

Vansville Elementary School



Home of the Wildcats

Tom Smith
Principal

December 2010

Shawna Holden
Asst. Principal

From the Principal's Desk

We hope you and your family enjoyed the Thanksgiving break and found the days full of family, friends and relaxation. Thank you to our wonderful students and staff for collecting over 300 can goods for needy families. Our PTA and BETA Club sponsored this drive along with Ms. Hopkins our Professional School Counselor. The food was donated to Elizabeth's House, a local family shelter located in Laurel.

The spirit of caring and giving continues to be alive and well here at Vansville. As usual, we appreciate your generous support. This year, we will continue to share with families in need. For each donation of a store bought warm item (i.e., hats, gloves, mittens, socks), an ornament with the students name will be placed on our Tree of Warmth, located on Main Street. We will collect these items through December 17, 2010. These items will be used to assist our Vansville families.

As we continue our path towards excellence, we emphasize student responsibility with completion of work, especially homework. Together we can ensure that students have the opportunity to practice the skills necessary to achieve academic success. Remember to stay in constant communication with your child's teacher and to utilize the Parent Portal to view grades.

Morning Drop-off: We are pleased to see that our drop-off procedures have improved **DRASTICALLY**, decreasing the length of the drop off line in the morning. Thank you for driving your vehicles to the far end of the building. But remember; please do not drop your child off in the parking lot. Use the designated car drop off lane for your child's safety. We appreciate everyone's understanding and cooperation.

Winter Reminder: Students are not allowed to enter the building before 7:25 a.m. In cases of poor weather conditions, please be sure to check the county website for weather related updates, to include school closings and delays. Also please make sure you are aware of your child's after care provider policy regarding early closing of schools.

During the winter break, let's invest in learning tools for our children. Those tools can come in many forms: electronic, educational, games, travel, musical instruments, etc. However, the least expensive and historically proven learning tool is an old-fashioned good book to read. Reading can excite, motivate and inspire our children.

One of our greatest resources is our children and one of their greatest resources is their ability to learn. This holiday season, encourage them to expand their horizons and invest their time in a good book. The expense is minimal and the reward is great!

December is the month when many families celebrate special traditions and enjoy precious time together during a well-earned winter break. What a wonderful time of the year! We hope the season is full of cheerful times for your family. On behalf of the staff, we wish you all peace and joy and we hope the New Year brings health and happiness to your family.

Shawna Holden
Assistant Principal



Dates to Remember

Dec. 6 – K,1,2 grade
MUSICAL PLAY at VES
for **Amber Brown is Not a Crayon**.

Dec. 11 – PTA Bazaar at VES

Dec. 13-17: **BOOK FAIR**
Dec. 14 – 4th Grade trip to
Baltimore Aquarium

Dec. 15 – Winter Concert at 7 pm

Dec. 21 – Progress Reports Released

Dec. 21 – VES Chorus performs in DC at 6:30 and 7:30 pm

Dec. 23, 2010 – Jan. 2, 2011 – WINTER BREAK

Jan. 3 – Classes Resume



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Vansville Chorus headed to D.C.

The Vansville Chorus is excited to announce they will be performing on December 21st at the annual Zoolights celebration at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. The chorus was selected to sing along with other groups to showcase the young talent of Prince George's county! Please join us in D.C. at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to watch our fabulous singers!

Vansville Winter Concert

VES's Winter Concert will be on Wednesday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m. Band and Chorus will perform in the Multipurpose Room. Make sure you attend and enjoy the sights and sounds of the season!

Parent-Teacher Association Presents the First Annual Winter Bazaar

A VES School Fundraiser

WHEN: Saturday, December 11, 2010

STARTING at: 8 a.m. to Noon

Avoid the crowded malls and let us help you with all your shopping needs!

30+ local vendors, including many of our own VES family, will offer a wide array of unique items that you won't find anywhere else!

Lots of Fun! Shopping! Songs will be provided by the Vansville Elementary Chorus!

FEATURES:

- Stuff-n-fluff Animal Workshop on Sale! Stuff, dress, and create your own plush animal.
- The Winter Wonderland Shop offers "kid priced" gift items and wrapping for friends & family!
- Baked goods from local bakeries will be for sale all day!

Vansville Elementary School Spirit Shirts & Sweatshirts on Sale!

- VES Students – come to the school spirit wear table and get your "Paw Buck!"

Our LOCAL VENDORS include

- Men's and Women's Fashion Accessories • Handmade NFL Robes and Home Accessories
- Educational Games, Books and Toys • Fine and Handcrafted Jewelry • Aromatherapy Products
- Health and Beauty Items • Purses and Totes • Gift Baskets • Specialty Foods • Home Décor
- Aromatic Candles • Kitchen Tools • Much, Much More!

Vendor tables are still available!

For more information please contact Kim Lockett at chrisnkim@msn.com



GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE-OUT

The week of November 8 - 12, 2010 was celebrated as the "Great American Smoke-Out", in order to promote non-smoking in our community.

Students made posters about the dangers of smoking and the students listed below were the winners of the poster contest, each received 5 Paw Bucks and a Paw Pencil...Thank you to everyone that participated.

Student Achievement Test Tenth Edition (SAT 10) 3rd GRADE ONLY; Test Administration: December 7th - 9th - Parent/Guardian information letters will be sent home on Thursday, December 2nd.

Winter Book Fair: Preview December 8th - 10th; Purchase dates December 13th - 17th. Volunteers are needed.

Riya Patel
 Andre K. Hill
 Jordan Charles-Horn
 Chidera Okigbo
 Alison Kunzwiler
 Loraine Hamlett
 Dabeluchukwu Okigbo
 Ted Ngaleu
 Kayyasri Gouda
 Kelly Tran
 Jessie Robinson Jr,
 Ashley Nguyen
 Ninoska Archila
 George Kuzhikat

Mrs. Richards
 Mrs. Beveridge
 Mrs. Creek
 Mrs. Geitner
 Mrs. Jacobs
 Mrs. Rosenberger
 Ms. Coleman
 Ms. McGilvery
 Mrs. Rigaud
 Mrs. Bush
 Mrs. McRae
 Mrs. Soto
 Ms. Brown
 Mrs. Heilman