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# The Findley Focus

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter

November, 2012

Volume 2, Issue 1

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. — Melanie Beattie

## Mark your calendars...

- Thursday, November 1 — Fall Festival 5-6PM
- Thursday, November 1 — PTO Meeting, 6PM
- Thursday, November 15 — Lip Balm at the Curb
- Thursday, November 15 — Drama Club Performance
- November 21st—November 23 — NO SCHOOL



## TWO SCHOOLS, ONE BOOK

During the months of November and December two schools, Findley Elementary and Lovejoy Elementary, will be reading the same book! On October 29th students will go home with a family copy of the BFG by Roald Dahl. Parents are asked to read to their families a chapter a night (reading schedules will go home with the book) and students will have daily trivia questions to answer. There will be a lot of fun activities to go along with the book as well. Mark your calendars as the Royal Breakfast has been moved to December 14th. We hope you enjoy this time spent reading with your family as the whole school gets involved in reading and talking about the same great book!



Illustration from the BFG ©1989, Penguin Books

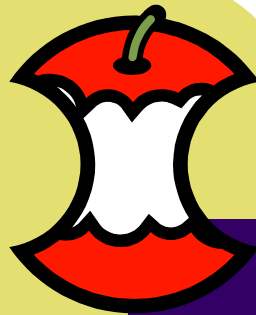
## Skyping With Mr. Whitaker!

Findley fourth graders had quite a thrill last week when they "Skyped" with Academy Award winning actor Forest Whitaker. Whitaker was in South Africa filming a movie and took time out from his busy schedule to answer questions and talk about his own dreams. Findley's theme this year is "Dream Big" and Forest Whitaker told the students that they can achieve their dreams if they work hard and never give up. It was very inspiring!



## Kindergarten Adventures

Kindergarteners have been busy learners in October! On the 25th, Mrs. Osborne and Mrs. Camperos classes visited Center Grove farm to learn about apples and pumpkins. As a part of the "A is for Apple" grant awarded to these classes, the kids got to try apple cider, dried apple rings and Golden Delicious apples all from Iowa Orchard. They also received activity books to share with their families. Students are continuing their studies in the art room where the students are mixing primary colors to create paintings of pumpkins in the moonlight.



## 5th Grade Families

If you are thinking about enrolling your student at Goodrell Middle School next year, there will be a mandatory meeting on

**Thursday, November 8th**  
**Time: 6:00 PM**  
**At 3300 E. 29th St**

Questions? 242-8444



## Technology : What are your students learning?

**KINDERGARTEN**— Typing letters of the alphabet with the keyboard, single-clicking and double-clicking with a mouse, reading and listening to books on BookFlix.

**FIRST GRADE** — Exploring National Geographic Little Kids, using computer activities to practice short vowel sounds, using Microsoft Word to complete a word sort with their sight words.

**SECOND GRADE** — Logging into a computer using CTRL+ALT+DEL, creating a new document and folder, changing font type and sizes.



**THIRD GRADE** — Completing math and reading assessments online for DMPS, using Word to write letters and make lists, saving a document, inserting and formatting shapes in Word.

**FOURTH GRADE** — Creating and saving a new document to a thumb drive, typing a writing assessment from class, completing math and reading assessment online for DMPS.

**FIFTH GRADE** — Completing a scavenger hunt to find specific information on a pre-selected website., using TrueFlix to read and listen to nonfiction books.

**Findley Flyers** is a group that meets every Tuesday after school to run, jog or walk for 30 minutes. The idea is to get outside, get moving and have fun! In the beginning, a stretching break is taken halfway through but as the endurance of students increases, the stretching just comes at the end of the session. It is exciting and invigorating to get our hearts pumping at the end of a school day and to breathe in the fresh air! Findley Flyers is open to 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders, and students have the opportunity to earn a t-shirt and eventually, a hoodie. We even have a few parents and grandparents join us! Thanks to all of the parents, grandparents and teachers for their support!

## FINE ARTS UPDATES...

Fourth and Fifth Grade Family Fine Arts Night will be held on Thursday, December 6th. Families with students in these grades are invited to enjoy their performance, view the art, and spend an evening with each other.

Notes to follow!



Findley Drama Club is going strong, rehearsing two plays every Thursday. *Alice...Again!*, and *2B or Not 2B* will be presented **Tuesday, December 18th at 6:30 PM in the Findley gym**. Everyone is welcome. We have a lot of talented actors at Findley!

## We are a PBIS school!

Positive Behavior  
Intervention and Supports

**RESPECT Self**

**RESPECT Others**

**RESPECT Property**

**RESPECT Learning**

We are off to a great start of our school year. We have started height/weight and vision screening in some of our classes. Also, Heartland AEA will be at Findley on Nov. 27th to check the hearing of Head Start and grades K-2. Please remember if you DO NOT want your child screened for any reason you must write a note and send it to Nurse Cynthia. We will notify you only if there is a concern about your child's health screening.

- 1. Get your child immunized.**
- 2. Take your child for periodic health examinations.** Check with Nurse Cynthia to find out how to access medical services.
- 3. Get childhood healthcare coverage.** Programs such as HAWK-I can meet the needs for your child. Let Nurse Cynthia know if you need more information about getting coverage.
- 4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep!** Elementary students need 9-11 hours of sleep every night to be alert and learning at school!
- 5. Eat healthy foods and stay physically active.** Studies have shown that children who eat breakfast do well in school. Make sure children are getting fruits, vegetables, proteins and whole grains to maintain a healthy weight. Go outside, take a walk, play in the leaves, just get active!
- 6. Maintain a personal space.** Some health issues, like head lice, are caused by close contact with person who is infected. Do not share combs or hats.
- 7. Avoid spreading germs and exposure to germs.** Teach your children to wash their hands thoroughly, cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, and to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose, and mouth.
- 8. Talk to your child about how they feel.** Our bodies *and* our minds need to stay healthy in order to do well in school. Talk to your child about how they are feeling, let them share their feelings, worries, and concerns.
- 9. Wash your hands...AGAIN!** Washing your hands with warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds kills most of the germs that can make a person sick. Wash your hands before and after eating, after using the bathroom, after coughing or sneezing, and after playing outdoors or with family pets.
- 10. Stay home if you are sick.** Not only will you feel better, but this will keep others from getting sick too. Remember, the guidelines for not sending your child to school include: running a fever, episodes of vomiting or diarrhea, rash. When reporting your child's absence, please report their symptoms to the nurse so that illnesses can be monitored and stopped from spreading.

NURSE  
CYNTHIA  
SAYS...

