

# MADRID TIGER TIMES

\*\*\*\*\*

VOLUME 20

ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 2008

\*\*\*\*\*

## DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

"The community of Madrid will work together to maximize the ability of all students to succeed in society."

\*\*\*\*\*

## HIGH SCHOOL PLAY – NOVEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup>

Come watch the “witches” save Fairytale Land on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM on the Elementary stage. *Holka Polka* is the name of the play written by D. M. Bocaz-Larson and performed by some very talented Madrid High School students. Please come help support the Drama Department and enjoy the show!

Monica Titus, Drama Sponsor

\*\*\*\*\*

## VOCAL NOTES HOLIDAY CONCERTS SCHEDULED

The Kindergarten and First grade will present “40 Winks “Til Christmas” on Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the high school gym.  
Grades 2 – 6 will perform “An All-American Christmas” at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 4th in the high school gym.

\*\*\*\*\*

## W.C.V. CONFERENCE VOCAL FESTIVAL

The West Central Valley Conference Vocal Festival will be held in Glidden-Ralston on Tuesday, November 11.  
The students will rehearse with other vocal students in the conference that afternoon and come together as a mass choir for a concert at 7:00 p.m. Admission will be charged at the door.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FIRST GRADE FUNDAMENTALS

It was good to have a chance to visit with each of you parents at conference time. We have had the pleasure of working with your children for the first quarter and it was nice to be able to share how well they are doing here at school.

Although we hate to admit it, winter is fast approaching. Boys and girls will need to have coats, hats, boots, and mittens. It is sad to see so many of those items end up in the Lost and

Found box because they were not labeled with a name. A permanent marker can help to settle the argument of whom it belongs to. You might want to have a label night. Have fun and add stars or hearts or special decorations. If it is on the inside it won't hurt a thing and will make the items of clothing easier to identify.

We are working very hard on learning the words on our word fluency lists. We have had excellent help from America Reads students from Iowa State University and volunteers from our own community. Every word that a child can recognize easily makes reading a story less tiring and much more fun. The children really enjoyed a story about Cinderquacker – a duck who is a Cinderella type story character. You should hear the expressions when the Prince and Cinderquacker smooch at the end. That's not a real favorite of a first grade boy!

Thanks so much for your excellent work in returning homework and folders when needed. The communication between home and school is essential for all of us. Enjoy a great holiday.

Haley Hippen, Nikki Paradise-Williams, & Linda Silver, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teachers

\*\*\*\*\*

### **THIRD GRADE THOUGHTS**

With the first quarter of school over, the students (and teachers) are well into the routine of school. Our schedules have become easier to remember and follow.

Thank you to all the parents who attended meet the teacher night and your child's conference. Keeping communication open between home and school helps insure that the students have a successful school year.

Cursive writing has begun with the students learning and practicing many letters and forming those letters into words. The students are enthusiastically looking forward to writing in cursive this year.

Parents of the third graders have been invited to share their jobs/careers with their child's class. Some parents have already shared their occupations, and we are looking forward to having other parents share how skills acquired in school are important in the working world as well.

We wish to thank all our parents who have provided a snack for the students in their child's class. The students look forward to the daily snack, and these healthy snacks help keep students' attention on their grumbly, rumbly tummies, since our lunch is eaten at 12:30 p.m.

Again, we want to thank our parents for all the cooperation and support you have given us so far this school year.

Denise Hiveley, Annette Polich, and Kristi Sexton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teachers

\*\*\*\*\*

### **FIRST RATE FIFTH**

**Will The Fifth Grade Cast the Deciding Vote?**

The big news in fifth grade is the presidential election. The fifth grade class will be learning about the election process to coincide with the presidential election. The students will be searching the views of each of the presidential candidates. After the students have researched the views they will share them with the class. The students will be able to cast their vote in a homemade voting booth. Will the students choose the same president that our country chooses? We will have to wait to see.

**Will Mrs. Eustice stop calling Science - Social Studies?**

After teaching Social for twenty some years I still find myself asking students to take out the wrong book. But I am getting better and am thoroughly enjoying teaching Science! We have learned about the processes and skills scientists use to classify living organisms and we have grown more mold and watched more yeast than you can imagine! But it has been fun! Our new topic is the cell – the building block of all living things.

**Will you take out the white boards?**

Almost every day student’s are asked this question and by now they know its time for mental math and guided practice. The time seems to be a highlight of every Math lesson. This first quarter we’ve been focusing on strategies that will help students complete math mentally. This is truly a different technique than solving problems in your head as you would with a paper pencil. Students are doing great and the knowledge they gain will help them in school and as they go through life.

**Who won the Spelling Bee?**

After each unit in Spelling we have a spelling bee. We have found that the activity keeps the words ingrained for longer periods of time and it helps as a preparation for the Unit Test. In our first unit our winners were Aaron Swanson, Monica Snider, and Acey Zander. How proud I was that all three winners were from my homeroom! Great job to all fifth graders for the fine showing at the event!

Chris Eustice & Andy Stoecken, 5t Grade Teachers

\*\*\*\*\*

**A BIG THANKS TO WILCOX PRINTING**

Mr. Hansen and his elementary art students would like to thank Dennis Wilcox of Wilcox Printing for their donation of large white paper to the elementary art program. This paper will be used to make student portfolios that house all of their artwork for the year. This generous donation will be greatly appreciated throughout the year. Thanks again to WILCOX PRINTING for their community charity.

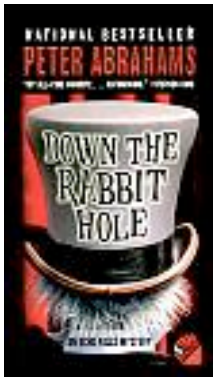
\*\*\*\*\*

**7-12 LIBRARY CORNER**

This has been a busy month as I have been traveling back and forth between the elementary building and the high school building during the day. The first set of library skills lessons is complete, and I believe they were successful. The first grade learned the difference between

fiction and nonfiction, and the second grade worked on the different parts of a book and how to find fiction books in the library. The third grade created a map of the library, and learned about the Dewey Decimal system and the online catalog. The fourth graders practiced using the Dewey Decimal system and using the online catalog for a subject search. Fifth grade learned how to conduct a Boolean search and evaluate websites, and sixth grade worked on using online databases and website evaluation. Hopefully everyone learned something new that will help them in their use of the library!

**Library Wish List:** Gently used books (hardback or paperback); clear contact paper; potted plants (real or fake)



**Book Review: Down the Rabbit Hole**

Sherlock Holmes, Alice in Wonderland, red Pumas, and a ditzzy dog. What do these things have in common? They are all in Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls Mystery, by Peter Abrahams, a 2008-2009 Iowa Teen Award winner, which features Ingrid, a young girl busy with friends and family, soccer, and acting in the community playhouse. Through a series of events, she ends up being in the wrong place at the wrong time, and is caught up in a murder mystery that the whole town is talking about. But will Ingrid be able to figure out the mystery before she is implicated in the murder...or worse? Read Down the Rabbit Hole, available at the junior/senior high library.

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE PILLOWCASE PROJECT**

This years 7<sup>th</sup> graders are taking a class called Skills for Living where one of their goals is learning basic sewing skills. As a final project, each student will be making a pillowcase to donate to Blank Children’s Hospital or Mary Greeley Medical Center. Since every 7<sup>th</sup> grader will be involved in the project, we are in need of a lot of fabric! If you have extra fabric lying around, we would love to turn it into pillowcases for these kids. We are looking for children’s print fabrics in scrap sizes larger than 1/3 of a yard. If you have any questions about this project or if you have fabric you would like to donate, please contact Megan Phillips at 515/795-3240 or [mphillips@madrid.k12.ia.us](mailto:mphillips@madrid.k12.ia.us).

\*\*\*\*\*

**MADRID BANDS: EPITOME OF STYLE, SOUND, AND SCHOOL SPIRIT!**

This years marching band took part in the Oktoberfest Parade competition in Marshalltown and earned 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Class 1A. Congratulations! The band has also done an outstanding job of supporting our great football team at the home games this year. I would like to thank all of you for such a great start to the year! Our focus has now turned to two upcoming events for the concert bands. The first is the High School Conference Honor Band Festival. This year Madrid will be hosting this fine event at the high school on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. The concert will begin at 7:00pm and tickets may be purchased at the door; \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. We hope to see you there!

Our second event will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Band Extravaganza! It will be held in the High School gymnasium on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm. The concert will feature the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior High, and High School concert bands. There will also be several small groups performing traditional Christmas carols. We hope you will begin your holiday season with us, and a few friends.

Thanks again for a great start to the year! Go Tigers!

Brad Cook, 5-12 Band Instructor

\*\*\*\*\*

**PERFORMING ARTS COUNCIL (PAC) NEEDS YOU!!!**

The Madrid Performing Arts Council (PAC) is looking for sponsors this year to support the performing arts in the school. Enclosed is a flier explaining this need and opportunity. Your continued support is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

In addition to sponsorships, we are looking for individuals to serve on the council as directors. The time commitment to this group is very small. PAC meets the first Monday of every month (usually not in January or in the summer) from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the ICN room at the high school. We are seeking individuals with children in school, as well as individuals from the community. Please consider joining PAC. Besides just a little bit of your time each month all you need to bring is your interest in supporting the arts. If you have any questions or would like to join, please contact PAC President, Katie Baumgarn at 795-3441 or Principal, Mark Cosens at 795-2505.

\*\*\*\*\*

**2008-2009 SCHOOL LUNCH/BREAKFAST PRICES**

At the July 14, 2008 school board meeting the board of education voted to raise the price of lunch and breakfast due to increased cost to purchase supplies from vendors. The daily prices are as follows:

- Student Breakfast = \$1.15
- Student Lunch = \$1.75
- Milk = 35¢
- Adult Breakfast = \$1.40
- Adult Lunch = \$2.55

There is to be no charging of meals. All account must have money in them in order for your child to eat. If there is no money in your child's account they will be served a cheese sandwich, fruit and milk for 5 days. After the 5 days they will not be served a meal. Please make sure your child has money in their account.

Free & reduced applications are available at the elementary & high school offices, and the administrative center.

\*\*\*\*\*