**November 21, 2014**

**Each year at this time Jen asks me what I’d like for Christmas and my response is always, “The new Stephen King book!” Last year it was the sequel to *The Shining* titled, *Doctor Sleep.* I started it on December 26th and finished on the 27th. It was so good I reread it over the summer. Great books are amazing and reading is the most important skill a student can possess. Reading can impact student performance across all subject areas and is crucial to student success in school and beyond. While we continuously work to improve our student’s reading skills, the easiest way to accomplish this is to get kids excited about books and help motivate them to read for fun. That is the focus for next Tuesday’s 3rd annual “All Day Reading Day.” In addition to reading and taking Accelerated Reader tests, here are a few of the activities that teachers have planned:**

* **Mrs. Clark’s 8th grade students are bringing in their favorite childhood books to share.**
* **Ms. Conway’s, Mrs. Wettstein’s, and Ms. Beal’s classes will conduct *Reader’s Theater* and act out various passages. In Math they will read and solve “Logic Math” problems.**
* **Mr. Bradford’s Social Studies classes are reading about conspiracy theories. His 7th graders will read about the Kennedy assassination and 8th grade the moon landing conspiracy.**
* **Mrs. Sponholz has several things planned in conjunction with reading *A Christmas Carol.***

**Ms. Beal & Mr. Kluesner’s classes lead the Accelerated Reader contest with 820.8 points. We will have a poster by the media center so students can write down the title and author of their favorite books. Each teacher will receive a laminated page where they can display what they are reading. I love books and I hope our all day reading day helps encourage Parkview students to feel the same.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**Dillon Fisher’s accident was a terrible tragedy. Dillon had tons of energy and he was a genuinely sweet and funny kid. I feel particularly sad for Dillon’s brothers Jakub and Eli.**

**November 15th was School Board Members Day. Thank you to Judy Strong, Val Ragon, Becky Kern, Linda Bailey, Pam Greiner, Brenda Keogel and Julie Troup for dedicating their time and efforts towards the betterment of Creve Coeur Schools. Students in Ms. Melissant’s, Ms. Beal’s, Mr. Heubi’s, and Ms. Thatcher’s classes created signs and cards thanking the BOE for their efforts.**

**Friday’s PACE fall festival was a success. Thanks to Sarah Beal & Katie Ritchie for volunteering.**

**Today Mrs. Melissant’s and Ms. Schulman’s students are preparing their Thanksgiving feast.**

**With Veteran’s Day, I previously failed to thank Andy Sea and Wilma Schulman for their service.**

**Mrs. Turner’s RTI students have enjoyed visiting classes to perform “Reader’s Theater.”**

**Dawn Burkiett had her name appear on Sunday Night Football as a winner of the Hardees Touchdown takeout contest. She has a chance to win free Hardees for a year.**

**“Your soul is nourished when you are kind; it is destroyed when you are cruel.” –King Solomon**

**With Thanksgiving approaching, I am thankful to be able to work with such a dedicated and caring staff and I am thankful for my wonderful family. Happy Thanksgiving & happy weekend! --Brad**

***Student Focused—Results DRIVEN!***

***The PAST is THERE.***

***The FUTURE is HERE!***

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, November 24: BBB home vs. Mossville @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, November 25: All Day Reading Day/PACE Popcorn Day—mid-terms go home**

**Wednesday, November 26: Thanksgiving Break!**

**Monday, December 1: BBB Home vs. Chillicothe @ 5:00**

**Tuesday, December 2: Volleyball Tryouts 2:45-4:15**

**Wednesday, December 3: Teacher Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45 (WGTDD Chapter 7 Nicole Clark, “Great teachers know that they are the variable in the classroom. Great teachers consistently strive to improve, and they focus on something they can control; their own performance.”)**

**Wednesday, December 3: BBB Home vs. Bartonville Grade @ 5:00**

**Saturday, December 6: PACE Lunch with Santa @ LaSalle 11:00 to 1:00**

**Monday, December 8: Santa’s Secret Shop all week at Parkview**

**Monday, December 15: BBB Home vs. Tremont @ 5:00**

**Wednesday, December 17: Full teacher’s meeting: 45 (WGTDD Chapter 8 Becky Barton, “Great teachers focus on students first, with a broad vision that keeps everything in perspective.”**

**Thursday, December 18: PACE Meeting @ LaSalle 6:00**

**Friday, December 19; 1:35 Dismissal—Warrior Way Celebration—Last day before break!**

**Friday, December 19: Parkview Christmas Party @ 6:00**

**Monday, January 5: Back in session!**

**Wednesday, January 7: MAP Testing Begins**

**Wednesday, January 7: Collaboration Meeting 2:45-3:45 (WGTDD Chapter 9 Emily turner, “Great teachers create a positive atmosphere in their classrooms and schools. They treat every person with respect. In particular, they understand the power of praise.”)**

**Friday, January 9: 1:35 Dismissal—end of the 2nd nine week grading period**

**Friday, January 16: Report Cards Go Home**

**Monday, January 19: No School! Martin Luther King Day**

**Wednesday, January 21: Full teacher’s meeting 2:45-3:15 (Amanda May with BESST Web)**

**Friday, February 13: Teacher’s Institute Day—no school**

**Monday, February 16: President’s Day—no school**

**Friday, February 20: PACE Chili Supper 5:00-8:00**

**Monday March 2: PARCC Performance Based Assessment begins**

**Friday, March 13: School Improvement Day—11:00 dismissal. End of the 3rd grading period**

**Friday, March 20: Report Cards go home**

**Friday, March 27: Last day before spring break**

**Tuesday, April 7: School resumes**

**Monday, April 27: PARCC End of Year Assessment begins**