

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2010

- 1 New Year's Day – NO SCHOOL
- 4 School Resumes
- 7 Rockwood Board Meeting, Crestview MS, 7:00PM
- 8 2nd Quarter BEARS Assemblies, (KAM, 3, 4, 5) 9:00 AM,
(KPM, FDK, 1, 2), 2:00 PM
- 12 Report Cards Go Home
- 15 **Early Dismissal 12:08AM**, (Students dismissed 12:08PM.
PM Kindergarten attends during AM, LUNCH IS SERVED.)
School Spirit Day – "TIE DAY", wear your favorite tie
- 18 NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 Abilities Awareness Day
- 22 6th Grade Curriculum Night – Selvidge MS, 7:00PM
- 28 Rockwood Board Meeting, Crestview MS, 7:00PM
- 29 BEAR TRACKS
PSO Trivia Night, 7 – 10:30PM

CHARACTER EDUCATION

The Character Education word for the month of January is **COOPERATION**. Working together to accomplish a task is the goal for January. Classroom teachers stress to their class the importance of working together to accomplish common goals. Please make time to discuss with your child the importance of cooperation and how it has been important in your life. Students learn best when they can apply lessons to real life situations.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Early Dismissal Days

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming staff development days. It is very important to inform your child's teacher of any transportation changes on these days. School Dismissed at 12:08PM – PM Kindergarten attends from 8:23AM to 12:08PM, LUNCH IS SERVED. For more calendar information please visit www.rockwood.k12.mo.us

September 15	December 8	March 2
October 13	January 15	April 1
November 5	February 12	May 4

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN MEETINGS

Dr. Roger Stock, Executive Director of Elementary Schools and the full-day kindergarten teachers will be hosting two open public full-day optional tuition-based kindergarten informational meetings for the 2010-11 school year for parents interested in the program and/or having questions concerning the program. Adventure Club information available will also be available at these meetings.

Date: January 6, 2010
Time: 6:30-7:30PM
Place: Crestview Middle School (Theatre)
2730 Valley Road
Chesterfield, MO 63005

Date: January 13, 2010
Time: 6:30-7:30PM
Place: Early Childhood Center at Vandover (GYM)
1900 Hawkins Road
Fenton, MO 63026

2010-11 Kindergarten Registration

Once again it is almost time for kindergarten registration. If your child is 5 years old by July 31, 2010, he or she is eligible for enrollment

in the Fall. There is no early testing or enrollment for children who are not 5 years old by July 31, 2010. Please plan to pick up an enrollment packet during these enrollment sessions:

February 3rd - 8AM-6:30PM

February 4th - 7AM-3PM

There is no tuition for half-day kindergarten. "Full Day" kindergarten is a fee-based program designed to complement rather than accelerate the half-day program. It follows the current kindergarten curriculum framework with activities designed to meet the developmental needs of the child. For more information please visit www.rockwood.k12.mo.us. The following documents are necessary to enroll your child in kindergarten.

- Original birth certificate (hospital certificates are not accepted)
- Two proofs of residency, unpaid utility bill (gas, electric/water only), purchase/rental agreement, or personal property tax receipt
- Child's immunization records
- Emergency phone numbers

Parents who are divorced or living apart and who either share physical custody of the child or the parental rights of one of the parents has been terminated, must have one or more of the following documents to complete the enrollment process:

- Decree of Dissolution of Marriage
- Separation Agreement
- Custody Agreement (Physical custody by parent enrolling child)
- Court order termination parental rights

If the situation is such that there are no court documents AND both parents are listed on the BIRTH CERTIFICATE, the parent enrolling the child must have a notarized letter from the other parent stating that he/she is aware the child is living with the other parent AND has permission to enroll the child in the Rockwood School District. This is in accordance with the Missouri Safe Schools Act, August 26, 1996. REMINDER FOR KINDERGARTEN (and new to Missouri first grade) PARENTS:

Missouri mandate of July 2008 specifies a comprehensive vision exam for kindergarten, performed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. Contact the nurse or see Rockwood's website, www.rockwood.k12.mo.us under parent resources, new enrollment, for exam form. Exams are due to the school nurse by January 1, 2010 – or if you wish to waive this requirement, contact the school nurse for a waiver form to sign.

OUTDOOR RECESS GUIDELINES

The Rockwood School District has developed guidelines for outdoor recess during extreme temperatures. It is important for all students to dress appropriately during extreme temperatures. The following guidelines have been developed by factoring in the wind chill and heat index.

Temperature (Including wind chill or heat index)	
Below 20 degrees	Stay Inside
20-95 degrees	Outside Normal Time
96 degrees & above	Stay Inside

KDG ADVENTURE CLUB REGISTRATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR!

Kindergarten Adventure Club registration for next year will be available at Kindergarten registration in the lobby on February 3-4, 2010. Kindergarten Adventure Club is a half day program for kindergartners in Rockwood School District that offers enrichment activities.

Adventure Club offers:

- Quality care
- Dedicated space at your child's elementary school
- Reasonable cost & Flexible schedule
- 1:12 staff ratio for Kindergarten,
- 1:16 staff ratio for Before and After
- Activity based curriculum
- Fees qualify for childcare tax credit and
- Flex Spending Plans

Registration for Fall 2010 begins for all students in 1st-6th grades on February 3rd. Students are placed on a first-come, first serve basis so sign up early! For more information, please call Debbie Nelson at the Vandover Campus, 636-861-7768.

SELVIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL 6th GRADE CURRICULUM NIGHT

Parents of fifth grade students living in the Selvidge Middle School attendance area are invited to attend the 6th grade curriculum night at Selvidge MS on **Wednesday, January 13th at 7:00PM**. Course description guides will be presented and all necessary information will be given for 6th grade course selection. This meeting is for **PARENTS ONLY**.

A counselor from SMS will present curriculum information to the 5th grade students at 1:05PM on Friday, January 8th. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions and will receive the middle school enrollment forms. It is important that parents assist students in completing the final enrollment forms. Parents/students can either enroll on-line or by filling out an enrollment form. Online registration begins at 7AM on January 22nd and closes on Monday; February 1st at 7AM. Enrollment forms can be turned in to their classroom teachers by Friday, February 5th. For more information, please call Dr. Sally Blackburn, Selvidge MS at (636) 207-2622, X225.

The Rockwood School District requires all fifth grade students to have a physical before entering the 6th grade. A physical exam dated after August 18, 2009 will be accepted.



BE HERE....BE ON TIME!

Regular attendance is crucial to your child's success in school. Tardiness (arrival after 8:23AM) and absences (any missed portion of the 390 minute day) are noted on your child's attendance records. Please remember that students can arrive as early as 8:08AM when the first bell rings. The second bell rings to start the official school day at 8:23AM. **You child's tardiness affects the learning of ALL students in the classroom!** Please teach your child responsibility by being here on time everyday.

ATTENDANCE LINE

If your child will be absent, please call the attendance line by 8:30AM at 636.207.2533 Press 1. Please do not email your child's classroom teacher with absence information. There are times when a teacher may be out of the building for meetings or not able to check their email until later in the day. Please CALL THE ATTENDANCE LINE by 8:30AM with absence information.

YEARBOOK SALES COMING SOON!

The 2009-10 yearbook pre-orders will be on sale soon. Order forms will be sent home on January 23, 2010. All yearbook order forms and payments must be turned in to the classroom teacher no later than February 5, 2010. To insure that your child is not disappointed, please turn in orders by this date, as we will not be able to purchase additional yearbooks after the deadline. Please take the opportunity to pre-order a yearbook because we may not have any extra yearbooks for sale in May.



The Department of Social Services provides many services for Missouri children through the MO HealthNet for Kids (MHK) Program, the state's healthcare program for children. Two divisions within the department, the Family Support Division and the MO HealthNet Division coordinate to provide these services. Do Your Children Need Health Coverage? Through the MO HealthNet for Kids program, children receive full, comprehensive coverage including primary, acute and preventative care, hospital care, dental and vision care as well as prescription coverage.

A MO HealthNet for Kids website www.dss.mo.gov/mhk has been created to help you find information on how to apply, who is eligible, what benefits are offered and how to find a health care provider in your area. The online application is at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhk/accept.html>.

Children may be eligible for MO HealthNet for Kids if: they are under age 19; they have been uninsured for 6 months or more (some exceptions apply); and their family's income is below the following amounts:

	Maximum MONTHLY Family Income			
FAMILY SIZE (Includes parents)	2	3	4	5
INCOME (can change annually)	\$3,643	\$4,578	\$5,513	\$6,448
Some families may be required to pay monthly premiums.				

For more information, please call 1-888-275-5908 Language translation services available, Text Telephone: 1-800-735-2966, TDD Voice Access: 1-800-735-2466 www.dss.mo.gov/mhk/index.htm. Approved by MO DSS MO HealthNet Division on July 10, 2009.

READ, RIGHT, AND RUN MARATHON

Ballwin Elementary will again be participating in the "Spirit of St. Louis Read, Right, and Run Marathon". An estimated **3000** students are expected to participate this year! WOW! The Spirit of St. Louis Marathon, a non-profit organization, sponsors the event. This is an exciting program that promotes a healthy lifestyle through reading and physical activity. Check out the website www.gostlous.com

The program is an ongoing event through out the 2009-10 school year. Each participant's goal is to read 26 different books, run a mile, and do a good deed for each book read. A journal is available to help with record keeping. A parent or teacher may sign-off on the journal. **Every participant receives a medal!**

On **April 10, 2010 (Forest Park)**, there will be a 1.2 mile run for elementary school students (grades K-5) participating in the Read, Right, and Run Marathon. Help make literacy and physical fitness a part of your child's daily life. Practices will be every Friday from 7:30AM-8:00AM in the gym. Hope to see you there!

Thanks for your participation - The Ballwin PE Staff

DIFFERENTIATED/ACCELERATED in SECOND GRADE

In second grade we continue to grow and learn through a variety of teaching strategies that accommodate different learning styles. **Reading** is taught in small ability groups and in flexible groups. Partner reading and shared readings with the whole class are also used. Assignments are differentiated using a variety of questions and individualized projects that check for reading comprehension.

Spelling words are pre-tested using second grade core words. Additional challenge words are used to create individualized lists for students who have achieved mastery of the core words. Writing is taught with whole group and small group instruction. Students learn the basics in writing mechanics, language usage, and the writing process. The students study various authors to explore fiction and non-fiction writing styles. Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum.

In **Math**, we do problem-solving activities to learn how to solve problems in everyday life situations. Students are accelerated with challenge activities and math games, including computer games. Students work individually and at their own level to memorize math facts using FASTT Math.

In **Science** and **Social Studies**, we build on the student's existing knowledge of their world. Often K-W-L charts are created. These tell what are developed based on their interests and background. Our family tradition projects are examples of this. There are opportunities for students to explore and inquire about the world through speakers, programs, field trips, and research. Thematic units integrate literature with these content areas.

We continue to grow by taking steps toward higher level thinking and striving to reach and achieve the goals we have set for ourselves.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SPORTS PROGRAMS

The Rockwood School District Community Education Department is offering new sports programs beginning in January 2010. The Adult Women's Volleyball League is for ages 18 and older and the Mighty Mites Basketball Program is an instructional basketball program for students in grades K-2. The registration deadline for both programs is Friday, January 8, 2010. To register or for more information about these programs and other Community Education programs, please visit www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/communityed or call 636-938-2307.

H1N1 VACCINE OFFERED AT TWO COUNTY HEALTH CENTERS

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY, MO – (December 10, 2009) The H1N1 vaccine will be available at two Saint Louis County Health Centers to any county resident 6 months of age or older starting on Monday, December 14th.

The H1N1 vaccination clinics are walk-in clinics; appointments will not be necessary. The vaccine will be available free of charge at the North Central Community Health Center, 4000 Jennings Station Road in Pine Lawn, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, except Thursday when the H1N1 clinic will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The vaccine will also be available at the South County Health Center, 4850 South Lindbergh Boulevard in Sunset Hills, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, except Wednesday when the H1N1 clinic will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

This is just the first step in making the vaccine more available to the general public. We will be announcing more locations in the near future," said Dr. Dolores G. Gunn, Director of the County Health Department. The department has already received more than 200,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine. Additional shipments are expected in the following weeks. Despite the availability of additional vaccine, the health department emphasizes that residents should not lower their guard. The traditional methods of prevention remain important:

- Cover your mouth whenever you sneeze or cough.
- Wash your hands regularly, especially after sneezing, coughing, or blowing your nose.
- Keep a distance of three feet between you and other people.
- Stay home if you are sick (or keep your children home if they are sick).
- Go home if you become sick (or pick your children up from school early if they become sick).

For more information, please visit the Health Department's flu website at www.SaintLouisCountyFlu.com

THE NATIONAL MYTHOLOGY EXAM

This year the National Mythology Exam is being offered to all interested Ballwin students in 3rd – 5th grade. This is a wonderful opportunity for those students with an interest in mythology to participate in a nationally recognized contest. For more information about this test, its format and fees, visit <http://www.etclassics.org/nme.html>. Please contact Mrs. Mel Caruso at melcaruso@yahoo.com prior to Jan 12th if your child would like to participate.