

# Ellis School Newsletter

432 Main St. Fremont, NH 03044

www.sau83.org

## News from the Nurse

Regarding the Salmonella Outbreak in Peanut butter from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), since more products are added to the list daily it would be best to stay away from anything with peanut butter or products of peanut butter. Ellis School Food Service does not serve food with peanut products. Please read labels carefully. This is the biggest recall in history and there have been 400 cases in 44 states reported so far. There have been 12 reported cases in New Hampshire.

### **For consumers**

- Major national brands of jarred peanut butter found in grocery stores are NOT affected by the Peanut Corporation of America (PCA) recall.
- Any product that is on the recall list should be disposed of in a safe manner. Any recalled product should be thrown away to prevent *Salmonella* infections in humans, pets, or other animals. This product should be disposed of in a closed plastic bag and placed in a sealed trash can to prevent people or animals, including wild animals, from eating it.
- Consumers also should avoid eating products made with peanut butter, peanut paste, or other peanut-containing products if they are unsure whether these products have been recalled.
- Consumers with pets should know that some pet foods and pet treats may contain peanut butter, including dog biscuits and bird food. If you have a recalled pet product in your household, do not feed it to your pet or other animals. For more information about this outbreak and your pet, you may visit [Questions and Answers Related to the Salmonella Typhimurium Outbreak and Pets](#).
- To determine whether a product has been recalled, consumers can search the list of recalled products at the [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) website](#) or telephone the company that distributed the product at the phone number on the package.
- Consumers without internet access can telephone 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for product recall information from the FDA website and for other information on salmonellosis.
- Persons who think they might have become ill from eating peanut butter or peanut-containing products should consult their health-care providers. Infants, elderly persons, and persons with impaired immune systems are more likely than others to develop severe illness.

February 13, 2009

## *Upcoming Events:*

- **March 13– Middle School Dance**  
Grades 6-8 only
- **February 23-27 No School February Break**



The Go Green Go Healthy fair was a great success this past Saturday. Thank you to all who attended and participated. There is still time to order Bike and Ski Helmets at a great price. I will be taking orders until 2/18/09. Contact me if you are interested.

Congratulations to the winners of the raffled bike helmets sponsored by the Ellis Wellness Committee!!

## Save the Trees Challenge Update

Thank you everyone for your cancelled catalogs! Please keep them coming. We're going for a record next week of 1,000 catalogs, and we need your help to make this a reality!

If you haven't cancelled a catalog yet, here's all you need to do:

- 1) Identify any catalogs at home that you no longer want to receive.
- 2) With your parents' permission or help, call the 1-800 number on the catalog or go to company's website and request to be taken off the mailing list.
- 3) Bring your cancelled catalog(s) to school with your grade written on the front cover and place it in the bin in the front lobby.

It's that simple. Note that it may take a couple months for the change to go into effect because many companies print their catalogs months in advance.

Cancelling unwanted catalogs:

- Saves trees
- Helps the environment
- Gets rid of unwanted clutter in your mailbox

Every catalog you cancel makes a difference!

Help Ellis meet its goal of 1,000 cancelled catalogs by joining the challenge today. The grade who cancels the most catalogs next week will be highlighted in an upcoming newsletter! And special thanks to Mrs. Pipitone's seventh grade class for handling the incoming catalogs each week!

## Grade 5/6 Science News



The fifth and sixth grades have just completed their Journey to the Center of the Earth projects as related weather and adaptations. Fifth grade is continuing its study of *Our Dynamic Earth*. They are focusing on sudden (earthquakes and volcanoes) and gradual changes (weathering and erosion) to the Earth's surface. Fossil formation and the information about Earth's history that we can receive from studying fossils has been highlighted.

Following sixth grade's focus on adaptations, students will observe a mini-ecosystem, and analyze their observations. Later, they will draw conclusions based on their observations and knowledge of niches, as it relates to the transfer of energy and matter through systems.

Sixth grade is also preparing for their much anticipated Sargent Center trip. They have been fundraising to help defray the costs of this trip. The fundraisers have included the PTA Fundraiser, co-sponsoring a Middle School dance with Student Council and selling carnations for Valentine's Day. The final fundraiser will be a Chili/Chowder Cook-off to take place in the Ellis School Cafeteria/Gymnasium. The public will taste test and vote for their favorite chili and chowder. Winning entries will receive prizes. This event should prove to be a very enjoyable occasion for all members of the Fremont community. Remember to save the date and bring your appetite on Saturday March 7, 2009! Doors will open to the public at 11:30 a.m.

## Lost & Found

Have you been looking for.....

.....your child's insulated lunchbox? There are currently 5 in the Lost & Found

.....your child's warm winter hat for recess? 34 went unclaimed last April and were donated to charity

.....your child's "other" winter mitten or insulated glove? 36 had to be thrown away last summer because their "mate" never made it to the Lost & Found

Ninety-eight percent of the items in the Lost & Found are not labeled. Unless you label lunchboxes and clothing, it is up to you or your child to look through the accumulated items that get organized weekly....making it easier to "find" something that has been "lost."

## *5th Grade Language Arts News*

### *Sizzling Sentences*

(Alliteration)

On Friday, a few weeks ago, we started working on Sizzling Sentences. We had chips and salsa to get us more involved. It was really fun and new to the whole fifth grade! To sizzle up our sentences even more we had a worksheet for homework on Sizzling Sentences. Mrs. Lee wrote boring sentences and we were asked to '*Sizzle*' them up. We were asked to use descriptive and figurative language, like sensory words, similes, metaphors, nouns, vivid verbs, amazing adverbs, onomatopoeia, and awesome adjectives.

One of the examples was, *He said he was hungry*. That sounded really boring! So we had to change it up and explain what we did to make it more interesting. One of the sizzled sentences that one kid wrote was, *Jacob told me that he had a grouchy growling stomach as we were walking quickly to school*. The student added a specific person, alliteration, adjectives, and adverbs. It was not that long of a unit, but I think most kids enjoyed it.

By Jolene Levesque

### **Writing Prompts**

Lately we have been working on writing prompts for bellwork. The writing prompts haven't been very long, but have been fun! Mrs. Lee has made them very creative!

One of her prompts was "Ellis Titanic." We had to pretend that we were on the "Ellis Titanic" and we had to choose three adults and five friends to accompany you on the life boat when the boat started to sink. You also had to say why you would take them with you.

We have also had mystery prompts. One example was, "*Everyone avoided the bleak, ancient, and gloomy mansion. It was believed to be haunted by....*" Another one was, "*All of a sudden, I was trapped...*" The prompts are not that long so it isn't that hard to answer them. It is exciting to add mysterious details and endings.

By Jolene Levesque

### **Literature Circles**

In Mrs. Lee's class we are doing Literature Circles. Lit. Circles are when a group of people will take turns reading the same book. There are also jobs we have to do. One of the jobs is being the Artful Artist [Alliteration] who takes a significant scene from the book and draws it on the back of the worksheet. Some of the books the class is reading are the House of Dies Dear and The Light on Hogback Hill. Lit Circles show that reading books are very fun. It involves a lot of teamwork. Plus, it feels good to accomplish something.

By Jeffrey Evans 5P

## **Does this item in the Lost & Found Sound Familiar?**

There has been a large orange & black Ozark Trail (outdoor equipment) rolling "backpack" in the Lost & Found for several weeks now. It appears that it may belong to a child who attended Camp Fremont, but it does not have any identification on it....just a bag of chips in one of the pockets that expired last August. If this item is still in the Lost & Found on Tuesday, March 10th it will be donated to charity.



Dear Parents and Family members,

I want to thank everyone who participated and visited our first **Go Healthy, Go Green Fair** last Saturday. It was very exciting to learn about so many new ideas to be healthy! It was also wonderful to see so many community members visiting our school!

At school your children and our staff are enjoying our Mystery Reader program. Each morning a mystery reader reads a short book or passage over the intercom and then the children enter a raffle to see if they can guess who is reading. I am amazed how quiet the building is while the staff is reading! Speaking of reading, February is "I Love to Read month" We are still welcoming guest readers in our classrooms. If you or a family member would like to read to a class please contact Jen Thomas, our wonderful reading specialist.

Carol Foley, our enrichment teacher is again leading the way to improve our science curriculum and instruction. She enriches the education of many students at Ellis leading inquiry based activities: for example the White Tail Deer count. If you would like more information please call Carol.

This week the PTA is sponsoring "Junk to Funk" a musical event that is engaging and educational to all of our students. Ask your children about their impressions! And we thank the PTA for their efforts.

And of course I have a few important housekeeping items...

- \* Please make sure your children are leaving their toys at home, especially trading cards and toys associated with trading cards.
- \* Please do not drive between the Beede Hill side of the building and the middle school portable. Elementary drop off is at the front of the building and you must use the entrance from 107. Driving on the side of the building is very dangerous to our students traveling between the two buildings.
- \* Elementary school opens at 8:25, if you drop off your child after 8:35 you will need to sign them in at the front office, as they are considered late.
- \* Please check the lost and found. All items will be donated soon.
- \* Don't forget to attend the information meetings next week to review the first draft of the new **report cards**. The Middle school will meet on **Wednesday 2/18/09** and the elementary school will be on **Thursday 2/19/09**. Both events start at 6:00 PM in the Ellis Library or the gym, depending on the number of attendees.
- \* Lastly on **March 4, 2009** the school board and administration will be answering questions about the **09/10 school budget**. Please join us for an informative evening on the proposed budget. We will begin at 6:30 PM at the Ellis School, in the gym or library.

Please call me if you have any questions about any of the scheduled events.

Have a great day!

Dawn Lewis  
Elementary Principal

Middle School Homework Helpline

Parents or students call the school number of [895-2511](tel:895-2511) after school hours and dial one of the following extensions:

175 - 5th grade      176 - 6th grade  
177 - 7th grade      178 - 8th grade.

**Telephone Extensions**

**Nurse—dial—8**

**Absent & Tardy Line—dial 7**

**Middle School Hours—7:50—2:20**

**Elementary Hours—8:35—3:05**

