

Angling Road School Family Newsletter

Welcome to the week of October 13, 2008

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Angling Road Mission Statement: The teachers, staff, & parents of Angling Road School will educate our children to be confident, caring citizens, ready for the responsibilities & challenges of the future.

Electronic Angling Road Newsletters: Get the Angling Road School Newsletters by Email - just sign up by going to www.portageps.org, then *elementary*, then *angling road*. If you do not have email access, we will send a paper copy of the Newsletter home with your student.

CALENDAR DATES: Please return Road Rally pledge donations as soon as possible. We appreciate all students participating in our fundraiser. & our PTO for organizing this event!

- October 10: 1st Friday POPCORN Sale, \$0.25 during lunches
- October 14: Cross Country Fun Run, West Middle School 4:15 p.m.
- October 14-30: MEAP testing with all 3rd, 4th, 5th graders.
- October 15: Destination Imagination – West Middle School Little Theater, 6:30 p.m. Details in this newsletter.
- October 17: PIZZA NIGHT- save the date! 6:00-8:30 p.m.
- October 28: School Picture Retakes
- October 29-November 12th: Kalamazoo Institute of Arts Art Reach Display "Legacy and Promise" will be on display in the media center. This is sponsored by Educations for the Arts.
- October 31: All School Halloween Parade, 2:15 p.m. Class parties after the parade.
- November 14-26: SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR AT ANGLING ROAD! The Book Fair will also be available during Parent/Teacher Conferences November 24 & 25. Details coming later.
- November 24: PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES from 5:00-8:00 p.m. (This is a regular day of school for all students.)
- November 25: ½ Day of School for students with dismissal at 11:57 a.m. PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES, 1:00-4:00 p.m., and 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- November 26: No School for students.
- November 27-28: Thanksgiving Recess

PIZZA NIGHT TICKETS (\$4.00 EACH) WILL BE ON SALE BEFORE SCHOOL OCTOBER 13, 14, & 15, FROM 8:40-9:15 A.M.

Counselor's Corner ☺ We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week October 23-31. This is an event to promote a drug free lifestyle. We are asking parents to donate a large, wide spool of red ribbon by Oct. 17th so we can decorate our campus. We are also looking for happy gardeners and landscapers to help us plant 100 red tulip bulbs on Oct. 24th. If you are interested in helping with this event please contact Mrs. Figueroa @ 323-6075 or cfigueroa@portageps.org. Also, thanks to Mr. Rathburn for helping with our CREW bulletin board.

CHANGES IN END OF THE DAY ROUTINES: If your child's after school routine will change, please be sure to communicate this to your child and to your child's teacher prior to the school day that will be effected. The school secretaries can be overwhelmed by parental phone calls at the end of the school day requesting change in schedule information be relayed to students. These last minute exchanges of information can

result in confusion, mistakes, and possible unsafe situations for all involved – students, teachers, bus drivers, and parents. **Please provide teachers with a written explanation of any changes in your child's schedule that will be taking place and review the change with your child prior to sending him/her to school. Changes in bussing can only be made with advanced written authorization from the parent and approval from the Transportation Department. Please contact the Transportation Department (323-5151) a minimum of 24 hours in advance of requested changes in bussing.**

DELIVERY OF MESSAGES TO STUDENTS: In an effort to provide the least disruptive learning environment for students and teachers, messages regarding changes in end of the day routines, after school information and/or other communication, will be given to students at 3:30 p.m. each school day. **Office staff will not disrupt classes on a case by case basis, but instead will hold messages until 3:30 p.m.**

MEAP TESTING BEGINS on Tuesday, October 14th. Beginning Tuesday, October 14th; all 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders will be taking the MEAP (Michigan Education Assessment Program) tests. 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders will be taking Math and English Language Arts (Reading/Writing) with 5th grade also taking the Science MEAP. We expect MEAP testing to be concluded by October 23rd for most students. *Please do not schedule appointments for your students during these two weeks, if possible. We are only able to complete MEAP testing in a short time frame. We would appreciate it if all students have a hearty breakfast, get plenty of rest, and come to school ready to go! Thanks!*

MEDICATION DISTRIBUTION IN SCHOOL: In order to administer medications at school, written consent and instruction from a physician and parent/guardian is required. Call the office at 323-6000 for more information. **Please note that NO MEDICATIONS WILL BE ADMINISTERED AT SCHOOL WITHOUT REQUIRED PAPERWORK.**

Portage Community Center Offers Free Tutoring: The Portage Community Center offers a free tutoring program to students in grades K-12. Students are able to have a one-on-one tutoring session with a volunteer tutor once a week. To enroll, contact Tia for elementary school tutoring or Ruth for middle and high school tutoring at the Portage Community Center (323.1942) to receive a tutoring packet. According to the PCC, the top three reasons for tutoring are: to help students complete homework assignments, improve study skills and test scores, and achieve higher grades.

CROSS COUNTRY FUN RUN: Tuesday, October 14th, 4:15 p.m. The Portage Elementary physical education staff will host a 1 mile cross-country run for all elementary students in the Portage Public Schools. Parents must provide transportation to/from West Middle School. All participants will receive a certificate with their time on it & the first 300 finishers will receive a ribbon. Family members are invited to run too!

FALL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES – Please return your Parent Teacher Conferences forms as soon as possible. If you would like to meet with additional staff members, including Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Figueroa, Mrs. Minnard, Mrs. Russel, Ms. Split, and Mr. Zerban, please call the school office at 323-6000 to schedule conference appointments. If something unexpected comes up and you are unable to make your conference, please notify the teacher as soon as possible so your conference can be rescheduled.

CONFERENCES DATES:

Monday, November 24: 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Full Day of school for students

Tuesday, November 25: ½ day of school for students Dismissal at 11:57 a.m.

1:00 P.M. – 4:00 and 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Wednesday, November 26: No school for students

DESTINATION IMAGINATION -The E² staff is excited to be bringing Theresa Fougne, Director and Denise Cotter, Regional Director from Destination Imagination to share information about this unique enrichment program and discuss how parents can assist in bringing it to our school. Destination ImagiNation (www.idodi.com) teaches students the processes of Creative Problem Solving and teamwork in a fun, positive atmosphere. It is a community-based, non-profit, volunteer-driven educational organization which provides parent trainers with tools to encourage and develop these skills. Parents/PTO members interested in bringing Destination ImagiNation to our school, join us at 6:30 P.M., Wednesday, October 15th, West Middle School Little Theatre. RSVP: Portage Enrichment Center 323-5090.

**“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.
Anyone who keeps learning stays young.” (Henry Ford)**

