

The Lincoln Log

November 2011



From PTA President Kristin Massey

Dear Lincoln Families,
Many thanks to those who have joined the Abraham Lincoln PTA this year! We have grown our membership and are still eager to welcome more new Lincoln families.

The past month as flown by and as the leaves settle to the ground, I have had an opportunity to reflect back upon several amazing PTA events that occurred. These events include Family Fitness Night, Halloween Room Parties, the Reflections Reception, and the Veteran's Day Assembly.

I would like to specifically thank those Committee chairs and volunteers, who kindly volunteered their time to the following programs and activities:

- Wynter Evans, John Serna and Elise Brinich for a successful Family Fitness Night. On October 24th, over 150 students, parents and teachers participated in the evening's activities.
- All of our Room Parents that organized and implemented the class parties on Halloween.
- Karen Tolman and Paula Breunig for the countless hours they spent inspiring our young Lincoln artists. On November 7, families attended the Reflection Reception to view the artwork and photos. The evening was delightful.
- Sherry Scheller, Lee Fruit, Stacy Sarley and Sue Rossy who organized yet another spectacular Veteran's Day assembly that brought tears to many of the Veteran's eyes (and my own). Along with all of our teachers and staff who assisted the students to prepare for the event, Mrs. Passini for choreographing a lovely musical selection of songs and many parent volunteers that assisted on the day of the assembly.

As for November, the following PTA-related events have been scheduled:

- December 1st and 2nd- The annual Book Fair in the Lincoln LLC.
- December 1st- We are pleased to announce the Tim Hannig Pro Kids Family Show. Tim provided four inspiring assemblies for our students on the first day of school. We welcome him back for two shows on December 1st at 5:45pm and 7:30pm. Please bring your family and a blanket and enjoy his show.
- December 6th -Holiday Store in the Old Gym
- December 20th and 21st- Holiday Room Parties.

From PTA President Kristin Massey

As Thanksgiving is upon us, I wanted to take a moment to share the things that I am thankful for as your PTA President. I am thankful for the generosity of parents who give their time and effort to the many PTA activities, committees, and events. I am thankful for the wonderful teachers, staff and administrators who devote their time to the betterment of our students. And I am thankful for the students who benefit from all these things.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Kristin Massey 2011-2012 PTA President

krismassey1618@gmail.com

Programs designed with strong parent involvement produce students who perform better than otherwise identical programs that do not involve parents as thoroughly, or that do not involve them at all. ~ Anne T. Henderson

Upcoming PTA Events

12/1 Book Fair 5pm – 8pm LLC

12/1 Tim Hannig ProKids Family Show: 5:45pm (last names A-L) 7:30 pm (last names (M-Z) Old Gym

12/2 Book Fair 9am-12noon LLC

12/2 Spirit Day

12/6 Holiday Store Old Gym

12/7 DEN 8pm New Gym

12/8 Chess Club 7pm LLC

12/9 Scrips Orders Due

12/9 Spirit Day

12/13 Yearbook Meeting (Group 1) 3:30 Computer Lab

12/13 Market Day Pick up 4-5pm Old Gym

12/14 DEN 8pm New Gym

12/15 Chess Club 7pm LLC

12/16 Spirit Day

12/20 Hot Lunch

12/20 Kindergarten Room Parties

12/20 Yearbook Meeting (Group 2) 3:30 Computer Lab

12/21 Room Parties Grades 1-5

Upcoming Events

] **Musical Mayhem needs your help!**



Get ready for some fun! Musical Mayhem will be Feb. 17, 2012. Let's make this annual fundraiser a success. The Music Education Foundation is in need of a Chairperson or Co-Chairs for the Lip Sync Contest. A previous Chairperson has agreed to mentor anyone interested. Please consider this role as this activity is a vital component to the evening.

As a reminder, this is the only fundraiser for D41's music programs. Last year MEF raised \$16,000. Through this fundraiser, we offer the following and more to every student in the district:

- Instrument rentals for those in financial need
- Bass Scholarships
- Director's awards to specific music students
- Purchases of items to enhance the program
(pianos, vests, instruments, equipment, costumes)

For more information please contact: Evelyn Cabrera, Musical Mayhem chair, 773-716-7840, Evelyn.cabrera34@gmail.com or Sue Schroeder, MEF president, 630-469-3110, sue@ars401k.com

Opportunities open to give to those in need this holiday season

Every holiday season, District 41 works in conjunction with the Glen Ellyn Juniors Club to provide toys and other essentials to needy families in District 41.

Volunteers are needed to sponsor a child or family by signing up to donate items to make their holiday a little bit brighter. Items needed are toys for children, books for children, \$25 grocery store gift cards, and \$20 Target or Wal-Mart gift cards. If you would like to donate one or more of these items for a child or family, please email Rachel Pattermann at jrpattermann@ameritech.net or Kristin Scott at Kristin.scott45@yahoo.com.

If interested, we will assign you a child or a family who is in need. Additionally, please email with any questions. Thanks for considering a donation to such a worthy cause.

Upcoming Events

**Thursday,
December 1
5 pm - 8 pm**



**Friday,
December 2
9 am - noon**

Announcing Book Fair 2011!

One of the best selections of books yet including award winners and books chosen with Lincoln students in mind.

Purchase from the “wish list” your child made during his/her in-school preview days.

The Snowflake Tree offers gift suggestions for your child’s teacher –books chosen specially by them!

Book signing by Lincoln authors

(Read your e-blasts for more info about these authors!)

We are excited to announce special entertainment by Tim Hannig! His show is filled with inspiring music, magic and hilarious comedy that will have everyone laughing! Not just for kids, there are messages for parents too about the important role we play in our kids’ lives.

You won’t want to miss it!

No tickets required, but we suggest that families A-L attend the 5:45 show and M-Z attend at 7:30pm. Each show is 1 hour.

~Proceeds support the Lincoln Library and Lincoln PTA

Questions about the Book Fair or want to **volunteer?** Email **Kim Radke** at kimradke@sbcglobal.net

Student News and Thanks



Lincoln Elementary School

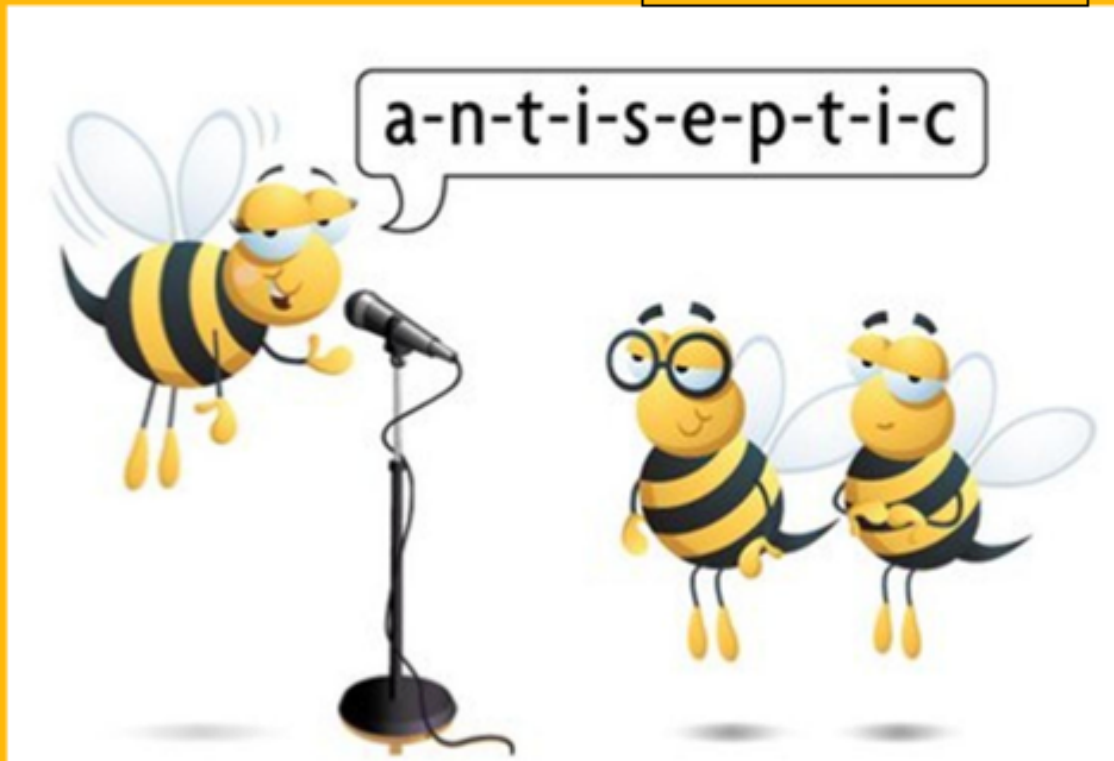
2nd Annual Scripps Spelling Bee

Details & Sign up at www.abelincolnpta.org, under 'Documents'. Grades 1-5 Compete Against Each Other.

Sign Up Deadline Dec. 15, 2012

Finals :Jan 12, 2012, New Gym

Questions? Contact Naazish YarKhan naazishyarkhan@gmail.com



Student News and Thanks



Gift card fundraiser



Please join us in the gift card fundraising program to earn money for our school.

We have exciting news to share about this fundraising program from the Manna Group. Each gift card purchase drives dollars into the school, and children.

Gift cards are offered from local and national retailers, such as Jewel, Dominick's, J.C.Penney, Target, Best Buy, Shell, Starbucks, and others. There is no fee to you! The opportunity is for the PTA to earn money for each gift card purchased, without spending additional money!

How can these retailers help us raise money? You buy the gift cards at full face value, partnered retailers sell gift cards to our organization at a small discount, and our PTA accepts the difference as fundraising.

A great way to complete early holiday shopping without running to the grocery or mall to find gift cards. A terrific opportunity for teacher gifts. And, put your own everyday shopping dollars to work. Simply purchase gift cards for places you visit regularly - maybe it's Jewel or Dominick's, and the school receives the fundraised dollars! Every \$1.75 and \$4 really makes a difference to the PTA.

Example:

Gift Card - Cost	You Pay	Disc. <i>(amount retailer will donate)</i>	School Earns	Your Gift Card Value
Jewel - \$100	\$100	4%	\$4.00	\$100
Starbuck's - \$25	\$25	7%	\$1.75	\$25

Watch for the Order Form to come in Backpack Mail or print the form at:

<http://www.MannaExpress.net/ExpressAlpha.pdf>

next ORDER DUE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9th (to the Treasurer's Box)

Gift Card Pick-up on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14th, Lincoln Lobby, 3-4pm

future order due Friday, February 10th

Sincerely,

Julie Humble

questions? ajhumble@mac.com

Student News and Thanks



Veterans Day assembly a moving tribute

On Friday, November 11, Lincoln students, faculty and staff invited family members and friends who have served in the armed forces to participate in two separate Veterans Day assemblies. Student artwork and essays honoring the veterans adorned the school. Our 5th grade Ambassadors served as greeters and emcees for the event. Guests were presented with a patriotic slideshow and medley of patriotic music performed by students in every grade. Each veteran was introduced and given the opportunity to share information about their service, and our fourth and fifth graders participated in a question and answer time with the veterans after the assemblies. Lt. Col. Mike Scheller presented a flag that had been flown at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan to Abraham Lincoln School. The Veterans Day assemblies were truly memorable and moving.

We could not have had such a successful event without the help of many. Stacy Sarley single-handedly trained the 5th grade emcees who announced and served as narrators for both assemblies, as well as the greeters who were the first people with whom the veterans came in contact. Stacy's contributions were invaluable. Kristin Massey helped with every aspect of the planning whenever needed and provided assistance on Veterans Day with the greeters. Miss White helped to fine-tune the setup of equipment and last minute logistics. Sue Rossy and Yvonne Houghtaling worked with Cub Scout Pack 52 to perform the flag ceremony. They led us in honoring the flag and our country. Janet Morris and Brownie Troop 698 decorated the gym with posters made by the 4th grade Ambassadors, along with plenty of streamers and flags and also provided additional help when needed. Jeanne Enright and Honor Adam served as refreshment and hospitality helpers. Sandra Hanson assisted at the welcome table as the veterans arrived. Thank you all for making the veterans feel so welcome!

Many thanks also go to our faculty and staff. Mrs. Passini was responsible for every grade of students singing patriotic songs at the assemblies and running the sound equipment. The music was amazing. Mrs. Grever provided a patriotic slide show so moving that it brought tears to everyone's eyes. Mrs. Gates assisted students in decorating the flags that adorned the gym and hallways and served as a true showpiece on Veterans Day. Thank you to Ms. Cross, Mrs. Kelly, and Mrs. Sharif for their help and support in every aspect of the day and to all the wonderful teachers who had their students complete art work and essays for the veterans. The student's work was given to the veterans as a gift and also decorated the hallways as the veterans were escorted to the gym. Thank you so much, teachers! Lastly, thanks to our custodial staff who helped with the setup and breakdown of the equipment for both assemblies.

Next year's assembly will involve a Q&A with fourth and fifth graders only. The whole school assembly will return in 2013. Our veterans have repeatedly told us how meaningful these assemblies are to them and that they feel truly honored. We are especially proud of our students for always demonstrating respect for our honored guests.

**Lee Fruit and Sherry Scheller,
Veterans Day co-chairs**

Student News and Thanks

Lots of books and lots of stories!



From Nov. 30th to Dec. 2nd, the Anderson's Bookshop will be set up in our LMC (library media center)! On Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st, classes will come down to the library to preview the books. Then on the evening of Dec. 1st (5-8 pm) and the morning of Dec. 2nd (9-12pm), families may come to the book fair to purchase books. Also on Dec. 1st, some of our own resident authors will be on hand to sign their published books! So come to the book fair on Dec. 1st and stop by the "author table" to talk to **Mrs. Harte-Naus**, author of *Belden Boy* and soon to be released *My Sometimes Pal*; **Mrs. McCaffrey – a.k.a Nancy Drummond**, author of *Wright to Machu Picchu*; and one of our own Lincoln students, **Emily (Radzinsky) Gordon**, author of *The Kitty Book*. So please come to the library on either Dec. 1st or 2nd to purchase some great books and support our Lincoln PTA!

On another note, our 4th graders have been hard at work digging up stories of immigration! This group of young researchers has been busy interviewing either their own family members or other immigrant friends about coming to America. The kids are then going to create a PowerPoint slide show presenting these personal tales of enduring hardship and dreams of a better life. Also included in the presentation will be the children's pictures of themselves dressed up as an immigrant transferred into either an old time photo of Ellis Island or a modern photo of an airport. Lastly, the children will be presenting their findings to their parents in a wax museum in their classroom right before Winter Break. What a wonderful way of tying personal stories, research and Social Studies together!

Finally, special thanks go out to the following student for his generous donation to the Lincoln Library: Sean O'Leary



As we count our blessings during the holidays, may we always remember what a blessing it is to share our stories through both literature and technology!

Miss Cece White
Lincoln Library Media Specialist

Student News and Thanks



Understanding Music Grades

Music grades are here to stay and can sometimes be a challenge to interpret. Here are a few tips to help you when reading Music grades in Pinnacle:

Work Habits/Participation Grade of 2.75: *This means your child received a warning during one of our two music classes. This is no cause for concern. Everyone makes a mistake now and then.*

Work Habits/Participation Grade of 2.25 or less: *This means your child has had two or more warnings during our two music lessons. When this turns into a pattern of behavior, I talk with the classroom teacher to create a system of accountability. Typically, these issues resolve themselves.*

Understands Music Concepts Grade of 3: *This means your student is Meeting Expectations. If the Understands Music Concepts Grade is higher than a 3, your student is working above what is expected.*

Understands Music Concepts Grade of 2.75 or less: *This grade indicates that your child is struggling with several Music Concepts. The District 41 Elementary Music Team is working together to create a system of intervention for students who are struggling in Music. This is a process we hope to have in place soon.*

If you are unsure about what you see in Pinnacle, please contact me directly and I will help you decipher the system.



I HAVE QUESTIONS!!!

Parents, if you have questions about Music curriculum, grades, or behavior, please contact me directly at the contact information listed below. I am available for conference on an as needed basis. Please do not hesitate to call, email, or stop by for a quick chat.

Wendee Passini
(630) 534-7586
wpassini@d41.org

MYSTERY SONG OF THE MONTH:

Question: Name this tune: "O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming"

Answer: The Star Spangled Banner

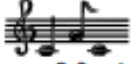



CONGRATULATIONS to our first Mystery Song winner, **JOSH CROSBY** from **Mr. Bower's Class!** Come see me for your prize 😊

November 2011

Student News and Thanks



Mrs. Passini, Lincoln Music Director

Grade Level	 Songs We Are Singing	 What We Are Studying	 Music News	 Program Schedule
K	<i>Faeries and Giants</i> by Sir Edward Elgar They Were Tall Sandpiper	Fast and Slow High and Low	We have been using our bodies to show the difference between high and low sounds. Ask your student how the Giants move!	
1 st	Doggie, Doggie My Mamma's Calling Me I've a Pair of Fishies	So and Mi (high and low) Loud and Soft	1 st Graders started sight reading music this week. Ask your student about the brothers, So and Mi.	April 19, 2012 (During Open House)
2 nd	<i>Funeral March of the Marionettes</i> by Gounoud Tinga Layo This is My Country	Strong vs. Weak beats Half Note Reading So, Mi, and La on the music staff	2 nd Graders used tennis balls to find the strong beat of the music. Ask your student how!	
3 rd	<i>Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks</i> by Mussorgsky Jamaican Farewell	Pentatonic scale (Do, Re, Mi, So, La) AB patterns	We are working on making our own listening maps using index cards. Ask your student how!	February 28, 2012, 7:00pm
4 th	BAG 101 Sandy McNab Lil' Liza Jane	Pentatonic Scale Review Recorders	4th Graders are continuing their study of the recorder. After reviewing notes B, A, and G, we're moving on to something new!	
5 th	When the Saints Go Marching In Rocky Top Day-O	Program Prep! Recorders Guitars	We are busy preparing for our music program! We hope you all can be there to hear our fantastic work!	12/12/2011 At 7:00pm Gettin' Groovy with Guitars!

November 2011

Student News and Thanks

Glen Ellyn Council of PTA District Meeting Report

PTA President Kristin Massey and newly appointed PTA District representative, Kristen Elias, attended the District PTA meeting in October. Highlights of the meeting include:

- * Furniture for the 21st century learning classrooms will be delivered in early January to selected classrooms across the district.
- * Ben Franklin introduced a subscription based school directory iPhone app this fall.
- * A first grade teacher at Churchill was nominated for and won an Office Max teaching award that landed her classroom \$1,000 of office supplies.
- * Forest Glen is beginning book clubs this year in place of the "Great Books" program. Stay tuned for student feedback.
- * The Hadley parking lot is slotted for a major overhaul this year.
- * Hadley is also getting a limited number of netbooks and iPads for classrooms.
- * The Lincoln School Veterans Day assembly received interest among the other district schools.

If you have any questions on the above items or would like to know more about the District PTA Council please contact **Kristen Elias** at kristen@kristenelias.com

Reflections shows off kids' creativity

Thank you so much to all the students who participated in the year's Reflections Art Program. We had many wonderful and creative entries depicting the theme "Diversity Means..."

Congratulations to the following students whose entries will be advancing on to the District competition:

Lili Breunig, Lukas Breunig, Kelly Chism, Madeline Kirincic, Curran Lawrence, Lucy Lawrence, Teja Jeleniauskas, Luisa Metz, Katherine Morris, Carlie Olsen, Ellie Tolman and Lucy Tolman.



Lincoln Log submissions

This is the third issue of the Lincoln Log for the 2011-2012 school year. Future deadlines will be at 5 p.m., Fridays, Jan. 13, Feb. 17, March 16, April 13 and May 18.

The primary method of distribution for the *Lincoln Log* is via e-mail. It is also posted on www.abelincolnpta.org/Documents.html, and on Ms. Cross' *Principal's Corner* at <http://www.d41.org/schools/lincoln/principalscorner.htm> <http://www.d41.edu>. Contact AbeLincolnPTA@gmail.com to request to be **added** or **removed** from the e-mail.