

OCT. 24, 2008



The Ram Report

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

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

27-31 NO SCHOOL

NOVEMBER

4 Illusion Theatre Company

7 Spirit Day

10 Character Council Mtg. 3:40-4:30

13 Gr. 4 BAT Training

14 Rousseau Anniversary Celebration

14 Report Cards Sent Home

17 PTO Board Mtg. 6:30 PM

26 NO ELEMENTARY School

27-28 NO SCHOOL

Bubba's Closet

Saturday Nov. 15th
8 AM to 10 AM
Pershing Elementary
6402 Judson Street

Sponsored by LPS Elementary Principals

Please donate clothes for Bubba's Closet between the dates of Oct. 6 & Nov. 8 at any Hanger's Cleaners. Clothes will be cleaned by Hanger's and sorted by LPS Elementary Principals and transported to Pershing Elementary. Any elementary student, who is accompanied by an adult, may choose appropriate items of clothing to adopt and use. This is one of the many *American Education Week* activities planned in Lincoln Public Schools.

From the Principal's Notepad

By Sue Braun

Dear Rousseau Families,

On February 14, 2006, Lincoln voters approved a \$250 million bond request for capital improvements to existing schools and construction of new schools. As part of the election, the Board also adopted a ten-year facilities plan to serve as a guideline for facilities projects to be completed. Next year, a new phase of the plan, that includes Rousseau School, will commence. While the scope and details of our project are yet to be determined, we will undergo indoor air quality improvements and general facilities renovation and maintenance. We will be staying on-site throughout this project, with a few portables being used to provide flexible classroom space. I will keep you updated as the planning for this exciting project begins next month.



I need your help! The traffic situation around Rousseau School continues to be a safety concern. Among a number of dangerous practices witnessed by school staff and other concerned parents and citizens, drivers have been seen making u-turns in the middle of Calvert and 33rd streets, loading and unloading students on the street, using private drives to load and unload and to turn around, and parking and leaving cars in the street, drive-through, and cut-outs to meet students. These practices not only contribute to increased congestion but, more importantly, put the safety of children at risk. We also want to be good neighbors to those who live around our school so please respect the rights and the property of those homeowners. Because we do not have the authority to enforce traffic laws, the Lincoln Police Department has been and will continue to be called with information about unsafe driving practices. Your patience and cooperation with the established traffic pattern around Rousseau School are necessary and will help make the arrival and dismissal routine at Rousseau School safer for all students.

On November 4, The Illusion Theater Company from Lincoln High School will present a program dealing with the issue of bullying to all Rousseau students and staff. According to world-renowned researcher Dan Olweus, a person is being bullied when:

he/she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons. Negative action is when a person intentionally inflicts injury or discomfort upon another person, through physical contact, through words or in other ways.

Bullying is a pattern of behavior that is repeated over time against the same person(s) with a noted differential or imbalance of power and can include both overt and covert behaviors. Illusion Theater's "Be Nice" is a series of short, realistic, age-appropriate vignettes that address situations in which children may find themselves and offers suggestions for how to respond to bullying behavior. Teachers will follow up with questions, answers, and discussion in the classroom after the presentation. Included in this issue of the Ram Report is a list of "Bullying Prevention Dos for Parents" provided by Illusion Theater. As always, if you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or me.

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Thank you for your continuing involvement and support of our children and our mission at Rousseau School -

*LEARN academics and skills at high levels,
THINK interdependently
LEAD with character*

Have a safe and fun fall break!

Most respectfully,

Sue Braun

***JOIN THE BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB**

The Rousseau Media Center is starting a fun, new program that benefits all students at Rousseau! It is called the Birthday Book Club! For a \$15 donation, your child can select a new, hardback book for the Rousseau Media Center. Your child will be the first person to check out the book and they will get to place a bookplate inside the front book cover with their name on it. A celebration will be held at the end of each quarter when your child selects the book of their choice. We'll sing Happy Birthday, eat a snack and take a group photograph to post on a special Birthday Book Club bulletin board. All Birthday Club books will be shelved on a special cart in the media center for everyone to enjoy. Next year, these books will be added to the regular collection in the media center. You should have received a flyer about this at parent/teacher conferences with details of the program, including a form to complete. If you did not receive one or if you have misplaced it - another copy is attached to the Ram Report for your convenience! Please return it now so that plans can be made for the celebrations through the year! Thanks for your participation and your strong support of Rousseau Elementary!

Tentative party dates are as follows:

November 19, 2008
January 14, 2009
March 18, 2009
June 2, 2009



NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM THE ROUSSEAU PTO...

A big thank you goes out to everyone who participated in this year's gift sales! (And to those of you who picked up your orders in a timely fashion!) We had \$23,308.50 in sales, equaling \$10,358.46 in profit. We have lots of things in store for the profit, such as technology upgrades, facility improvements, enrichment programs, field trips, and fund-a-wish requests, so keep your eyes open for a first-hand view of your hard work put to use.

A big thank you also goes out to Kim Cook and Lori Tackett, who coordinated the gift sales, and all the volunteers who helped with the orders.

Our transition from a PTA to a PTO requires us to rewrite our bylaws. A preliminary draft of the bylaws will be posted on our website for review. As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions!

Missed out on the first cookie dough order? Need more? Don't fret! We're planning to place another order during the second semester of the school year.

Jenni Jex
Co-President, Rousseau PTO

Bullying Prevention DO'S

For Parents.....



DO model behavior for your child that is non violent and non threatening. Make sure the relationships within your home are not verbally, physically or emotionally abusive.

DO be supportive of your child. Listen carefully to what your child tells you about being bullied. Remember, your child is not at fault for being bullied. Resist the urge to say "what did you do to provoke the other child?"

DO empathize with your child. Tell him/her that bullying is not their fault, and you are glad they had the courage to talk with you about it.

DO report the bullying to your school administration. The best first step is to allow the school to approach the family of the child who is the "bully."

DO keep your emotions in check. Although it may be difficult, keep a cool head when approaching school staff about the situation.

DO expect the bullying to stop. Talk regularly with school staff about your child and how they are approaching the situation.

DO help your child develop talents or positive attributes. Suggest and facilitate music, athletics or art activities. Doing so may help your child be more confident, develop new friends and build self esteem.

Remember, home is where the heart is. Make sure your child has a safe, loving environment where they can take shelter, physically and emotionally. Always keep the lines of communication open with your child.

*Illusion Theater Project TRUST
"teaching and reaching using students and theater"
402-476-2424*



BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

Rousseau is launching a new Birthday Book Club! How does it work? It's simple! Just fill out the form and return it with a check payable to Rousseau School for \$15. This price will enable your child to select a new hardback book that will be donated to the Rousseau Media Center.

A special birthday celebration will be held at the end of each quarter (during the school day) when students will get to select a new hardback book from the "Birthday Book Club" store. Students will place a bookplate inside the cover with their name on it and they have the honor of being the very FIRST person to check out the book! Students will also get a snack at the party, we'll sing happy birthday & a photograph will be taken to post in the library. When the book is returned, it will be placed on a special 'Birthday Book' cart for others to enjoy. Next year, the book will be added to the regular, library collection.

What about summer birthdays? These students will celebrate their "half birthday" by attending the party held at the end of the 3rd quarter in 2009. (When completing the form please fill in the actual birthday.)

If you would like to help with the celebration party by attending and/or bringing treats, please check the box below and include your contact information. Thank you!!!

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YES, my child would like to join the Rousseau Birthday Book Club!

Name (print clearly)

Birthday

Grade / Teacher

Total enclosed @ \$15 per child: _____

YES, I would like to help with the celebration party that my child attends:

Name: _____ E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Lincoln Public Schools Food Zone

Meal Prices
\$1.00 full price
.30 reduced
.40 milk

Elementary Breakfast Menu November 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
NOVEMBER 3 BUTTERMILK PANCAKES or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 4 BREAKFAST BACON+ SCRAMBLE or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 5 CHEESE OMELET or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 6 BREAKFAST BAGEL or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 7 TOASTED ENGLISH MUFFIN or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk
NOVEMBER 10 MAPLE PANEGGCAGES or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 11 FRENCH TOAST STICKS or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 12 SCRAMBLED EGGS or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 13 BREAKFAST BITES+ or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 14 EGG, CHEESE & TURKEY HAM ON ENGLISH MUFFIN or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk
NOVEMBER 17 GOLDEN WAFFLES or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 18 CHEESE OMELET or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 19 BREAKFAST TAC-GO or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 20 PANCAKE & SAUSAGE+ ON A STICK or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 21 HOT OATMEAL CEREAL or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk
NOVEMBER 24 TOASTED ENGLISH MUFFIN or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 25 EGG & CHEESE ON BISCUIT or COLD CEREAL WHOLE GRAIN TOAST 100% Fruit Juice Milk	NOVEMBER 26 NO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	NOVEMBER 27 NO SCHOOL	NOVEMBER 28 NO SCHOOL

+Contains Pork
/Elementary

<http://www.lps.org>

Lincoln Public Schools Food Zone

Meal Prices
\$1.90 student
2.65 adult
.40 reduced
.40 milk

Elementary Lunch Menu November 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Caesar Salad	Diced Turkey Ham Salad	Oriental Chicken Salad	Chicken Ranch Salad	Turkey Ham Chef Salad
NOVEMBER 3 CHICKEN POPCORN WITH BISCUIT TACO HOT POCKET Sweet Peas Tossed Salad Orange Wedges Applesauce Milk	NOVEMBER 4 ITALIAN DUNKER POLISH DOG+ ON BUN Baby Carrots & Dip Tossed Salad Dried Fruit Pineapple Milk	NOVEMBER 5 PEPPERONI+ PIZZA BEEF TERIYAKI STRIPS WITH BREADSTICK Green Beans Tossed Salad Sweet Cherries Peaches Milk	NOVEMBER 6 GOLDEN CORN PUPPIES HAMBURGER Potato Wedges Tossed Salad Banana Pears Milk	NOVEMBER 7 BEEF & BEAN BURRITO CHILI WITH CINNAMON ROLL Celery with Dip Veggies/Salad Fruit Mixed Fruit Milk
NOVEMBER 10 CHICKEN TERIYAKI WITH RICE PILAF HOT DOG ON BUN Corn Tossed Salad Orange Wedges Applesauce Milk	NOVEMBER 11 MUCHO NACHOS BREADED PORK+ SANDWICH Lettuce & Tomato Refried Beans Apple Wedges Pineapple Milk	NOVEMBER 12 CHICKEN NUGGETS WITH ROLL HOT HAM & CHEESE SANDWICH French Fries Fresh Broccoli & Dip Dried Fruit Peaches Milk	NOVEMBER 13 ITALIAN MEATBALLS WITH SPAGHETTI SAUSAGE+ PIZZA Baby Carrots & Dip Tossed Salad Cinnamon Apple Slices Pears Milk	NOVEMBER 14 MAC & CHEESE BREADED CHICKEN SANDWICH Sweet Peas Veggies/Salad Fruit Whole Fruit Bar Milk
NOVEMBER 17 FRENCH TOAST STICKS SAUSAGE+ LINKS & CHEESE STICK BREADED COUNTRY BEEF SANDWICH Hash Brown Potato Tossed Salad Orange Wedges Applesauce Milk	NOVEMBER 18 CHEESE STUFFED BREADSTICKS WITH DIPPING SAUCE FIESTADA Corn Tossed Salad Apple Wedges Pineapple Milk	NOVEMBER 19 CHICKEN FINGERS WITH BISCUIT BBQ RIBLETTE SANDWICH Baked Beans Tossed Salad Dried Fruit Peaches Milk	NOVEMBER 20 <u>Holiday Meal</u> SLICED ROAST TURKEY CREAMED TURKEY Whipped Potatoes with Gravy Applesauce Pineapple Gelatin Fresh Baked Whole Wheat Roll Holiday Bar Milk	NOVEMBER 21 CHEESE PIZZA BBQ SHREDDED CHICKEN SANDWICH Green Beans Veggies/Salad Fruit Mixed Fruit Milk
NOVEMBER 24 GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH HAMBURGER PIZZA Tomato Soup Tossed Salad Orange Wedges Applesauce Milk	NOVEMBER 25 BREADED BAKED CHICKEN WITH ROLL SALISBURY STEAK WITH ROLL Whipped Potatoes & Gravy Veggies/Salad Fruit Peaches Milk	NOVEMBER 26 NO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	NOVEMBER 27 Like to work hard and have fun? Work 4 hours while your children are in school. Be a food service worker. Apply at LPSDO in Human Resources.	NOVEMBER 28 You may apply any time during the school year for free and reduced meals. Applications available on the web, school or district office.

+Contains Pork
/Elementary

<http://www.lps.org>