

TARA OWEN, PRINCIPAL
3025 OXFORD STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50313
(515) 242-8407
FAX: (515)244-7410

THE FINDLEY FOCUS

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter

JANUARY , 2014—VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

"Be passionate about what you want and you will not need to chase your dreams, they will come to you."

Oxford Proposed One Way 24/7

Oxford Street, on the west side of Findley, is currently a one way street only during dismissal time from 3:00-4:00. Based on feedback from parents and neighbors a proposal will be submitted to the city that Oxford becomes a one way street at all times. This will help in the mornings and with parking along side of the street. A meeting with the city will take place in February to get final approval. A letter will be sent out to let everyone know the city's final decision soon after. If you have any questions or feedback please contact Mrs. Owen at 242-8407 or tara.owen@dmschools.org.

Lolo Jones Shoe Event a Success: Because of VOLUNTEERS!

The LoLo Jones shoe event was a huge success! There were over 350 shoes donated to every student in Findley. This could not have happened with out the many parent volunteers and John Deere Financial volunteers who donated their time and kind hearts to this event. Over 70 parents and JDF staff came in for a training at 8:30 and stayed until 12:00 fitting students for shoes. LoLo signed autographs, handed out backpacks, had conversations, and created many special memories for our Findley students. This was truly a community event that made everyone proud to be a part of Findley! Thanks to all for your support!

Mark your calendars!

January 20th—MLK Day, NO SCHOOL
February 7th—Findley Family Night at
North High School Basketball Game
February 11th—Extra Drama Club
Practice (until 5pm)
February 13th—Drama Club
Performance 6:30pm, at Harding
Middle School
March 4th—2nd/3rd Fine Arts Night

3rd Grade Conversations

Third grade is finishing up a social studies unit on economics and U.S government. Ask your student to explain the three branches of our government. In math we are continuing to learn a variety of multiplication and division strategies. Ask your student to explain how to use the repeated addition strategy for both. In literacy, we have been working on how to find the moral to a story. Ask your third grader to tell you what the moral of a story is and give them examples of traditional stories such as The Three Little Pigs, etc. and see if they can come up with a good moral.

Far Right: Katelynn Keopaseuth, Kindergartener talks with a volunteer.
Bottom: MaLayshia Gant and Devon White-Sanders, Kindergartners, talk with Lolo Jones.



FINDLEY'S MISSION:
*Creating big dreamers
and high Achievers!*

4TH GRADE SCIENCE TRIP

4th grade student went to the science center the 1st week of December. Student explored all the areas of SCI and even got to do chemistry experiments. This was all sponsored by John Deere Financial.

Pictured Below:

4th Graders enjoy activities at the Science Center; 4th Graders experiment at the Science Center.



WE ARE A PBIS SCHOOL!
(Positive Behavior
Intervention and Support)
RESPECT Self
RESPECT Others
RESPECT Property
RESPECT Learning

WINTER IS HERE!

Please help/remind your child to dress for outdoor weather. They need to wear their coat, hat, gloves, boots and snow pants if they have them, to be prepared for any weather outdoors. Also, make sure their names are written on their clothing.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WITH THE OFFICE

Do you have a new cell phone number? Have you moved? Have you recently switched jobs? The new year is a good time to make sure that all Emergency Phone numbers for your child are up to date, so that we can reach you as quickly as possible if your child becomes ill or injured at school.

Thank you! Nurse Cynthia.

THANK YOU POLK CITY RIDERS AMERICAN LEGION POST 232

Because one man cared, many students will be playing violas! What does that mean? Kevin Elry was delivering some new furniture to Findley and was waiting in the main office. He overheard Jane Olson, Findley music teacher, telling someone that there were 4 children sharing one viola for lessons and that made it hard for them to practice the instrument very often. He was quite shocked to hear that and asked how much a new viola would cost. After some further communication about violas, Mr. Elry went to his American Legion post in Polk City and told them about the need for more instruments. In a very short time, a check arrived at Findley as a donation to buy FIVE new violas! The generous members of the Polk City Riders American Legion Post 232 have made a huge difference in the lives of Findley orchestra students for many years to come.

Pictured to the Right: *Asha Le and Jackie Mata, fifth graders practice with the new violins!*

