

DECEMBER 2015

Mark your calendars

- Dec. 10: Elementary Winter Concert**
 Kindergarten from 5:30-6:00 p.m.
 1st & 2nd grades from 6:30-7:00 p.m.
 3rd & 4th grades from 7:15-7:45 p.m.
- Dec. 15: Miss Cassell's Snow Tree Play @ 9:00 a.m.**
- Dec 16: H.S. performing their Holiday Tour in the H.S. Competition Gym @ 8:15 a.m.**
- Dec. 18: Hat & Gum Day**
- Dec. 21: PTSA Holiday Assembly "Amazing Bubbles" by the Omaha Children's Museum**
 K & 1st grades: 9:30-10:30 a.m.
 2nd-4th grades-10:30-11:30 a.m.
- Dec. 22: Awards Assembly**
 K & 1st grade: 9:30-10:00 a.m.
 2nd—4th grades: 10:00-10:30 a.m.
- Dec 23 - Jan 5th: Winter Break**
- Jan 6: Classes Resume**



FROM THE OFFICE:

Students should not arrive at school before 7:30 a.m. when we open the doors for breakfast or 7:45 a.m. when the doors open for walking club. It's been very cold in the mornings but students arriving early will be expected to wait outside until the doors open. Also, please remember to send a warm winter coat, hats, boots, and gloves/mittens to school with your child every day. Even sunny days can be very cold and students will go out to recess every day unless the temperature is below 0°. Only if a student brings a note from the doctor will they be allowed to stay in from recess.

Caught Caring Winners:

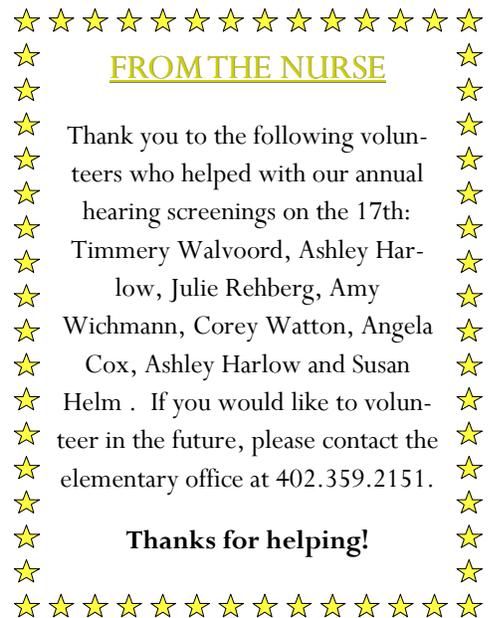
Congratulations to the following students who got "caught caring" during the month of November: Cozmo Rehberg, Audri Patterson, Peyton Casper, Rylan Renolds, Aleah Stone, Georgia Goff, Jetta Sattem, Sindec Zook, Garrett Blunt, Valeria Robles, Ava Walvoord, Nellie Schneider, Adisan Jeffrey, Levent Capan, Terry Luthy, Logan Pojar, and Bentley Roche. These students were treated to lunch from Casey's Pizza with Mr. Krusemark for making good choices and being helpful to others. Mrs. Listenberger, Mr. Brent Seifferlein, and Mrs. Herchenbach were also recognized for their work with students and being supportive of fellow staff members. Keep up the good work everyone!



FROM THE NURSE

Thank you to the following volunteers who helped with our annual hearing screenings on the 17th: Timmery Walvoord, Ashley Harlow, Julie Rehberg, Amy Wichmann, Corey Watton, Angela Cox, Ashley Harlow and Susan Helm. If you would like to volunteer in the future, please contact the elementary office at 402.359.2151.

Thanks for helping!



**DC WEST
ELEMENTARY**

Mr. Duane Krusemark
Principal

Mrs. Larissa Travis
Secretary

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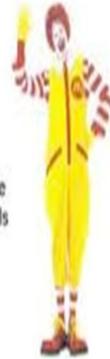
@dctestfalcons



Winter Break



**Pull for the Ronald McDonald House
Every Tab Counts**



Save the pop-tabs from your cans and drop them off at the front office. The pop-tabs will be used to pay the utility bills each month at the Ronald McDonald House.

From the Staff:

The administration, teachers and staff wish you the best this winter break and holiday season. We hope you enjoy the extra time available to you with family. We consider ourselves to be very fortunate at DC West Elementary. We have terrific kids, very supportive parents, a great staff, and a wonderful facility in which to work. This is a winning combination! Again, have a safe and enjoyable holiday and we'll see the students back on Wednesday, Jan. 6 2016.

TIDBITS FROM TITLE I

How To Help Your Child Read At Home

As you may know the PTSA is in the process of graciously funding a book room of leveled readers for our elementary building. We have chosen sets of guided reading books for each grade level to meet the diverse literacy needs of our students in grades K-4. This means there will be more than one copy of a leveled book to use in a small group setting at the instructional level of the students. This allows students to increase their independent reading using strategies that we have taught and practiced in the lesson. Guided reading incorporates many areas of language arts including phonological awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and writing. **We are very grateful for the PTSA's support of making our book room possible!**

Here are some strategies that we emphasize in the classroom that good readers do, they may help at home when reading with your child:

1. Discuss the cover, make predictions and take a picture walk through the book.
2. When you come to a tricky word look for picture clues when reading and get your mouth ready to say the first sound.
3. Read past the word to look for context clues.
4. Ask, "What word would make sense here?"
5. Break the word into smaller parts. Look for "chunks" you know.
6. Cover up the prefixes and suffixes.
7. Look for the vowels in the word.
8. Go back and reread parts you did not understand.
9. Ask yourself: Does it make sense?