

The Raider Times

Emmons School District 33



Volume 1, Number 15

February 13, 2009

Emmons is students, staff, parents, and community working together to prepare our students for a successful future through excellent experiences and growth opportunities.



Wednesday Night is Emmons Night at Chili's... We are very happy to announce a new, ongoing fundraiser for Emmons School: Chili's Wednesday. Every Wednesday between now and the end of June, the Chili's Restaurant located at 300 E. Rollins Road in Round Lake Beach will donate 10% of your total bill back to Emmons School. All you need to do to participate is to present the Emmons School coupons to the server when you order. Coupons are located on our website under the "Raider Times" link and can also be obtained in the school office. The coupons online are electronic – download them and forward them to your friends, neighbors, and relatives! Besides visiting the restaurant on Wednesday nights, patrons can also use the coupons on fax (847-201-1876) or phone-in (847-201-1289) orders. One area school district received a check for more than \$400 through this program for the months of October-December. We are grateful to Chili's for this wonderful opportunity and hope that all of our families and friends participate!

Emmons List Serv Now Available... Parents interested in receiving notes, mail, and important updates from Emmons School electronically can now sign up for this service on the front page of our website. Once you have subscribed to this free service, you will receive notification of sports/activity schedule changes, newsletters, and emergency closing information via the email address you provide. All of our parents should take advantage of this great new service!

Board Meeting Date Changed... The February meeting of the Emmons Board of Education has been moved up one week, to next Thursday, February 19th, at 7:00pm in the school library.

Emmons to Mars Prepares for Blast Off!... Those lucky 7th graders! They are the first class at Emmons to experience two space missions at the Challenger Learning Center for Science and Technology in Woodstock, Illinois. During our visit two years ago – as fifth graders - students prepared to rendezvous with Comet Wild2 in the NASA’s Stardust Mission. The Stardust space probe returned to earth in January 2004 with samples of the comet’s tail. Now as 7th graders, we are preparing for a mission to Mars on Thursday, February 26. The successful Phoenix mission, during Mars’ summer season in 2008, looked for evidence of water in the frozen polar soil. As part of our work, we’ll look at past and future missions to the red planet. Our student astronauts will prepare for their jobs as part of a close-knit team, knowing that the success of any mission requires teamwork and problem-solving. Though it can’t happen in real life on any mission, let alone a typical 10 month one-way trip, our astronauts will experience both the tension and clamor of mission control for half of their mission and the work routine of keeping a manned space ship going during the other half. That means conducting science experiments, sending data back to Earth, ensuring the environmental and medical safety of the group, and constructing a probe that will be launched toward one of Mars’ potato-shaped moons.

Back Packs for Open Arms... Emmons School second graders have planned and will run a Back Pack Food Drive for Antioch’s Open Arms Mission. Now through Friday, March 13th, our second graders will collect, sort, and count a variety of canned and non-perishable food items that we will send to Open Arms’ food pantry for their Back Pack Program. Through this program, the pantry fills backpacks with nutritious snacks and gives them to needy children on the weekends. Currently, 42 elementary-age children participate in this program. Our second graders are going the “extra degree” by collecting items like canned fruit, instant oatmeal, juice boxes, individually packaged cereal, instant soup and macaroni and cheese and then getting them ready for a Friday pick-up we have arranged with the social worker at Open Arms. Please contact Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Blake at (847) 395-1105 if you would like to contribute any items to this program or if you have any questions.

Mix It Up for Summer... Our next Mix-It-Up Day is scheduled for next Thursday, February 19th. This month’s activities will celebrate a Summer theme. Students and teachers are encouraged to take their Hawaiian shirts, shades, and flip flops out of storage for this special event. We will have music and picnic-style games during lunch and recess, as well as sno-cones for all the kids. The warm weather this week was a great preview – we are excited for the real thing!

Emmons PTO Family Fun Fest is Coming Soon... Parents, please save the date of Saturday, February 21 – we are holding our annual FREE community carnival from 6:00-8:00pm in the Tabar Gymnasium and MPR that evening. The night will feature some of your favorite Fun Fest traditions, such the Cake Walk, face painting, and food. We may also have a few new surprises this year. Parents are asked to bring their baked goods for the Cake Walk to school on

Friday, February 20th or the 21st before 6:00pm. The PTO is also looking for volunteers for this event – if you are interested in helping us, please contact Mrs. Melanie Gelandner at (847) 838-5751 or via e-mail at gelx5@aol.com. Thank you for making this event possible!

Outstanding Math and Science Teachers... Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society - Abbott Laboratories Chapter, in conjunction with the Lake County Regional Office of Education, is looking to recognize outstanding math and science teachers at grades 1-5 and 6-8. We feel we have several teachers who fit the bill here at Emmons. **Nominations for this award must be made by students.** Criteria for receiving this recognition include a demonstrated commitment to teaching, the use of innovative methods and approaches to teach math and science concepts, and the instilling into students the value of math and science education. The deadline for submitting nominations to Sigma Xi is March 20th, 2009. Students interested in completing a nomination form should see Mrs. Pratt in the office.

National Law Day Contests... President Eisenhower declared May 1st of each year as Law Day in 1958. This year, the County of Lake is sponsoring a Law Day essay contest to coincide with the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday. The theme of the contest is “Lincoln’s Dream: Government of the People, by the People, for the People”. This essay contest is open to all 7th and 8th graders in Lake County; essays are limited to 250 words or fewer. Deadline for this contest is Friday, April 10th. Students in grades K-6 have the opportunity to participate in Coloring and Poster Contests related to this theme. These deadlines are April 10th also. Interested students should see Dr. Machak for contest details.

The Week Ahead...

Monday, February 16th	NO SCHOOL – PRESIDENTS’ DAY
Tuesday, February 17th	Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library Girls’ Bball (All Levels) – vs. North Prairie 4:15/5:15pm PTO Meeting – 7:00pm District Office Conference Room
Wednesday, February 18th	Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library 6 th Grade Girls’ Bball – vs. AUGS 4:15pm Market Day Pick-Up 4:30-6:00pm
Thursday, February 19th	Mix it Up Day – Summer Theme – All Lunch Periods Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library 6 th Grade Girls’ Bball – at Johnsburg 4:15pm 8 th /7 th Grade Girls’ Bball – vs. Big Hollow 4:15/5:15pm
Friday, February 20th	Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library
Saturday, February 21st	PTO Family Fun Night – 6:00-8:00pm

REMINDER: We will have no school on Monday, February 16th in honor of Presidents’ Day.