



January 2010 Newsletter

February Family Movie Night

Box Top for Education

Upcoming events:

- * 01.29 ~ Movie RSVP Deadline
- * 01.29 ~ Popcorn Sale~3rd gr.
- * 02.04 ~ Family Movie Night
- * 02.09 ~ PTO Mtg. 7 p.m.

Save the Date!

Family Literacy Night will be held Thursday, March 4th from 5:30—7:30 p.m. This is an all school event!

Popcorn Sale

The 3rd grade is sponsoring the popcorn sale this month! Proceeds from these sales go directly to the sponsoring grades account to pay for supplies and other items!

PTO Donations

The PTO hosts many events during the year. We also provide classroom supplies, books and playground equipment for the children of Ross Park. Ross Park PTO is a 501c(3). Any cash contributions to this organization are tax deductible.

We have another exciting family movie night scheduled. We will be watching Disney's Ratatouille on Thursday, February 4th. We will be having pizza at 5:30 for \$1.00 per person. 'Tickets' for pizza must be ordered ahead of time. This will allow us to order the appropriate amount of pizza. The movie will start at 6 p.m. The flyer came home on January 19th and is due back by January 29th. 'Tickets' will be available at the door and will not be sent home. Questions? Contact Sue Davis at secretary@rossparkpto.org.

We will be having a Box Top for Education contest among the classes at Ross Park. The contest will be held from February 8th through February 19th. Start saving those box tops and stay tuned for more information coming in February!



Boost Your Child's Self-Confidence

One of parents' most important jobs is helping children develop a healthy sense of self-esteem.

When children feel good about themselves, they learn more. They face challenges with confidence. Here are some ways to help build your child's self-esteem:

- Tell your child you will always love him. Children need to know they are loved, even when they fail.
- Give your child responsibilities he can handle. Completing a task on his own will give him a sense of accomplishment and contribution.
- Help your child develop a sense of trust. Show that you believe in him by giving him opportunities to be trustworthy. Keep your promises to him so he'll learn to trust others.
- Allow your child to make choices. For example, you might pick out two outfits and let him choose one.
- Praise your child often—but only when it is deserved. Praise teaches children to do their best. False praise teaches doing just enough to get by.

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Visit us at: www.rossparkpto.org

Meet our Teachers

Name: Kathy Hellmann

Grade: 1st Grade

Family: My family consists of my husband and two children. Jeff is an Art teacher at Reeths-Puffer High School. Our son, Kayden, is 5 years old and attends Kindergarten at Ross Park. Our daughter, Kyann, is 3 years old and attends Preschool at Ross Park.

Teaching experience: I have taught 7th and 8th grade Language Arts in San Antonio, Texas. I taught an Elementary reading class at Purdue University. Then I taught 1st and 2nd grade in Kokomo, Indiana and was the Title I Coordinator for our school K-5. Then I went to Mona Shores High School as an administrator. This is my 9th year at Ross Park in 1st Grade. This is my 18th year of teaching! I have been very fortunate to teach at all levels of education.

Hobbies/Spare Time activities: My favorite sport to play is volleyball. I like to spend a lot of time with my kids! We love to play outdoors. We like to go skiing and swimming. I have just started running (for fun...sort of!). I LOVE anything having to do with Purdue! Go Boilermakers! Any time with friends and family is time well spent!

Favorite Food: Pizza, Mexican, and Italian. I love spicy foods!

Favorite thing about Ross Park: Ross Park is an amazing environment to work in and send your children to. Everyday I learn something new from my phenomenal students and colleagues. Ross Park is about family. I love seeing my former students become awesome citizens. I look forward to watching the futures of all my students. Thanks for giving me a chance to spend time with your family.

Name: Marcia Tisdell

Grade: Music Teacher Grades DK-5th grade

Family: I have a husband, Duane. I have a son, Mark, who is married with a 21-month old son. They live in Grand Haven. I have a daughter, Darcie, who is married and has two daughters ages 3 and 4. They live in Omaha, NE.

Teaching experience: I taught music and P.E. for one semester in the Harrison Public School district. I taught 7 years in the Kalkaska Public Schools where I was a 5th grade, 3rd grade and kindergarten teacher. While in Kalkaska, I also taught a preschool program for three years at my church. After moving to this area, I taught two years for the Muskegon Heights Public Schools as a 6th grade and 4th grade teacher. I am in my 18th year teaching music at Mona Shores Public Schools. I currently teach at Churchill, Ross Park, and Campbell Schools. I enjoy working with the students at Mona Shores!

Hobbies/Spare Time activities: I enjoy playing the piano and singing. I also like to knit and read. Playing with my grandchildren is my favorite spare time activity.

Favorite Food: I love spaghetti.

Favorite thing about Ross Park: The students are eager to learn and the staff is supportive and very caring to each other and the students.

Name: Tammy Sylvester

Grade: 5th Grade

Family: I have a husband, Kevin, daughter, Madison (5), and son, Conner (2).

Teaching experience: I taught 6 years in Muskegon Heights School District (Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd). I taught 3 years at Mona Shores Middle School (7th and 8th grade ELA), and this is my first year at Ross Park with 5th grade.

Hobbies/Spare Time activities: I enjoy scrapbooking.

Favorite Foods: My favorite food is Mexican.

Favorite thing about Ross Park: I like the positive attitude shown by students and staff.

Name: Rachel Chasco

Grade: 2nd Grade

Family: I have been married to my husband Matt for three years. He is the head CNC programmer at Active Manufacturing in Spring Lake. We have one daughter, Grace, who is 2 years old.

Teaching experience: I have taught for 7 wonderful years in second grade at Ross Park.

Hobbies/Spare Time activities: I would have to say that my hobbies have changed drastically since having Grace. My current hobbies include: Mommy and Me Music Class, swimming, play-doh, coloring, singing along to preschool CD's, and watching "Finding Nemo." After 8:00 or so, I enjoy reading a good book. In the summer, my family enjoys camping, fishing, and just spending time together outside.

Favorite Food: I love to make and eat spaghetti with garlic bread. It is such a quick, easy, and family friendly meal, plus I can toss in plenty of veggies to go with it!

Favorite thing about Ross Park: The kids at Ross Park are the best! I have students who are full of energy and eager to learn. The enthusiasm in the lower grades is infectious and makes the day go by in a flash! The staff is also top notch. We work together as a team and it shows! It is a blessing to come to school every day to be around and work with so many people that I truly care about. I couldn't be happier!