



Volume 8
Issue 5

Shooting Star Scoop

January 2013

The monthly newsletter for Nikiski North Star Elementary
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
nikiskinorthstar.blogs.kpbsd.k12.ak.us



Important Dates

January 11
Geography Bee (4th-5th)

January 14
Site Council Meeting
3:45pm - Library

January 15
CC! Student of the Month
Pizza w/ Ms. Callahan
Noon - Rm 14

January 21
Vacation Day
NO SCHOOL

January 24
PTA Meeting
3:45pm - Lounge

January 25
End of Quarter Award
Assembly

Principal Points

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has had a relaxing and refreshing winter break! We'll be starting off our second semester of school with lots of energy and academic challenges for our students! Our staff spent our December inservice time learning about and discussing research based best practices for engaging boys effectively in learning, classroom positive behavior intervention supports, and school security. Thank you to our presenters Lisa Stewart and Adrienne Bostic for doing a fabulous job on their presentations!

Our students will have opportunities to compete in our Battle of the Books, Geography Bee, and Spelling Bee. Also, we hope that all our families will participate in our One School One Book Family Event and our 2nd Annual NNS Family Science Night.

The safety of our students is always a focus for our school and we want to hear from parents and the community about building safety concerns and suggestions for improvement. For this reason, we will be adding a Site Council meeting on January 14th at 3:45 PM in our library to discuss this topic. Parents and Community members are encouraged to attend this meeting and share their ideas. Concerns and suggestions from this meeting will be sent to district office administrators for consideration.



Luckily, Celina & Justin remembered hats, coats, gloves, boots and snowpants!

This January, our students will complete their winter benchmark assessments and our 5th grade students will complete an online Edperformance test on core skills in math, reading, and language arts. KPBSD will be using this test as a replacement for the TerraNova test 5th grade students have taken in the past. Our 4th grade students have been selected to participate in the national NAEP test this year. We look forward to meeting with all our NNS families at parent teacher conferences in February to share the progress your children have made!

Parents are asked to make sure their children get plenty of rest and a good breakfast to start the day ESPECIALLY on testing days. Please know our state assessments this year take place on April 2,3,4, and 9. I am sending these dates to you early so families have plenty of time to plan around these dates so all our 3rd-5th grade students will be present in school to take the tests on those dates.

Please have a wonderful 2013!





Elks Hoop Shoot Winners!

Nikiski North Star was well represented at the Regional Elks Hoop Shoot Competition held Saturday, Dec. 8th at the Kenai Recreation Center. Our students placed as follows:

Boys 8-9 yrs old
Caleb Griffith - 1st place

Girls 8-9 yrs old
Olivia Easley - 1st place

Boys 10-11 yrs old
Kyle Malston - 3rd place

Girls 10-11 yrs old
Angela Druesdow - 3rd place

December Character Counts! Students of the Month

Linnaea Dohse
Athena Henry
Bryan McCollum
Celina Martinez
Connor Chenault
Cooper Stock
Daegan Mullin
Ethan Reid
Isabella Wolfe

Matthew Cluff
Matthew Hyatt
Mia Velie
Michael Stillings
Tyler Jackman
Wyatt Maguire
Wynter Yeager
Ashlyn Harris



PTA News

* Get involved! Here is the upcoming PTA General Membership Meeting Schedule:

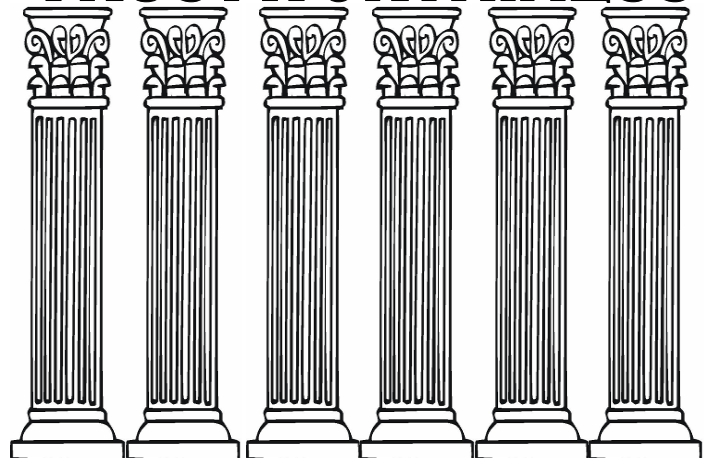
Thursday January 24th at 3:45
Monday February 11th at 3:45
Monday March 18th at 3:45
Monday April 8th at 3:45
Monday May 13th at 3:45

Childcare, door prizes and snacks always provided!

* The PTA is recruiting for 2013/2014 PTA Board.

All nominations due by March
Elections held in April
Please feel free to contact us at
NNSPTA@gmail.com
if you have any questions.

THE PILLAR FOR JANUARY IS... TRUSTWORTHINESS



YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW

DON'T MISS OUT! Pre-order your all-color **NIKISKI NORTH STAR YEARBOOK NOW** for only **\$15.00!** Simply return this completed order form with payment to the office by **March 1st**. (Regular price - \$20.00 to be sold at the end of the year on a first come, first served basis)

MAKE IT PERSONAL! When you pre-order a yearbook before February 1st, you have the option of personalizing it! You can personalize it with your student's name stamped on the cover or love lines. Love Lines may include a picture of choice and/or a maximum of 25 words. These are **due to the office by February 1st**.

Love Line Examples:

John Smith – Keep up the good work, we love you. Love, Dave and Mom

Jayne Doe – I am so very proud of you. I love you! Continue working hard next year in Middle School. Love Grandma and Grandpa

LOVE LINE ORDER FORM *Use additional pages if needed.*

PERSONALIZED” COVER IMPRINTING: If ordering, please indicate the exact spelling of the first and last name in the boxes below. Please leave an empty box between the first and last names.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

If you would like to place an ad in the yearbook, please contact: NNSPTA@gmail.com

ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PLEASE CALL: Trina Stichal at 398-2452.

YEARBOOK PRE-ORDER FORM *(Please use one form per child)*

Student's Name _____ Teacher _____

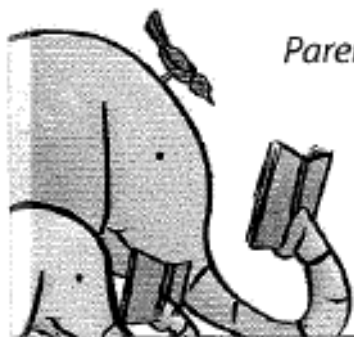
Yearbook X \$15.00 = _____

Personalization X \$2.00 = _____

Love Lines X \$5.00 = _____

TOTAL ATTACHED = _____

Cash *(Please provide exact cash)* **Check** *(Make checks payable to "NNS PTA")*



Growing readers!

Brought to you by Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado and LD OnLine

Fluency Matters

If you've been around classrooms and teachers, you've probably heard the term "fluency." Fluency is something worth knowing more about! Read on to find out what it is and how to develop it in your young learner.

Fluency: What is it? Why is it important?

If someone is fluent in speaking another language or in playing an instrument, there's a smooth, graceful and easy quality to it. The same is true with reading skills. Reading fluency is a child's ability to read a book or other text correctly, quickly, and with expression. A fluent reader doesn't have to stop and "decode" each word. Rather, most of the words can be read automatically. This means the reader can focus his attention on what the story or text means. For that reason, fluency is critically important — it's the bridge between decoding words and understanding what has been read.

How can we foster reading fluency?

Parents can help their child develop reading fluency through a few simple and fun activities.

Paired or "buddy" reading

The easiest and best way to help your child develop fluency is to sit with your child and read! Read together every day, which is often called paired or buddy reading. To use paired reading, simply take turns reading aloud. You go first, as your reading provides a model of what good fluent reading sounds like. Then, ask your child to re-read the same page you just read. You'll notice that your child's reading will start to sound more and more like yours. Do this for several pages. Once your child is comfortable enough, and familiar enough with the book, take turns reading page for page.

Reread favorite books

Another way parents can help develop fluency is to build a tall stack of books that your child can read quickly and easily. Encourage your child to reread favorite books over and over again. With each reading, you may notice your child reading a bit easier, a bit faster, and with a bit more confidence and expression.

Record it

Another fun way to practice reading and build fluency is to have your child create her own audio books. This can be done simply with a tape recorder or audio recording feature or app (like Audioboo) on your phone. Or, use something more sophisticated like StoryKit, where a user can create an electronic storybook and record audio to accompany it. Regardless of the method you choose, your child will be practicing what they want to record and that reading practice is critical. Sharing your audio recordings with family and friends is a great motivator too!

NNS Clothing Order Form

Name _____ Teacher _____

Phone # _____ DUE BY February 1st

Please indicate how many in each size.

Hoodie— \$25.00 Total # of shirts _____ X 25.00 = _____

YS _____ YM _____ YL _____ YXL _____

AS _____ AM _____ AL _____ AXL _____ A2XL _____ *

T-Shirt— \$15.00 Total # of shirts _____ X 15.00 = _____

YS _____ YM _____ YL _____ YXL _____

AS _____ AM _____ AL _____ AXL _____ A2XL _____ *

Long Sleeved Shirt—\$18.00 Total # of shirts _____ X 18.00 = _____

YS _____ YM _____ YL _____ YXL _____

AS _____ AM _____ AL _____ AXL _____ A2XL _____ *

Grand Total= \$ _____

Cash (*Please provide exact cash*)

Check (*Make checks payable to "NNS PTA"*)

- 2XL Clothing—Add \$3.00
- Size Code Examples : YS=Youth small AXL=Adult Extra Large
- Picture examples are on the back of this form



All shirts & sweatshirts are navy with gold imprint. The front of all shirts/sweatshirts are the same.

The back of the T-shirt says "I'm a Shooting Star!"

"I'm a Shooting Star!" will be written across the hood on the hoodie sweatshirts.



"I'm a Shooting Star!" will be printed down the sleeve of the long sleeved shirt.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Brianna Redfern at 776-2600 or bredfern@kpbsd.org