

Polar Bear Post

From the Polar Bear Main Office...

February 2014

Dear Parents,

Is anyone else ready for spring? The weather and school closings made it more difficult for our staff to finish the January assessments that are required by the county to measure students' progress. But our teachers persevered and we were able to get most of them done in a timely manner. We use this information to make instructional decisions for the third marking period as well as give some students extra help if needed to meet grade level expectations.

Report cards were sent home on January 27th. Believe it or not; this marks the middle of our school year!! What a great time to review your child's progress with him or her, celebrate successes and areas of strength and set goals for the second half of the year. Feel free to contact our school if you want to meet with any teacher to discuss your child's progress. If a teacher requested a conference on the report card, we hope you will call the office ASAP. The school and home working together is a key part of a child's success.

Once again we want to remind you that students will be going outside if the temperature/wind chill is at least 32° and the ground is dry and snow free. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for outside play. Hoodies are very popular with our students but we are asking for your cooperation in making sure a hoodie will provide sufficient warmth for your child on a day where the temperature is close to freezing.

We will once again have a Love of Reading Night on Thursday, February 6th at 6:00 PM. We will have a little different format this year and we are so excited about this evening of fun with your family to promote reading. There is additional information in this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there.

We would appreciate your help in getting the word out in the neighborhood about our upcoming Kindergarten Registration. Families who don't have any children in the school system yet might not realize that we want them to register their child at the end of March! There is more information enclosed.

As always, we appreciate the support from home in helping your student be successful in all areas of school. We also hope we don't have too many more snow days!

Karen A. Covino
Principal

Janet L. Bubnash
Assistant Principal

Five Point Vision

~ Positive relationships ~ High expectations/Continuous Achievement ~
~ Rigorous curriculum ~ Creative and Motivating Learning Environment ~
~ P. R. I. D. E. ~

Parr's Ridge Elementary

202 Watersville Road
Mt. Airy, MD 21771

410-751-3559
301-829-6585

Fax: 410-549-7221

Website:

www.carrollk12.org/par



Karen A. Covino
Principal

Janet L. Bubnash
Assistant Principal

School Colors:
Blue and White

School Mascot:
Glacier the Polar Bear



Inside this issue:

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Points of Interest

Dr. Seuss' Birthday
Kindergarten
Registration
Love of Reading Night
Media Center News
Second Grade Musical



Calendar Information

February 2014

- **February 3** ~ PTO Board Meeting, 1:00 pm @ Parr's
- **February 6** ~ "Love of Reading Night", 6:00 to 7:30 pm
- **February 7** ~ Early Dismissal, 1:00 p.m.
No school for pre-K
- **February 11** ~ "Love of Reading Night" snow date
- **February 17** ~ Schools/Offices Closed, Presidents' Day
- **February 18** ~ Schools Closed -Professional Day
- **February 28** ~ PTO Science Fair @ Parr's, 6:30—8:30 pm

* * * * * **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** * * * * *

Please mark your calendars with the following two hour & forty-five minute early dismissal days for the 2013-2014 School Year. Parr's Ridge Elementary will dismiss at 1:00 p.m. on: March 10th, March 31st, May 12th, and June 12th. Please note that on early dismissal days, there is no Pre-K.

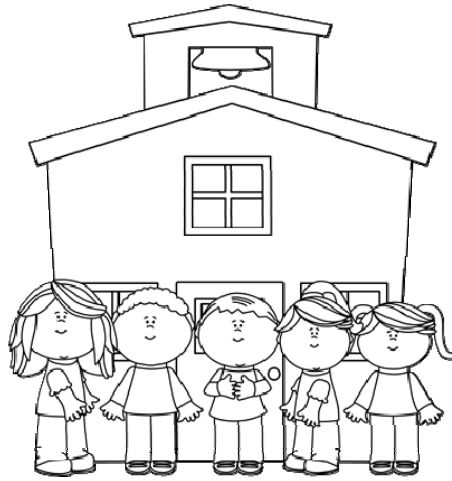
Looking Ahead to March 2014

- **March 1** ~ PTO Used Book Sale @ Parr's
9:00 am—3:00 pm
- **March 3** ~ PTO Board Mtg., 1:00 pm, MAE
- **March 10** ~ Early Dismissal, 1:00 pm, no pre-K
- **March 13** ~ Spring Picture Day
- **March 19** ~ PTO General Meeting @ Parr's, 7:00 pm
- **March 31** ~ Early Dismissal, 1:00 p.m.
No school for pre-K
Third Marking Period Ends
- **March 31—April 4** ~ Kindergarten Fall Registration
10:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.



February 2014

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
						1
2	3 PTO Board Mtg, 1:00 pm @ Parr's	4	5	6 "Love of Reading Night", 6:00—7:30 pm	7 Early dismissal 1:00 pm.,no pre-K	8
National School Counseling Week						
9	10	11 "Love of Reading Night" snow date	12	13	14	15
16	17 Schools/Offices Closed Presidents' Day	18 Schools Closed Professional Day	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Science Fair @ Parr's, 6:30pm—8:30pm	



**Parr's Ridge Elementary School
Kindergarten Registration Week
2014-2015 School Year**

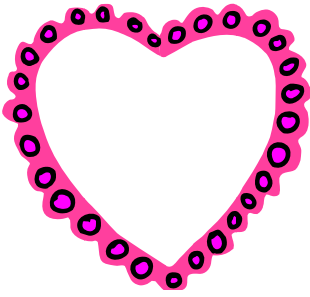
March 31 – April 4: 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
April 3: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Our Kindergarten Registration for the upcoming school year will be held at Parr's Ridge Elementary the week of March 31 – April 4, in the main lobby, at the times as designated above. Parents will need to present the following at the time of registration:

1. identification of parent/legal guardian (driver's license or court document indicating guardianship)
2. the **original** birth certificate/registration or legal document to verify the child's birth date and name
3. verification of residence in the form of a **current** public utility bill such as BGE, Potomac Edison, or cable bill, in its entirety, which would need to list the parent/guardian's name and address as the "Service" address referenced in the upper portion of the bill, a land-line phone bill (**not a wireless phone bill**), a mortgage statement referencing name and address, or a copy of a signed lease agreement which includes the tenant names/address as well as the signature pages of the tenant and landlord
4. specific address from which the child will be transported to school, and the specific address to which the child will be transported after/from school

To complete enrollment, you will need **both** the Health Assessment and Immunization Certificate, which will be included in the enrollment packet you will receive at the time of enrollment. Also, please be aware that an assessment will be scheduled for your child at the time of enrollment. For your consideration, assessment dates and times are as follows: May 21, 23, and 28, and June 2. If you have any questions, or do not have the appropriate documentation listed above in your name, please contact the office at 410-751-3559 and speak to Mrs. Rennie who will be happy to assist you.

**** Love of Reading Night ****



On February 6th, Parr's Ridge will host our annual **Love of Reading Night** from 6 – 7:30 p.m. This year, we will be offering a variety of activities to ensure that everyone has a great time, while learning ways to read and share books together at home! We will also be hosting a "book swap" at our Love of Reading Night. Each student may bring in 2 books they would like to swap out for a book that is new to them.

Books for swapping must meet the following criteria:

- ♥♥ The book is very gently used.
- ♥♥ There are no missing pages, tears, or writing in the book.
- ♥♥ The book is appropriate for other students in my grade to read.
- ♥♥ The book is fun to read.

*If students would like to donate 1 extra book to our students who may not have a book to swap, they may bring in 1 extra book. **However, all students will only bring 2 books home.***

Do you love to read and share books with your friends and family?

Then mark your calendar for **February 6th**!



IT'S A SEUSSICAL MUSICAL!

**Second Grade Musical
April 7th and April 9th**



Although it is still quite a way off, the dates are set for the annual 2nd grade musical. On Monday, April 7th, children in Ms. Arnett's, Mrs. Lazarus', Mrs. Stewart's, and Mr. Cunningham's classes will present their show. On Wednesday, April 9th, children in Ms. Lurette's, Mrs. Thompson's, Mrs. Venit's, and Mrs. Warehime's classes will present their show. More details will follow as we get closer to the dates.



On Friday, February 28th, the students and staff of Parr's Ridge will be celebrating the birthday of everyone's favorite author & doctor, Dr. Seuss. To celebrate and promote our love of reading, we will be hosting a "Dress like Your Favorite Storybook Character" day. All students are encouraged to come to school dressed as one of their favorite book characters. Please remember that no pretend weapons or Halloween costumes will be allowed.

We will continue our celebration that day by having a designated Drop Everything and Read time, for all students and staff members.

And all students will be encouraged to participate in Read Across Maryland's reading challenge of reading for 30 minutes for 30 days during the month of March. For more information, visit ReadAcrossMaryland.org

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child."

From the Parr's Ridge Media Center.....

The Library Media Center is the place to be at Parr's Ridge Elementary School. Learning happens daily in exciting and engaging ways as students hone information-seeking strategies and learn to appreciate literature. Pre-K students visit the Library Media Center weekly to hear a story and check out books. They are learning how to *Read the pictures* in the books they choose. Kindergarteners are working on retelling folktales with puppets. This month, we will go to the computer lab to retell three of the tales with Kidspiration software. First Graders are focusing on folktales from around the world. They are using the map skills they are learning in class to find the continents and countries where our stories were first told. Ask them to sing *The Continents Song* to you. Second graders are becoming proficient users of Destiny, our online public access catalog. They are learning to be independent users of the library who know how to find the information they need and the books they want to read. WPAR PRIDE NEWS is broadcast throughout the school Wednesday mornings at 9:15. Parents are welcome to come and see this exciting production.

- Mrs. Nies, Mrs. Towns, and Mrs. Glover

Showing PRIDE by Using Good Work Habits

Here at Parr's Ridge, students are encouraged daily to show PRIDE in their work. When students are determined to do their best, their work will demonstrate this by being neat, organized, accurate and complete. Students who are responsible for their own learning will begin to show this by independently using good work habits that will help them do their very best at school.

Paying Attention Penguin has visited First Grade classes several times this year to teach about staying on task, working quietly, trying your best, the importance of being a good listener and paying attention. We have discussed how these work habits help them be successful in school not just in First Grade, but in every grade, and even one day when they have a career of their own.

Checking Chipmunk has visited Second Grade classes to teach about setting goals. Second Graders have written their own goals and will be working to meet those goals. Later in the year, Checking Chipmunk will teach Second Graders about the importance of checking over their work, setting priorities by completing the most important tasks first, and how asking questions helps them with their learning. By the end of the year, both First and Second Grades will connect the good work habits they have learned with future career choices and identify how people use these work habits in their jobs.

Later in the year, Kindergarteners will be learning about good work habit too. Currently, Kindergartners are learning the importance of caring for others and how to show others you care about them. I-Care Cat has been visiting our Kindergarten classes and has been teaching them his I-Care Rules. The I-Care Rules include:

1. We listen to each other.
2. Hands are for helping, not for hurting.
3. We use I-Care Language.
4. We care about each other's feelings.
5. We are responsible for what we say and do.

You can encourage your child to use their good work habits at home when they are doing their homework. And since all our students learned the I-Care Rules when they were in Kindergarten, you can encourage your child to use them in your home too. Reinforcing these concepts will help your child see how the skills they learn at school can help them in all areas of their life.

Mrs. Doolan – School Counselor

*** Reporting Student Absences ***

When your child is absent from school we ask that you contact the office, **via our email**, alerting us to the date and reason for the absence or, **send in a note with your child upon your child's return to school**. In the past, we have asked parents to call the school office in the event of an absence, **but it is preferred that you email or send in a note with your child** as the office is often very busy first thing in the morning. Our email for reporting attendance is:

parattendance@carrollk12.org

TEACHER: _____

STUDENT: _____
(Please Print Clearly)

TODAY'S
DATE: _____

DATE(S) OF
ABSENCE: _____

is returning after an absence of ____ days due to:

is late due to: _____

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WILL EITHER
NEED TO BE PICKED UP NO LATER THAT 3:30 p.m.
FROM THE OFFICE OR BE PLACED ON PARENT
PICK UP AT 3:45 p.m.**

will be dismissed to Parent Pick Up at the end of
the day (3:45 p.m).

will be dismissed early (prior to 3:30 p.m.)

Office Pick Up Time: _____

Reason: _____

The State Law requires an explanation from the parent/guardian
in each case of absence or tardiness . Kindly state the reason
above.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:

TEACHER: _____

STUDENT: _____
(Please Print Clearly)

TODAY'S
DATE: _____

DATE(S) OF
ABSENCE: _____

is returning after an absence of ____ days due to:

is late due to: _____

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WILL EITHER
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above.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

TEACHER: _____

STUDENT: _____
(Please Print Clearly)

TODAY'S
DATE: _____

DATE(S) OF
ABSENCE: _____

is returning after an absence of ____ days due to:

is late due to: _____

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WILL EITHER
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above.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

Menus for February 2014



Carroll County
Public Schools
Elementary
School



TRUST YOUR HEART.



Your heart knows: WHAT TIME you eat matters. Eating a healthy meal early in the day is linked to a lower risk of heart attack, while eating late at night before bed is linked to an increased risk. Listen to your heart!

EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER. LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.
WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!



Spice of Life

Do you like spicy food? If not, maybe you should learn! Hot peppers contain a substance called "capsaicin" that is a powerful pain reliever and that also helps curb the appetite, speed up metabolism, and burn up to 100 extra calories after you're done eating!



Learn more at www.CHOOSEMYPLATE.gov or http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay_healthy/food/pyramid.html

Monday, February 3

Breakfast

Breakfast Pizza
OR Muffin

Lunch

Popcorn Chicken w/ Roll
Rib-A-Que on Steak Roll
Entrée Salad w/ Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Roll *v*
Baked Beans
Broccoli Florets
Mixed Fruit
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Tuesday, February 4

Breakfast

French Toast Sticks w/
Syrup OR

Bagel w/ Toppings

Lunch

Chicken Nuggets w/ Roll
Carolina BBQ on Roll
Entrée Salad & Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Roll *v*
Steamed Carrots
Coleslaw
Chilled Peaches
Fresh Apples
Variety of Milk

Wednesday, February 5

Breakfast

Ham & Egg on Roll
OR Cinnamon Roll

Lunch

French Toast Sticks *v* w/
Sausage
Deli Sub
Entrée Salad w/ Bagel
Yogurt, Cheese, Bagel *v*
Tater Tots
Carrot & Celery Sticks
Applesauce
Variety of Juices
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Thursday, February 6

Breakfast

Pancake n' Sausage on a
Stick OR Donut

Lunch

Nachos Grande
Deep Dish Pizza *v*
Entrée Salad w/ Bagel
Yogurt, Cheese, Bagel *v*
Steamed Broccoli
Tossed Salad
Chilled Pears
Fresh Oranges
Variety of Milk

Friday, February 7

Breakfast

Sausage Biscuit OR
Yogurt & Toast

Lunch

Variety of Pizza *v*
Deli Sub
Entrée Salad w/ Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Roll *v*
Mixed Vegetables
Carrot & Celery Sticks
Pineapple Tidbits
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Monday, February 10

Breakfast

Breakfast Pizza
OR Oatmeal Bar

Lunch

Chicken Nuggets w/ Roll
Meatball Sub
Entrée Salad w/ Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Roll *v*
Seasoned Carrot Coins
Tossed Salad
Mandarin Oranges
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Tuesday, February 11

Breakfast

French Toast Sticks OR
Bagel w/ Toppings

Lunch

Mozzarella Sticks w/
Dipping Sauce & Roll *v*
Mexican Pizza
Yogurt, Cheese, Pretzel Rod
v
Entrée Salad w/ Pretzel Rod
Chicken Noodle Soup
Baked Beans
Cucumber Coins
Chilled Peaches
Fresh Grapes
Variety of Milk

Wednesday, February 12

Breakfast

Egg & Cheese on Roll
OR Cinnamon Roll

Lunch

Chicken Patty on Roll
Rotini w/ Meatballs, Roll
Entrée Salad w/ Pretzel
Yogurt, Cheese, Pretzel *v*
Tater Tots
Carrot Sticks
Applesauce
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Thursday, February 13

Breakfast

Pancakes with Syrup
OR Donut

Lunch

Chicken Tenders w/ Biscuit
Hamburger or
Cheeseburger
Entrée Salad w/ Biscuit
Yogurt, Cheese, Biscuit *v*
Seasoned Corn
Broccoli Florets
Diced Pears
Fresh Oranges
Variety of Milk

Friday, February 14

Breakfast

Sausage & Cheese Roll
OR Yogurt & Toast

Valentine's Day Lunch

Love that Variety of Pizza
Cupid's Corn Dog Nuggets
Heart Healthy Entrée Salad
Yogurt & Cheese Couple *v*
Heartzel Pretzels
BFF French Fries
Sweet Heart Vegetables
Sincere Celery Sticks
Cinnamon Applesauce
Variety of "Fresh" Fruit
Variety of Milk



Swans are one of the few animals that will mate for life!

Happy Valentine's Day!

SPECTACULAR Athletes

Elana Meyers was a softball all-star in college, hitting a game-winning grand slam in her final home game at George Washington University. She switched to bobsledding after graduation and won a bronze medal at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver. She hopes to compete for gold this year in Sochi.



Winter Olympics
February 7-23
Sochi, Russia



ELANA MEYERS

Welcome to
Heart Health Month



February is Heart Health month! Adding more fruits and vegetables to your meals and snacks is a simple way to get more nutrients and less salt, which is good for your heart! For more ideas and recipes, go to the American Heart Association's website at <http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/>, click on "Getting Healthy" and then "Nutrition Center".

Monday, February 17



NO SCHOOL
TODAY

Tuesday, February 18



No
School
Today

Wednesday, February 19

Breakfast

Ham & Egg on Roll
OR Cinnamon Roll

Lunch

French Toast Sticks *v* w/
Sausage
Deli Sub
Entrée Salad w/ Bagel
Yogurt, Cheese, Bagel *v*
Tater Tots
Carrot & Celery Sticks
Applesauce
Variety of Juices
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Thursday, February 20

Breakfast

Pancake n' Sausage on a
Stick OR Donut

Lunch

Beef Tacos
Deep Dish Pizza *v*
Entrée Salad w/ Pretzel
Yogurt, Cheese, Pretzel *v*
Hot Carrot Coins
Tossed Salad
Peaches
Fresh Pears
Variety of Milk

Friday, February 21

Breakfast

Sausage Biscuit OR
Yogurt & Toast

Lunch

Variety of Pizza *v*
Fish Nuggets w/ Roll
Entrée Salad w/ Bagel
Yogurt, Cheese, Bagel *v*
Green Beans
Celery Sticks
Mixed Fruit
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Monday, February 24

Breakfast

Breakfast Pizza
OR Oatmeal Bar

Celebrate the Winter Olympics Lunch

Mozzarella Hockey Sticks
Go America Cheeseburger
Lean & Mean Entrée Salad
Perfectly Executed Yogurt,
& Cheese Combination *v*
Sporty Cookies
Flame- Orange Carrots
Cucumber "Medals"
Winter White Chilled Pears
Winning Fresh Fruit Choices
Variety of Milk

Tuesday, February 25

Breakfast

French Toast Sticks w/
Syrup OR
Bagel w/ Toppings

Lunch

Popcorn Chicken w/ Biscuit
Teriyaki Chicken w/ Rice
Entrée Salad w/ Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Bagel *v*
Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy
Baked Beans
Chilled Peaches
Fresh Apples
Variety of Milk

Wednesday, February 26

Breakfast

Egg & Cheese on Roll
OR Cinnamon Roll

Lunch

Hot Dog on Roll
Grilled Cheese Sandwich
v
Entrée Salad w/ Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Roll *v*
Tomato Soup
Tater Tots
Broccoli Florets
Applesauce
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk

Thursday, February 27

Breakfast

Pancakes with Syrup
OR Donut

Lunch

Nachos Grande
Pizza Crunchers *v*
Entrée Salad w/ Roll
Yogurt, Cheese, Roll *v*
Brown Rice
Seasoned Corn
Tossed Salad
Mixed Fruit
Fresh Apples
Variety of Milk

Friday, February 28

Breakfast

Sausage & Cheese on
Roll OR
Yogurt & Toast

Lunch

Variety of Pizza *v*
Carolina BB on Roll
Entrée Salad w/ Pretzel
Yogurt, Cheese, Pretzel *v*
Seasoned Fries
Steamed Broccoli
Carrot Sticks
Diced Pears
Variety of Fresh Fruit
Variety of Milk



Winter is the season when the fresh orange crop is at its juicy peak -- and that's also when we can really use the color, flavor, and aroma of fresh oranges, tangerines, and clementines. Oranges (mainly in juice form) are easily the primary source of vitamin C for Americans, but choose whole fresh oranges for a good shot of fiber, too.



Floo Powder?

Harry Potter and his pals use magical FLOO Powder to move around their world, but in our world there's no magic cure for the FLU. But there are three ways you can help keep yourself and others healthy during flu season.



1 Wash your hands frequently.



2 Cover up when you sneeze or cough.



3 If you do get sick, stay home.