

# Angling Road School Family Newsletter

## Welcome to the week of February 8, 2010

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

*Parents: If you have digital pictures of any school events, we would like to include them in our 2009-2010 Angling Road School Yearbook. Please email them to Anne Marie Fleming - [thepamperedgal@yahoo.com](mailto:thepamperedgal@yahoo.com) by March 5. Thanks*

***February is Caring Month - A CAN for CANDy Drive Please bring a CAN of food and you get a CANDy-Gram to give to someone for Valentine's Day. February 1<sup>st</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Candy Grams are 25 cents. Sponsored by Student Council***

### **CALENDAR DATES: Please call in Student Absences - 323-6000.**

- February 9: Girls On The Run Shoe Fitting 1:55-2:50 p.m.  
February 10: "A River to Cross" Assembly - Von & Fran  
Washington, 10:00 a.m.  
February 11 – February 19: BOOK FAIR – flyers will be sent home soon  
***February 12: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report Cards sent home with all students.***  
February 12: PAJAMA DAY sponsored by Student Council  
February 12: VALENTINE'S DAY Classroom Parties 2:15 p.m.  
February 16: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting at North Middle School  
February 17 & 18: Angling Road Parent Teacher Conferences, 5:00-8:00  
p.m. Students/staff will have full school days.  
February 17: 5th Grade Human Growth & Development Parent  
Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Community Room, Portage  
Administration Building  
February 19: 5<sup>th</sup> Grades visit KIA  
February 19: BACKWARDS DAY (Wear Clothes Backwards) sponsored by  
Student Council  
February 19: After School Movie, sponsored by PTO, "Night at the Museum"  
February 25: WACKY HAIR or HAT DAY sponsored by Student Council  
February 26: Mid-Winter Break – NO SCHOOL for Students/Staff  
March 3: Pre-Kindergarten Parent Informational Meeting  
6:00 p.m. Cafeteria – This meeting is for parents/guardians of  
kindergartners for the 2010-2011 school year.  
March 10: Spring Pictures – details later!  
March 16: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Music Program, 6:30 p.m.  
March 16 & 18: Kindergarten Screening at Angling Road School  
March 18: GREAT SKATE NIGHT, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
March 26: Spring Friday – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS &  
STAFF  
March 29-April 2: SPRING BREAK - Back to School on April 5<sup>th</sup>!

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES** Last week, we had a great question from a parent about student-led conferences. I think that good questions are probably shared by others so I thought it was important to give parents some information about student-led conferences and why we do them in some grade levels. As a staff, we researched and talked about best practice ideas and how to most effectively relay student achievement/improvement/success data to parents. Research supports student led conferences because...

- Students are very aware of how they are doing, where they stand academically, and know their strengths and weaknesses
- This time gives students a chance to share that information with parents, share portfolios of school work, and share areas to focus on.
- Students are so honest about how they feel about school and often teachers and parents both gain valuable information from what the student is sharing
- During conference times, students can ask teachers questions, parents can do the same, and teachers can be a part of all of those conversations.
- We value students and teachers partnering to talk with parents about academic goals and school related issues
- The most effective and important part of student led conferences is the individual preparation work that the student and teacher does together. Teacher and student conference about academic goals, areas of strength, areas of improvement, and how the student and teacher can work together for the rest of the school year to accomplish those goals. As a part of student led conferences, students are given the time to talk with parents about their goals for the remainder of the school year.
- Student led conferences are probably the most beneficial to the student- students articulate their goals, hear clearly from parents and teachers areas to work on, how to improve, areas they are shining in, - it is fun to hear children recognize their strengths and what they like most about themselves.
- From a few staff members: "Often my students take the entire 15 minutes because they have saved several things to show their parents and explain. Most are done after 7-8 minutes so I can answer parent questions too." "I have been under the impression as parents leave that they really feel it is beneficial to their child...as it gives ownership of the progress and working toward goals to the child, as opposed to the child's view of "my teacher gave me a C." "Students are making PowerPoint slides to go along with their note cards that will be presented during conferences. The discussions and goal setting done prior to conferences between student and teacher is valuable."
- **Parents, please know that we realize there are times that you prefer to talk with the teacher when their son/daughter is not present. Parents always have the right to say they would like the child to leave when the student is finished sharing so the last 5 minutes parents can talk with teachers alone. We also know that 15 minutes is not enough time to talk with teachers about significant concerns you may have. We would always want you to feel free to contact the teacher or the principal for additional conference time/meeting.**
- ***We look forward to Parent/Teacher conferences on February 17 & 18. We appreciate your support and know that only when home and school work together are we truly able to help students accomplish their academic and social goals. Thank you for being such an active part of the process!***

**PARENTS – We are in need of parents to help make/sell POPCORN on FRIDAYS in April and May. Popcorn Fridays are 11:15-2:00! If you can help, please call Lisa Nagy at 321-8726, [lknagy1@live.com](mailto:lknagy1@live.com) or the school office at 323-6000. We LOVE POPCORN FRIDAYS!**

**Friday POPCORN Sales & generous donations, we collected \$1,183.97 for Meds & Food for**

**Kids (MFK) in Haiti! MFK's website [www.mfkhaiti.org](http://www.mfkhaiti.org)** We heard from Lori Dowd, Mrs. Jennifer Gilmour's sister, (Ryan, Colin, and Ella's aunt) who has just returned from Haiti. She writes, "the devastation is mind numbing. The nearly \$1,200.00 your school raised is truly a life saving gift! One of the ways we hope to use your generous donation is to help offset the cost of delivering Medika Mamba (this is the food supplement made from Haitian crops, similar to peanut butter) in Port-Au-Prince and surrounding areas. The MFK depot in Port-Au-Prince was miraculously untouched by the earthquake and the stock of Medika Mamba survived. We are currently distributing this food product to health care clinics, hospitals and two separate orphanages on the outskirts of Port au Prince. When I am back in Kalamazoo, I'd be happy to visit the school and share some of the photographs and video we've collected – **and now you're a part of.**" **Thank you again from the bottom of my heart, Lori Dowd. We look forward to Lori joining us for a CREW assembly about CREW in Action! How amazing that will be to meet and talk with her!**

**2010-2011 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:** Children who will be five years old on or before December 1, 2010 are eligible for kindergarten during the 2010-2011 school year. If you have a child or know of a neighborhood child who will be eligible to enroll in kindergarten during the 2010-2011 school year, please contact our school office at 323-6000 to register him/her. **Current Young Fives students do not need to register. Pre-Kindergarten Parent Informational Meeting will be Wednesday, March 3, 2010, 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.** Parents will receive information about Kindergarten Screening, necessary paperwork for school registration and schedule times/dates for your child's kindergarten testing. Kindergarten Screening will be held at Angling Road School, March 16 & March 18, 2010. Questions, call the office at 323-6000.