

**Spencer Loomis**  
**Newsletter**  
**September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**Principal: Grant Seaholm**

*Spencer Loomis...a partnership where individuals are valued and learning is inspired*

**Just a Reminder: The SL Attendance number is (847)719-3366. Please Use this number to call in Late Arrivals, Vacations etc...**

**Principal's Newsletter**

Thank you to the many parents that sent me positive feedback about my newsletter being sent via e-mail. I am sending it to you every week as an e-mail attachment. I hope this process helps you to be more informed about activities at Spencer Loomis. I am including a link and information about S.I.G.N. This link has many district and school related flyers available electronically. Please go to the following link:

<http://www.lz95.org/sign/>

You can also go to [www.lz95.org](http://www.lz95.org) and go to the "Parent" pull down menu and go to "SIGN". I hope this process provides a convenient way for you to access information.

**MAP Testing**

We have successfully completed our Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) testing. The testing was completed on **Monday, September 21st**. All our 2nd-5th grade students took two tests; math and reading. Each test took approximately one hour to complete. There is no time limit so students can take as much time as they need.

**MAP and ISAT Data**

We will be sending home in backpack mail your child's most recent MAP scores along with their spring ISAT scores on **Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Look for a reminder via the "School Messenger" system via an e-mail on October 1st to help you remember to look for this important information.

**Innisbrook Update**

The Innisbrook fundraiser has been underway for almost two weeks now. In order to reach our goal we will be extending the dead line through Monday, October 5th. We will not be able to extend the sale any longer or we will not receive the items in time to hand out during the teacher's conferences. Remember, this year you are entering your sales directly into the computer yourself, printing the voucher and then sending in the collected checks with the voucher. If you have any difficulty with this new procedure, please do not hesitate to call either Kelly Naughtrip at 550-0556 or Jennifer Krause 726-8429.

Only two of the instant prize Monkey coupons were returned. Kevin Hunt received a family day pass for the HW Aquatic Center for next summer. Ranyard Bacardi was the golden ticket winner and won a \$50 gift certificate to Kits Sports Center! There are 9

more winners out there just waiting to receive prizes! All you have to do is go through your packet, find the Monkey coupon and call one of the co-chairs listed above. It is that easy!!

The Innisbrook goal is \$11,000! We can achieve this amount very easily and then the school can celebrate with an all school pajama party!! Let's do it!

### **Character Counts**

We are looking forward to starting a new year with our Character Counts Program. We have made some minor revisions to the order of the pillars. We are starting this year with the pillar of "Responsibility". The staff will be focusing on the importance of being responsible at school and home. Look for more information in my newsletters and the teacher's weekly newsletters and websites.

Listed below is the rotation for Character Counts pillars for 2009-10:

September	Responsibility
October	Respect
November	Citizenship
December	Caring
January	Caring
February	Trustworthiness
March	Trustworthiness
April	Fairness
May	Fairness

We are also beginning to acknowledge students for demonstrating the pillars of Character Counts with our "Golden Horseshoe Awards". I will be reading students' names during our Friday morning news broadcast. The following students received Golden Horseshoe Awards this week: Eric Soderquist, Mitchell Larson, Connor Richman, Eddie Mihok, Nina Malek,, Cullen Baldwin, Tommy Schutter, Meghan McGuckin, Riley O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Crutchfield, Michael Morell, Jenny Svanson, Tommy Messina, Nick Skowron, Jamie Rubin.

### **Messages to Staff**

We have had several experiences recently involving parents leaving a voice message or e-mail for a teacher and the parent assumed the teacher received the message. If you leave a voice message or e-mail for your child's teacher regarding after-school arrangements, please do **NOT** assume the teacher received the message. If a teacher is absent they will not get the message, and the substitute teacher can't access the regular teachers' voice mail or e-mail. If you need to make changes to the normal dismissal arrangements that you have established with the school, a note should **always** be sent in with your child regarding any after school arrangements. Please contact the office at 847-719-3300 if you have any questions. Thank you for your help with this important matter.

### **Pick-up Procedures/End of the Day**

Students should be dropped off **no earlier** than **8:20** and no later than 8:30. Pick-up your child no later than 3:00. Your child will proceed to the recess area with the other students and supervisors. Please drop off/Pick-up **ONLY** in the front of the school. Do not drive thru the bus lanes.

### **Wellness Plan**

As a part of the “Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children Reauthorization Act of 2004” the school district made some significant changes to our wellness plan several years ago. Those plans will continue this year as we ask you again to bring only healthy snacks to school for your child. **This includes birthday treats.** You did an excellent job of respecting the wellness plan last year and we ask for your continued support with the plan this year.

### **Music in the Morning**

Dear Spencer Loomis Parents,

Thanks to a generous grant from our PTO a couple of years ago, we are very excited to be able to offer our students the opportunity to experience the Brummitt-Taylor Music Listening Program.

Each morning while our students are in the cafetorium waiting for the bell to ring, I will be guiding them as they listen to some of the greatest classical music ever composed! We will listen to the same composition each day for one week, and we’ll have a new listening selection each week. Next week will be our first week, as we listen to Vivaldi’s *Autumn* from *The Four Seasons*.

Prior to listening, the kids will hear a short paragraph about the music, the composer, instrumentation, etc. and each day the kids will learn more about the week’s featured composition. Research has shown that this approach to listening has tremendous benefits, and it clearly fits with three of the national standards for music education:

- \* Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
- \* Evaluating music and music performances.
- \* Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

On the homepage of my website- <http://www.lz95.org/sl/finearts/mdanz/musichome.html>, I will always list the current composition and composer for students and parents to see. This may help to facilitate discussions at home about our listening. For more information about this outstanding program, please visit the Tall Timbers (the publisher of the Brummitt-Taylor Program) website: <http://www.ttimbers.com/brummitt.htm> As always, if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me via email or voice mail.

Thank you, and have a musical day!

Michael Danz, M.Med.

General Music Teacher

Spencer Loomis Elementary School

Lake Zurich School District 95

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## Important Dates

Friday, October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	ISAT and MAP scores sent home via backpack mail
Friday, October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Character Counts assembly
Monday, October 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No School</b>
Monday, October 19 <sup>th</sup>	SL Vision and Hearing
Tuesday, October 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Early Release Day Grades 1-5- 8:35-12:50</b> <b>AM K-8:35-10:10</b> <b>PM K- 11:15-12:50</b>
Wednesday, October 21-23 <sup>rd</sup>	SL Book Fair
Thursday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	SL Family Event Night 6-8:30
Thursday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	SL Picture Re-takes
Friday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip
Wednesday, October 28 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip
Thursday, October 29 <sup>th</sup>	SL Halloween Festivities K-2 4:30-6PM 3-5 7-9PM
Friday, October 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No School</b>
Tuesday, November 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Early Release Day</b>
Tuesday, November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Conferences 2-7PM
Wednesday, November 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No School</b>
Thursday, November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7PM