

Greetings,

**Pennies for Patients!** Sorry to be such a pain, we rev your kids up and they come home wanting to donate everything in their piggy bank. I want all of you to know that I say several times a day to our students that giving is optional and that all students should talk to their parents or people at home to decide what, if any, your family can donate. We speak regularly about why we are fundraising and I break it down as simply as I can, "Because we can help others." I often tell kids that as people/humans we can help one another and especially those in need. We try hard to connect our kids to the community around them and guide them into thinking about how they can help others.

Our total goal for this year is \$6,000, if we reach that total then I will camp out on the roof of the school one evening in May. Additionally, any student/family that raises \$100 total throughout the three week campaign can camp out on the front lawn at the same time. Additionally, if a parent posts a link to their child's online giving page at least 10 times or send an email containing a link to a student online giving page to at least 10 contacts will also qualify to camp out with us. It would be fun to have a whole-school camp out! More details will follow as to our expectations for this camp out if/when we make our goal.

### **TESTING UPDATE**

Additional note, we are in the midst of winter screening and assessments. All students will be given a FAST test in both math and reading along with reading fluency and reading levels. Additionally, we administer the CoGAT to both second and fourth grade...The **Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)** is a multiple-choice test designed to measure a child's academic aptitude and gifted abilities. We use this test a one way to determine which students should be in our GATEs program.

Thanks for having such great kids!

Take care,

Scott

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### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

- 01/16 Pastries for Parents, 7:45-8:45am in the Cafeteria
- 01/16 Kindergarten RoundUp, 4:30-6:00pm -or- 6:30-8:00pm
- 01/17 Teacher Professional Day - NO SCHOOL
- 01/20 Teacher Professional Day - NO SCHOOL
- 01/23 Variety Show, 7:00pm
- 01/23 1st Semester Reports Cards posted to Family Access
- 01/27 PTA Meeting, 6:30-8:30pm, Media Center - CARNIVAL PLANNING

### **PENNIES FOR PATIENTS**

Our Pennies for Patients collection will run from January 13-31. Information sheets are coming home with students today. Remember you can donate online anytime during the 3-week period. In-school giving days are as follows:

### **BRING CHANGE...BE THE CHANGE**

- 01/13 Give a PENNY Day
- 01/14 Give a NICKEL or DIME Day
- 01/15 Give a QUARTER Day
- 01/16 Give a DOLLAR Day

### **DOLLAR DRESS-UP DAYS**

- 01/21 HAT Day
- 01/22 FUTURE OCCUPATION Day
- 01/23 CLASS COLOR Day
  - Kdgn - Purple
  - Grade 1 - Yellow
  - Grade 2 - Green
  - Grade 3 - Red
  - Grade 4 - Blue
- 01/24 PAJAMA Day

### **PASTRIES FOR PARENTS JANUARY 16TH, 7:45-8:45AM**

During this event, parents are invited to join their children at school for a light breakfast. Shirley Hills teachers will be serving pastries, fruit & beverages. In conjunction with Caring for Our Community Month, we will be collecting donations for the Ronald McDonald House. Items such as paper plates, ziploc bags, juice boxes and dishwasher soap would be greatly appreciated. Attached is a link of items the RMH is currently in need of. Please bring donations to the office, prior to January 15th, or the morning of the event. We hope to see you there!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0948AEAD22AAFD0-pastries1>

### **FREE DENTAL CARE FEBRUARY 7 & 8, 2020**

[Give Kids a Smile](#) is a free charitable dental event for kids (typically ages 3-18), brought to you by Minnesota Dental Association, the Minnesota Dental Foundation, and volunteer dental clinics

statewide. Because this program is focused on providing dental care to children who face barriers to accessing dental care, families will NOT be asked any eligibility questions

After January 1, parents can locate a participating clinic by visiting [www.mndental.org](http://www.mndental.org) or by calling United Way 2-1-1 (simply dial 2-1-1). You can then contact the clinic directly to schedule an appointment.