

Central News



News from the Principal

Dr. Janice Limperis

Dear Central School Families,

Whether you are new or returning to Central School, it is with great excitement that we welcome you all back for the start of a great 2008-09 school year! It seems hard to believe that the first five weeks of school have already passed by so quickly, but we're off to a great start and anticipate a fantastic year ahead.



We would like to highlight Central School's main goals for the school year. Civility and Courtesy will be a focus of the year. Our theme for the school year is **C.A.K.E.**, which stands for Courteous And Kind to Everyone. Be on the lookout for Central School students "taking the cake" this year, as they learn about and demonstrate positive relationships with

others. As discussed at parent night, District 96 will also be adopting Civility and Communications Guidelines that all professional staff have pledged to adhere to. We respectfully ask that parents also adhere to these same guidelines.

The literacy team met during the summer to learn about a new writing program by Regie Routman. All literacy team members are extremely excited about this new program, and look forward to beginning implementation in District 96. This new writing program will be piloted by various kindergarten, 2nd, and 4th grade teachers this year. Please reference the website www.regieroutman.com and look at the Writing Essentials program.

We are also excited about piloting parent/teacher/student conferences in specific classrooms in grades 3 through 5. Teachers are given the opportunity to

implement this new conference format this year. We feel that these conferences will be very beneficial as students take ownership in their own learning process. This year teacher participation in this process is voluntary.

Central School students will take part in a "Striding Lions" residency as part of our artist in residence program this year. The Striding Lions program teaches students interpersonal skills and tools for teamwork through quality interdisciplinary performing arts experiences. All grade levels will take part in these experiences, and the residency will culminate with a performance in the auditorium. We thank our PTO and Dawn Gmitro for working so diligently to make this happen for our students.

As always, we strive to provide each student a challenging education which promotes academic excellence, encourages creativity, develops critical thinking, and fosters respect for self, community, and the environment. We feel so fortunate to be a part of this outstanding school community that shares in our common mission. On behalf of the entire Central School staff, we look forward to a wonderful year together!

Regards,
Dr. Janice Limperis, Principal
Ms. Mindy Keller, Administrative Intern

FROM THE LIBRARY

Our K-3 students will be helping to choose the winner for the Illinois **MONARCH**



AWARD for the year 2009. Students need to have either read or have read to them at least 5 books from the nominees below (feel free to read these at home). In February, 2009, they will vote for their favorite book, along with other K-3 students throughout the state. The winner will be announced in March. The purpose of this program is to stimulate Illinois students to become familiar with children's books, authors and illustrators, and to encourage them to read books more critically. The Monarch Butterfly was chosen as the symbol of the award program because it is the Illinois State Butterfly, and also represents growth, change and freedom that characterize the emergent reader.

The Monarch Award: Illinois' K-3 Children's Choice Award 2009 Master List

Author	Title
Butterworth.	Sea Horse: the Shyest fish in the Sea
Crimi.	Henry and the Buccaneers
Davies.	Surprising Sharks
Harrington.	The Chicken-Chasing Queen of Lamar County
Jurmain.	George Did It
Kinsey-Warnock	Nora's Ark
Knudsen.	Library Lion

McDonald.	Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid
McLeod.	Superhero ABC
McKissack.	Precious and the Boo Hag
O'Malley.	Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude
Pennypacker	Clementine
Rosenthal.	Cookies: Bite-size Life Lessons
Rylant.	Henry & Mudge & the Great Grandpas
Schachner.	Skippyjon Jones
Sierra.	The Secret Science Project That Almost Ate the School
Stevens.	The Great Fuzz Frenzy
Walker.	There is a Flower at the Tip of My Nose Smelling Me
Wright.	The Blizzard

The Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award is an annual award given to the author of the book voted most outstanding by students in grades 4-8 in participating Illinois schools. The award is named in honor of Rebecca Caudill, who lived and wrote in Urbana, Illinois for nearly 50 years. The award is given in recognition of her literary talent and the universal appeal of her books, which have touched the hearts of many children and young adults.

To participate in the program, students must have read at least 3 nominated books. This year, the District 96 Elementary Librarians have chosen 18 of the 20 nominees for students to read. Nominees for the 2011 program may be made by students, teachers, and librarians. I have information for any student who would like to nominate a book.

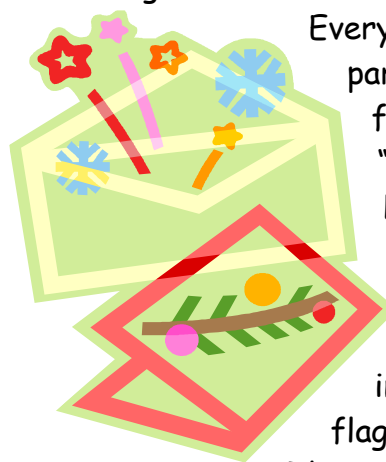
Gail Bieschke
Ames/Central Librarian

2009 Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award Nominees:

Blume.	Cornelia & the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters
Carbone.	Blood on the River
Han.	Shug
Holm.	Penny From Heaven
Klages.	The Green Grass Sea
Larson.	Hattie Big Sky
Lisle.	Black Duck
Lord.	Rules
Lowry.	Gossamer
Lupica.	Heat
Marrin.	Oh Rats! The Story of Rats & People
Park.	Project Mulberry
Paver.	Wolf Brother
Riordan.	The Lightning Thief
Schlitz.	A Drowned Maiden's Hair: A Melodrama
Selznick.	The Invention of Hugo Cabret
Sherlock.	Letters From Wolfie
Wilson.	Black Storm Comin'

Latest News from the Art Room

Here we go.....



Every student will be participating in a fundraiser, "Original Works." Look for these wonderful drawings that can be made into potholders, flags, stationary, mugs, etc.

The art work and the order forms will be going home in the beginning of October. The entire school is embracing the theme C.A.K.E. for this year. (Courteous and Kind to Everyone.)

Each student will be drawing and designing their own unique cake!

Kindergarteners are off to a terrific start with a drawing project called, "Rainbow Fish".

1st and 2nd graders created a still life composition of vegetables/seashells with special construction paper crayons. Blending and depth were explored.

3rd grade designed their own Olympic medals. These medals were made from air dry clay and painted gold.

4th grade will be exploring watercolor painting, designing the piece from the title, "Room With A View".

5th grade is having fun with a 3D project called, "Thinking Outside the Box." Each student has a box to design with their own original theme. 6 sides are decorated with art work, and a "pop-up" is waiting for you just inside the box.

Mrs. Mathis

NEED TO PICK UP A STUDENT DURING THE SCHOOL DAY?

In the event that a student needs to be picked up from school before the regularly scheduled dismissal time, please note the procedure below:

- A note should be sent to the teacher indicating the pick-up time.

- If the student has an appointment, please indicate if the student will be returning after their appointment.
- The student will be sent to the office at the designated time. For the sake of instructional coherence, we ask that you adhere to the designated pick-up time.
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) should come to the school office to sign out and pick up their child.
- In the event that a last-minute appointment is made, please call the office as soon as possible with the pick-up time. The office will notify the classroom teacher during a break in classroom activities.

NEED TO DROP SOMETHING OFF FOR YOUR CHILD?



On the **rare** occasions when lunch, homework, etc. is forgotten at home, please drop off items in the school office. For security and instructional coherence, we ask that you **do not** take the items to the **child's class.** Make sure items are marked with name and classroom.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in both of the above matters!



Reminder!
Change
clocks on
Nov. 2nd

News from your PTO President

My hope is you and your families are settling into the fall routine of school, homework and fall activities after all the rain and flooding.

Just as you stood holding your kindergarteners hand, walking to school on their first day, you will blink your eyes and they will be heading to school without you (OK, maybe with you) as a 5th grader.

Central School's Parent Teacher group is officially a Parent Teacher Organization. Our focus, interest and activities operate solely to support our children, teachers, parents and staff! Research shows that when education is important to parents, it is important to kids too. Being involved in Central's PTO in any way you can, is one way to show your child that school is important. Connecting with other parents helps foster a feeling of belonging, in our crazy, busy world.

There are so many activities, in and out of the classroom, that give us an opportunity to be involved so I'd like to challenge you to decide where your talents and interests are and get involved.

Open communication with our group is a PTO goal this school year. The more informed we are about what is happening in our district, school and classroom, the better we understand why it is happening. Communication is a two way street so speak up and you will be heard! If you have a great idea, comment or question, please

write it down and put it into the PTO Comment, Suggestion, & Great Idea box in the school office. Also, please try to attend one of our 5 day and 2 night PTO meetings as there is an interesting mix of ideas and important information shared. The next day PTO meeting is October 7th at 9am and the next evening PTO meeting is November 11th at 7pm.

The PTO Board is available and interested in providing support and answering any questions you may have so please just let us know.

1st VP's; Melinda Brom, Michelle Marconi

2nd VP; Fundraising, Kathy Dudek

2nd VP; Philanthropy, Nancy Hutchings

Treasurer; Jane Wilhelm

Recording Secretary; Patrick O'Laughlin

Corresponding Secretary; Jennifer Sedivy

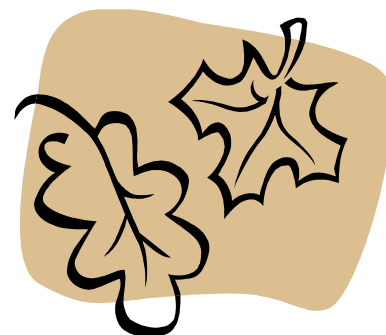
Parliamentarian; Linda LaBelle

Our webmaster, Chris Hajer, has spent much time and effort redesigning our PTO website so come check it out at www.centralptonews.org.

If there is a question, concern or some way I can assist, please just let me know.

Happy fall and I hope you take some time to enjoy!

Mary Ellen Meindl
PTO President
2008-2009



Fall Family Night

What a perfect fall evening to celebrate fun with Central School's families on Friday, September 26th! Popcorn, pizza, ice cream, games, a bounce house, slide, a D.J., hula hoops and dance lessons were some of the highlights. A special thank you to Lisa Veon, Mary Jurgens, the parent volunteers and the Hauser Girl Scouts for making this PTO event happen for all of our enjoyment! Fall Family night was well attended by parents, our children, teachers and our principal, Dr. Limperis! It was a great PTO family event to kick off our 08/09 Central school year!

Innisbrook Wrap and Gifts

We finished up our Innisbrook Gift Wrap Fundraiser for the 2008/2009 school year and want to thank EVERYONE for their help, support and orders! The volunteer team consisted of 14 wonderful women who worked very hard to make our event a success. A very large thanks goes to Elaine Cinkay, Elizabeth Calby, Cathy Daun, Lizett Davila, Nadine Espisito, Paula Fudacz, Diane Grossi-McCarthy, Gloria Gyssler, Mary Jurgens, Mabel Mullins, Stephanie O'Brien, Jeanne Vaia and Lauren Zobel. Once again this enthusiastic and amazing group of volunteers reminds us of what a remarkable community we have at Central. All of this could not have been possible without the constant support and assistance from Dr. Janice Limperis and

Deborah Catalano, as well as the thoughtful guidance from Mary Ellen Meindl and Kathy Dudek. As always, the programs all of you help support through your volunteer efforts fund the amazing programs we have come to love. Thanks for your support AND YOUR ORDER!!

Samantha Durst

Come Fly With Us! (Jr. Great Books Program)



The PTO's **Flying Carpet Club** is getting ready for take-off: Come aboard as a volunteer!

Toting carpets into Central School classrooms during the winter months, we take small groups of children in grades 1-5 on literary adventures around the globe. We aim to inspire young club members to thoughtfully consider and discuss the significance of world-class grade-level appropriate literature collected in Junior Great Books™ anthologies. . . and to make it fun! In its debut last year, the Flying Carpet Club attracted 105 student members. Its reputation for intrigue and excitement spread quickly, leading us to anticipate an increase in membership applications this year. As each Flying Carpet Club is limited in size to 5-8 children, our ability to offer this unique program to children is directly

proportional to the number of volunteers willing to facilitate individual clubs. Please consider becoming a Flying Carpet Club **leader (10 sessions)** or **co-leader (5 sessions)** with another volunteer. Flying Carpet Clubs meet **once per week** on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday (your choice) during the lunch/recess period **from the week of January 12 through and including the week of March 16, 2009.**

We are inviting prospective leaders and co-leaders to **come aboard now**, as student enrollment and volunteer leadership training begin soon. If you would like to learn more about the Flying Carpet Club and/or explore leadership opportunities in greater detail, please **contact Aberdeen Ozga at aberdeen1@comcast.net**. We're a friendly bunch - come fly with us!

Central Spiritwear Sale

Central Spiritwear will be on sale from October 15th-October 29th. The following items will be offered this year: Hooded

sweatshirts, zip-up hooded sweatshirts, sweatshirts with no hoods, t-shirts, and flannel pants.

You can preview the logo for the items in the office or on the Central Website at

<http://centralptonews.org/spirit-wear/>



during those 2 weeks. Show off your school proudly by ordering Central Spiritwear! If you have any questions please contact Elaine Cinkay cinkay@sbcglobal.net or Diane Grossi adja1234@sbcglobal.net.

Hike and Bike Week News

October is International Walk to School Month! Let's celebrate by walking or riding our bikes to school the week of October 6-10th!

Why "Walk or Ride" to School?

- Promote physical activity and strong health
- Protect the environment by reducing auto gas emissions
- Promote biking and walking safety

The weeklong celebration will include:

"Safety" Monday: Kick-off the week by wearing yellow or orange safety colors to school! Teachers and parents should review biking/walking safety tips with students.

"Earth Friendly" Tuesday: Wear green to school as a tribute to the environment!

"High Energy" Wednesday: Students are encouraged to bring a healthy snack/lunch to school and eat healthy foods throughout the day. Wear Central's school colors (Red/White) or Centralwear/Spiritwear - to show your "energy"!

"Hats off to Exercise" Thursday:
Students may wear a hat to school to celebrate the importance of exercise!

"Let's Celebrate" Friday: Students receive a water bottle for their participation in the weeklong activities! Continue the celebration at the Roller Skating Party after early release at Lombard Roller Rink in Lombard. Party runs from 12:00-2:30 PM!

Library Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who signed up to volunteer in the library this year, including Readers and Helpers during class library time, and those who come in to create the monthly bulletin boards, shelve books, and cover new books which have just arrived.



If you have 10 or 15 minutes during the day, after drop off, or while you are waiting to pick up your children, stop in the library to re-shelve some books. This is a tremendous help for students during class library time, since the books need to be available for incoming classes. If you have any questions or comments, or would like to

sign up to volunteer, please contact Jeannine Glavas (jmccowell92@aol.com).

Central School 100% fund update

To date, the Central 100% Fund has raised over \$5,000 for valuable PTO supported programs and activities. Just a few of the ways the Fund dollars are being used this year include:

- Halloween play production
- The Striding Lions (a 6-week Artist-in-Residence program)
- Cultural Arts Field Trips
- Roller Skating Party and Ice Skating Party
- Family Nights
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and Week
- Children's special assemblies

We would like to thank all the families who have contributed to this year's 100% Fund. Your support enables the PTO to continue to provide these and other important school programs to Central School children. Questions, please contact Kristine Adler at kmadler1225@yahoo.com

Children's Art Fundraiser

The Children's Art Fundraiser, a favorite among Central parents, is back for the fifth year in a row. During the past few weeks, Central School children have been busily creating their very own works of art for this important school fundraiser. Kindergarteners, First and Second graders

have created beautiful birthday cakes, sunflowers and leaf patterns, while the third, fourth and fifth graders have been busily working on colorful underwater scenes, flower vases and village scenes. The children's work will be brought home with an Original Works order form and product flyer in early October. New this year, a district wide Art workshop to develop additional creations will be held on Wednesday, October 15th with the time and location to follow in your child's backpack. Please mark your calendars as everyone is welcome. Orders will be due in by Friday, October 17th.

Please remember the artwork orders are received prior to our Holiday Break for family gift-giving. We hope you will be able to participate! Thank you! Anne Kodama and Krista Varady

Cultural Arts Classroom Presentations

The Cultural Arts Classroom volunteers are off to a great start. Our volunteers provide a fun and interesting view of an artist and a major work each month in the classroom. This



presentation is often accompanied by a hands on craft or project for the students and music. The emphasis is on FUN! Many

volunteers enjoy the time in their child's classroom and enhance the experience by

pairing up with a friend or family member for the presentation. If you missed the organizational meeting on September 24th, you can still sign up to be a volunteer in your child's classroom. No prior knowledge of art is needed! All classes still need at least two volunteers, and some classes need many more volunteers to bring cultural arts to every Central student. A sign up list is available in the office. Also, you can contact the Cultural Arts Coordinators, Sue Pipal at spipal@sbcglobal.net and Nancy Hutchings at nancyhutchings@hotmail.com to sign up. It is not too late!!!



REMINDER!!!

Be sure to check the **Lost & Found**. Every year we have several boxes of lost clothing, coats, hats, mittens, lunchboxes, keys, glasses, gym shoes, boots, etc. It is located in the basement hallway. Follow the signs.





Important Dates-October

- 6 Hike and Bike Week Begins
- 7 PTO Meeting 9 am in the library
- 10 **Early release 11:30 am dismissal**
AM Kindergarten only attends
- 13 Columbus Day - **No School**
- 14 Teacher Institute Day-**No School**
- 15 Spirit Wear Sale Begins
School Spirit Day-Decorate your
classroom door
- 16 Halloween Window painting begins
- 21 D96 Board of Education Meeting,
Hollywood school at 7:30pm
- 26 REEF Sponsors "Lincoln and Pre-Civil
War Sites Tour"
- 27 Lifetouch Picture Retakes 8:30-11:30
Return photo packages or new order
forms/checks on that day to
photographer.
- 29 Spirit Wear Orders Due
- 31 Halloween program, parade and
parties



Important Dates-November

- 11 Veterans Day Program 1:30pm-
Hauser Auditorium
PTO Meeting 7 pm in the library
- 18 D96 Board of Education
Meeting, Blythe Park at 7:30pm
Hauser Fall Play 1pm and 7pm
- 19 School Spirit Day-Wear Red, White
and Blue
Hauser Fall Play 7pm
- 21 **Early release 11:30 dismissal**
PM Kindergarten only attends
- 24 Parent/Teacher Conferences-**No
School**
- 25-28 **No School**- Thanksgiving break



Important Dates-December

- 3 5th Grade Band, Orchestra and Choir
Concert-Hauser at 7pm
- 10 School Spirit Day- Hats Off to
Giving, Bring Canned goods
- 15 Holiday Concert 7pm
- 16 D96 Board of Education Meeting,
Hauser at 7:30pm
- 19 **Early release 11:30 dismissal**
AM Kindergarten only attends
- 22 Winter Break
- 1/5/09 Classes Resume