

Brooks' Bulletin



November 2009

Celebrating

We're very proud to have been on the list created by the Chicago Tribune of the Top Fifty Schools in the state of Illinois. Isaac Fox Elementary was #24 on the list. Please see scanned list attached to this newsletter. This is a reflection of all of the collaborative efforts that we've had within grade levels and between grade levels. We feel very fortunate to have received this recognition



Halloween

Thanks to everyone who came to help us celebrate Halloween. We had great weather, and the parade was a big success!

Thanks PTO

The PTO Expenditure Committee met recently to decide on recommendations on how to donate almost \$8000 to the school. Teachers submit grant requests and the committee reviews them. Well, the committee made their recommendations to the full PTO

and they've generously decided to fund 7 new LCD projectors, 6 Mobi tablets, an Ipod sound dock for music, PE equipment, and some other individual classroom requests. We want to publicly thank them for these donations to the school. All of our students will benefit from these items!

Student Council Elections

We had some wonderful speeches from a great group of fourth and fifth graders who were running for spaces on the Student Council Leadership Team. Everyone was impressed with the level of maturity exhibited by these students. They are all winners. Here are the names of the students who ran. The fifth grade candidates were Nate C., Amy K., Grace M., Melanie M. Ally T., and Sydney S. The fourth grade candidates were James B., Reese V., Morgan C., Calvin S., and Daniel Z.

Thanks to Ms. Murray and Mrs. Matras who sponsor Student Council here at Isaac Fox.

Student of the Month

At the October Board of Education meeting, the Isaac Fox Student of the Month was Bledian A. in Mrs. Littell's room. It was a wonderful celebration of student achievement and

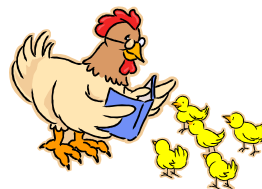
character.

Children's Author Visit

On Nov. 13, Aaron Reynolds, a very recognized author, will be visiting Isaac Fox and meeting with different grade level groups. Fourth graders will be meeting with him to participate in an exercise on writing a graphic novel, similar to Mr. Reynolds' book series, Joey Fly, private eye.

The first and second graders will hear Mr. Reynolds' book Chicks and Salsa and have a little salsa, too!

Mr. Reynolds Lives in Fox River Grove and has visited Isaac Fox before, and we always learn something new. Thanks to the PTO for helping us bring Mr. Reynolds to Isaac Fox.



Parking for Conferences

When you come for conferences, please feel free to park in front, over by MSS, in back, or across Deerpath Road. Thanks.



November 2009

Dates to Remember

Nov. 10- First Elementary Conference Day, 2:00-7:00 PM
Report cards go home

Nov. 11- NO SCHOOL, Veteran's Day

Nov. 12- Second Elementary Conference Day, 4:00-7:00 PM

Nov. 13- Author Visit, Aaron Reynolds ere all day for Grades 1-2 & 4

Nov. 13- Holiday Market Place, 6:00-7:00 PM

Nov. 25-27, Thanksgiving break, NO SCHOOL



Lost and Found

Please check the Lost and Found table. We've already gathered many items in our collection, and we'd like to get them returned to their proper owners. Thanks!



Conferences

As we get ready for our first evening of conferences, teachers are looking forward to meeting with parents in order to discuss students' progress. A lot of time, thought, and effort has gone into the report cards that will be sent home. The comments are usually insightful and contain reasons to celebrate and suggestions for areas that need improvement.

After the conference, it's a good idea to start on any action that you've decided to take. Discuss the conference with your child. Share the strengths that were shared with you by the teacher, then talk about any areas that need improvement. Begin at once to follow through with the plan that you and the teacher decided upon. Feel free to call the teacher later in the year to check on your child's progress, or if you think another conference is needed. Teachers value such interest on the part of parents.

Please know that the music, art, library/media specialist, and PE teachers are here during conference hours. If you have any questions about their programs and/or grades, please stop by and see them. They're in their classrooms.



Flu & Student Absences

Every day each school reports student absences to the district and highlights how many students are absent with flu-like symptoms. These are then posted on the district web page by percentages. Please know that we continue to take all precautions to keep your children safe. We also appreciate your support in following guidelines for keeping your child home when necessary and not returning to school until he/she is fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication. One last item, please remember to call the school, if your child will be absent. Thanks! This is a big help to the office staff.



Institute Day

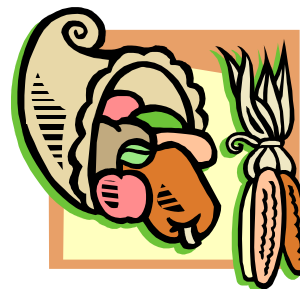
Institute Days give teachers the opportunity to meet for their own professional growth and plan for student learning. On Nov. 4, the teachers had the morning to work on assessment. In the afternoon, the staff met in grade level groups to look at our School Improvement Plan from last year and set new goals for this year.



Please enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with your families!

Thank you for your continued support.

Jill Brooks, principal



Top Chicagoland schools

Rankings from the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) and Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) are based on a school's combined test scores. They are drawn from Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane, Will and McHenry counties.

GRADES 3-8 Best overall 2009 ISAT results
Not all schools include all grade levels tested

KEY: ○ Grade does not exist at school ● Grade tested

Ranked by percentage of test scores that met or exceeded state standards

RANK	SCHOOL	CITY	3	4	5	6	7	8	PCT
1	Decatur Classical Elem School	Chicago	●	●	●	●	○	○	100%
1	Lindblom Math & Science Acad HS	Chicago	○	○	○	○	○	○	100
1	Kenwood Academy High School	Chicago	○	○	○	○	●	●	100
1	Young Magnet High School	Chicago	○	○	○	○	○	○	100
1	Keller Elem Gifted Magnet School	Chicago	●	●	●	●	●	●	100
1	Taft High School	Chicago	○	○	○	○	○	○	100
1	Morgan Park High School	Chicago	○	○	○	○	○	○	100
1	Poe Elem Classical School	Chicago	●	●	●	●	○	○	100
9	Edison Elem Regional Gifted Cntr	Chicago	●	●	●	●	●	●	99.8
10	Madison Elem School	Hinsdale	●	●	○	○	○	○	99.6
11	Skinner Elem School	Chicago	●	●	●	●	●	●	98.8
12	Andrew Jackson Language Acad	Chicago	●	●	●	●	●	●	98.5
13	Oak Elem School	Hinsdale	●	●	○	○	○	○	98.3
13	Willowbrook Elem School	Glenview	●	●	○	○	○	○	98.3
13	Highlands Elem School	Naperville	●	●	○	○	○	○	98.3
16	Elm Elementary School	Burr Ridge	●	●	○	○	○	○	98
17	Bell-Graham Elem School	St. Charles	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.9
17	Pierce Downer Elem School	Downers Grove	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.9
17	McDade Elem Classical School	Chicago	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.9
17	Pleasant Hill Elem School	Palatine	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.9
21	North Barrington Elem School	Barrington	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.8
21	Clarendon Hills Middle School	Clarendon Hills	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.8
21	Walker School	Clarendon Hills	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.8
24	Kennedy Junior High School	Lisle	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.7
24	Brook Forest Elem School	Oak Brook	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.7
24	Half Day School	Lincolnshire	●	○	○	○	○	○	97.7
24	Daniel Wright Junior High School	Lincolnshire	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.7
24	Monroe Elem School	Hinsdale	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.7
24	Isaac Fox Elementary School	Lake Zurich	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.7
30	Grove Avenue Elem School	Barrington	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.6
31	John Laidlaw Elem School	Western Springs	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.5
31	Eisenhower Academy	Joliet	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.5
33	Ravinia Elem School	Highland Park	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.4
34	The Skokie School	Winnetka	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.3
34	Wilmot Elem School	Deerfield	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.3
34	Fry Elementary School	Naperville	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.3
37	Harlan Community Academy HS	Chicago	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.2
37	Wescott Elementary School	Northbrook	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.2
37	McClure Junior High School	Western Springs	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.2
37	Edgebrook Elem School	Chicago	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.2
37	Everett Elem School	Lake Forest	●	○	○	○	○	○	97.2
37	Whittier Elem School	Wheaton	●	●	○	○	○	○	97.2
43	Hinsdale Middle School	Hinsdale	○	○	○	○	○	○	97.1
44	Patterson Elementary School	Naperville	●	●	○	○	○	○	97
44	Walden Elem School	Deerfield	●	●	○	○	○	○	97
44	River Woods Elem School	Naperville	●	●	○	○	○	○	97
44	Field Park Elem School	Western Springs	●	●	○	○	○	○	97
44	Gower Middle School	Burr Ridge	○	○	○	○	○	○	97
49	Avoca West Elem School	Glenview	●	●	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	Woodlawn Middle School	Long Grove	○	○	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	Marion Jordan Elem School	Palatine	●	●	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	Ivy Hall Elementary School	Buffalo Grove	●	●	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	George B Carpenter Elem School	Park Ridge	●	●	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	Carleton W Washburne School	Winnetka	○	○	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	Olive-Mary Stitt School	Arlington Heights	●	●	○	○	○	○	96.9
49	Deer Path Middle School West	Lake Forest	○	○	○	○	○	○	96.9
57	Bell Elem School	Chicago	●	●	○	○	○	○	96.8

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