

Cortland Elementary School Newsletter

November 5, 2008



Principal: Kimberly Lyle
over. Our Next Day to SWAP books is

Upcoming Events:

- Parent Teacher Conferences:
November 6th and 7th
 - November 6th and 7th
NO Kindergarten
- November 6- Half Day
for 1st-5th Grades
- November 7th- NO School
- November 6th-7th Book Fair in
the POD
- November 10-11th No School
- November 12th-Beautification
Day at 3:30
- November 17- PTA Meeting at
7:00 P.M.
- November 20th- Family Food
Night at Wendy's in Sycamore
- November 25th-Scrip Order Due



Parents Needed

Mrs. Lyle is looking for more parents to assist teachers with duties such as Xeroxing, collating, stapling, cutting, and assisting with writing. We would like parents to sign-up for a consistent time each week.

If you are interested, contact Mrs. Lyle at 754-2360 or at Kimberly.Lyle@dist428.org

Book SWAP

We started our Book SWAP program during our Reading Night this last week. Students may bring a book that is in EXCELLENT Condition on Fridays and exchange for a book in our trunk. Once they read the book they may return it again and trade over and

Friday, November 14th.



PTA News:

Beautification Day

We will be cleaning-up the school grounds and flower beds on November 12th right after school. If you would like to help, please bring a rake and come on out! A flyer was given to 4th and 5th graders to see if they would like to help as well. Our rain date is November 13th. If you have any questions, please call Lora Labadi @ 815-754-4994,

Thank You Exxon Mobil!

We received a \$500 grant from the Exxon Mobil Corporation through their Educational Alliance Program for our school. The grant was applied for on our behalf by the Kelley Williamson Co./Cortland Mobil. Thank you Debbie Viederis for thinking of our school and for all your support! When you stop at Mobil, please thank them on behalf of your students!

Scarecrows

Thank you to all the parents who helped with the scarecrow building and take down especially Kathy Borowiak and Lisa Roelfsema. The scarecrows looked awesome! I hope you all had an opportunity to see Disney in our front lawn. The classes (and Parents!) were very creative and did a super job!

PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting is November 17th at 7pm. Come and join us for the meeting then stay to hear Mrs. Lyle speak about the new school and to see a virtual tour of our new school that is being built. We hope you can join us. Come be a voice for your students.

Free babysitting will be provided by the Green Meadows 4-H Club.

Food Night

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Be watching for a flyer to come home with information on a food night at Wendy's in Sycamore on November 20th!

(Turn Over)

Memory Book

We need pictures! If you have any pictures from school events, class field trips or parties, please send them in to school to be used in the yearbook.



Fall Dance

From Apple Bobbing to Bingo and Costume Contests, the Fall Dance was fabulous! Thank you to all the parents, teachers and alumni who volunteered to help with this wonderful event! A special thank you to our favorite DJ/Karaoke specialist, Mr. McGuire! Thank you also to the ladies who made it all happen, Kathy Borowiak, Jessica Lucas, and Brooke Schroeder. Bravo ladies for a super evening of fun!



Cortland Parade

Thank you to Scott Joyner for designing a cool Cortland PTA Float for the Town Parade! Thank you also to Brooke and Craig Schroeder for the loan of the trailer and for pulling the float, and to all of the adults who worked so hard to build it and all who walked in the parade. The kids all agreed it was a lot of fun to ride on the float and throw candy! If you didn't have an opportunity to be involved this year, mark your calendar for next years parade and join the fun!

PTA Directories

Do you need an extra directory? The PTA is selling extra directories for only \$1 each. If you'd like one, put your name and \$1 per directory in an envelope marked "Directory." Send this to school with your child and we will get your directory to you ASAP.

School Directory



Principal: Kimberly Lyle

By now you've received your directory and you've probably found at least one error. I regret these mistakes and hope you've figured out that the best way to fix

the biggest mistake is to change the titles on page 5 and 6, so that page 5 reads, "Kindergarten PM Mrs. Pardridge " and page 6 read, "Kindergarten AM Ms. Wallin."

Because the student body is always changing it is hard to keep the directory current. One new student to add in Mrs. Lewis' class is Daw, Brandon Brad and Kristin 451 N. Charles St. (815) 319-3848.

Thanks so much to the businesses who placed an ad in the directory. We hope you get lots of business this year from the Cortland School Families.

Easy Ways To Help Cortland PTA

An easy way to help our school is by using www.goodsearch.com. Since we signed up with this search engine, Cortland PTA has had over 550 searches. Please help us continue to raise funds for our school by starting your web searches here. (Don't forget under "Who do you goodsearch for?" choose Cortland School PTA).

Another easy way to help our school is with GoodShop. If you are shopping online, please start your shopping at www.goodsearch.com. Go to "Shop Now". Companies donate a percentage of the sales to our school. It's that easy. So please consider using these sites when you are online.

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they need to return with a note from the physician's office.

- Truancy referrals are made when a student reaches 9 unexcused absences.
- **Two (2) Tardies equal 1 unexcused absence. Arriving late or leaving early count as tardies as well.**
- The State of Illinois considers absences at or above 10% of the total days enrolled to be excessive. The only exception to this rule will be if a note is provided by a doctor stating that there is a chronic illness, which will cause your child to miss numerous days of school.



Principal's Corner:

We are excited to share that at this time we are choosing our new playground Equipment for our New Cortland Elementary School. Students are voting on our three displays. Our design team will select the final design. Students are so excited to see the new equipment choices.

Cortland Elementary School considers attendance to be very important and vital to a child's education. Our district's educational program is built on the premise that regular attendance is vital to a student's success in school. Seeing that a student maintains regular attendance requires a cooperative effort by the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) and school personnel. The student who is frequently absent misses social interaction, class instruction and discussion, even though written work is made up. It is for this reason that attendance and tardy notices are sent out to keep parents informed.

- An absence is considered excused under Section 26-2a of the Illinois School Code for **illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency or situation approved by the school principal.**
- In addition, DeKalb School District will only allow a total of five (5) excused absences due to a vacation/out of town reason. The absences need to be approved one week in advance. Any vacation days over the 5 day maximum will be unexcused and will count towards truancy totals.
- If a student has a medical or dental appointment during the school day

We will send out notices mid-quarter and at the end of each quarter in regards to excessive absences or tardies.

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