



Cokato Elementary News

February 2011



Paragraphs from the Principal Mrs. Force

“Oh, the weather outside is frightful...” has certainly held true for the past month, but as one 4th grader said today, “Each day is one day closer to spring!” Great thought! Nothing holds us back at Cokato Elementary on making each day a good one, no matter what is going on outside!

The month of February always speeds by quickly. After looking at some of the activities we have planned for “I Love to Read Month”, we will experience another quick month! The timing is perfect to “Focus on Reading”.

We start off the month with a day-long “Bingo for Books” activity during our Phy. Ed. classes. Mrs. Sorgatz, Mr. Berggren, and Mr. Pokornowski will be bingo callers during the class periods to let students know that there is a place in everyone’s day for fitness and for reading! Through a generous donation from PTA, we will be able to give away several books each class period to the lucky bingo winners. The dollars that the Cokato Dairy Queen give us each month will also be used to provide books for the students.

The week of February 7-11 will find a great deal of focus being put on gaining Reading Counts points. Mrs. Osterberg has several ideas to ignite students’ interest in accumulating points. I’m looking forward to some of our older students achieving their goal of 500 points. That’s when I invite them to join me in my office for a “fancy” candlelight meal, complete with real dishes! This fun tradition was started about 10 years ago, and it’s one I greatly look forward to sharing with the students!

On February 15, we are opening the school doors after classes have been dismissed and having parents come in and watch their child(ren) take a Reading Counts quiz, enjoy a popcorn snack, and participate in a children’s book exchange! There will be more information coming from Mrs. Osterberg regarding the time and place for this event.

The following week, February 22-25, we will be highlighting biographies of famous people, including presidents, their wives, and other historic figures. What a good way to call attention to several presidents, along with George Washington and Abe Lincoln, who we usually associate with the Presidents’ Day holiday.

We cap off the month with our second annual FRED night on February 28, which stands for Fathers Reading Every Night. We’re excited to invite significant males in the lives of our kindergarten through second grade students to a pizza party at our school! If you recall, our evening last year was a huge success. Dads and their boys/girls enjoyed eating the meal, hearing stories read by familiar staff or community members, and hearing Mr. Weinandt explain the benefits of more frequent read-alouds with their children!

Whew! Just like that the month is over, and if I can paraphrase the fourth grader’s statement, “We are one MONTH closer to spring!” Enjoy the month of February, and I hope to see you at school sometime soon! You’re always welcome here!



Who, Who, Who?

Who helps zip up jackets before noon recess,
Who knows how to get zippers unstuck when recess is done,

Who helps me practice the letters of the alphabet time and time again,
Who listens to me count waaaaay past 100,
Who keeps the tables clean and ready for the next class in the lunchroom,
Who loves to be outside with us almost every, single day.

The answer is: Our fantastic paraprofessionals! They are the glue that holds this school together!! (They are also really good at getting glue bottles unclogged!)

Thank you, paraprofessionals, for giving your heart and hands to the students and teachers of Cokato Elementary!

Cokato Elementary School

200 5th St. SW

Cokato, MN 55321

Phone: 320-286-4100 Ext. 1300


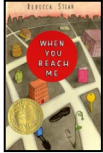
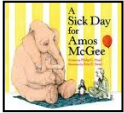

Fax: 320-286-4131

[www. dc.k12.mn.us](http://www.dc.k12.mn.us)

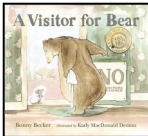
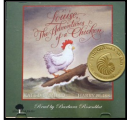

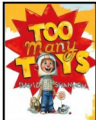





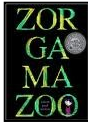
Looking for Books to Read Together?

The winter months are a great time to cuddle up and read a book together. If you are looking for some good books to read together at home I would like to suggest some 2010 and 2011 award-winning books.

The Caldecott Medal is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.	The Newbery Medal is awarded to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.
<p><u>2010 Caldecott Medal Winner</u> The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney</p> 	<p><u>2010 Newbery Medal Winner</u> When Your Reach Me by Rebecca Stead</p> 
<p><u>2011 Caldecott Medal Winner</u> A Sick Day for Amos McGee illustrated by Erin E. Stead written by Philip C. Stead</p> 	<p><u>2011 Newbery Medal Winner</u> Moon over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool</p> 

The **E.B. White Read Aloud Awards** honor books for their universal appeal as “terrific” books to read aloud. The 2011 awards have not been announced yet, but here are the 2010 winners!

<u>2010 E.B. White Read Aloud Picture Book Winners</u>	
<p><i>A Visitor for Bear</i> by Bonny Becker, illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton</p> 	<p><i>Louise, The Adventures of a Chicken</i> by Kate Dicamillo, illustrated by Harry Bliss</p> 
<p><i>One</i> by Kathryn Otoshi</p> 	<p><i>Too Many Toys</i> by David Shannon</p> 

<u>2010 E. B. White Award Books for Older Readers</u>	
<p><i>The Magic Thief</i> by Sarah Prineas</p> 	<p><i>Masterpiece</i> by Elise Broach illustrated by Kelly Murphy</p> 
<p><i>The Willoughbys</i> by Lois Lowry</p> 	<p><i>Zorgamazoo</i> by Robert Paul Weston, illustrated by Victor Rivas</p> 

A complete listing of these and many other award-winning books may be found at : <http://www.ala.org/>

February is: "Focus on Reading"

Look What's Happening!

February 2—Bingo For Books

During each classroom's phy-ed time students will be playing "Bingo for Books. Thank you to the PTA for the donation of \$200 to purchase the books for our winners.

Reading Counts Activities: Focusing on Award Winning Books

All of these award winning books have a double Reading Count points value. The student who earns the most points in one of these categories during the month of February will earn a stack of 4 new titles in that category.

Newberry Award

Caldecott Award

Maud Hart Lovelace Award

E.B. White Read Aloud Picture Book Award

E.B. White Read Aloud Award for Older Readers

* All participating students must pass the Reading Counts test for each book that is read. Students who read 3 or more books in a category will receive a miniature Beanie Baby.

February 15—Open Media Center and Paperback Book Exchange

- The Media Center will be open after school to parents and students from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. During this time students may take Reading Counts quizzes with their family and snuggle up with some books and read.
- A Paperback Book Exchange will also be taking place from 3:30 – 5:00 PM. Here is an opportunity for parents and students to exchange some gently used books. The book exchange will take place in the front entry just outside the Media Center. Students are invited to bring books in for the exchange during their team time on February 15. A coupon will be given for each book they bring in. Students must bring the coupon to the book exchange.
- Complementary popcorn will be available for anyone who attends!
- Students must be accompanied by an adult!

Bookmark Contest

The Cokato Elementary Media Center is having a bookmark design contest.

Enter your best idea for a bookmark. The forms are available in the Media Center.

Winner will be announced on Read Across America Day, March 2nd.



Safety Patrol News...

Starla Powers Safety Patrol Coordinator

The winter weather Minnesota is famous for has arrived. Our patrol members are adapting like true Minnesotans! At times it's hard to tell who's who when they are bundled up so well. I often have to ask who it is that's giving me such a warm and friendly greeting. Please continue to dress appropriately as we make our way through the winter season.

At our last patrol meeting we again went through the basics of safety patrol. We also honored our am patrol members, as they are the kids that are on duty more than anyone else. They were cheered on by fellow members, and received a small gift as a thank you for their dedication. I wonder if another group will be recognized next month?

Thanks to all patrol members and their parents for the great work you do in helping to make Cokato Elementary a safe place to be!

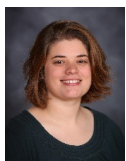


Patrol of the Month

Caitlyn Sopkowiak

Caitlyn is an outstanding member of our Cokato Elementary team. Early in the year I sent out a plea for more morning patrol members. Caitlyn answered the call and has been one of my reliable A.M. patrollers ever since. She always has a smile and a friendly hello for everyone. Caitlyn is a great example of what it means to be a responsible citizen. Thanks Caitlyn, keep up the good work!

Salutations From The Social Workers



Sarah Terpstra



Heidi Sickmann

In trying to decide what topic I wanted to cover for the newsletter, I thought to myself, mother of 4 children ages 10-3 years old, what do I currently struggle with as a mom. Well, there are many topics that I could cover, but the topic I decided on was time management. I have a few strategies that I use, but I wanted to find out what the experts say. So I "Googled" time management for kids and found over 60,000 possible entries. Well, I think this tells us something, that our children's lives are **busy**. So, how do we manage the busy-ness of not only our lives but our children's lives. In an article titled "Time Management for Kids" written by Garret D. Evans, Psy.D., it gives us some tips: There are 4 times throughout the day for school aged children that time management is important: Morning Routine, After School, After Dinner and Bedtime.

Let's start with morning routine: there are 4 areas to morning routine that can help make mornings a little more bearable.

1. Wake yourself up early, if you can get the majority of your routine done before your children get up then you can focus more on helping your child stay focused to what he or she needs to accomplish.

2. Make a chart or list of all the things that need to happen in the mornings before your child leaves for the bus. Place this list or chart where your child can see it. If your child cannot read make a picture list. If your child is just sitting and not doing anything you could always say, "check the chart and see what you need to do next." Don't demand perfection. Reward them for improvements, even if they are small. Everyone loves to hear positives.

Next is after school and after dinner. I'm going to tackle these both at the same time, because I feel these activities can be interchanged.

1. Spend time talking with your child. Find out about their day.

2. Let your child have some down time.

Allocate time for homework. It is best that homework is done away from TV, video games and any other really fun things. In our house it works best to get homework done as soon as the kids get home from school, but each of you needs to decide when the best time is for your family.

Lastly is bedtime.

1. Bedtime for many of us as parents can be a struggle, yet an important one that we want to achieve. Children between the ages of 5-12 need 10-11 hours of sleep each night.

2. Quiet time before bedtime helps children transition from sometimes a high energy activity to a low key activity. Coloring, reading, listening to music or quiet play are some ideas to start with.

Have a bedtime routine. Coming up with a routine with your child can be helpful. Again, place this routine in a place your child can see it, to help them get through with all the things that need to happen before bed. I have learned that having my children's backpacks packed before bedtime helps make mornings more smooth.

Here are a few ideas to try to help support you as parents. I haven't even touched on if children are also involved in basketball, wrestling, gymnastics, piano and any other numerous activities we get our children involved in. I know I wish there were just a few more hours in the day to get everything accomplished. What I have realized is that if I can get more organized and have better time management, life around our house is a little less stressful.

From the Health Office

HEAD LICE

PREVENTION IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



...how do we do this??

1. Regular head checks at home are the key to decreasing infestations. Head lice can be present for 4-6 weeks before the itching even begins! By regular head checks, lice can be found and treated earlier.
2. Protect your family....do not share hats, scarves, brushes or hair pieces with other people. Parents, please remind your children of this.
3. Please Inform the school if you child has lice. We can give you information on how to go about treating it.
4. Please inform your child's friends and their families---sleepovers and get-togethers outside of school are more likely places to transfer lice.
5. The school will alert classroom families when there is an active infestation known, with respect to confidentiality. The child's name will not be released.
6. Know the facts!!
 - Lice do not jump or fly, they only crawl.
 - Lice do not transmit any diseases.
 - Transmission occurs in most cases by direct head to head contact, although indirect spread through clothing, hats, brushes, etc... can happen.
 - Itching is a result of sensitization of the louse saliva and may not develop for 4-6 weeks as it takes this long for sensitivity to develop.
 - Head lice cannot survive over 1-2 days off of a human scalp; eggs do not hatch at temperatures lower than those near the scalp.
 - Screening in schools is not cost-effective nor has it proven to significantly reduce the incidence of head lice.
 - Frequent head checks at home, even without symptoms, are the best way to prevent transmission of head lice.
 - Head lice are hard to diagnose without an actual live louse. Lice and their eggs (nits) are frequently confused with dandruff, hairspray droplets, dirt and other bugs, even by nurses and doctors! Do not assume your child has head lice until it has been confirmed by a live louse.

* American Academy of Pediatrics (2010). Clinical Report-Head Lice. *Pediatrics*, 126, 392-403

Phy Ed Fundamentals...

On Friday, February 11, 2011, our school is participating in Jump Rope For Heart. This is a community service program to raise funds for the American Heart Association (AHA). These events are nationwide and help students learn about the benefits of regular physical activity and heart health while raising funds to support vital research and educational programs. The money our school raises all goes directly to the AHA and will help people learn how to avoid heart disease and stroke and live longer, healthier lives. If you prefer your student not participate in Jump Rope For Heart, please contact your child's physical education teacher with a phone call, e-mail, or written note.

Students in grades 1-4 will be involved with the jump rope event. Various stations will be set up in the big gym for the students. Parents/guardians are welcome to come too! In fact, volunteers are needed to help at the stations. If interested in volunteering please contact Mary Kay Morris, the volunteer coordinator, at 286-4100 X 1327. The following is a list of when each grade will be participating in the event.

Grade	Time
3	8:45-9:45
4	10:15-11:15
1	12:30-1:30
2	1:45-2:45

Your student should have brought home a packet explaining this event in greater detail. Please look through this packet, as it contains some great informational pieces about the AHA and heart health. You will also find information about how to fundraise, which may be done online if desired. The fundraising portion of this event is optional.

Students that do collect money are eligible for prizes donated by sponsors of the AHA. These are the prizes listed on the collection envelope and usually arrive 4-6 weeks after the event. The AHA will also award the top fundraiser in our school a metal, and the next 3

highest will earn a button. **The collection envelopes and money need to be returned to school no later than February 11th.**

If you have questions about this event, or would like more information, please contact Mrs. Sorgatz at 286-4100 X1355 or by email stacy.sorgatz@dc.k12.mn.us



Stacy Sorgatz

320-286-4100 X 1355

Stacy.sorgatz@dc.k12.mn.us



Bric Berggren

320-286-4100 X 1332

Brice.berggren@dc.k12.mn.us



Vinne Pokornowski

320-286-4100 X 1654

Vincent.Pokornowski@dc.k12.mn.us

FRED is back!

Cokato Elementary is excited to host FRED (Fathers Read Every Day) Night on Monday, February 28th, 2011. Fathers or male caregivers and their children in grades k-2 are welcomed to an evening of reading, free food, and fun. This will give fathers a chance to hang out with

their children while listening to guest readers, learning about student literacy, reading with your child, and going home with a free book! This event will be from 5:30-7:00pm at Cokato Elementary on Monday, February 28th. The pizza line will be open at 5:30pm in the cafeteria and we will begin the program at around 5:50pm. Please look for the handout with your child's weekly newsletter. If you have any questions please contact Ryan Weinandt at (320) 286-4100 ext. 1315 or email him at Ryan.Weinandt@dc.k12.mn.us.



PTA[®]
everychild.onevoice.[®]

The mission of the Dassel-Cokato PTA is to foster communication between schools and families as well as supporting children in their work of learning. The Dassel-Cokato PTA hopes to create a collaborative effort with the schools, community, and parents/guardians to ensure a quality, well-rounded education for the children in the D-C area.

Please join us for the next bi-monthly Dassel-Cokato PTA meeting. Please note the location change.

Illegal Cell Phone Activity and Our Children What All Parents Need to Know

In the changing world of technology, several unintended consequences have impacted students, schools, and the community. Technological advancements with cell phone cameras and texting have led to new issues of unintended illegal activity and cyberbullying. **Often children can be the perpetrator and/or target while being unaware of the consequences.** Please join us for an informative presentation given by Brian Stoll. Brian is a Senior Probation Agent for Wright County Court Services working with juveniles in the Criminal Justice System.

ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!!

Thursday, February 3, 6:30-8:00

D-C High School Choir Room, enter door H

If you have any questions about this meeting or the PTA please call Melissa at 275-3394

Dassel-Cokato Community Education

Youth Opportunities

CHARGER GYMNASTIC CAMP (Grades K-6)



D-C Coaches & Gymnasts

Jump, twist, turn and tumble with the high school gymnasts. Gymnastics is not only FUN, but also helps increase flexibility, balance, coordination, strength and self-confidence in a positive and safe environment. Space is limited to 24

per section.

Activity #5154 - Grades K-1

February 22, 24, 28, March 1, 3, 4

5:45-6:15 pm • MS Gym, Door I

Early Bird Fee: \$25; Fee after February 15: \$30

Activity #5155 - Grades 2

February 22, 24, 28, March 1, 3, 4

5:00-5:45 pm • MS Gym, Door I

Early Bird Fee: \$30; Fee after February 15: \$35

Activity #5156 - Grades 3-4

February 22, 24, 28, March 1, 3, 4

4:14-5:00 pm • MS Gym, Door I

Early Bird Fee: \$30; Fee after February 15: \$35

Activity #5157 - Grades 5-6

February 22, 24, 28, March 1, 3, 4

3:15-4:14 pm • MS Gym, Door I

Early Bird Fee: \$45; Fee after February 15: \$50

FRIDAY NIGHT OUT (Grades 1-6)

A night just for kids and their friends!

FRIDAY NIGHT OUT is a special fun night just for kids! Gather in the Middle School Commons and your first activity will be a dip in the pool - don't forget your towel! We will then move back to the Commons for a snack and your choice of games or a fun craft project to complete and take home. Then it's off to watch a movie! Not only will the kids have a great time but it's a wonderful opportunity for parents to enjoy an evening of dinner, shopping or just relaxing! Maximum 50. To find out what movies will be shown please call the Community Education office.

Activity #3008A

Friday, February 18 • 6:00-9:30 pm

Drop off and Pick up: PAC Lobby, PAC Door

Activity #3008B

Friday, March 11 • 6:00-9:30 pm

Drop off and Pick up: MS Commons, Door I

Fee: \$9 per session- Pre-registration is required.

Registration Deadlines: 1 week prior to each event.

TUBING AT POWDER RIDGE (Ages 4 and up)



Join us on this non-school day for 3 hours of fun on the tubing hill at Powder Ridge. The trip fee includes transportation and tubing. All participants will need to bring along a bag lunch. Children ages 4, 5 & 6, not in first grade yet will need to attend with an adult. Make it a family event or go with friends - either way it will be LOTS of FUN!

Activity #3014

Monday, March 7

10:00 am-1:00 pm at Powder Ridge

Departure:Cokato Elem. Main Door: 9:00 am
Dassel Elem. Main Door: 9:15 am

Return: Dassel Elem. Main Door: 1:45 pm

Cokato Elem. Main Door: 2:00 pm

Early Bird Fee: \$14;

Fee after February 28: \$19

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

FBI CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

INTERNET SAFETY

Douglas Brown

The FBI reports that criminals use technology to target children, teens, parents and the elderly using the internet. Are you and your family members safe? Do you take the necessary precautions for email, Facebook, MySpace, texting? Issues today impacting teens include online buying, sexting, photo sending via the internet and much more.

Adults are encouraged to bring their children (grade 5 and above) and/or their own parents. (Please note how many people in your family may be attending when you register.) Learn about these specific areas and more from a trained FBI Citizen's Academy Alumni Association member whose mission it is to educate adults and teens on cyber safety issues. Members work closely with the FBI Minneapolis office and other internet advocacy organizations for presentation content.

Activity #8006

Tuesday, February 1

7:00-9:00 pm

HS Community Room, PAC Door

Fee: \$5/family

BEGINNING YOGA



Irene Grenelin

These classes are designed with the beginner in mind. Come and learn about the basic philosophy of yoga. Learn key asanas (postures) and move into them using our breath, which is an extremely powerful tool that is too often ignored. Yoga helps you learn to

be present, while also offering stress reduction, more flexibility, and strength. Register soon as the class size is limited to 10 so that the instructor may work one-on-one with each student to address their specific needs.

Activity #7721

4 Mondays, February 28-March 21

4:30-5:30 pm •

Centennial Room, Cokato Library

Fee: \$30

TWO-STEP DANCE INTRO

Mike Klein

Here's your opportunity to learn the Country Two-Step! Find a partner and dance through the winter. Learn a fun way to get in your exercise and put a smile on your face! In this two week introduction to two-step you will learn the basic steps and several turns. This will prepare you to move into the next class.

This intro class is designed for new dancers or those with very little dance experience. Teens, college students and adults are invited to join the fun! Having a partner is necessary to get the maximum results from this class. Wear smooth shoes for better movement. You will be able to use this experience to dance to many varieties of music.

Activity #2807

2 Thursdays, March 10 & 17

7:00-8:30 pm •

Dassel Elem. Small Gym, Door A

Fee: \$25/couple

MAKING MEDICINAL HERBAL TEAS

Connie Karstens

Herbal teas are one of our oldest forms of both beverages and medicines. Since the dawn of time, humans have been using herbal teas as food and medicine to help support body processes, enhance immunity and build good health. In addition, they support the healthy functioning of organ systems. Learn how to incorporate nourishing teas into your life to employ the healing power of plants. A variety of herbal teas will be sampled during the class.

Activity #7934

Thursday, March 10

7:00-8:30 pm • HS FACS Room #114, Door C

Fee: \$22

MEND AND FIX-IT SEWING

Tina Bathke

This class will focus on simple ways to mend and/or repair some of your war-torn clothing or home décor. Do you have jeans that need patching or a throw pillow that needs some tender loving care? Learn how choosing the correct thread, needle and technique can determine a finished not frustrated project. Bring one item that needs repair to the first class. This is a perfect class for you if you have little or no sewing experience.

Activity #1761

3 Tuesdays, February 22-March 15 (No class 3/8)

7:00-9:00 pm • MS FACS Room, Door I

Fee: \$19

AN INTRODUCTION TO VOICEOVERS

Getting Started in Voice Acting

Voices for All

Have you ever wanted to be the voice everyone hears on TV and radio commercials, or documentary or audio-book narrations? You too can become a Professional Voiceover Artist! This fun, informative, and empowering class will teach you the basics of the voice over industry to help you decide if it is something you'd like to pursue. We will discuss the many different types of voiceovers and what it takes to get started as a voice actor. Your voice will be recorded as you read from real scripts so you can receive a professional voice evaluation later. Be warned, many who have taken this class have gone on to become real, bona-fide, professional Voice Actors. Come ready to laugh, learn, and be inspired... This class is taught by a professional voice actor from the voice acting training company, Voices For All.

Activity #4512

Monday, February 7

6:00-8:00 pm • HS Team Planning Room #501,

Door C

Fee: \$25

SCUBA DIVING (Ages 12-Adult)

PADI Open Water Scuba Diver Training, Phase I
David Torry, PADI OWSI #170297

Scuba diving is easy to learn and is a life-long activity suitable for the entire family. See a different part of our world you never imagined! The PADI Open Water Diver course is the world's most popular scuba course. Phase 1 of the PADI Open Water Class consists of 8 hours of classroom and 8 hours of pool time.

Participants pick up course materials one week prior to the class. Much of the academic work is done at home which leaves more time for quality training from the instructor. The classroom portion includes review and completion of knowledge development and equipment fundamentals. The pool portion consists of confined open water dives where a student becomes familiar with the use of scuba equipment and basic underwater skills.

Course fee includes all instruction materials and use of the scuba equipment used during the training. Students must provide their own mask, fins and snorkel. Course materials consist of the PADI Open Water Diver Manual, PADI Adventure Log Book, and use of the PADI Home Video Program which must be returned prior to the end of class.

Report to the Community Room for the first class. There will be an hour break for lunch each day. You are welcome to bring a lunch (refrigerator and microwave available) or go out for lunch.

Activity #5631

Saturday & Sunday, March 5 & 6

8:00 am-5:00 pm

HS Pool & Community Room, PAC Door

Fee: \$225

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, February 23

(A \$75 cancellation fee will be charged after the deadline.)

Course material pick up: Feb. 25, Community Ed. office.

UPCOMING ARTS ASSN. EVENTS:

Lake Wobegon® Brass Band

Friday, March 4, 7:30 pm

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! Having received a standing ovation following their first performance at the PAC in 2005, the 30-member band returns with a diverse program of marches, classical, quasi-jazz, and popular selections. The Lake Wobegon® Brass Band of Anoka was formed to showcase the unique sound and style of the British-style brass band's instrumentation, and to perform those compositions written, arranged or transcribed for this unique instrumentation. (LAKE WOBEGON® is used by permission of Garrison Keillor and Minnesota Public Radio.) Visit: www.lwbb.org

Tickets: Adults - \$15, Youth - \$5

Location: D-C Performing Arts Center

Reserved Seating at the PAC

Member Ticket sales: January 20 & 21

Public ticket sales begin: January 24

Information and Ticket Purchases: D-C Community Education, 286-4120

Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music D-C Community Theatre Production

March 12, 18, 19 at 7:00 pm & March 13, 2:00 pm

Eve, who lives over the Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music Bar, is paid a visit by her niece, Catherine, a novice nun who's been asked to leave her convent. Roy, an honest if simple fellow from the bar downstairs, wants to court Catherine whether she's a nun or not. Jim, the owner of the bar, tries to give him the real insight of what love does to a man. Eve feels she should give her niece the benefit of her experiences with men before allowing her venture back into the mad modern world. What follows is both romantic and very funny! Enjoy a dessert and beverage following the performance.

Tickets: \$15

Location: Dassel History Center and Ergot Museum

Member Ticket sales: January 20 & 21

Public ticket sales begin: January 24

Information and Ticket Purchases: D-C Community Education, 286-4120

Kindergarten Round-up

WHEN: March 22, 2011

TIME: 3:45-5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Cokato Elementary School

If you have a child who will be attending kindergarten next fall and you do not receive an enrollment packet in the mail by the end of February, call the Cokato Elementary School Office

320-286-4100 x 1300.



Volunteering

MaryKay Morris

Pennies for Patients:

This year Cokato Elementary will once again be partnering with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) through the Pennies for Patients program to raise money for research and education. LLS is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research and providing education and patient services.

They offer a wide variety of programs and services in support of their mission: cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease & myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Beginning in February there will be a container in the Cokato Elementary Office for you to donate your pennies (other coins are accepted as well) to this cause.

This is a great opportunity for a family project. Small jobs at home can earn pennies which may be donated to the Pennies for Patients program. Kids save your pennies.

Birthday Table:

We will be celebrating August 1/2 birthdays and February Birthdays at the birthday table in February. Birthday table invitations will be sent home the week prior to these dates.

Birthday students are invited to bring either adult guests, such as parents or grandparents (preschool siblings are welcome too!) Or they can invite one school friend. We enjoy having these special visitors joins us for lunch.

February Birthday Table: Thursday, Feb. 24

August 1/2 Birthday Table: Tuesday, Feb. 15

March Birthday Table: Thursday, March 10

Lunch Times:

1st grade-11:35

3rd grade-12:05

4th grade-12:20

2nd grade-12:30



Cokato Dairy Queen Kids Night

The Cokato Dairy Queen Kids Night continues to be a success for our students and school. The kids and community members are enjoying artwork on display at the DQ every Wednesday night. The Cokato DQ also donates 10% of all of their sales from 5:00-8:00 pm to our elementary schools! Listed below are the dates for Cokato Elementary to display artwork.

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd— Mrs. Bussler

Wednesday, Feb. 16— Mrs. Searles

Box Tops Drawing



We continue to draw Box Tops for prizes the last Thursday of each month. To participate, clip Box Tops, write student's name on the back of the Box Top and deposit the Box Tops in the collection bin at the end of the 2nd grade hall. Each Box top gives our school ten cents. They add up quickly!



Jump Rope for Heart

Friday, Feb. 11th

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Jump Rope for Heart is a great opportunity for our students to give back to their community by helping the American Heart Association all while having fun and being active doing heart healthy jumping activities. There will be a variety of stations that our students will rotate through. Volunteers will be needed to help run these stations. Responsibilities such as turning a long jump rope or helping students record data such as the number of jumps or how long they jumped, are needed. You can help with one or more grade groups. Please let me know ASAP if your would like to join the fun. You can reach me at marykay.morris@dc.k12.mn.us or 320-286-4100 x 1327.

3rd grade-8:54-9:45

4th grade-10:15-11:15

1st grade 12:30-1:30

2nd grade-1:45-2:45

Hey dads and kids

Join us for the

Cokato Elementary



All Pro Dad

Dad's Day

Tuesday, February 1st

7:00-7:45 A.M.

Cafeteria/Media Center

Please RSVP to Allprodad.com/dd/2356

Team up with other Cokato elementary dads and kids for a quick, before-school breakfast and a 45 minute program of fatherhood and family topics. You'll take away some great tips and resources to help you be the best Dad you can be, and you'll strengthen your relationship with your kids at the same time.

It's fun, and it's free. See you there

Your Cokato Elementary Leader

Joel Hillmann

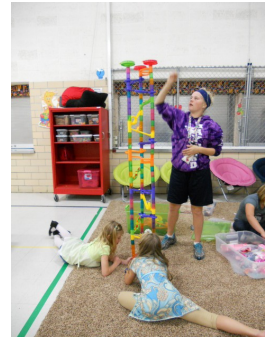
Charger Kids Club – Join us TODAY!!

Charger Kids Club is a school age childcare and enrichment program, designed to meet the year-round needs of working parents of students in grades K-6. The goal of our program is to provide a FUN, safe, recreational, and enriching program.



2010-2011 School Year Fees	First Child	Second Child
Registration Fee (June 10-May 11)	\$35 Family	\$45 Family
Before School		
Daily	\$4.50	\$4.00
Full Time child (5 days a week)	\$20	\$17.50
After School		
Daily	\$8	\$7.50
Full Time (5 days a week)	\$36	\$32.50
After School until 4:30 PM	\$5	\$4.50
Non-school days		
Full Day	\$25	\$24
Half Day (5 hours or less)	\$20	\$19
Drop In Rate – Before School	\$6.50	\$6.50
Drop In Rate – After School	\$10.00	\$10.00

Up Coming
Non-School Days
President's Day
Monday, February 21st
Teacher Workshop
Monday, March 7th
Teacher Planning
Friday, March 18th
Spring Break
Monday, March 28th –
Friday, April 1st



Hours
Before school:
Monday-Friday – 6:00-8:00 AM
After-school:
Monday-Friday - 3:00-6:00 PM
Non –school days:
6:00 am – 6:00pm

Location
Cokato Elementary – Cafeteria (Small Gym)
Dassel and Middle School students welcome, transportation is available before and after-school, to and from Cokato Elementary.

Contact Info: Jennifer Todnem
320-286-4100 ext. 1334
Jennifer.Todnem@dc.k12.mn.us

Coming Events:

February

- 11 Jump Rope for Heart
- 14 Valentine's Day Celebration
- 21 No School-Presidents' Day

March

- 2 Read Across America Day
- 4 End of Grading Period
- 7 No School
Staff Development/Teacher Planning
- 11 Kindergarten Conferences No Kindergarten
- 15 & 17 Elementary Conferences 5:00-8:00 PM
- 18 No School-Elementary Only
AM Teacher Planning/PM Conferences
- 22 Kindergarten Round Up
- 26-4/3 Spring Break– No School

**Cokato Public Library
Book Arts**
Date: 2/5/2011
Start Time: 11:00 AM
End Time: 12:30 PM

Description: Anyone who loves scrapbooking and journaling will love this workshop! Come and make your own hardcover accordion style book. We'll use book board, watercolor paper and handmade papers from different corners of the world, and will have lots of fun in the process.

Library: Great River Regional Library- Cokato

Other Information: This project was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Presenter: Marie Olofsdotter
www.griver.org

DC Elementary School Breakfast Menu February 2011



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Pancakes/Syrup Sausage link Fruit Choice Milk	2 Cereal Cinnamon Toast Fruit choice Milk	3 Cinnamon Roll Cheese Slice Fruit choice Milk	4 Cereal Muffin Fruit Choice Milk
7 Breakfast Pizza Fruit Choice Milk	8 Cereal Teddy Grahams Fruit Choice Milk	9 Waffle Sticks Sausage Link Fruit Choice Milk	10 Breakfast Bites Fruit Choice Milk	11 Cereal Yogurt Fruit Choice Milk
14 Cereal Honey Graham Sticks Fruit Choice	15 Omelet Toast Fruit Choice	16 Cereal Cinnamon Toast Fruit choice	17 Breakfast on a Stick Fruit choice Milk	18 Cereal Muffin Fruit choice
21 No School President's Day	22 Cereal Cinnamon toast Fruit choice Milk	23 French Toast Sticks Sausage Link Fruit choice Milk	24 Cereal Granola Bar Fruit choice Milk	25 Frudel Bar Yogurt Fruit choice Milk
28 Cereal Granola Bar Fruit choice Milk		Fruit Choice- serving of one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit juice • Fruit slices • Fresh fruit 		



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Carrots Biscuits Fresh Fruit	2 Tater Tot Hotdish French Bread Fruit Sauce Cookie	3 Grilled Cheese Tuna Salad Sandwich Tomato Soup Carrots/Dip Fresh Fruit	4 Riblet/Bun Oven Fries Green Beans Fruit Sauce
7 Pancakes in a Bag Smokies Tri Tator Orange Smiles Fruit Juice	8 Hamburger on a Bun French Fries Vegetable Choice Fresh Fruit	9 WG Pizza Corn Bread Fruit Sauce	10 Chicken Patty/Bun Potato Choice Seasoned Carrots Fresh Fruit	11 Hot Dog/Bun Potato Choice Baked Beans Sauerkraut Fruit Sauce
14 Popcorn Chicken Scalloped Potatoes Seasoned Peas	15 Spaghetti W/Sauce Lettuce Salad Seasoned Green Beans Fruit Sauce	16 Mini Corn Dogs French Fries Broccoli /Cheese Fruit Sauce Bread	17 Turkey Wrap Potato Rounds Veggies/Dip Yogurt Fresh Fruit	18 Taco in a Bag Seasoned Corn Bread Choice Fruit Sauce
21 No School President's Day	22 Hot Ham and Cheese Batter Bites Corn Fruit Sauce	23 Chicken Fajita Rice Pilaf Seasoned Peas Fruit Sauce	24 Cheese Bread/Sauce Lettuce Salad Fresh Fruit	25 Sloppy Joe/Bun French Fries Seasoned Green Beans Fruit Sauce
28 Lunch Around Pizza Corn Fruit Sauce		1/2 pint of milk will be served with each meal	In The operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against write immediately to Dept. of Agriculture, Wash. DC 20250	