

The Messenger



October 2011

MacArthur Elementary

W154 N11492 Fond du Lac Ave
Germantown, WI 53022
Phone: 262-253-3468
Fax: 262-253-3496

Principal: Adrienne Schneider
Mrs. Schneider's e-mail:
aschneider@germantown.k12.wi.us

School Hours:

Kdg-5th 8:50—3:44

Please remember that students cannot be dropped off at school any earlier than 8:35 a.m.

Mission Statement

MACARTHUR

- Exercise mind and body
- Accept others
- Give back to the community
- Learn for life together
- Educate for success
- Show respect



Alert Now

Alert Now is an automated phone messaging system that I will use at least two times per month with each family. The purpose of my calls will be to notify families of events happening at MacArthur and at times may be grade level specific. Another purpose of this phone system will be to notify our families in the event of a weather related delay or closing. This call will come from the Superintendent, Dr. Borden.

The call is only sent to the primary phone number that is listed in Skyward. When there are changes to your phone numbers, please make sure you notify the school office so that we may also keep Alert Now records current.

If you see that the school has called your phone, you are encouraged to listen to your message prior to calling the school. This will prevent the school office from being inundated with phone calls. Thank you for your help and cooperation with this!

Mandatory Kindergarten

Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, Wisconsin law now requires a child to complete 5-year-old kindergarten as a prerequisite to being admitted to first grade in a public school, including a charter school. The bill also requires a child who is enrolled in 5-year-old kindergarten in a public or private school to regularly attend kindergarten during the school year. This will apply to all students entering school in Germantown. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our District Office for details.



Early Release/Late Start Days 2011-12

Early Release Days 12:20 (no lunch served)

October 3 November 23 December 22 June 8

2 Hour Late Start Days

November 28 May 29



Drop Off and Pick Up Procedure



BEFORE SCHOOL

Parents who drop off their children in the morning should do so on the northwest side of the building *no earlier than 8:35 a.m.*. Please do not let your children out of the car before you reach the orange cone. The staff on duty will direct your child to the playground as they exit the cars and buses.

DURING THE DAY

Please remember that there is only one entrance and one exit to MacArthur. For your safety and the safety of our visitors, please do not exit from our parking lot onto Fond du Lac Ave from the front (South) end of the building.

If you are picking up your child for an appointment, please come in and sign your child out.

AFTER SCHOOL

If your child's way of getting home is different than usual, please send a note to school with your child. The teacher will not send your child home a different way unless it has been communicated through a note or a phone call.

If you are picking up after school, please wait at the front entrance of the building. Remember not to park in the bus lane!

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Our students have been hard at work demonstrating appropriate Line Basics and Volume Levels throughout our building! It has been neat to see the students reminding one another about the appropriate behaviors!

Some parents have asked how they can support our PBIS efforts at home. Here are some very simple and basic things that you can do:

- Ask your child to evaluate themselves each day for their line basics behavior and volume level. Praise them for the days they rate high, and discuss the days they rate low.
- Discuss volume level in your home. What volume level do you expect of your family at dinner time? During homework time? While playing outside?

Since we are teaching behaviors as they relate to line basics and volume level, it has decreased the number of times we express, "They should know that by now". Think about opportunities within your own home that you can step back and teach the expectations. Does your child put too much toothpaste on their toothbrush? Were they actually taught and given practice for how much toothpaste goes on a toothbrush?

PBIS has given us the opportunity to evaluate our teaching of behavioral expectations, and we look forward to the continued opportunities to make our great school even better!



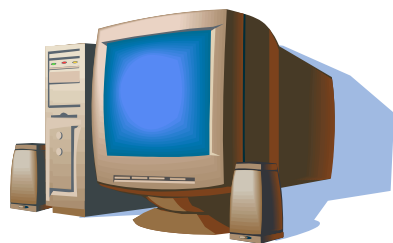
We Need Your Help!



Our Lost and Found is already full and we haven't even gotten through the first month of school!

Please make sure your children's belongings (jackets, lunch bags, gloves, hats, sweatshirts, etc) are labeled with their name and last initial. This helps us get them back to the rightful owner. This is extremely important as we head into the winter season!

Speaking of labels, please include your child's first and last name with any correspondence to the office. This ensures that it is accounted for the correct child!



Skyward Family Access

Family Access is a component of our student management system called Skyward, and will allow parents to keep up-to-date on their child's assignments, attendance, grades, and lunch account balance.

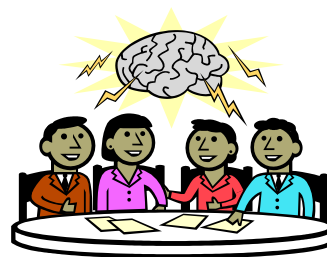
It will also be another communication tool with your child's teacher. The access to student grades will only be for 4th and 5th grades, and K-3 parents will be able to use Family Access for all other features. Very soon all families will receive a letter that will include parent log-in and passwords and directions for use.

Mrs. Schneider will showcase Family Access at the PTA meeting on October 13 at 7:00. Please join if you would like to learn more about how you can best maximize the opportunities Skyward Family Access has to offer!

BLT Update—September 21, 2011

At our last BLT meeting, members discussed the following items:

- Purpose of various building committees
- Visit by Dr. Borden to discuss System Priorities
- Budget (starting amount vs. current amount)



Members are: Adrienne Schneider, Shannon Colton (parent), Dawn Liker (parent), Julie Mandella, Susan Wolff, Tracy Lukas, Maureen Warnimont, Melissa Pecunia, Dawn Books, Karla Biermann, Mary Van Slett, Brenda Downey

The next meeting will be held on October 19 at 7:15 at MacArthur.



Support our DI Program and Protect the Environment Donate Used Cell Phones and Inkjet Cartridges

Germantown Destination Imagination is conducting a fundraiser to help fund Germantown teams that may participate in the Global Finals Tournament at the end of May. All you need to do to help is donate old cell phones and used inkjet cartridges. Label them for DI and have your child drop them off in the school office. Batteries must be included with the phones, but no other accessories are required to be turned in with the phone.

Thank you for doing your part to protect the environment and help out Germantown Destination Imagination.



Destination ImagiNation Team Managers and Participants Wanted at MacArthur Elementary

Does your child like inventing things? Do you find your child performing, singing and dancing on a regular basis? Does he/she like using tools and building things? How about drawing, painting or writing stories? What about entertaining people? Is your child funny? Does he/she work well with others? Would they be willing to put in extra time and energy to accomplish tasks in a team environment? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then your child may be interested in trying out for a Destination ImagiNation (DI) creative problem solving team.

Tryout forms have been sent home with third, fourth, and fifth grade students, and are due by October 7th. Tryouts will be held immediately after school on October 12th. Make sure your child returns the form and permission slip if they are interested in being involved in this fun and challenging after-school program!

This is a very popular program at MacArthur, and our goal is to place every interested child on a team. However, the number of teams we can form is limited by the number of adults who volunteer to be “team managers.” Teams of up to seven students generally start by meeting once a week, and then meet twice per week as the Regional Tournament draws closer (March 24, 2012). Please consider volunteering to manage a team! Training and program materials are provided. For more information on managing a team, contact Maureen Warnimont at 262-242-9631 (mwarnimont@germantown.k12.wi.us).

For more information on Destination ImagiNation, go to www.idodi.org.

ENROLLMENT AT MACARTHUR

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>CLASS SIZE</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
Kindergarten	23	Mrs. Books
Kindergarten	24	Mrs. Schwarten
Kindergarten	24	Mrs. Hauck
1	22	Mrs. King
1	21	Mrs. Pecunia
1	20	Mrs. Unruh
2	20	Mrs. Collins
2	20	Mrs. Doedens
2	20	Mr. Jacobson
3	24	Mrs. Brewer
3	23	Mrs. Dora
3	24	Mrs. Van Slett
4	22	Mrs. Berglund
4	22	Mr. Greifenkamp
4	22	Mrs. Niedfeldt
5	26	Mrs. Besonen
5	25	Mrs. Biermann
5	24	Mrs. Lehouillier
	406	



October 3	12:20 Early Release
October 6	Market Day Pick-up
October 7	Mactoberfest
October 12	K-2 Fire Safety Presentations 4th Grade to Halquist Stone
October 13	2nd grade Field Trip 7:00 PTA Meeting
October 25	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 26	2:45 Harvest Parties
October 27-28	No School
October 31—Nov 4	Scholastic Book Fair

Fundraisers

The fall fundraiser has been sent home. The fundraiser deadline is September 29 with a delivery of November 3. For more information regarding the fundraiser please contact Julie Oswald at jsoswald@wi.rr.com.

PTA News

Just a reminder of other ways to help MacArthur with fundraising:

- * Designate MacArthur Elementary as your school of choice on your Target REDcard® and 1% of your Target purchases will come back to our school.
- * Market Day order forms are sent home monthly. It is an easy way to order delicious tasting food with a portion of sales coming back to MacArthur school.



Please clip and save the following labels to earn free stuff for the school:

- *Box Tops for Education* – Remember to hand in your cupcake contest collection sheets by October 7 (visit www.boxtops4education.com for more Box Top contests & info)
- *Receipts from McDonalds* – Hand in ongoing to your teacher
- *Campbell's Labels for Education* – Hand in ongoing to your teacher
- *Kemps & Dean's milk caps* – Hand in ongoing to your teacher

For more information on labels contact Kris Sapinski at ksapinski1@wi.rr.com.



Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be running from October 31st - November 4th in the library.

Students will have an opportunity to shop with their class and at recess during the school day. The book fair will be open on Thursday evening, November 3rd, during parent-teacher conferences. The PTA recently purchased \$3700 worth of guided reading books for grades 3-5 with the money made from fairs.

Mactoberfest & Basket Raffle

Please mark your calendars for Friday, October 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. for Mactoberfest and Basket Raffle. We are still in need of several volunteers to make this wonderful event happen. Please feel free to contact Brenda Kunz at bandbkunz@hotmail.com if willing to volunteer. Mactoberfest is a great family event with food, DJ, pumpkin patch, horse races, make your own caramel apple or pumpkin cookie and basket raffle.



PTA Meeting

Please join us at the next PTA meeting Thursday, October 13, 7:00 p.m. in the library. Jennifer Ganske, Director of Teaching and Learning, will be discussing the purpose of NWEA MAP testing for grades 3-5 and Mrs. Schneider will showcase Skyward Family Access. Free child care is available.