
Monroe School News

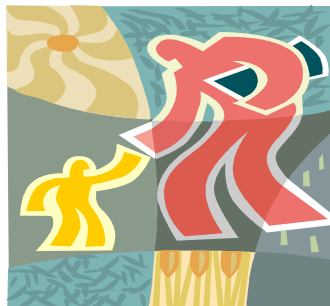
Quincy Public Schools

Kids of Character

Teaching good character traits and recognizing positive efforts help build a community! This month we will be emphasizing CARING at Monroe. Caring is one of the six pillars of character in the Character Counts! Program. This will begin with a kick-off assembly for the entire school during the first full week. The assembly will be followed by various activities in the classrooms and school-wide. A Random Acts of Caring tree will be located on the main hallway bulletin board. We will have students adding heart-shaped leaves when they see someone engaging in a caring act. Classrooms will be selecting an organization for whom to make Valentines and send. Books will be created dur-

ing writer's workshop that illustrate what students see as caring traits, and then classes will share these with one another. Several additional literature connections, art projects, and activities will also be introduced throughout the month.

We hope that your child will come home and share some of their school experiences around this topic.



Library News

A new face is in the library, but she is not a new face to Monroe. Mrs. Dotty Oelklaus was recently hired as a part-time librarian at Monroe School and a part-time librarian at Washington School. She was formerly a paraeducator in a kindergarten and 1st grade classroom.

This year the district has begun to look very closely at library services in all buildings. Specifically, the QHS librarian is working to coordinate services offered district-wide. She has initiated the inventory of all books, is working to enhance curriculum offerings, is developing insertive, and applying for grants.

The key is to give more kids more opportunities to access more books!

Mrs. Oelklaus will be working closely with teachers at Monroe to match read-alouds with author studies and/or thematic units. In addition, she is brainstorming about the creation of book clubs, integrating technology into library lessons, and much more. Guest readers and other volunteers are still very welcome!

Also, we would like to thank Rachael Petty, Sherri Dennis, and Chris Woodard for all of their hard work in making our library the great place it is today.

Informational ISAT Meeting

3rd Grade Parent Meeting

There is a meeting for the 3rd grade parents following the February 8th PTA meeting to discuss the approaching ISAT tests. The PTA meeting begins at 6pm. The ISAT meeting should start about 6:30pm or a bit before and should last approximately 30-45 minutes. Meg Fitch, a former teacher at Monroe and now an independent consultant on Illinois assessment, will be presenting information on ISATs. The meeting's purpose is to give 3rd grade parents some examples of what their children will encounter on the ISAT test. It will offer suggestions on helping your child prepare to take the test. It will also give you a deeper understanding of the test and why it is important that your child be ready to take it. This meeting will show you the differences between other tests and the best ways to help your child prepare. We hope you can attend!

Principal's Corner

Dear Monroe Families,

Time is flying!! With the recent frigid temperatures, we often remind kids to bundle up in warm clothing. If possible, we like to get them outside for some fresh air but they definitely need hats, gloves and a warm coat. We have collected a large amount of these items in the lost and found, if your child is missing any. With warmer weather will also come the spring assessments across the district. In March, the third graders take the ISAT and in April we administer the Stanford. As these dates approach, we will discuss with students ways to ensure that they are ready to approach test day. I'm not sure that they look forward to testing, but I know we all can't wait for warmer weather! As always, guests are always welcome in our school, so please feel free to stop in for a visit! Best wishes to all.

Danielle Edgar

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Upcoming Events:

- **February 3—3rd Grade singing national anthem at JWCC**
- **February 7—Blue Devil Assembly (10:45)**
- **February 8—PTA Meeting (6:00) with ISAT Informational Meeting to follow (6:30)**
- **February 9—Pizza Fun Night**
- **February 14—Valentine's Parties**
- **February 15—SIP 1/2 Day (11:50 dismissal)**
- **February 16th—No School—Institute Day**
- **February 19—No School—President's Day**
- **February 23—Spring Pictures**
- **February 23—Mad Scientist Assembly (10:00)**