

Churchill Junior High School



May 2009

Parent Newsletter

Issue 6

From the principal's desk.



SEL

We are in the implementation stage of adding the Social and Emotional Learning standards to our present programming at Churchill Junior High School. The law requires schools to address the SEL needs of students by the 2009-10 school year, and we are ahead of most schools as we have an established committee and are working from a grant funded by the Illinois Violence and Prevention Authority. In addition to weekly student instruction during advisory, we held a parent forum on April 30, 2009 to inform parents of some of the issues students are dealing with. The SEL committee sponsored a “*Power to the Parent*” night that featured Trooper Jayson Wilson and Erin Olson from the Knox County Health Department. Trooper Wilson spoke about Internet Safety and those in attendance learned some rather sobering facts about children and their use of the internet. Ms. Olson shared some useful tips for parents during her presentation “How Parents Can Communicate With Their Middle Level Child.” The night was a tremendous success and parents were provided hot dogs and drinks, free baby-sitting from our Builders Club, and free transportation if needed. If you were unable to attend the workshop I am providing some of the information that was presented below.

Internet Safety Tips for Kids

- I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' permission.
- I will tell my parents right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.
- I will never agree to get together with someone I “meet” on-line without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring my mother or father along.
- I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.
- I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable.
- It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away so that they can contact the on-line service.
- I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going on-line. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be on-line, the length of time I can be on-line, and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.

Adapted from *Child Safety on the Information Highway* by Lawrence J. Magid. Copyright © 1994 National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). All rights reserved.

We hope those of you who were able to attend found the material helpful and those of you who were not able to attend will be able to attend one of our presentations next year.

Bart Arthur

Eighth Grade Recognition and Dance

This year Churchill's 8th grade recognition and dance will be held on the same night, Thursday, May 28. The recognition ceremony will begin at 6:00 PM followed immediately by the dance from 7:00-9:00 PM.

This ceremony is in recognition of our eighth grade students for their hard work and effort for the past three years. This is not a graduation ceremony. Parents and students are asked to be respectful during the ceremony for those students on stage. The dance is a time for students to celebrate their time together for the past three years.

We ask that students dress appropriately for the ceremony and dance. This is not a "prom dress and tuxedo" event, but we encourage students to dress their best. In addition, students must be in attendance on this date to participate in the ceremony and dance.



The Annual Duck Race sponsored by the Galesburg Public Schools Foundation is being held on Sunday, September 13 at Lake Storey. The money raised is used for many projects by the schools. Churchill was able to have 3 assemblies (Carl Cannon, Fearless, and Col. Roy Webb) because of the money raised. Last year Churchill sold 500 ducks. Help Churchill again this year by adopting a duck. Ducks will be sold at registration (look for our special duck deals). You may also send in your duck adoption forms anytime to the Foundation-just make sure you write Churchill on the form so we get credit for the sale. Ducks are only \$5 each.

**Show your Blue Streak spirit.
Adopt a duck today.**

Churchill staff members do not report for morning supervision until 7:35 AM. During periods of rain, snow, cold or bad weather, we open the doors at this time. Please make sure your children do not arrive too early.

Unless students are with a teacher, they are to leave the building after school by 3:05 PM and should be off school grounds by 3:15 PM. Please make arrangements accordingly.

Important Dates

May

- 14** Last Day of SUCCESS
Choir/Singing Streaks Concert
7 PM
- 19** 6th & 7th grade Band Concert
7 PM
- 25** No School - Memorial Day
- 28** 8th Grade Recognition 6 PM
8th Grade Dance after
ceremony

June

- 1** Incoming 6th grade Parent
Orientation Night 6 PM
- 5** No School-Institute Day
- 8** Report Card Day 10 AM-Noon
Sports Physicals at GHS

August

- 12** Registration 11 AM-7 PM
- 13** Registration 11 AM-7 PM
- 14** Registration 9 AM-4 PM
- 24** First Day of School
8:00 - 10:50 AM
- 25** First Day of School
1:55 Dismissal
- 25-31** 1:55 Dismissal

September

- 3** Open House 5:30-7:30
- 7** No School Labor Day
- 21** School Pictures

Churchill Front Drive

The driveway in front of Churchill is one way. Please enter through the south entrance only. Parking is allowed on the east side of the drive only. Please do not park on the sidewalk.

For the safety of our students, the driveway in front of Churchill will not be open to cars from 7:30-8:00 AM and from 2:45-3:15 PM. We appreciate your cooperation.

Fish Winners



March Fish Winners

Left to Right: Jessica Leiber (8th), Ryan Atchley (7th), Mrs. Gully (staff), and Walker Kelly (6th)



April Fish Winners

Left to Right: Blas Nache (8th), Mrs. Carman Hendel (staff), Jessica Dowers (6th)
Missing from photo: Chermonn Jones (7th)

African American Support Group Winners



(Left to Right) Teresa Ricks (6th), Denzel Jones (7th), and Raven Ayers (8th)
These students are chosen based on academic improvement, citizenship, and facing a life challenge with great success.

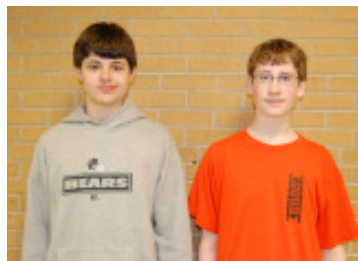
Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Winner



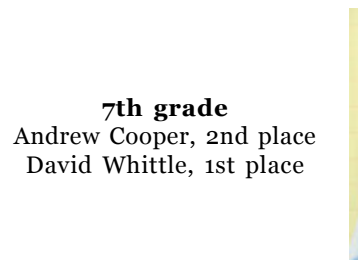
Evan Kelly

Winners of this award are chosen based on academics citizenship, and service.

Churchill Math League Regional Winners



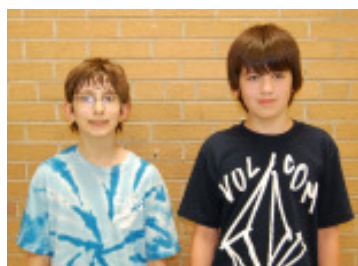
8th grade
Evan Kelly, 2nd place
Henry Ward, 1st place



7th grade
Andrew Cooper, 2nd place
David Whittle, 1st place



6th grade
Sam Armon, 1st place
Luke Almaguer, 1st place



Congratulations to our Churchill mathletes! Our 6th grade team place 2nd in the region. Our 7th grade team placed 1st in our region. Our 8th grade team also placed 1st in our region. Our region consists of the following counties: Bureau, DeKalb, Fulton, Knox, Lee, Ogle, Peoria, Rock Island, Tazwell, and Woodford.

New at Churchill: Spring Registration

Remember standing in line forever last fall registering your child for school? Well, we have a way to make that time spent registering significantly shorter. By now your child should have brought home a big envelope filled with papers. Inside you will find important registration papers. **Fill out the papers in the envelope and return them to the Churchill office by May 29th.** Next fall, you will still need to come in for schedules, have id pictures taken, and pay any fees, but now there will not be the long lines we have had in the past. Hopefully with this new plan, registration will be easier for everyone. If you have any questions, please contact the Churchill office at 342-3129.



Reading at the Crossroads II

On April 1st, Marion Blumenthal Lazan who wrote the book *Four Perfect Pebbles*, documenting her childhood and life in the concentration camps, visited Churchill. The students listened intently as Mrs. Lazan shared her experiences of living through the Holocaust. While at Churchill, Mrs. Lazan was presented with the key to the city by Mayor Gary Smith.

Her visit was part of a cooperative yearlong focus on literacy. Teachers and administrators from Galesburg District #205 in cooperation with Galesburg Public Schools Foundation were pleased to partner for Reading @ the Crossroads II. Money for this project has come from Galesburg Public Schools Foundation, Galesburg Community School District #205, Galesburg Community Foundation, and the Illinois Reading Council.



In keeping with our theme "Overcoming Adversity to Achieve Your Dreams" the University of Illinois Wheelchair basketball team visited Churchill to share one way they have overcome their adversities. After a demonstration, students even got a chance to try playing a little basketball while in a wheelchair.

