

**New Manchester
Elementary Newsletter
December 2016**



"It Takes a Team to Educate a Child"

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that December is here. The students and staff are excited about the flurry of activity this holiday season. December is a great time to appreciate the gifts in our lives and what better gift can we give our children but a "love for learning"? Talk to your child about the importance of learning. Let your child see how much you enjoy learning new things. This will motivate them to enjoy learning as well. Be positive with your child about school and continue to participate in school activities. Ask your child about their progress and accomplishments in the classroom. Provide your child with opportunities to explore and wonder. Learning builds confidence, and a child who is confident is more open to new opportunities to learn.

Sincerely,

Cynthia L. Virtue,
Principal

**NEW MANCHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DESIGNATION**

New Manchester Elementary School is proud of our Distinctive Student Performance ("A") designation through the West Virginia's School Report Cards A-F Accountability System. This system helps schools to identify their strengths and weaknesses, establish goals, and develop a plan for continuous improvement. Elementary schools are graded on a 1,200 point scale. The majority of the grade is based on student performance. Remember, this is based largely on one test and does not reflect the continuing instruction and achievement going on in the classrooms on a daily basis. The remainder of the score is based on non-performance items such as attendance. Our ultimate goal at the elementary level is to ensure every student is demonstrating growth toward proficiency and attending school on a regular basis. We are appreciative of your efforts to support our staff on a daily basis to reach this goal! Way to Go Students and Staff!!!!

"THANK YOU"

NMES would like to thank the many leaders in our community that came to read for American Education Week. The event was a success! The students enjoyed meeting all of the participants and asking them details about their jobs. It amazed the students how much math and literacy play a role in all of the jobs in the community. A special "thanks" goes out to our PTA for helping with the event and to the staff and students for all of their hard work and great "BEARCAT PRIDE".

PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMS

Throughout various times of the school year, every grade level conducts a "Parent Involvement Activity" for families which address topics that pertain to your child's educational experience and progress. We encourage you to attend these programs when they are offered. If at any time you have questions regarding your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

SCHOOL NURSE'S CORNER

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month! Epilepsy is a brain condition causing recurrent seizures. A seizure interrupts normal electrical brain function. One in twenty-six people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with epilepsy, and over 2 million people in the U.S. have epilepsy. There are many different types of epilepsy that affect people in different ways. Some seizures may be hard to recognize. Involuntary movement of the leg, a sense of "déjà vu," or a false smell of something that isn't really there are symptoms to be aware of. Other symptoms of seizure activity are one appearing "spaced out" for a moment and repetitive behaviors such as picking at clothes or smacking lips. Convulsive seizures occur when the body shakes and the person is unable to respond. Important things you can do to help a person having a convulsive seizure are as follows: assist them to the floor away from harmful objects, do not put anything in their mouth, protect their head, do not restrain, turn their head to side after seizure, watch for respiratory distress or failure, notice the time and length of the seizure, and call for help.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Deputy Barnhart and I have been doing the "Keep A Clear Mind" presentations for the fourth grade classes. The focus is on learning the facts about alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana use so that students can make an educated decision about not using chemicals as well as creating verbal reasons for handling peer pressure. Hopefully the fourth grade students have been reviewing the information from the booklets with their guardian at home. In December we will begin our Character Education lessons in first through fourth grades. Happy Holidays!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| 12/1 | Born Learning Academy Workshop at 5:30 p.m. |
| 12/7 | Progress Reports |
| 12/7 | 4 th Grade Hoagie Orders are due |
| 12/12-12/16 | Santa's Workshop |
| 12/13 | Zed Comics Presentation |
| 12/14 | Pajama Day (PBIS incentive) |
| 12/19 | PTA Meeting with Preschool Performance at 6:15 p.m. |
| 12/20 | PTA Read Aloud and Christmas Party |
| 12/20 | 4 th Grade Parent Involvement – The Polar Express – at 5:00 p.m. (Hoagie Pick Up at the event) |
| 12/21 | No School for Students – CE day for Staff |
| 12/22 – 1/2 | No School – Christmas Vacation |
| 1/3 | School Resumes |
| 1/5 | Born Learning Academy Workshop at 5:30 p.m. |
| 1/9 | PTA meeting at 6:15 p.m. |

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season!!!!!!



Equal Education Opportunity is the right of a student to participate fully in classroom instruction and extracurricular activities and shall not be abridged or impaired because of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, handicap, pregnancy, parenthood or marriage.