

Graham's Good News

Springfield Public School District 186



January 15, 2010

Graham School's instructional focus: **To Comprehend I must read carefully, listen closely, understand fully, and respond thoughtfully.**



Dates to Remember

Monday, January 18
Martin Luther King Day
No School

Thursday, January 28
8:25 Jazzy Dad's Breakfast

Monday, February 15
No School Parent-Teacher
Conferences

Thursday, February 18
Spring Portrait Day

Monday, March 1
No School Casimir Pulaski Day

Tuesday, March 2-12
ISAT Testing

Thursday, March 18
K,1, 2 Music Program

A Note From the Principal

Dear Graham Families

I want to welcome you all back from winter break. I hope you all had enjoyable holidays. The third quarter is a very busy time of year for students and teachers. During the 3rd quarter students will be taking assessments to check for progress. Kindergarten students will be taking the Naglieri to determine if they are eligible to attend Iles school. 2nd graders will be taking the Stanford 10 to check for progress towards state goals. The students in grades 3-5 will be taking ISAT to check for adequate yearly progress towards the No Child Left Behind mandates from the federal government. All students will be given the DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) to check on progress towards reading goals. You can help your child do their best on these assessments by making sure that they go to bed early every night, making sure they arrive to school on time each day, and by having your child read every night for at least 15 minutes.

Before we went on break I issued a challenge to the students to read for 300 or more minutes over winter break. I am happy to report that we had 55 students which read for 300 or more minutes. These students will be invited to an ice cream sundae party. Reading is a very important skill which needs to be practiced every night. Thank you for taking the time to read with your child.

Please welcome Mrs. Kati Day to Graham School. Mrs. Miller has resigned as the Graham School secretary and Mrs. Kati Day has replaced her. Mrs. Day is an experienced school secretary and comes to us from Southern View elementary school. Please introduce yourselves as you come in or phone in and welcome her to Graham School. Please be patient as she learns about the Graham School routines, students, staff, and families.

Jazzy Dad's Breakfast

Thursday, January 28 all fathers or other important men in the life of a Graham School Child are invited to the Graham School Jazzy Dad's breakfast. We will begin with morning meeting in the gym, proceed to the classroom for a brief visit and then on to breakfast with your child. The festivities should be complete by 10:00 a.m. I hope to see all fathers or father like figures.

Happy New Year and WELCOME BACK! 2010 will be an amazing year, and I am so excited about the possibilities and hopes a new year brings.

February is African American History month and we are in the process of forming a committee to plan activities for the month. We would LOVE to have family members serve on this committee. If you are interested in serving on this or any other committee, please contact me.

Take Care,
Shoun Reese
Parent Educator

ISAT Lunch

Thursday, January 21st we will be hosting our annual ISAT luncheon. All 3rd-5th grade parents are invited to attend the luncheon from 11:30-1:00. Please call the school at 525-3220 to RSVP your attendance.

Kindergarten Preview Night

K- Night is scheduled for February 18 from 6:00-7:00. This is an opportunity for all incoming kindergarten students and their parents to meet the teachers, see the classrooms and tour the school. Please pass this information to all friends and neighbors who may have kindergarten age students.

Reminder...

Graham School has a dress code which says all students must wear a solid color polo shirt everyday. They may wear a solid color long sleeve t-shirt or turtleneck underneath of it or a crew neck sweatshirt over it, but they must have the polo shirt on. Students must also wear blue, black or khaki bottoms. Denim or knit pants are not allowed at any time. All students must have their shirts tucked in and boys must wear a belt. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately before they leave the house.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Monday, February 15. will be an opportunity for a second parent teacher conference. Teachers will be available from 12:00-7:15 to meet with parents. Please look for more information to be coming soon. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and talk about the progress your child has made throughout the year and to set goals for the remainder of the year.