

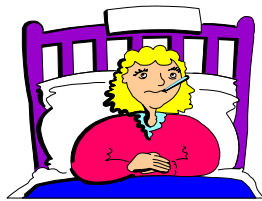
Cougar Chronicle

Andrew Carnegie Elementary School
Marlene P. Heath, Principal

November 2009
Jean Pate, Assistant Principal

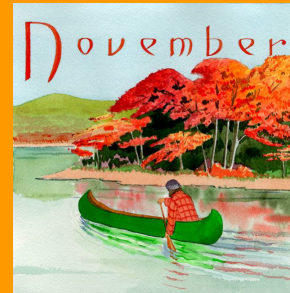
The month of November is another exciting and busy month at Carnegie. The Reading, Math and Writing Benchmark Assessments are over and the results will be used to actively engage our students in the teaching and learning process in the classroom. It is important that we continuously encourage them to do their best each day. We really appreciate you doing your part at home with homework and reading with your child every night. Another important tip is to have your child at school each day on time and staying until the end of the day to complete all academics.

We are still having problems with parents entering the building and going directly to classrooms. For the safety of all children, we need to know who is in the building and for what purpose. Parents and all other visitors are to use the Main Entrance at all times.



Students that come to school with a fever of 100 degrees or greater will be removed from the classroom and relocated to a supervised area of the school where there is no contact with other students. The parent/guardian will be contacted to take their child home. The child will be given a facemask to wear while they wait. Students and staff with fever of 100 degrees or greater should not return to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

PARENTS, IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT THE SCHOOL HAS AT LEAST ONE NUMBER SO THAT WE CAN CONTACT YOU IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. IF YOU HAVE NOT SUBMITTED A CURRENT EMERGENCY FORM, PLEASE DO SO AT REPORT CARD PICK-UP. NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY IF YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION OR ADDRESS CHANGES ANY TIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR CHILDREN SIX HOURS A DAY AND IT IS VITAL THAT WE HAVE A WAY TO CONTACT YOU IF NEEDED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

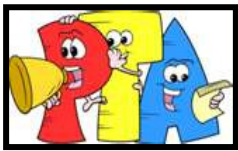


1	Daylight Saving Time Ends Set clocks back 1 hour
6	End of Quarter No Classes
10	LSC Meeting 6:00 p.m.
11	Veteran's Day No Classes
12	Carnegie Science Fair
16-20	Scholastic Book Fair
18	Report Card Pickup 12:00 – 6:15 p.m. No Classes
19	PTA 6:15 p.m.
26-27	Thanksgiving Holiday No Classes

On Wednesday, November 18, 2009, Chicago Public Schools will hold the first-quarter report-card pickup for elementary schools. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the importance of picking up report cards and talking to teachers. This is the time to address any difficulties your children might be having before we advance too far into the school year. These conferences are particularly important to make sure that students are not having difficulties that might affect them on the upcoming ISAT or with other promotion criteria.



We will hold several workshops for parents on Report Card Pickup. Ms. Pate will be available in room 222 to assist parents with the Parent Portal, Ms. Hubbard will give information to all parents so that you will know what your children need to do to compete for admittance in the selective enrollment high schools, and Mr. Dean will talk to parents about a new fitness initiative that will be started at Carnegie. Times and places for these workshops will be sent home at a later date.



The PTA is working diligently to raise money to fund projects at Carnegie. This is a huge challenge and they need your help. If you receive a telephone call from a member of PTA, please volunteer for the planned activities. It's important to keep in mind that a meaningful contribution to a PTA project does not have to be time-consuming. You can sign up to volunteer to help out with one of the fundraisers or activities. PTA dues are \$6.00 per person. Please join! The money goes toward PTA projects to benefit our school. Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:15 in Brazier Hall.

We are collecting box tops and drink pouches, like Capri Suns, candy wrappers, cookie wrappers and chip bags. Visit terracylce.net. to find more information.

Thank You

We are all busy with our lives, and sometimes we can forget the little things that we can do to make a big difference not only in our children's lives, but our own as well. By giving the gift of our time and talents, we get in return a strong community.

Thanks to the following volunteers who cleaned the library and re-shelved the books after it was tiled this summer: Darlene Pollard, Daisy Anderson, Odell Cain, Irma Robinson, Arnetta Roberts, Patricia Houston, Aida Sanchez, Lesa Jones, Denise Taylor, and Joyce Carter.



Inference-What is it and how do young readers use it?

We will continue to utilize specific comprehension strategies in our reading instruction. As part of our School Improvement Plan, we are focusing on comprehension strategies to assist our students in the understanding of the books and stories they read. All teachers discuss and use this strategy in their reading each month.

Just what is inference? Inference is the heart of building meaning in reading. When readers infer, they use what they already know (their schema) and clues from the words and pictures to draw conclusions and form their own ideas about stories. They figure out things the text doesn't say right out.

What's key for kids?

- Readers figure out meanings of words they don't know by making connections, paying attention to word and picture clues, rereading and talking with others;

- Readers make predictions about text and agree or disagree with them as they read on;
- Readers use things they already know and word clues to figure things out and make their own ideas about a story.

What we do in class?

- Listen to stories and make predictions together;
- Make a chart to record our thinking;
- Talk about why we think the way we think;
- Use word and picture clues like detectives to figure out meanings of words we don't know;
- Use good inferring responses, such as:
+ "I think.....because." + "Maybe.....means....." + "I'm guessing that...." + "I predict.....because....."

What can you do at home?

- Make predictions when you read together. Tell what part of the story or other idea made you think that;
- Use picture and word clues to figure out unknown words;
- Talk about other times you made predictions, besides reading; -Use the words infer, predict, confirm;
- Read, read, read



Carnegie School Science Fair November 12, 2009

Judging of Exhibitor's Experiments, 9:00 – 12:00, not open to public audience. Staff members, parents, and students are welcome to view the experiments from 12:40 -2:30.

Participation in the School Science Fair

- Open to all Carnegie students
- Must have an experiment with one testable variable and control group identified
- Must display results on a free-standing display board
- Display safety sheet on exhibit board (grades 6-8 only)
- Display typed research paper in front of the board (students in grades 2-5 may have a handwritten paper)

Do not bring to the Science Fair Exhibit Hall

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| • Glass | • Animals |
| • Liquids | • Equipment |
| • Matches/fire | • Plants |
| • Moldy bread | • Alcohol |
- Blood or other body fluids (tissue, urine, etc.) may not be used in experimentation unless they have been obtained and have been certified as noninfectious carrying agents such as those acquired from blood banks, hospitals, or laboratories.

Whereas the science fair is an opportunity to orally discuss and present quantitative and qualitative data, students are asked to take pictures throughout their experimentation and affix to their display boards. Students are only expected to disclose their findings to the judges, not conduct the experiments.



During this time of Thanksgiving, remember, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." --John Fitzgerald Kennedy