The Findley Focus

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter April , 2014—Volume 3, Issue 8 **Tara Owen, Principal** 3025 Oxford Street Des Moines, IA 50313 (515) 242-8407 Fax: (515)244-7410

As we all know, "April Showers will bring May flowers!"

Mark your calendars!

April 13th—Dance and Cheer Club in Drake Relays April 24—K-1 Fine Arts Night April 29—4th grade to Pappajohn Park and Art Center 11:15-2:00 May 1st—PTO Meeting May 6—Family Fun Night 6-8pm (Hosted by PTO) May 13th—3rd, 4th, 5th to Civic Center 11:45-2:00 May 15th—North Side Band Concert (5th Grade Band Students) May 20th—North Side Orchestra Concert (5th Grade String Students) May 21st—Band and Strings Concert at Findley Elementary May 26th—Memorial Day (No School) May 29th—Drama Club Musical (Willy Wonka @ North High) June 2nd—Last Day of School (1:50 Dismissal)

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

An Introduction from incoming Principal, Barb Adams

It is with great pleasure that I write this introductory note to you all. After serving as the DMPS Math Curriculum Coordinator and most recently as a School Improvement Leader at Edmunds and South Union, I am honored to join the Polar Bear Cubs team as principal this next school year.

Although I don't officially begin at Findley until July 1st, I will work with Mrs. owen during these next few months to learn more about the school and spend time getting to know the staff, students, and families. I hope to meet many of you at the May 1st PTO meeting.

Findley Elementary is known throughout our district as a school on a successful path. It is apparent to me that everyone connected to Findley expects each child to do great things. The high student achievement is the direct result of the outstanding school leadership, the excellent teaching, and the supportive community. I am committed to continuing the fine work at Findley and encourage you to contact me when you have questions or suggestions.

My career as an educator has been one of service and joy. I look forward to joining with you as we joyfully work together for your child's success.

with anticipation and dedication,

Barb Adams

Please Note the Drama Club Performance Date Change

The drama club performance of "Willy Wonka" has been changed to May 29th (Thursday) at North High School. There Will be a dress rehearsal on May 27th (Tuesday). Please watch for slips home requesting some students to stay for extra rehearsals between now and the performance date. We are excited for this play!

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

wacky weather

Spring may officially be here but lowa weather is hardly predictable. While warm weather is sure to head our way soon, we are certain we have some very chilly days ahead of us.

With all of the field trips and recess we know remains this year, remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather. Coats, scarves and gloves will still be needed often and even when the sun is out or the temperatures look high, be sure your child has sweaters due to wind chill.

From the PTO—save the Date!

Friday night May 16 is the annual PTO Family Fun Night from 6-8 pm with carnival games, food, and inflatables for families to come and have FUN! Volunteers will be needed to help out with carnival games - look for future notes home.

Also, everyone is invited to our May | PTO meeting where we will welcome Findley's new principal, Barb Adams, and Harding Middle school principal, Maureen Taylor. We meet at 6:00 pm that Thursday in the Findley Library. Join vs! Childcare will be provided.

5th Grade Legacy



5th Grade students are starting something big this year something that will be continued in the future, a "Legacy Project". With help from Miss Jorgensen (Art), students brainstormed and designed a permanent art piece that could be displayed in Findley for years to come. Miss Jorgensen told them to Dream Big and assured them that if it was possible, she would do her best to make it happen for them. The results are impressive—students have begun constructing an interactive reading center that has illustration focused around future, dreams, working together, and achievement. Crunched on time, 5th graders will be spending April and May powering through their objectives so that they can dedicate the work at the end of the year. Stay tuned for more installation art projects coming from various grade levels!

From Nurse Cynthia, "All Heads Covered"

we are all looking forward to warmer weather, and that means being safe outside! Here are some basic tips on bike, skateboard and scooter safety:

*Wear a bicycle helmet every time and everywhere you ride.

*Buy a bicycle helmet that meets or exceeds the safety standards developed by the us consumer Product safety Commission.

*Wear your bicycle helmet correctly, comfortably and snugly on your head in a level position with the straps always buckled.

*Learn the rules of the road and obey all traffic laws.

*Children should never ride skateboards or scooters in or near traffic.

*All skateboarders or scooter riders should wear a helmet and other protective gear.

Following these tips will help keep our children safe while playing outside!