

Our mission is to maximize learning for all students

MAXEY Messenger



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Important Upcoming Dates

Mon., Nov. 23: NO SCHOOL FOR EXCITE STUDENTS

Tues., Nov. 24: Kindergarten Grandparent's Day 1:00-2:00p.m.

Tues., Nov. 24: PLC Early Release Day – Dismissal at 2:18p.m.
NO SCHOOL FOR EXCITE STUDENTS

Wed., Nov. 25: No School for Elementary Students – Teacher Plan Day

Nov. 26 & 27: NO SCHOOL – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Tues., Dec. 8: Band Concert-Multipurpose Room (6:30-7:00p.m.)
5th Grade Chorus Concert-Multipurpose Room (7:15-7:45p.m.)

Tues., Dec. 15: PLC Early Release Day – Dismissal at 2:18p.m.
NO SCHOOL FOR EXCITE STUDENTS

Thurs., Dec. 17: Strings Concert-Multipurpose Room (7:00-8:00p.m.)

Dec. 21-Jan. 1: WINTER BREAK – NO SCHOOL – SCHOOL CLOSED

Kindergarten Lunchroom Volunteers

We could really use some more help with Kindergarten lunch if any more parents would be willing to volunteer. The sign up sheet is in the office, and the time is 11:05-11:35. At least two volunteers each day would be greatly appreciated!

Kindergarten Grandparent's Day, Tuesday, November 24, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Our Maxey kindergarten will host Kindergarten Grandparent's Day on Tuesday, November 24 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Please note the carpool lanes will be closed off from 12:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m. on this day. We ask all of our visitors to park in the parking lot and/or side streets during these hours. We need to keep the carpool lanes open for the traffic flow at student dismissal. Kindergarten students MAY be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. if escorted by their parents or grandparents.

Since Tuesday, November 24 is a "PLC Early Student Release Day", all K-5 students will be dismissed at 2:18 p.m. on this day. Our ExCITE students do not attend school on PLC days.

Upcoming Holiday Music Programs

Our 5th grade Maxey Band and Chorus will conduct their evening performance for families on Tuesday, December 8. The 5th grade Band will perform at 6:30 p.m. and the 5th grade Chorus will begin their program at 7:15 p.m. Each program will last about 30 minutes. The Maxey Strings performance for families will be Thursday, December 17 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Watch Out for the All-Stars!

Information on spring after school classes - The Maxey All-Stars - will be in next week's Wednesday folder. We will be offering 13 classes, each running once a week for eight weeks. Registration is from November 30-December 18. Keep in mind that there is a maximum student enrollment for each class offered. It is quite possible that some classes will fill up fast. Therefore, registrations will not be accepted until November 30, and class slots will be filled on a first come basis beginning November 30. .

2010/2011 Permit Deadline

The deadline for submitting a special attendance permit for the 2010/2011 school year is January 6, 2010. If you do not live in the attendance area of the school that you wish to attend next year, you will need to submit a permit to the district for approval. If you are already on permit, you do not need to fill out another one unless you move to another residence or will be attending a different school.

THE SPIRIT OF GIVING PROGRAM

The Spirit of Giving program is entering its fifth year and the need is even greater this year. The poor economy has impacted us all, but the economy's impact is greatest on those who are struggling already. Many of these families need our help just to have food during the winter break.

We are asking Maxey families to share their family's Spirit of Giving with families from Hartley and Clinton. We have several suggestions for helping these kids:

1. Sponsor a family by purchasing a gift for each member of the family and buy a holiday meal(s) or grocery gift card for the family.
2. Purchase a gift card to a grocery store such as Super Saver, ALPS, Wal-Mart, or Super Target for a family.
3. The schools can also use socks, underwear, sweat clothes, coats, gloves, and gift cards (especially to shoe stores), which they use to supply emergency clothes for kids that come to school dressed improperly for the weather or in ragged clothes.

Each year the schools have more families that requested help than the Spirit of Giving Program can support. This year we are sure the numbers will be even greater and we need as many Maxey families as possible, individually or in groups, to commit to helping.

If you would like purchase gifts and a meal for a family, we would like to hear from you as soon as possible so that we can contact the school. The school will then contact a family and obtain a wish list from the family. The sooner we can request a wish list, the more time your family will have time to shop and deliver the gifts.

Other donations can be dropped off at the Maxey office and we will divide them between the schools.

Please consider participating in the Spirit of Giving program. It has been a heart warming and positive experience for our family, and is now a Wilken family tradition that our kids look forward to each year.

If you have questions or would like to help you can contact Doug or Jody Wilken at 489-0299 or at Cacey_Chance@msn.com.

Wellness Committee Update

Members of the wellness committee attended the second training with the Alliance for a Healthier Generation www.healthiergeneration.org on 11/12. Next steps include involving our students in this process and completing our action plan based upon our recent school wellness assessment. We are also applying for a \$500 grant with Fuel UP to Play that could be utilized for physical activity related projects. The next meeting for the Maxey Wellness committee is Wednesday, December 2 at 9:30am in the conference room. Please join us for a meeting or two. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Conway at jcf4331@earthlink.net.

When it comes to classroom celebrations, there are many ways to play together and enjoy music, dance, games and sports while also honoring the gift of others in our lives. Here are a few ideas (source is Alliance for a Healthier Generation) to keep the fun-level high while also promoting the diversity of your community:

- * Have a scavenger hunt where students have to find items related to the special day around the school. Provide hints that students have to figure out together. If possible, include translation to another language.

- * Create decorations for the whole school and let students bring a festive item home. Engage parents in creating the decorations and ensuring representation of their family's culture.

- * Assign each class (or grade) a part of the party: one class chooses the music, another decides on a game, a third class prepares a healthy snack..... (Food can be a wonderful way to honor cultural diversity.) If students teach each other what they learned in preparing their part of the party, it helps build their communication and other social skills.

Update on Concrete Path

Due to the contractor's schedule, the path was not started this week as originally planned. They plan to start on it this coming Monday, November 23.

In Light of Tough Economic Times...

We understand that there are many families who are struggling during these hard economic times. Please keep in mind that your child may qualify for the free/reduced lunch program. You can get an application on the LPS website (www.lps.org) under the "Parent Center" tab, and then under "Forms".

Colder Weather is Here...

Students will be going outside for recess during the colder weather. Students will remain inside when air or wind-chill temperature is below 11 degrees. We use the Holmes Lake Weather Station as our guide. (<http://www.gwwilk.com/>)

Please be reminded to write your children's names on their cold weather clothes items.

Blankets, Books, and Bears

Brianna Brass, a 16 year-old junior at East High School and Senior Girl Scout, is starting a community service project to help Cedars Home for Children. This project is called "Blankets, Books, and Bears – The 3 B's of Comfort for a Child" and is aimed toward helping children in the foster care system who have very few worldly belongings. If your family is cleaning out closets or having a garage sale with outgrown books, please consider donating them toward this Girl Scout project for Cedars Home. We are looking for new or gently-used children's books, including new coloring books and puzzle books for ages preschool to 16 years old. Donations of teddy bears and stuffed animals are also welcome. Your donation can be placed in the labeled box in the front entry. Any questions may be directed to Brianna or Mary Brass at 483-0035. We appreciate your help.

Best Buy Reward Zone Program for Maxey School

The Reward Zone Program for Schools is designed to allow you to donate your Reward Zone program points to a participating school of your choice. These schools can then use the Reward Zone reward certificates to purchase technology products for schools. Reward Zone Program for Schools is another means by which you can give back to your community. For all purchases that are donated, 2% is given back in Reward Zone reward certificates to each school.

How Reward Zone® Program for Maxey School Works

Reward Zone Program for Schools is a test of Best Buy's current Reward Zone program. Reward Zone accounts have been created for schools participating in this test. Reward Zone Program for Schools works in the same way as the Reward Zone Program- for every 250 in points the school's account accrues, they will receive \$5 in reward certificate value. Certificates can then be redeemed by the School for products and services that will help enhance the school environment for future students.