



The Weekly Pellet

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Eastminster School

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JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS

This week the Middle School students read Rose Wilder Lane's "The Hundred-Dollar Bill." Before reading the story, we played a *Then and Now* price game to understand the value of a hundred-dollar bill in the 1890s. Students were surprised at some of the prices! We are working on writing this week, particularly focusing on introductory paragraphs that grab the reader's attention. We'll end the week with a lively discussion about a lutin from the French folktale, "The Black Hen's Egg."

SHARING AND CARING PROJECT

Do you have winter clothing that your family members do not wear anymore? If you do, families at Pine Street Elementary School in Old Town Conyers need them. Pine Street School has the highest percentage of free and reduced lunches in the county, which means these children and their families are in great need of our donated outerwear. To share a little warmth this winter, please bring your donations of *gently used* jackets, mittens and hats, sweaters, or any warm clothing to the Eastminster School office by Friday, December 14th. All sizes are needed.

Sharing God's love this way is sure to warm everyone's heart!

LOOSE CHANGE WEDNESDAYS

Just two more Loose Change Wednesdays! After our Christmas Holiday vacation, a representative from each classroom and ALL Middle School students will count the cash on January 3 & 4. When the amount is known, a "ballot" of animals will be distributed to all students who will vote for their choice. The winner will be announced at Chapel on Wednesday, January 9th, 2008 and in The Pellet on the following Friday, January 11th, 2008

ART NEWS

Hooray! The Original Artwork orders have come in just in time for the holidays as promised. I hope you found the products to your liking. If there are any problems concerning your order, please contact me at my school email address tmosley@eastminster.org or at home phone number (770) 784-1806 and I will work to correct it. Thanks again for your generous support of this fundraiser. I cannot wait to see the finished quilt made with the students' images.

OLDE TOWN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Be sure to join the fun in Olde Town Conyers on Friday, December 7th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. when Santa will arrive and Photographer, Danny Lee, will be taking photos at the Depot at 901 Railroad Street. Come sit on Santa's lap and let him know you have been good boys and girls this year!! You will receive your photos that day.

Also, there will be a Secret Santa Workshop in the Warehouse of the Depot taking place at the same time. If you have not started your holiday shopping feel free to stop in and purchase gifts at reasonable prices. There will be gifts for all ages. Children age range is 5 years and up. Find that special gift for members of your family at the Depot.

There will also be free Carriage Rides on Friday, the 7th. Be sure to try out ice skating also.

Shops in Olde Towne are open late on the 7th as well.

HOMETOWN HOLIDAY PARADE

Eastminster School will have a float in the Hometown Holiday Parade in Olde Town Conyers on Saturday, December 8th. The fun begins at 4:30 p.m. The Parade starts from Rockdale County High School.

We need to have adults on the float for supervision and safety regulations, as well. We can have an estimated 20 people on the float.

Help promote our wonderful school by showing some school spirit on December 8th:

If you or your child are interested in riding on the float please carpool and arrive at the Visitors Gravel Parking Lot on Pine Log Road no later than **3:30 p.m.** where Mrs. Jones will meet you there to escort you to the float located in the Main Staging Area. We are #68 in the Parade.

If you choose to ride on the float please dress in Eastminster attire, i.e., Eastminster Owl T-shirts, fleece jackets, or sweaters. You will be given additional festive attire when you arrive.

Please be sure to pick up your child after the Parade at the Main Staging Area around 5:30 p.m. Mr. Huebsch will wait until all children are picked up before returning to Eastminster.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

The Middle School is continuing to collect outgrown winter clothing for the local needy. Any items that need to be leaving your closets and would still warm someone else would be greatly appreciated.

Reinforcing good hygiene during this cold/flu season is always a good idea. Donations of Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, Kleenex, and paper towels would be appreciated for us to be able to help keep our environment clean.

The Middle School enjoyed a day at General Mills Wednesday. The students were treated to Sensory Sampling of cereal products, demonstrations and discussion of plant operations and the importance of Mathematics in the daily management of production, purchasing of materials, planning, maintenance and financial aspects of General Mills. The students toured the facilities including observing the cooking, forming, drying, enrobing, bagging, boxing, and palletizing cereal products. We watched a production from start to finish - even loading onto the trucks to go to the stores! The students were able to sample the product in its base (kind of yucky!), after drying/puffing, and again after enrobing/drying (yummy final product). After the plant tour the students were treated to pizza and drinks and Mr. Greg Flickinger sent the students off with many souvenirs of their trip - the biggest hits were the hair nets, ear plugs and cereal (fresh off the line!). The level of excitement after the trip was evident by the volume in the vans on the way back to school. The excitement continued well into Thursday when the students were given their follow up project. They are now working in teams to design new cereal concepts to present to General Mills employees. The project assignment sheet went home with the students Thursday and the project is due December 21st. Mr. Flickinger is looking forward to displaying the student project boards after the Christmas break. Maybe we will be hearing of a new cereal developed by our own students!

Important Dates

*Olde Towne Christmas
Party
December 7
5-8 p.m.*

*Hometown Holiday
Parade
December 8 4:30*

*Christmas Musical
December 13
7:00 p.m.
(Haven
Fellowship)*

*Sharing and Caring
Project (Clothing due)
December 14*

*Christmas
Holidays
December 24-January 2*

Live and On Stage! Eastminster School students are involved in several theatrical productions during the Christmas Holiday season. If you want to “catch some of our *STARS*” on stage, check out the following....

- Alex Barrus and Lily Jackson each have multiple roles in the Atlanta Festival Ballet’s *The Nutcracker*. Alex’s roles include Lieutenant and Candy Cane. Lily is a Jester. Lily and Alex are also children at the Christmas Eve party. This production of *The Nutcracker* will be held at the Henry County Performing Arts Center December 15th & 16th. School shows are December 16th and 17th; Eastminster Kindergarten is attending the December 17th performance.
- Conyers Kids will perform December 7th at the Center Stage Theater on Center Street at 5:30 PM. The show will be taped and play all month on the Conyers cable access channel. Eastminster students, Jackson Grady, Sydney Lopez, Natalie Hickerson, Madison Lee and William Maddox are a part of Conyers Kids!
- Rochelle Phillips is a Munchkin in True Colors Theatre Company’s production of *The Wiz*, December 20th to 30th at The Rialto Center at Georgia State University! Kenny Leon is the Director and if you want to see Rochelle, you can call the Box Office for tickets - 404-588-0234.
- The Covington Regional Ballet has already held their Christmas performances of *The Nutcracker*. Last weekend, Cameron Crowe danced roles of a Snow Sprite and one of the Chinese dancers. In April, the Company will perform *Cinderella* and Cameron has already been cast as one of the birds. Public performances will be on April 19th at 1:00 and 7:00 PM.

NO HOMEWORK OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK

NO HOMEWORK OVER CHRISTMAS VACATION...but reading a good book would be a wonderful thing to do! All Eastminster students will be asked, “*What book did you read over the holidays?*” when they return to school on January 3rd, 2008!

RECYCLING NEWS

This is just another gentle reminder to send in your old athletic shoes for the school’s shoe recycling drive. If you send an old pair in, a loved one or Santa might be more motivated to get you a new pair. Merry Recycling!

2007-2008 CALENDAR

December Events

Coffee Talk Wednesdays	Each Wednesday	7:30am - 8:00am
Chapel	Each Wednesday	8:00am-8:30am
Hometown Holiday Parade	12/8/2007	4:30 PM
EPTF Meeting	12/11/2007	6:30 - 7:30
EPTF Board Meeting	12/12/2007	7:30
Christmas Musical	12/13/07	7:00pm(Haven Fellowship)
Scripts Order Due	12/14/2007	All Day
Secret Santa Workshop	12/18/07 & 12/19/07	All Day
Christmas Holidays	12/24/07 -1/2/08	School closed

2008 Event

January Events

	Date	Time
Teacher Workday	1/2/2008	All Day
Students Back to School	1/3/2008	All Day
CiCi's Pizza	1/7/2008	All Day
EPTF Meeting	1/8/2008	6:30 - 7:30
EPTF Board Meeting	1/9/2008	7:30
Coffee Talk Wednesday	Each Wednesday	7:30am - 8:00am
Chapel	Each Wednesday	8:00am-8:30am
Scripts Order Due	1/18/2008	All Day
MLK Holiday	1/21/2008	School Closed