



Cornell Elementary School

Big City Opportunities, Small Town Commitment for Students

November 2016 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

Cornell Elementary

NOVEMBER 8

PTO Meeting in Library, 6:30 PM

NOVEMBER 10

Cornell PTO Chuck E Cheese Community Night, 3 PM - 9 PM

NOVEMBER 14

- Hearing Screenings
- School Board Meeting at Saydel District Office, 6 PM

NOVEMBER 17

Preschool Lion's Club Vision Screening

NOVEMBER 22

PBIS Celebration

NOVEMBER 23-25

Thanksgiving Break; No School

DECEMBER 6

Cornell PTO Smokey D's Community Night, 5 PM - 9 PM



School Hours

CORNELL ELEMENTARY

8:35 AM - 3:30 PM

Wed.: 9:35 AM - 3:30 PM

NOTE: Each Wednesday school begins one hour later for teacher in-service.

MISSION: Serving the Unique Learning Needs of Each & Every Student

Principal's Message

Happy Autumn! November is upon us and our students have settled in well to the daily routines and procedures at school. Our teachers have been hard at work building a "family" oriented environment for our kids that create a safe learning environment for all. Lessons have been taught, reminders given, expectations modeled, and many-many positive recognitions have been noted. As our students continue to show all the ways they "SOAR," we have celebrated twice as a school for their positive choices they are making each and every day. In September we spent time at the end of day participating in a number of outdoor activities and enjoying popsicles, and just a week ago we had popcorn and a movie in the gym. These celebrations were tied to our PBIS expectations that remind students to be Safe, Open-Minded, Accountable, and Responsible.



Principal Brian Vaughan

Just like your families at home, our families at school both care about and get frustrated with each other from time to time. Frustration can look very different depending on each child and we need to make sure they are prepared to handle it.

I think about my daughter specifically who just recently said to me "I feel like my 'BFF' at school is trying to find reasons to be mad at me and it really makes me upset." When I delved deeper into this, it sounds like both girls are saying things to each other out of annoyance of "too much time" together. Their friendship needs a break! But, that is a hard thing for an eight year old to understand. I tried to explain to her that just like at home with her older sister, she is going to get frustrated and upset with friends, but she still cares about the person enough to want to work it out. My goal with my daughter was to help her identify ways that she can deal with her frustrations in the moment and not fracture a friendship long term.

When I stop and think about how this applies to us at school, I think about what I am seeing and hearing here at Cornell that are signs of frustrations that lead to friendship struggles:

- "Teacher, she is telling people things that aren't true about me."
- "Teacher, he won't play with me."
- "Teacher, she cut in line."
- "Teacher, he is not playing fair."

The above-mentioned issues can all lead to conflict and friendship struggles. The good news is that they can all be worked out with help and/or by our kids on their own.

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Principal's Letter continued from page 1...

Here is a list of ideas that might help with conflict resolution that will lead to healthy communication:

- Cooling off when upset
- Speaking directly to each other
- Speaking assertively, honestly, and kindly
- Listening carefully to others and accurately paraphrasing their words
- Proposing solutions and agreeing on a solution to try

Once our kids are familiar with strategies, pairs or small groups can independently explain their upsets to each other, come up with reasonable resolutions, and follow through with changes in their behavior.

We will continue to grow as a family and problem solve as a family here at Cornell. I hope the above mentioned shines some light into ways that we at school are working with our kids to resolve conflict and in return potentially offer you ways at home to use a similar vocabulary if needed. I know it has helped me in both.

Thank you to all of you for your trust and support that you provide to our great school every single day. Our partnership in educating our students go hand in hand. I hope that you have a great month ahead!

Go Eagles ~ Be Awesome Today!



WINTER BREAK CAMP

Eagle's Nest will be open during Winter Break at Cornell! There will be arts, crafts, movies, gym and a lot more fun!

The dates Eagle's Nest will be open are December 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and January 2. Hours will be 6:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Fee is \$20 per day/per child.

You will be charged for the days you sign your child up even if they do not attend (unless there is a cancellation due to weather).

This is so the program can be staffed accordingly.

If you have any questions or to get signed up, please contact Christine Bailey at 515-244-8173, extension 3207 or email baileychristine@saydel.net

Red Ribbon Week at Cornell

By Courtney Anderson, Guidance Counselor

From October 24-28, the students at Cornell Elementary celebrated Red Ribbon Week. The students participated in Red Ribbon Week celebrations by having dress up days and having a door-decorating contest. Students in Mrs. Crane's class are pictured here wearing their pajamas /comfy clothes to school for "Put Drugs to Sleep" day.

All students also had a Guidance lesson for Red Ribbon Week that focused on how to make healthy choices.

The 2nd-3rd graders made puzzle pieces to put up in the lunchroom to give others in the building ideas on how they can make healthy choices at school and at home.

The kindergarten and 1st graders participated in a healthy versus unhealthy choices sort activity.

The 4th grade students are talking about peer pressure in their Guidance lessons. The goal of Red Ribbon Week was to promote healthy choices now and in the future.





Students Love to Read at Cornell

So far, it has been a fantastic year in the library. The students are able to check out books once a week causing our circulation to be much higher than last year. Students enjoy sitting on our new story carpet and hearing and participating in stories told by Mrs. Plascenica and Mrs. Meyer. One of our favorite books to celebrate the season has been Miss Fiona's Stupendous Pumpkin Pies. Pictured from left, Sylar Miller, Mrs. Plascenica, Khloe Mitchell and Kaleb Ellsworth.

Food for thought: If you read just 15 minutes a day, in one year you will have read over 1,000,000 words!

Nurse's Notes:

When Do I Keep My Child Home From School Due to Illness?

If your child has the sniffles, cough, sore throat or mild congestion and they haven't slowed down at home, they are probably able to participate in school activities. Your child should stay home if they have a fever, are nauseated, vomiting or has diarrhea.

Your child can return to school if they are no longer vomiting, and have gone fever free (<100.0) for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.

Students must also stay home for 24 hours after starting medical treatment for pink eye or strep throat.

Frequent hand-washing is the best way to avoid getting sick and spreading illness.

All medications brought to school must be in the original container, whether they are prescription or an over-the-counter medication. This includes cough drops. Also, a signed permission slip must be on file for us to administer the medication. Permission slips can be found in the office and on the Saydel website.

The nurse's office is in need of shirts and adjustable waist pants, sizes 4-14. They may be dropped off in the office. Thank you!

Saydel Booster Memberships

Thanks to the following businesses and individuals who support the Saydel Athletic Boosters through membership.

BUSINESS PLATINUM EAGLE

Chemorse
Rising Star/All Iowa Stone & Gutter
The Results Group, L.L.C.
Iowa Demolition Inc.
R Rogers Septic LLC
Jason's Lawn & Tree Care
Goode Greenhouses
Teddell Electric

BUSINESS GOLD EAGLE

Heartland Chiropractic & Wellness Ctr.
Capital City Equipment Co.
Iowa State Bank
Affinity Credit Union

BUSINESS GREEN EAGLE

Struthers Brothers Kawasaki-Suzuki, Inc.

BUSINESS SILVER EAGLE

Walker Construction & Painting
John Sandin Painting
Decarlo Demolition Company
Seth Wicks Construction
Schneider Graphics
Xtreme Liners of Central Iowa

INDIVIDUAL GOLD EAGLE

Doug & Lisa Wheeler
Kevin & Kelly Schulte
Roland & Shari Kouski
Randy & Joleen Stephenson
Kevin Farnsley
Doug & Susan Cline
Rollie Madison
Brett Hersom
Ric Powell

INDIVIDUAL SILVER EAGLE

Missy Burr
Joshua & Denna Heyer
Ruth Kouski

INDIVIDUAL GREEN EAGLE

Roland & Shari Kouski
Brian & Diba VanHouten

INDIVIDUAL PLATINUM EAGLE

Corey Myers
Scott Myers
Kelly & Tana Sprague

STAFF DUAL ATHLETIC & MUSIC MEMBERS

Jerry Young
Penny Smith
Cheri Tingley
Caleb Hales
Dia Fenton
Melissa Sensor
Kyle Luttenegger
Julie Rolf

Cornell Box Tops Winner:

Congratulations Alexandra Ross



Cornell Elementary PTO recently held a Box Tops competition from September 19 until October 14. Whoever submitted the most Box Tops won a \$25 I-Tunes card.

Congratulations goes to Alexandra Ross for winning the competition! The PTO will have two more contests this year. The next contest will run from January 16 through February 10, and the winner (who turns in the most) will receive a \$25 Gift Card to Sky Zone in Grimes.

The last contest will run from April 3 through April 28, and the winner (also who turns in the most) will receive a \$25 I-Tunes card. The Cornell PTO uses the funds raised from Box Tops to purchase books for the students. Keep Clipping!

First Graders Attend Play Called “True Story of Pocahontas”



By First Grade Team

Cornell first grade students attended an Applause Production titled “True Story of Pocahontas.” This is a famous individual that we study later in the school year. We discussed how this person contributed to our lifestyle today. With the factual information that they learned, it will help the students write research reports about famous people this winter. Thank you to our PTO for providing funds that allowed us to be able to attend this production.

Thank You for reading the Cornell newsletter.

If you would like to receive the newsletters that feature what is happening at Woodside Middle School & Saydel High School, you can subscribe by emailing newsletter@saydel.net.

PE News

*By Matthew Thompson,
PE Teacher*

In Physical Education we have been focusing on different skills of throwing and the proper movement for each. We have used games for each skill to reinforce the correct movement. For underhand throw, we played Tic-Tac-Toe Toss, overhand throw we played MatBall, and for chest passing we have done group relays.

Third Grade Academic Update

By Third Grade Team

Third grade continues to work hard! Students have been working away in literacy, where third graders have had the chance to practice answering and asking questions based on text. Both nonfiction and fiction text was used, and students were able to discover how asking and answering questions is so important when comprehending texts!

In math, third graders have worked to identify how place value helps us to add and subtract. Many activities were used in order to help cement in this concept. Students favorite part of this was playing “Go Collecting!” which is similar to “Go Fish!”

Finally, we are in the early stages of our Secrets of Flight. Students will get to build paper airplanes and learn how these gliders stay in flight. They will also get to modify their planes to see if they can make them fly longer!

NEWS FROM CORNELL PTO

By Gary Christensen, PTO Vice President

Fall is a wonderful time of falling leaves, falling temperatures and hectic schedules. October was a busy month for students and for the PTO.

In October, the PTO started the month by providing a meal for the Cornell staff during the Thursday session of parent/teacher conferences. The second PTO meeting of the year was held October 11. During the meeting, the PTO agreed to cover the cost of two field trips. The preschool classes took a trip to Giesler Farms to visit the pumpkin patch. The first grade classes journeyed to Stephan's Auditorium in Ames to see the play "The True Story of Pocahontas." The PTO was delighted to be able to assist the teachers in providing these extra special learning opportunities to the students.

The first submission deadline for Box Tops was October 15. Though we collect Box Tops throughout the year, we are only able to submit them for reimbursement at certain times. Keep looking for seasonal sheets to tape/glue Box Tops to, otherwise send them in baggies to school.

October 18 was the second Community Night event for Cornell PTO. This event was held at Skate North Incrediroll. The turnout was spectacular and everyone had a great time. Our next Community Night Event will be held on November 10 at Chuck E. Cheese from 3 PM to 9 PM. We hope to see you there.

Finally, information should have a gone home about our fall fundraiser. A long term goal of the Cornell PTO is to renovate and update the outdoor facilities around Cornell. As such, our first project is to purchase and install soccer goals for all students to use at recess and outside school hours. As it is already November and holidays will be upon us soon, it was decided to try a novel approach to



this fundraiser. The PTO will be doing an 'Un-Fundraiser' for the goals. With an 'Un-Fundraiser' there is nothing to sell, no catalogs to distribute and no costs to cover. It is a simple tax-deductible donation with 100% of the proceeds directly benefiting the PTO and our students.

October was a great month and we hope for more of the same for November. Our next PTO meeting will be November 8 at 6:30 PM in the Cornell Library. Childcare will be provided and we hope to see you there!

Feel free to get in touch with the PTO at our meetings, by email at CornellEaglesPTO@gmail.com or on Facebook at [CornellElemPTO](https://www.facebook.com/CornellElemPTO).



Cornell Students Cut Ribbon to Officially Open New Addition

The Open House and Ribbon Cutting celebrating the new addition at Cornell Elementary was held October 25. It was exciting to share this new space with our supportive public.

Students who cut the ribbon were Gunner Vanderpool, Emma Plascencia, Gerardo Perez Aviala, Jacob Goode and Kynlee Booth. Assisting the students were School Board President Brian Bowman, Board Vice President Jenn Van Houten, Principal Brian Vaughan and Superintendent Doug Wheeler.

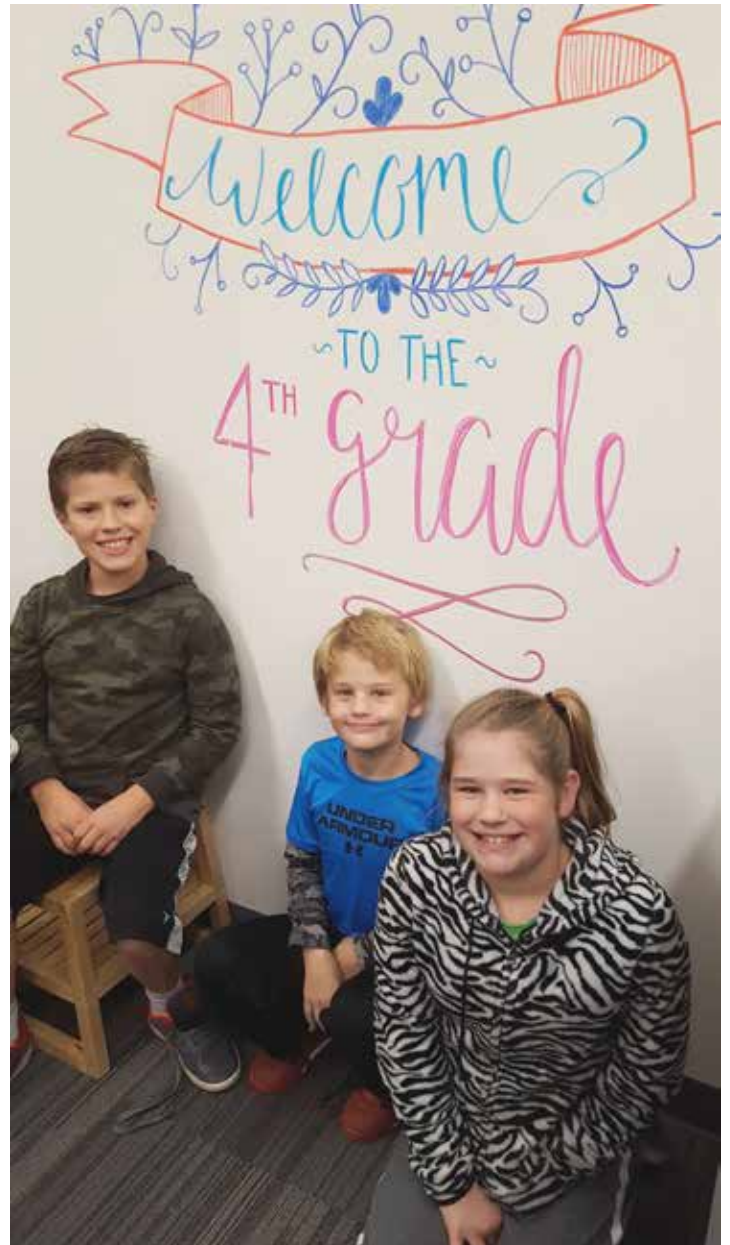




Fourth Graders Enjoy New Classrooms

By Fourth Grade Team

October has been a very exciting month for fourth graders at Cornell. We moved into brand new rooms on October 17. Students helped carry things and set up the new areas. On October 25, we invited the community and everyone who helped with the project to come back and see the new wing in use. It was a great turnout and we loved getting to show off some of our favorite things, like the smart TVs and the tall swivel chairs. We are loving our new rooms!



News From the Art Room:

During the past month, students have been hard at work in the Cornell Art Room. The 3rd grade is currently finishing up monochromatic mixed media drawings inspired by Keith Haring, while 4th grade has been learning about value and using it to create depth on their Wayne Thiebaud oil pastel cakes. In kindergarten, things have been getting festive with value as well, creating collage Jack-o-lanterns for October! Lastly, 2nd grade has been learning about and applying the concept of visual texture, designing their own wild things.



Right: In 3rd graders, Lucas Farnsworth and Joseph Warren
Pictured left: 3rd graders Angelo Doquesa, Vinny Pagliai, and Alex Hunnel



Above: 4th grader, Danielle White



Above: Kindergarteners Trinity Brady, Aurora Webb, Estelle Beltrame and Layden Turner.



Above right: 2nd grader Katie Kuntz
Above left: 2nd grader Chloe Christiansen



Preschool students took a field trip to Geisler Farms in October. They were able to engage in lots of fun activities including a hayrack ride, riding tricycles, playing in a corn pit, jumping on an inflatable pillow, going down a huge slide, and getting their very own small pumpkin to take home.

Many parents were able to attend as well making it a fun event for all involved! In November preschool students will begin a study on trees. Students will have an opportunity to explore the outdoors while investigating trees and begin to understand the characteristics of trees.

We are looking forward to a Fall full of fun learning in preschool!

Preschool Fun at Geisler Farms!



The Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program

Cornell Elementary School is fortunate enough to have again received the Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Program Grant for the 2016-2017 school year. This program allows a daily snack of either a fresh fruit or vegetable for our kids aged K-4th grade. With this grant, we are able to introduce our kids to fresh fruits and vegetables they may otherwise not have the opportunity to try. This introduction to healthful choices at a young age will instill a positive attitude toward trying new produce, and will positively impact their current and future health.



The goal of the FFVP is to:

- Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices.
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- Increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Make a difference in children's diet to impact their present and future health.

Please support your child's physical and mental growth by continuing to experiment with new produce at home. A fun way to do this is by checking the sales ads at your local grocery store, what's on sale? If it looks like something you've never tried before, or you know you like it, buy it! There are tons of fun, kid-friendly recipes online with any kind of produce imaginable. Keep in mind that sometimes the best method is simply chopping and eating, no cooking necessary.



Can you answer the questions to the right?



How Many?

- Are fruits? _____
- Are vegetables? _____
- Are purple? _____
- Are yellow? _____
- Are orange? _____
- Grow on trees? _____

Foodservice Office:

Visit www.saydel.k12.ia.us for menus and more information
Email: sadlerjessy@saydel.net
Phone: 515.264.0866
Fax: 515.264.0869
Follow us on Twitter: @saydeldining

Build a Healthy Lunch



Saydel's 3rd Annual Monster Dash Memories

The 3rd Annual Saydel Monster Dash 5K/1 Mile walk/run took place October 22. Runners wore their favorite Halloween costumes, and proceeds went to Cornell PTO, Woodside PTO, and Saydel Eagle Endowment.





CORNELL CREATURES

Second grade students from Cornell Elementary School completed their Creature projects recently. Pictured from left: Lottie Graham with her project called "Kitty & Mrs. Anderson", Gunner Vanderpool with his project called "Icealot", and Charity Stevens with her project called "Trash Monster."



Second grade students taught by Hannah Klinker at Cornell Elementary School posed with their Creature projects that are now on display in the school's library.

SAYDEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Brian Bowman, Board President
Jennifer Van Houten, Vice-President
Melissa Sassman, Board of Director
Henry Wood, Board of Director
Chad Vitiritto, Board of Director
Doug Kayser, Board of Director
Roland Kouski, Jr., Board of Director

Superintendent: Mr. Douglas Wheeler
 Board Secretary: Beth Vitiritto



School Board meetings are held at the Saydel District Office on the second Monday of each month at 6 PM

EDUCATION FOR
 LEADERSHIP;
 LEARNING FOR LIFE

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 Des Moines, IA 50313
 515-244-8173 FAX 244-0084

We're on the Web:
www.saydel.k12.ia.us

It is the policy of the Saydel Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's **Equity Coordinator, Julie McKibben, Director of Student Services**, 5740 NE 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50313; mckibbenjulie@saydel.net. Office for Civil Rights, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.