST** have a clear schedule for the week and if selected, be able to attend **ALL** rehearsals for their role. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be distributed at the conclusion of the audition. Cast members scheduled for the full 4 1/2 hours of rehearsal will be asked to bring a sack dinner or snack.

The two public performances will be held on Saturday, January 26th, at 3:00 AND 7:00 p.m. at the beautiful Southwest High School theater (7001 South 14th Street). Dress rehearsal on Friday, January 25 will also be held at Southwest High School. All students cast must be available for **both** scheduled performances. As you can see, this is a **BIG** commitment for students and families but one well worth the effort and sacrifice.

To cover the cost of the facilities and the accompanist, general admission tickets for the production are \$5.00 per person (children under 5 are free) and will be sold Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, January 23-25, before and after school, in the main hall. Please note that tickets **WILL NOT** be sold at the door. Students must be accompanied to the performance by an adult.

Missoula Children's Theatre is a non-profit organization based in Missoula, Montana. This coming year, more than 55,000 cast members across the globe will take to the stage to the delight and applause of their families, friends, community, neighbors and teachers! The residency at Rousseau School is made possible by the Rousseau PTA. For further questions, please contact Sue Braun at 436.1165 or sbraun@lps.org.

(return to the Rousseau office by Friday, January 18)

My child(ren) _____ has permission to attend the audition for THE PIED PIPER, January 22, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the gym at Rousseau School. I understand that, if chosen for the play, my student may need to attend rehearsal from 3:45-8:15 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. They will also need to be available for dress rehearsal (Friday) and two performances on Saturday, January 26th. I understand that students will not be excused from rehearsals or performances for practices, appointments, etc. but must keep the week completely free for this residency.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Phone number(s) _____