

Tiger Tales

Taylorsville Elementary Newsletter

August - September 2008

School Website:

<http://www.graniteschools.org/el/taylorsville/>

Principal:
Jon Adams
Ph: 646-5038

PTA President:
Wendy Koehler
Ph: 963-1834

Message from the Principal...

I am so excited to begin the new school year with our students at Taylorsville Elementary! We have an excellent staff who is dedicated to making the 2008-2009 school year a memorable and beneficial one. In making Taylorsville an even better school, we will implement a few new programs. I am pleased to share them with you:

- 1). **Houghton Mifflin Math** program for grades K-6 will help students learn problem solving skills, math concepts and procedures..
- 2). **Imagine It!** will be our new reading program for grades K-6. It will focus on phonics, comprehension, vocabulary and fluency skills.
- 3). **Rocket Math** will help in teaching students basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts. Parents can help students learn facts at home by using flash cards and practicing 20 minutes per day.
- 4). **Road to Success** is a reading program that motivates students to read! Students need to read at least 20 minutes per night. Students will turn in minutes read to their teacher on a weekly basis. Every 100 minutes read, the student's name will be entered into a random drawing for at least four bikes to be given away at the end of the year. We will also give incentives and reading reminders throughout the entire school year!!!
- 5). **Student of the Month** will congratulate and recognize students for academic and behavior accomplishments. Students will be given awards in an assembly in front of their peers and teachers.
- 6). **Big Friendly Group** are monthly assemblies that focus on citizenship and character activities. During these assemblies, we will also review school rules and procedures.

Dear
Parents,

- 7). **PD 360** is a professional web site for teachers that will allow them to address various ideas on how to improve/enhance their teaching skills. The program will help in differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all students.
- 8). **A-Z Reading** is a program used to help students become better readers.
- 9). **Math Work Sheet Site** will allow students extra practice for math skills.

Other changes: School will be dismissed at 1:30 every Friday and on short days to give teachers an extra 10 minutes of planning time that they desperately need. Please refer to the walking route and safety plan when walking/transporting your student to school.

I look forward to a fantastic year! Thank you for letting me be a part of your child's education.

Jon Adams, Principal

Message from the PTA President...

Welcome back! My name is Wendy Koehler and I will be the PTA President this year. We have a lot of great volunteers on our board but there is always room for more. Some positions require more time than others, but most don't take up as much time as you might think. If you would like to join the PTA board and/or volunteer please let me know!!

We have a lot of great stuff planned for our students. We are going to have a lot of activities and surprises to promote our school spirit throughout the year. (Including purchasing a Tiger-tee-shirt for every student!). It's going to be a lot of fun! We hope to plan a lot of activities for students and their families including a "Fall Festival" for everyone to attend. We love to recognize our volunteers, so be sure to log all of your volunteer hours in our log book at the front office. We have a monthly drawing for a great prize basket. If you have any questions and or suggestions, please call or e-mail me.

Thanks!

Wendy Koehler
963-1834
wendyswrl@aol.com

Looking Ahead...

Aug. 25	School Begins
Aug. 25 – 29	Kindergarten Assessment, by appointment
Aug. 28-29	SEP Conference
Sept. 8 – 19	DIBELS Testing
Sept. ____	Room Parent Tea
Sept. 15 – Oct. 3	Iowa Basic skills Testing 3 rd and 5 th grades
Sept. 25	School Pictures
Sept. 25 - Oct. 10	SCHOOL Fund Raiser
Oct. 16 – 17	UEA – No School

For Your Information. . .

Welcome back to school! We hope that you have had an enjoyable summer vacation, and that you are well rested and ready to work and learn. Our teachers are working very hard to provide our children with wonderful learning opportunities. Talk to your child's teacher and find out how you can help in their class and what you can do to support and encourage your child so he can excel this year.

We need volunteers in our school. There are many ways that you can help. Talk to your child's teacher or a member of the PTA to find out what you can do. There are still board positions to be filled. Contact Wendy Koehler if you are interested. Please watch for the sign-up sheet in your first day packet. This will give you some ideas of ways that you can be involved in the PTA. But don't let this limit what you can do. Your child's teacher may have simple tasks that you can do at home, or they may be able to use your help in the classroom. This is a fantastic way to show your child that you care about them and that you value their education. The rewards are too numerous to list for both you as a volunteer, and more importantly, your child. Give it a try. You won't regret it.

The school will be kicking off their fundraiser at the end of September. This fundraiser is done by the school, and the money earned is used by the school to help fund their expenses in educating our children. The PTA will do a fundraiser in the late winter. The money earned from that fundraiser is used by the PTA to fund the programs they provide for our students. These are separate fundraisers, and they are sponsored by different groups, but BOTH of them benefit our students. Please be as generous as you are able, and talk to family and friends out of our school neighborhoods that might be willing to support your child and our school.

Our teachers cannot request financial donations to their class funds, but they certainly CAN accept donations if you decide to give them (hint, hint!!). Seriously, there just isn't much money for the teachers to supply their classrooms with basics such as tissues, hand sanitizer, or rewards for good behavior and other incentives. We want our kids to learn and grow in an environment that is inviting and colorful. And let's face it – don't we all need a treat now and then? We have several teachers who are new and other teachers that are new to our school. It takes money to set up a classroom in such a way that creates a comfortable and nurturing environment. Please consider giving a financial donation to your child's teacher if it is possible. These can be given at any time during the school year, but don't wait for your teacher to ask, because they won't. Money should be given to Mrs. Law at the front office, with the name of the teacher receiving the donation. Your donation, in any amount, is appreciated so much. Thanks!

Business Partners

Little Caesar's Pizza

GE Capital Financial

McDonald's

Larry H. Miller Honda

University of Phoenix

USDOT, UTOT, Carter-Burgess

Mountain America Credit Union

Teacher Wish Lists...

Miss Parrish

Glue Sticks
Hand Sanitizer
Liquid Hand Soap
Scrubby Sponges for cleaning tables
Band-aids
Tissues
Markers
Colored pencils
White or brown paper bags
Paper plates
Shaving Cream
Cream of Tartar, Flour, Salt (for playdough, paints and other art projects)
Penne pasta (for necklaces, patterning, art, etc.)
Popsicle sticks
Rice (for the water table)
Ziploc bags (sandwich and gallon sizes)
Brass fasteners
Playground balls
Treat box items (small candy, pencil sharpeners, little toys, etc.)
Stickers
Velcro dots
Old Pringles cans
Old Magazines suitable for learning
Baby food jar lids
Toilet paper rolls
Empty containers such as oatmeal containers, salt containers, etc.
Empty thread spools, etc.

Mrs. Smith

Tissues
Hand Sanitizer
Soft soap

Mrs. Porter

Tissue Boxes
Hand Sanitizer
Pencils
Crayons
Scissors

Miss Radman

1 box of Crayons
3 glue sticks
Scissors
2 pocket folders
5 or more pencils
Pencil Box
3 spiral notebooks – wide ruled
Hand sanitizer
Box of Kleenex
1 pkg. of your child's favorite wrapped candy
1 pkg. of stickers (any design or size)
1 box of sandwich bags (fold-top)
\$10.00 donation for class parties, times table/division party, class birthdays, class pets, field trips, science projects, mother's day and holiday projects

Mrs. Hulet

Skinny dry-erase marker
Reams of white or colored paper
Cardstock paper
Lined filler paper
Adult and/or kids scissors
Handheld pencil sharpeners
Paper Towels

Mrs. Blau

Glue
Markers (must be non-permanent)
1 box of crayons
1 box of colored pencils
1 pair of scissors
2 red pens
1 black pen
1 ruler
1 compass
1 protractor
erasers
1-3 ringed binder to donate to the class
1 spiral notebook (at least 70 pages)
\$1.00 donation for science fair and country report boards (please give money donations to office)
12 #2 pencils to donate to class
Lined paper to donate to class
Kleenex box to donate to class
1 book to donate to class library