

Porter PRIDE News

December 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those who were able to attend STEM Night November 3rd, the canned food drive on November 16th and the Porter Family Picnic/Turkey Trot November 23rd. All events were a huge success once again. We are already looking forward to next year. We have our 1st Family Movie Night at Porter on Friday, December 2nd 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We will be showing *Polar Express* and you may come dressed in your pajamas. Hope to see you there.

We are proud to announce that two staff members were recognized in November. Jessica Castaneda was honored November 8th as an Outstanding Mesa Public School Teacher at the Oriental Masonic Lodge and Rosanne Carlson was honored November 9th as the Outstanding Mentor Teacher for ASU Student Teacher program. Congratulations to both of these teachers.

Band and Orchestra Concerts will be December 6th at 1:15 pm and 6:30 pm in the multipurpose room. The 5th grade students along with their teachers, Mrs. Marquez-Wells and Mrs. Lenz will be holding their Economics Bazaar again this year on December 14th at 8:00 am in the multipurpose room. All items are typically priced from \$.50 to \$3. This money is going to help pay for 5th graders to attend Science Camp in the spring.

The flag ceremony is on Tuesday, December 20th at 8:00 am and we will be drawing two more student names from our PBIS tickets at the end of the second quarter for special prizes. Thank you PTO for providing these funds for our prizes. Mr. Paul Anderson will be conducting his annual sing-a-long with holiday songs on December 20th at 9:00 am in the multipurpose room, so come and join us.

We have just about reached our half way mark in the school year with second quarter grades coming up. Please make sure you are checking your child's agenda and backpacks nightly. It is important that our parents, students and teachers work together. Winter break will be December 21st through January 4th. All of us here at Porter Elementary wish all of you a safe and happy winter break. School will resume on Wednesday, January 4th at 7:45 am.

Cordially,
Paula Warren/Principal

Calendar

12/1 – Lunch with the Principal

12/2 –

- **Spirit Day** - Pajama Day
- **Family Movie Night – *The Polar Express*** (outdoor showing so dress warm) ***Children must be accompanied by an adult.***

12/6 –

- **SIAC Media Center 5:15 pm**
- **PTO Community Meeting** Media Center 6:00 pm
- **Band/Orchestra Concert** Multi-purpose Room (MPR) 6:30 pm (daytime performance at 1:15 pm)

12/8 – Picture Retake Day

12/14 – Economics Bazaar MPR 8:00 am – 10:00 am

12/16 – Jamba Juice

12/19 – December Dash

12/20 –

- **Extra Early Release 11:45 am**
- **Flag Ceremony** Flagpole - Parking Lot 8:00 am
- **Holiday Sing-a-long** MPR 9:00 am

12/21- 1/3/17 – Holiday Break
School resumes Wednesday, 1/4/17

Movie Night Details:



You can wear pajamas - there will be train rides and visits with Santa. Hot cocoa and popcorn will be available for purchase. Admission is an AVID supply donation.

Title 1 Tips:

Helping Your Child Finish the Semester on a Strong Note

Christmas trees, Hanukah menorahs, caroling, special events.....This is the time of year our students get excited for the holidays and teachers try to keep them focused. As your family has special times, please keep in mind your child's need for keeping to a regular schedule for school. Important tips are:

- 👉 Keep a regular bedtime schedule. Sleepy children are hard to motivate in school.
- 👉 Slip some regular food in with the treats. Eating a meal before an event will help them slow down on the candy canes and hot chocolate.
- 👉 Keep a regular spot for agendas to be signed and homework to be checked. It is easy to lose track of things with all the decorations and mail we get this time of year.
- 👉 Use a calendar to point out when events will happen. This will keep excitement down to a manageable level for you too!
- 👉 Holiday events can be a treat for accomplishing the things you still need them to do.

Thank you for working with your teachers to make the end of the year successful for your child. They will still be taking end of semester tests to determine their learning thus far. It helps so much if parents and teachers work together to make this a great time of year!

Battle of the Books 2016-17

Battle Two: 1/20/17 @ 12:30 p.m. in the Media Center

- *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor
- *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr
- *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* by Jack Gantos
- *Fablehaven* by Brandon Mull

**Parents of contestants are invited and encouraged to attend

Health News

Feeling sick?

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- If you are sick with flu symptoms, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your Hands
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.

Take everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs.

(<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/habits/index.htm>)

In the community...

CARE Partnership Emergency Santa Shop - Provided for:

- Families who need help and are NOT receiving help from another source
- Parent/Guardian is willing to volunteer 1 hour at a school, church, non-profit organization or helping a neighbor for each child they register
- Bring documentation letter of volunteer service and documentation for child. (grade card, birth certificate, baptism or other record)
- Register from 11/1-12/23; Weekdays 8 am—5 pm Call 480-833-8987 or Stop by our center located at 466 S. Bellview St.—Mesa



1/4/17 School resumes after Holiday Break
1/9-1/13/17 Parent/Teacher Conferences and Book Fair (Parent Volunteers needed)
2/25/17 Porter Fun Fest/Carnival – look for more details after the Holiday Break