

The Discovery Connections

A newsletter for parents of Discovery Elementary students

January 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Happy New Year! I hope that all of you enjoyed the Holiday Season with your family and now find yourself excited to get back to school and start 2022 together! It is crazy how time flies and to think that at Discovery Elementary it is already time for us to begin planning for the next school year in terms of enrollment and our annual lottery. If you have a child who will be Kindergarten eligible next year and you would like them to attend Discovery, please complete the paperwork that was sent home with your child or call us to make sure we have them on our list.

As you know, in December we participated in our annual Toys for Tots drive and this year instead of focusing on collecting monetary donations within classrooms, students and their families brought in donations of toys that elementary-aged children would enjoy, and they filled 4 large containers! To make the service project even more hands-on, Bank West donated \$500 in Target credit and the Student Representatives went shopping and donated the additional \$500 worth of toys! After shopping, the student representatives loaded up all the toys and delivered them to Stellis to be sorted for distribution. Wow, this is a contribution to Toys for Tots and is something to be proud of and celebrate! Speaking of Celebrate, in December we focused on "Celebrate" and in January we will be focusing on "Collaborate" as one of our foundational community C's for the month.

As I reflect back on 2021, I would also like to take a moment to specifically thank the parents and guardians for being involved in your child's education. When you communicate with your child about his/her achievement, it sends a message to your child about the importance of learning and working together to meet goals. Children are always watching us, and our actions often speak louder than words. We appreciate all you do as we partner with you to help your child reach their limitless potential here at Discovery Elementary and beyond.

The I Love to Read Month Committee at Discovery Elementary is busy finalizing the month-long literacy focused events, including details of the Read a Thon fundraiser. Our annual Read-a-Thon is our one and only school-led primary fundraiser for the year. The advantage of a fundraiser like this is that the focus is on literacy and 100% of the donations go towards the students of Discovery Elementary. More information will be sent home the last week of January about this fundraising event. Thank you in advance for your support of this and the students of Discovery Elementary!

Again, Happy New Year, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have questions or concerns.

"Together We're Better"

December Community "C" Students of the Month

"Celebrate"





Report Cards Coming to the Parent Portal



The first report card will be accessible online, via the Parent Portal on Monday, January 31st. If you aren't already set up with an account there is a one-time permission form that needs to be signed and verified to set up your login credentials. To get set up on the Parent Portal, please call 763-682-8400, email crozeske@bhmschools.org or stop in the Discovery School office. Information will be verified, and you will be given the website and access information. If you already have a middle or high school student with a Parent Portal account, you already have access to your elementary child's portal account as well. If you have any questions or would prefer to receive a paper copy of your child's report card, please contact Candice Rozeske in the Discovery office at 682-8400 or at crozeske@bhmschools.org



Annual Toys for Tots Drive another HUGE Success!



Discovery Elementary students and families participated in our annual Toys for Tots Drive, in collaboration with BANKWEST and the Buffalo Rotary. The students brought in four large boxes of toys and BANKWEST donated \$500 for our student reps to go to Target and shop for specific items that were needed for Toys for Tots! The students shared how great it felt to give to others and spread joy to local families during the holiday season!

Thank you for your part in the Toys for Tots Drive!

KRWC AM 1360 Emergency School Closings



Emergency School Closings If the district has to close school and send students home early, we will assume that your child will go to his/her normal destination. If your child must go to a different destination, please be sure that you have contacted the office with this information. We only need to know if there is a change for your child. District 877 weather related school cancellations are reported on KRWC 1360, WCCO 830, local televisions stations as well as the district automated notification phone system.

2021-2022 Flu Season Update

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has indicated the flu season is just getting started (typically runs October-May; peaking between December and February). Per the CDC, it's not too late to get vaccinated. Flu vaccination is always the best way to prevent flu and its potentially serious complications. If you and your children have not had a current vaccination for influenza, you may want to contact your healthcare provider to determine if your family should receive a flu shot. It is not too late!!

Save the Date: Give Kids a Smile February 4th and 5th

Each year, dental professionals from across the state participate in *Give Kids a Smile*, providing free dental care to low-income children in need. No eligibility questions are asked. The event takes place on the first Friday and Saturday of February and is made possible by the collaborative effort of the Minnesota Dental Association, volunteer dentists, and other generous sponsors. Registration began January 1, 2022. Parents can find local participating clinics by visiting <u>mndental.org</u> or by calling United Way 2-1-1 or 1-800-543-7709. United Way also provides assistance and translation services in Hmong, Somali and Spanish Monday-Friday 8am-5pm; they can help answer questions and set up appointments. *Please note: Every child must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and must have an appointment in advance. Walk-in care is not available.*

