

Horace Mann Elementary School

PTA Newsletter—December 2011



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MANAGER**
Lisa Rice

A Note From Our Principal

Dear Mann Parents,

Our focus for December is Giving with Your Heart. In our Monday Morning Meeting this week, we talked about ways the students could give to others in need. December is a perfect time for the children to think about those who are less fortunate. We are starting our 12 Days of Giving on December 1st. In addition to this, each grade level will once again have a family that needs some extra help this Christmas. The information on these families will be coming home soon.

Thank you in advance for your help in making sure our families have a great Christmas Holiday. I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy, relax and have fun with your family!

Respectfully,

Ms. Peterson



Cookie Exchange

Mann PTA is requesting store-bought or homemade cookies or candies for our annual staff cookie exchange.

The Mann staff will come to get a nice package of sweets to take home to their families with your help. Please drop off your treats to the teachers' lounge the morning of December 22nd. Mark your item "Cookie Exchange" and put your name on any dishes that you want back. Please contact Amber Bowler ambern-bowler@yahoo.com with any questions.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, December 5: Celebration Assembly

Wed. and Thurs., December 7 –8: Holiday Smencil Sale

Thursday, December 8: PTA Planning Meeting, Library Classroom, childcare provided

Friday, December 9: No School

Wednesday, December 14: Domino's Pizza Night

Thursday, December 15: PTA General Meeting, Gym, 1st Graders Perform "This Is Christmas"

December 21: Spirit Day (wear pajamas), \$1, no Box Tops

December 22: Cookie Exchange

December 23: Winter Break Begins (return to school Jan. 2)

From Our Secretary, Mrs. Napolitano

We recently changed the way the phones are answered at Mann Elementary. All calls are answered by the automated system. It will give you the hours the office is open as well as the option to dial 0 for the office, 1 for the Nurse, 2 for the Counselor, or 5 for the Cafeteria. If you do not select an option, your call will be transferred to the office. We hope this will be an efficient and convenient way for you to contact us.

Spirit Day Funds

Some of you have mentioned on the parent survey about the dollar we have students bring for Spirit Days. I wanted to make sure that you had an understanding of why we do this. We are fortunate enough to have a lot of technology at Mann, but the upkeep of this equipment is quite expensive. Below is a list of some of the items we have been able to purchase with some of our technology funds including the money from our Spirit Days.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Technology Committee and Ms. Peterson

Computer – \$589
Monitor – \$115-135 (depending on size)
Mouse & Keyboard – \$24
Flash drive – \$12
Teacher Printer, Inkjet – \$84
Lab/Classroom Printer, Laser – \$180
Scanner – \$80
Projector – \$500
Projector Bulbs – \$225 - 400 (depending on model)
Earphones – \$18 - 40 (apiece)
Cables – \$25 - 125
Internet Drop – \$100 includes install
ELMO (document camera) – \$525
Speakers for computer – \$15 - 50
Wireless card – \$25 - 30
Video card – \$20
Power Supply – \$50



SCHOOL DIRECTORIES
ARE NOW AVAILABLE
IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE.
STOP BY AND GET ONE
FREE OF CHARGE!

—STEP CLUB NEWS—
Congratulations to Horace Mann Step Club for walking a total of **4890** minutes in the month of October!! That's an approximately 252.7 miles! Way to go, Coach Debra Maxwell!

Coach Maxwell and her steppers will be receiving the traveling trophy for the month of November and an October tag for their charm collection!

~Spirit Day~
Wednesday, December 21 is Pajama Day. Wear your favorite jammies. The cost to participate is \$1.00 (no Box Tops). Proceeds benefit technology at Mann.

HOLIDAY SMENCILS
Holiday themed Smencils will be on sale before school on the stage Wednesday, December 7 and Thursday, December 8. The cost is \$1.00 per Smencil with proceeds benefiting technology at Mann. Available scents are: Candy Cane, Cinnamon, Gingerbread, Holiday Cheer, and Sugar Plum.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OCTOBER CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABEL WINNERS:
Mrs. Halbur's Class and Ms. Viehland's Class
We have collected over 2,200 points so far!**



STUDENT COUNCIL WILL SELL ICE CREAM SANDWICHES AT LUNCH AGAIN IN DECEMBER. WATCH FOR INFO. IN YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK!