

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **March 2**
Kindergarten Report Cards distributed
- **March 5 - 30**
DRA 2 Testing Grade 1
- **March 9**
Kindergarten Registration
NO SCHOOL for Kindergarten Students **ONLY**
- **March 13 - 21**
PSSA Testing
Math & Reading
Grades 3, 4, 5
- **March 14**
PTO MEETING
Library - 7:00 pm
- **March 26 - 29**
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
- **March 28th & 29th**
OPERATION HELPING HAND

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Principal's Message...



Dear Parents and Guardians,

The month of March brings a change in weather, and often, a change in students behavior. We continually review our C.A.R.E.S. expectations and thank you for supporting us as we work together to insure that our students are cooperative, show a good attitude, are respectful, empathetic and show good safety habits.

The State Assessments, PSSA Reading and Math will be administered to students in grades 3-5. The dates of testing will be Tuesday, March 13th to Wednesday, March 21st . We will NOT be testing on Mondays. Our 5th grade Writing Assessments will be held April 17th through April 20th. Our 4th grade Science Assessments will be held April 24th through April 25th. Please make sure your child(ren) start the day with a healthy breakfast and have a restful night sleep.

Good test preparation is very different from test practice. In the book "Test Talk", Amy Green reminds us that test preparation should be related to reading throughout the year in each content area. No matter what we think about standardized testing, a test is its own genre of reading and we need to teach our students how to process this genre (test taking) as it is something they will need to encounter for years to come.

Our performance on the 2012 PSSA is critical in ensuring our AYP Status and showing our district and community how exceptional our students, families and faculty are. I believe we will achieve these goals and be the model for instructional excellence.

Thank you for all you do to support our school. Our collaboration matters to student success!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Brewster
Principal



PSSA TESTING

All students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be taking the PSSA Tests for Math and Reading the week of **March 13th through March 21st**

Testing will occur in the morning, so please do your best to have your children to school on time and well rested.

Make-ups will be given the week of March 19th through March 23rd for any child that is out sick during the testing window.



Kindergarten Registration Day

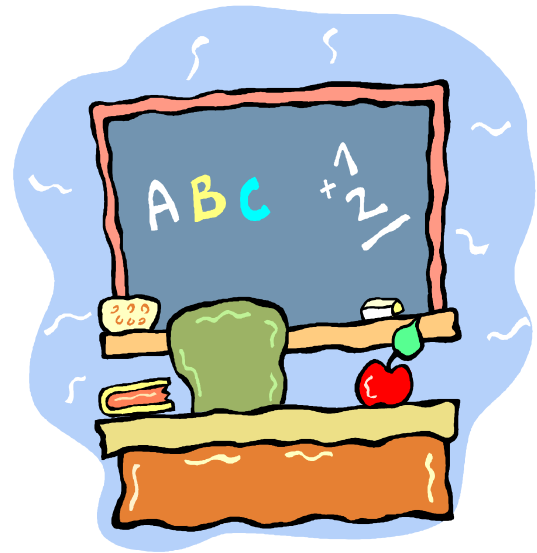
The Neshaminy School District will hold Kindergarten Registration day on **Friday, March 9, 2012.**

You may register your student between 9:30 am - 11:30 am or 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Students are to be registered at the school they will attend in September, 2012.

Children entering kindergarten must be five years old on or before September 1, 2012.

You may also register on-line (at any time) at www.neshaminy.org. Click on the drop down bar and select Albert Schweitzer Elementary School. Follow the step by step directions on how to register on-line.

Please also be sure to check the website for all documentation that needs to be provided in order to complete your child's registration (ie: birth certificate, proof of residency, immunizations, etc.)



Operation Helping Hand - Food Drive

The United Way of Bucks County will conduct their annual Operation Helping Hand 2012 Food Drive. The Drive will take place on **Wednesday and Thursday, March 28th & 29th**

Operation Helping Hand will be collecting non-perishable food items to distribute to area pantries and social service agencies, who then distribute the items to families in need.

Donations should be placed in boxes that will be located on tables in the school lobby on those days.

We hope we can count on your participation in this worthy cause.

News from the Nurse....

My child is not feeling well today, should I keep him/her at home?

A healthy child is able to participate actively in all the exciting plans in school. Children not feeling well are more vulnerable to infection; therefore it is in the best interest of your child and their class to keep your child at home when they are ill.

After a fever, a child's temperature must be normal (98.6) for 24 hours before returning to school.

Please keep your child home when he/she has any of the following symptoms:

Fever/Chill

Vomiting

Running or inflamed eyes/nose

Diarrhea

Skin rash (return on doctor's permission)

Sore throat

Abdominal pain

Swollen glands

Any other unusual occurrence specific to your child's general health condition.



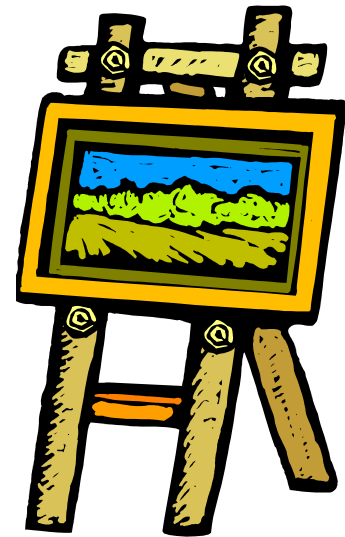
If a child is well enough to come to school, we will expect him/her to go outdoors with the class, weather permitting. Often children may ask to come to school even though they are ill. Although your child may be disappointed, please keep him/her home when ill in their best interest. If your child becomes ill at school and you are called, please come promptly. If we are unable to contact you, we will contact the emergency number listed on your card. Please be sure these numbers are accurate and correct.

Looking for Volunteers to hang Artwork...

We are looking for Volunteers (on a Day 5) to help hang Artwork in our hallways for our upcoming Art Show that will be held during the evening of Thursday, May 10, 2012.

Volunteers can help out after our PSSA testing takes place in the morning.

If you are able to help out in decorating our hallways with student artwork, please contact our school office at 215-809-6380.



Neshaminy “Takes Pride”

March’s **“TAKES PRIDE”** theme is “respect.” “Respect” means an attitude of regard or esteem for another. It can be a polite expression of admiration for another in word or deed. “Respect” is courteous regard for the feelings and opinions of others. People who demonstrate “respect” treat everyone the same no matter their gender, race, religion, size or age.

Principal’s 200 Club Mystery Motivator

Congratulations to all students who are exhibiting C.A.R.E.S. behavior! Many of you have been given C.A.R.E.S. stickers by teachers, aides, bus drivers and our custodians.

We expect every member of our Schweitzer community to be cooperative, have a positive attitude, be respectful, show empathy and always be safe!

Our *Mystery Motivator* this month is Breanna Barcay!!

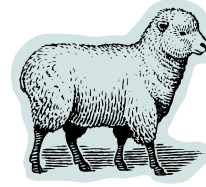
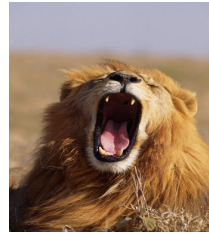
Breanna won a pizza gift certificate to Aqualone’s (formerly Brother’s Pizza) in recognition of her accomplishment.

Who will be the winner of the next ***Mystery Motivator???***





Albert Schweitzer Elementary School
30 Harmony Road
Levittown, PA 19056
215-809-6380



**If March comes in like a lion,
will it go out like a lamb?**

With March being such a changeable month, in which we can see warm spring-like temperatures or late-season snowstorms, you can understand how this saying might hold true in some instances. We can only hope that if March starts off cold and stormy it will end warm and sunny, but the key word is hope! What do you think will happen?

**We're on the Web!
www.neshaminy.k12.pa.us**

Even in March, Snow and Ice Still a Concern

With there still being the potential of snow and ice , please make sure you take a few minutes to review and discuss your “Emergency Dismissal Plan” with your child. On days of early dismissal, it is important for children in all grades to know what to do and where to go.

Also, please do not call the school for closing information. Closing information is posted on the District website and will be posted on the Schweitzer website as soon as it is made available to us.

In addition, as many of you already know, if school is in session and it is extremely cold outside or other weather issues present themselves, our children will have indoor recess. The district policy is to keep students inside when the temperature falls below 20 degrees or with a wind chill that makes it feel below 20 degrees. While it is important to get students outside for a break, keeping our children warm, safe, and healthy is even more important!

And don't forget to make sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor recess. Even if you drop off and pick up your child, they will still go outside for recess on most days. Students without proper outside gear will stay inside.

Thanks again for your help!

