



Van Buren Roadrunner News

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November 2016

Principal's Message

Hello Van Buren Families,

Well the first trimester has come to an end! This is always an exciting, though sometime anxious, time of year for our students. They receive their first report card and are able to better understand the progress they are making toward the end of the year grade level standards. Typically, parents and teachers meet to discuss the expectations of the grade level and how their child is moving toward mastery of those standards. Additionally, student progress toward the acquisition of necessary study skills such as organization, time management, responsibility, work completion, participation, communication, collaboration and critical thinking are also discussed. Because these meetings address all areas of student learning, I always recommend that students attend the conference with their parents. By doing so, we not only respectfully honor their ability to participate in such a conversation, we ensure that the information they receive is clear and specific to their achievement. In such a meeting, we model open conversation about areas of strength and need and what is necessary to achieve the desired outcome. We also discuss the teamwork that is necessary, between home and school, to support that outcome. Students leave the meeting with a clear understanding of their individual progress so far, and what is expected in moving forward. After the meeting, parents and students can continue to discuss the specific plan of action they will use to reach their end of the year goal for learning. Parents, you can now act as facilitator in a collaborative discussion that allows your child to think of ways to improve their achievement and progress in school. You will likely be surprised by what they come up with when you put more of that responsibility on them. Each child can devise and execute a plan for improvement with just a bit of support and oversight from you. Always advise, encourage and praise your child's effort in doing so. When things do not go as planned and they do not achieve what they hoped for, help them accept the disappointment and strategize what to do differently next time. Assisting them in understanding that school can be difficult and in working through challenges to do better next time, will lay a foundation of courage and confidence that will serve your child well throughout his/her life.

As the year progresses, please find ways to stay involved in your student's learning. Ask them about school and listen to their thoughts and ideas. Read TO them and WITH them EVERYDAY and discuss the stories you are sharing. Allow them to complete homework and projects on their own as much as possible. They can do much more that they think they can. Remember... the PROCESS of learning is most important. If they have a rough day with learning or behavior, use that as teaching moment so they will do better next time. Remind them of your expectations, what they could/should have done differently, and how to accept the consequences of their actions. And then move on. This will continue to help them realize that they are simply learning and that is good.

I wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday filled with family, friends and a whole lot of gratitude!

Gratefully,
Connie Roe - Principal

Inside this Issue:

Principals Message	1
PTA Message	1
STARS	2
Kids Swap Meets	2
PTA Membership	2
Upcoming Events	2
Jogathon Sponsors	2
Box Tops	3

A Note From Your PTA

To the Van Buren Community,

I would like to start off by thanking our volunteers that have helped get our programs up and running this year. We had a terrific Jog-a-thon and raised \$33,000 to support our programs for this year. We would not have been able to have it without our terrific parent volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a few of them, **Jennifer Chaffers, Lori Nakashima, Joeylynn VanGinkel, Jennifer Lee, Michele Santiago, Chris Thomsen** and the many other volunteers that helped make the event successful.

We also held our first ever Trunk or Treat, it was a great success and we would like to thank Michelle Davidson and all of her helpers for putting on this event. We had over 27 Trunks, Tacos and a dance floor. Our PTA would like to thank all the students and teachers who helped support our Fundraising efforts. All money raised will go directly to supporting our

students, teachers and staff. Some of the programs we have already supported this year are Movie Night, Scholastic News, Ticket to Read, Brainpop and our BMX Stunt show for Red Ribbon Week.

We would like to thank everyone who has joined PTA we are close to reaching our goal, if you haven't yet joined Van Buren PTA (it is never too late to join), we have extra forms in the front office, or you can also download the membership form on our school web site, under PTA. The cost is \$7 per member per year, and also includes many discounts which can be viewed @ <http://downloads.capta.org/mem/PerksFlier.pdf>. Congratulations to Mrs. Pang's class they won a pizza party for the most memberships turned in.

Sincerely,
Marshall Burke - PTA President
miburke@wmfinc.com

Our Van Buren STARS Shine!

These students have demonstrated STARS behavior:

- ★ Ellie De Jong
- ★ Chloe Lee



Congratulations - Keep up the good work!

Kids Swap Meet

Save the date! The 6th grade class will be having a Kids Swap Meet on

Saturday, December 10th from 8am - 11am

Additional information to follow.

JOG-A-THON 2016!

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and effort to make this another successful Jog-a-thon!

TOP EARNERS

Kendra Adams \$920
 Ryan Rendon-Fetters \$567
 Levi Betts \$450

PLATINUM LEVEL

Able Wire EDM, Inc.	The Adams Family
Adams & Anderson Insurance	The Haina Family
Cooks Tire & Tune	Dunkin Donuts
The Ju Family	Westcoast
Freevoice, Inc.	

GOLD LEVEL

Czech & Howell, APC	The Ruvalcaba Family
Patricia Reynolds	The Winkler Family
Service Champions	TS Carpet & Design Center
The O'Connor Family	Yamko Truck Lines.

SILVER LEVEL

The Burke Family
 The Lee Family
 The Terry Family
 The Yam Family
 TRC Garage Doors
 Trombly Baseball
 SGA Medial Billing Services, Inc.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Carl's Jr.
 Chick-Fil-A
 Chili's
 Concourse Bowling Center
 Craftsman Pizza
 Islands
 Lamppost Pizza
 Laser Island
 Yogurtland

PTA Membership Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners!

1st Place –Stacie Olmstead (Madison Olmstead)

\$50 Craftsman gift card
 \$5 Scholastic Book Fair Bucks

2nd Place – Michael Wiggington (Morgan Wiggington)

\$25 Target Gift Card – His VBE Student
 1 week front of the lunch line/choice seating pass

3rd Place – Jennifer Bautista (Cristofer Chen)

\$15 Starbucks Gift Card – Her VBE Student
 1 week front of the lunch line/ choice seating pass

4th Place– Lisa Haina (Lani, Cody and Casey Haina)

\$15 Starbucks Gift Card
 1 week front of the lunch line/ choice seating pass

Classroom with the highest membership forms returned with dues and winner of the pizza party paid for by the Van Buren PTA is ... **Mrs. Pang's 2nd grade** classroom who had 33 memberships!! Amazing!!

As of the end of October our PTA Membership total is at 363 Members! **Way to go Roadrunners!!**

Upcoming Events: November

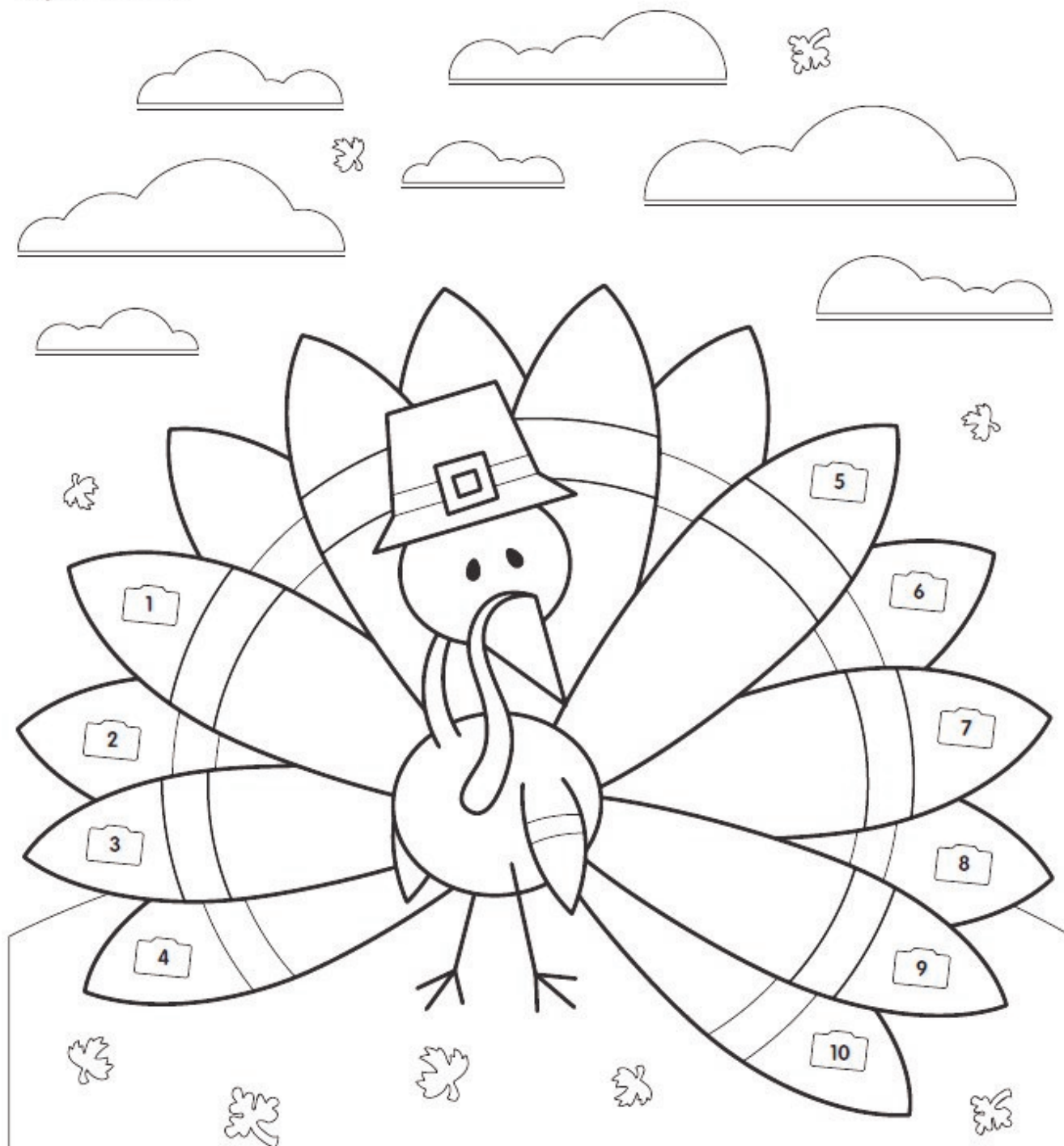
- Nov 9** Musical Theatre - Toyland Rehearsal 1:15PM-3:30PM
- Nov 11** **NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day**
- Nov 15** Science on the Go
- Nov 16** Minimum Day - **12:45PM EARLY RELEASE**
- Nov 18** **NO SCHOOL - Parent Conferences**
- Nov 21 - Nov 25** **NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Holiday**
- Nov 30** Musical Theatre - Toyland Rehearsal 1:15PM-3:30PM
- Dec 2** Awards Assembly
Coffee with the Principal (2nd & 3rg Grade) 8AM-9AM
- Dec 10** OSS Swap Meet

Box Tops for Education

Box Tops can be turned into the office or **Mrs. Laporte**. Just glue or tape 10 Box Tops to the half sheet below with the student name and teacher. Each sheet is entered into a drawing for \$10 Target Gift Cards! The more Box Top sheets that you turn in, the better your chance of winning a gift card!



It's turkey time! Show your school how thankful you are with 10 Box Tops.



Name

Grade

Teacher's Name