



The Center Grange Gazette



Center Grange
Primary School

March 2010

Volume 3, Issue 7

- 3/2—Dr. Seuss's birthday
- 3/6—Under The Sea Story Walk 10:00—12:30 PM
- 3/12—School in Session
- 3/12—Penguins Black and Gold Day
- 3/14—Daylight Saving time begins at 2:00AM
- 3/17—Wear Green Day
- 3/19—Sweater Day

A great event to celebrate literacy was held in Beaver County and at Center Grange Primary School on **Saturday, March 6, 2010**. The Beaver County Story Walk took place throughout the county on this date. Participating elementary schools hosted local story walks for students and their families. At Center Grange, we celebrated literacy by traveling *“Under the Sea”* during our 2010 edition of the Story Walk! Over 630 guests were treated to a morning filled with stories, activities and refreshments that were second to none. As our guests entered the Center Grange Ocean, they were impressed and amazed by all of the ocean life (artwork) that had been created and displayed throughout the ocean. The staff and students did a great job of using their creativity to decorate the entire school!

Students were grouped in schools of “fish”, collections of “starfish” and a pod of “whales” for their journey through the Center Grange Ocean. Students listened to awesome renditions of *“A Home for Hermit Crab”*, *“Rainbow Fish to the Rescue”*, *“The Rainbow Fish”*, and *“Rainbow Fish and the Bug Blue Whale”*, by our guest readers. The students created their own personalized windsock to proudly display they sailed across the ocean blue. They even dined on fish-shaped Smiley face cookies and Goldfish snack treats. And ALL children that attended the Story Walk got to choose a book to take home.

Thanks to the Beaver County Educational Trust and the Central Valley Education Foundation for their generous grants to help fund this event; to the Story Walk Planning Committee for their hard work and dedication; to Eat N’ Park, Pepperidge Farms and our Food Service department for providing the refreshments; and to the students and parents that attended the Story Walk.

“Under the Sea” Story Walk photos



“Under the Sea” Story Walk photos



Learning About Whales and Ocean Life

On Friday, March 5th, we kicked off the Story Walk weekend with a very special guest. Mr. Dave Sullivan, a retired teacher from the New Brighton Area School District, spent time with our students. He brought along a special friend—a life size, inflatable model of a whale. The students spent their science class time learning about ocean life and all about whales. At times, more that 60 children were inside the belly of the whale! Needless to say, everyone had a great time! Our thanks to Mr. Sullivan for visiting with our students and teaching them about the ocean and whales during his interactive and educational program.



Celebrating Dr Seuss's Birthday

Each year at Center Grange, we celebrate and honor Dr. Seuss and his wonderful children's stories on his birthday, March 2nd. This year was no exception. Students in all grade levels spent the day reading and learning about Dr. Seuss's stories. Many classrooms made their own *Cat in the Hat* hats, while others made Oobleck and other Seuss themed projects. In 1st grade, our students gathered in the cafeteria to dine on **green eggs and ham!** As a special Seuss Day treat and tradition, the children got to hear the story *Green Eggs and Ham* as it was read aloud by none other than our superintendent, Dr. Matsook, and our Director of Students Services, Mr. Yates. Needless to say, they did an awesome job bringing this story to life. Dr. Matsook even tried the green eggs and ham—and he liked them, Sam I am!



Jungle Terry and his Animal Parade

Jungle Terry brought his animal parade to Center Grange on Wednesday, February 24, 2010. The students had a great time visiting him and his many rescued exotic animals. While we did not spend time with any lions, tigers or bears, the children did get up close to a python, a tarantula, a chinchilla, an alligator, a tortoise and several other cool critters. We'd like to thank the Central Valley PTA for sponsoring this year's program.



Kindergarten Registration

The Central Valley School District will conduct Kindergarten registration for the 2010—2011 school year on **May 11—13, 2010**, at the Center Grange Primary School. To enter kindergarten, children must be 5 years old *before* September 1, 2009.

Parents can pre-register any eligible child at this time. A pre-registration link is located on the district website at www.centralvalleysd.org. Pre-registration information has been sent to all area preschools and day care centers.

All families that pre-register will receive an invitation to the Central Valley School District Kindergarten Registration Parent Night scheduled for April 21, 201 at 7:00 p.m. *This evening event is for parents only.*



Shopping at the AR Store!



CG Yearbook Pre-Sale



Students—Place your orders for this year’s edition of the Center Grange Primary School yearbook. Our yearbook will consist of pictures of every class in our school as well as all events and activities that have taken place throughout the 2009–2010 school year. The cost of the yearbook is \$13.00. **The last day to place your order is Friday, March 5, 2010.** If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Bangor at the school. Yearbooks will be delivered in late May or early June.

“Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” Day

Imagine what our real neighborhoods would be like, if each of us offered as a matter of course, just one kind word to another person... One kind word has a wonderful way of turning into many.” – Fred Rogers

The following is an excerpt taken from the website <http://www.fci.org/neighbor/sweater.html>

Mr. McFeely — aka David Newell, the public relations director for [Family Communications, Inc.](http://www.fci.org) (the non-profit company founded in 1971 by Fred Rogers) — has a special request. "We’re asking everyone everywhere to wear their favorite sweater on that day," he asks in his best speedy delivery voice. "It doesn’t have to have a zipper down the front like the one Mister Rogers wore on the program, it just has to be special to you." "We wanted to recognize Fred in a way that would reflect his deep appreciation of what it means to be a caring neighbor," explains FCI’s Margy Whitmer.

Join us in celebrating “Won’t You be My Neighbor?” Day at Center Grange on March 19, 2010, by wearing your favorite sweater!

PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 9, 2010.** It will begin at 1:00 PM at Todd Lane Elementary School. Please join us to learn more about how you can help support our schools through the PTA. We would love to see more new faces at every meeting!



School Spirit Days

Be sure to wear your gear on the following dates!

Penguins Black and Gold Day—3/12

Wear Green Day—3/17

Favorite Sweater Day— 3/19

School Color Day— 3/26

Snow Make Up Days

Due to the school cancellations we had in February, school is now in session for students on the following days.

- **Friday, March 12th**
- **Thursday, April 1st**

Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Spring Forward!

Don’t forget!—Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 14, at 2:00 A.M. Turn your clocks ahead by one hour before you go to bed Saturday night. This can only mean one thing—warmer days with no snow in the forecast must be on the horizon!



Kindergarten Spotlight—Mrs. Maria Householder

This month's Kindergarten Spotlight features Mrs. Maria Householder. Mrs. Householder was born and raised in Monaca. The home she grew up in was located in the Center-Monaca annex. Mrs. Householder states that because of that location, Center and Monaca have always been merged in her home. Mrs. Householder still resides in Monaca with her husband, Jason and their beautiful one year old daughter, Tarasa. Mr. Householder is a computer teacher in the Beaver Area School District.

Mrs. Householder attended St. John the Baptist School in Monaca from Kindergarten—8th grade. After graduating from Center Area High School, she received her Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education degree from Clarion University. Mrs. Householder has been teaching for 13 years, 12 of them in Kindergarten. Mrs. Householder states, "I love working with the boys and girls and watching them grow. I enjoy meeting different families from our community."

When not working, Mrs. Householder spends time with her family. If she can find the time she enjoys jogging. Currently, the Householders are making plans to build a new home.

2nd Grade News

Second graders plan to start March with a twisty, topsy, turvy celebration of Dr. Seuss's famous literature by listening to stories read by all the 2nd grade teachers. Students will also participate in accompanying craft activities that enhance the enjoyment of the books! A special treat is scheduled to include listening to our principal, Mr. Kitsko, read one of his favorite Seuss stories to all the 2nd graders. Read Across America Day will provide a fun celebration of literature across the entire 2nd grade hall at Center Grange and a GRAND celebration it will be! We hope that families will celebrate this week with some special reading at home activities as well! Three cheers for Dr. Seuss!

Our halls are swimming with good work and this year's story walk theme "Under the Sea" decorations. Students have been busy reading and learning about whales and penguins in a couple of our recent reading stories. If you get a chance to see all the underwater sea creatures hanging in the hall you will feel like you are in the Center Grange Ocean!

Coming Soon: The Travels of Flat Stanley. Be on the lookout! Rumor has it that Flat Stanley is preparing his bags for travel!

Upcoming Early Dismissals

Two early dismissals have been added to the school calendar in April. ALL 1st and 2nd grade students will be dismissed at 1:00 PM on the following dates:

- **Thursday, April 1st**
K(AM) students will attend. K(PM) students do not have school.
- **Friday, April 30th**
K(PM) students will attend in the morning. K(AM) students do not have school.

Lunch will be served on both days. Kindergarten students that attend these days will be dismissed at 11:30 AM. Please mark your calendar for this change. If you have questions as to how these changes will impact your child's schedule, please contact the school office.



March 2010



Center Grange Primary School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>D</i>	2 <i>E</i> Read Across America Day Dr. Seuss's Birthday	3 <i>A</i>	4 <i>B</i>	5 <i>C</i>	6 Under the Sea Story Walk 10:00-12:30PM
7	8 <i>D</i>	9 <i>E</i>	10 <i>A</i>	11 <i>B</i>	12 <i>C</i> School in Session Penguins Black and Gold Day	13
14 Daylight Saving begins at 2:00 AM Adjust your clocks!	15 <i>D</i>	16 <i>E</i>	17 <i>A</i> Wear Green Day	18 <i>B</i>	19 <i>C</i> Sweater Day	20 Mr. Rogers' birthday
21	22 <i>D</i>	23 <i>E</i>	24 <i>A</i>	25 <i>B</i>	26 <i>C</i> School Color Day	27
28	29 <i>D</i>	30 <i>E</i>	31 <i>A</i>	4/1 <i>B</i> School in Session Early Dismissal @1:00 PM 1st & 2nd grade only KDG @ 11:30	4/2 Spring Break No School	4/3

Center Grange Primary School

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Visit with Local State Representative

On Wednesday, February 17, our 2nd grade students had a special celebrity reader. Representative Jim Christiana spent time with all of our 2nd grade classes, as he took time to share a favorite story with the children. He then talked with the students about his job as our local state representative. He also shared some interesting facts about local and state government. The students each received an informational packet to take home as they left the program. This program was an excellent opportunity for our students to learn about governmental concepts that are included in our current 2nd grade social studies curriculum. We would like to thank Representative Christiana for spending time with our students.

