

Bobcat News



A Note From Our Principal

February / March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last year we had a wild winter, and this year we seem to be having a fairly mild winter. Let's hope this continues. Students play outside at recess daily when the weather is above 10 with the windchill and is not overly wet. Students also enjoy playing in the snow, but they must be wearing snow pants and boots with their winter coats.

We will start the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) in mid March. This is the statewide assessment based on the Illinois Learning Standards. Our third and fourth graders will take multiple sessions of the IAR test. We are currently planning on taking the Reading and Writing portions of the test before spring break and the Math portions after spring break. Make-up testing will happen throughout the 5 week window until testing is completed. Your child's teacher will inform you when their class is testing.

Please consider these three steps to supporting your child through testing:

1. Encourage your child to work hard and try his/her best to show how much he/she has learned. Be cautious not to over stress doing well, but continually encourage your child to try hard.
2. Limit night time activities on testing eves. Being out or up too late can affect how kids do on tests. To the extent possible, stick to normal bedtimes and set an alarm in the morning to not be too rushed.
3. There is something to be said for a good healthy breakfast on the day of the test. Choose energy boosting foods with protein, such as eggs, milk, or yogurt, and healthy carbohydrates, such as fruit, oatmeal, or toast.

Thank you to all of the families that came out to visit the staff at McDonald's on the 28th. We had a great time and earned some extra money for our building. I also want to thank all of the families that took the time to take the 5 Essentials survey. The information you provide in these surveys helps our school to make better educational decisions for your children!

Respectfully,
Mrs. Lilja

Upcoming Events:

- ✓ Feb. 6—PTO Meeting 6pm
- ✓ Feb. 7—PTO Valentine Dance
- ✓ Feb. 12—Kindergarten Registration 4p—7p
- ✓ Feb. 12—Parent/Teacher Conferences 4—7:30p
- ✓ Feb. 14—End of 2nd Trimester
- ✓ Feb. 14—Valentine's Day Classroom Parties
- ✓ Feb. 17—President's Day-NO SCHOOL
- ✓ Feb. 18—3rd Grade Breakfast Buddies
- ✓ Feb. 20—Parent/Teacher Conferences 4—7:30p
- ✓ Feb. 21—Report Cards go home
- ✓ Mar. 3—Family Reading Night
- ✓ Mar. 5—PTO Meeting 6pm
- ✓ Mar. 11—Late Start—9:30am
- ✓ Mar. 17—4th Grade Breakfast Buddies
- ✓ Mar. 19—Spring Picture Day
- ✓ Mar. 23-27—Spring Break-NO SCHOOL

Yearbooks

Manchester Elementary PTO is now taking orders for our 2019-2020 School Yearbooks! Order deadline is March 13, and extra order forms are available in the school office. Or you may order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com, Yearbook Code: 1469820. Cost of our yearbooks is \$15.00, and checks may be written to 'Manchester PTO'.

PTO News

Thank you to all who have supported the PTO throughout the World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser. The monies earned in chocolate sales will help the PTO to continue supporting extra programs at Manchester and ensure that all students are able to participate. Other ways that you can continue to support the mission of the PTO at Manchester include:

* "Love Rocks! A Valentine's Dance & Party" - Friday, February 7 - 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. see flier / email questions to ptomanchester@gmail.com

* Teacher Conferences Dinner -
 * help provide dinner for teachers on the long evenings of conferences
 * email ptomanchester@gmail.com if you want to help

* Donations always welcome!
 * consider hosting a Breakfast Buddies, making a general donation, selling another box of chocolates (there are a few extra up for grabs)

Together as parents, we can continue to support the great learning environment at Manchester - hope to see you at the dance!

Student of the Month

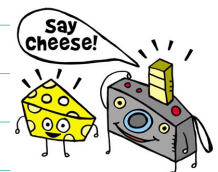
Manchester Elementary honors one student from each class as Student of the Month. These students are nominated by teachers and staff for his/her outstanding achievement in citizenship, academics, leadership, and for being caring students who are role models for others. Our recent recipients are:

December: Lillian T., Carter B., Jettie M., Ema D., Ellie D., EJ C., Ava D., Collen L., Josephyne P., Jayden G., Isaiah A., Aiden J., and Bella C.

January: Charlotte S., Gianna W., Abi V., Addy R., Jack L., Drew B., Whitney F., Jaela E., Griffin D., Genesis M., Autumn V., and Anelise D. Congratulations to all!

Spring Pictures

Lifetouch will be at Manchester on Thursday, March 19th for Spring Pictures. Every student will have their picture taken, but purchase is not required. There will be no retakes of Spring Pictures.



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for those students eligible for Kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year will be held on February 12, 2020 and February 20, 2020 from 4:00pm—7:00pm at Manchester School. Flyers with more information will be sent home with students soon. Online Registration for all other students will open up in March—details to follow. Please contact the school at 815-765-2826 if you have any questions.