



The Center Grange Gazette

Center Grange Grand Finale

Center Grange
Primary School

May—June 2010

Volume 3, Issue 9



On Friday, June 4, 2010, we will have our *Center Grange Grand Finale*. This year, students will participate in art-related events for part of the day and they will also be involved in field events with their classmates for the remaining part of the day. The various activities and field events are designed to be fun learning opportunities for all students. Activity stations will be set up throughout the school building and grounds. Students will receive their pre-ordered *Center Grange Grand Finale*

t-shirts on Tuesday, June 1. We are asking that students wear these shirts for the *Grand Finale*. For students that did not order a t-shirt, we are asking that they wear a t-shirt that is the same color as listed below for each grade level.

Kindergarten— Dark blue 1st Grade—Carolina blue 2nd Grade—White

Highlights from McTeacher Night

Tuesday, May 4, was a busy night for our local McDonald's. **McTeacher Night** was held from 5:00 to 7:00 PM that night at the Center Exit McDonald's. This event raised \$440 in just over 2 hours for the Central Valley PTA. Center Grange teachers and staff spent time serving meals, making ice cream cones, cooking French fries, cleaning tables, emptying garbage cans and many other jobs as students and parents lined up to place their orders. Thanks to everyone who made time to attend and support this event. We had a great time! Special thanks to the following Center Grange staff for working hard at McDonald's: Mrs. Bangor, Mrs. Bechdel, Miss Contes, Mrs. Duzicky, Mrs. Jubeck, Mrs. King, Mr. Kitsko, Miss Koble and Miss Taormina.

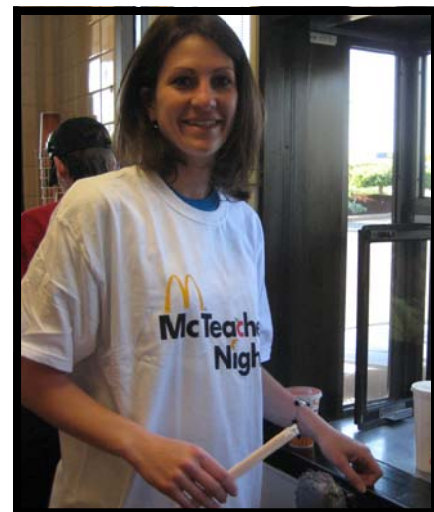
- 5/11— 13— Kindergarten Registration
- 5/11—PTA meeting and Reflections @ Todd Lane
- 5/28— Kindergarten field trip to the Zoo
- 5/31—Memorial Day—No School
- 6/4—Center Grange Grand Finale
- 6/8—1st grade field trip to the Carnegie Museum
- 6/9—2nd grade field trip to the Children's Museum
- 6/10—Clerical Day—No School for students
- 6/11—Last Day of School



Mrs. Bechdel and Mrs. Duzicky;
Mr. Kitsko (background)



Miss Taormina and Miss Contes



Mrs. Jubeck

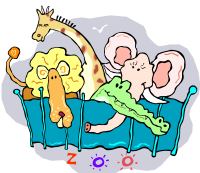
Kindergarten Spotlight—Mr. Jeff Ansell



There is an old saying, “Ladies before gentlemen,” and that holds true for our introduction of the kindergarten teachers. I have introduced all of our ladies, and now it is time to introduce myself. My name is Jeffrey P. Ansell, lead Kindergarten teacher. I am not only the only man in the Kindergarten wing, but I am also the oldest teacher with the most teaching experience. I was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania and raised in Aliquippa. After high school graduation, I received my teaching degrees in special and elementary education from Slippery Rock State College. Prior to working in Monaca, I taught at The Tiny Tots Child Development Center, HAP Inc. I currently reside in Beaver with my pack of Dachshunds; Zoe, Chloe, Stella, and CoCo. I have two grown children. My oldest, Austin, is a chef in Pittsburgh. My daughter, Anastacia, is a Speech and Language Pathology major at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

During the summer vacation, I enjoy my time on the beach in St. Augustine, Florida. That is where you will find me someday when I am retired and spending all my free time painting and selling my art work in the market square. This year at Center Grange has been a most rewarding experience. I previously taught in the learning support program for 22 years in the Monaca School District and thought the change would be a difficult one. Teaching currently in the developmental kindergarten class was a great learning experience for me this year. In the past, I never had anyone I could run ideas across for their opinions or ideas. I am thankful that the “K Ladies” were there to support me and each other during this first year of the merged districts. I found it exciting to watch the Kindergarten students begin in the Fall and grow intellectually as well as emotionally. I especially enjoyed working on the Story Walk and with all of the students and teachers.

Kindergarten Field Trip



Kindergarten students will travel to the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG aquarium on **Friday, May 28, 2010**. Students will spend the day learning about the many animals they encounter while exploring the zoo. Students should wear a comfortable pair of shoes, bring a lunch and dress appropriately for that day’s weather forecast.

1st Grade Field Trip

1st Grade will travel to the Carnegie Museum in Oakland on **Tuesday, June 8, 2010**. The students will spend the day visiting the many sights and displays. Of course, no trip to the Carnegie Museum would be complete without a journey back in time to pre-historic days when dinosaurs roamed the Earth! Students should bring a lunch and wear a comfortable pair of shoes.



2nd Grade Field Trip



2nd Grade will travel to the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh on **Wednesday, June 9, 2010**. The students will spend the day engaged in many interactive exhibits and displays that the museum has to offer. Students should bring a lunch and wear a comfortable pair of shoes.

PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 11, 2010**. It will begin at 6:30 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! It is always great to see the students participate on these fun school spirit days.

Pittsburgh Penguins Day—5/7

School Color Spirit Day—5/14

Wear Sandals/Flip-flops Day—5/21

PTA Reflections Program

The 2009—2010 PTA Reflections Award Ceremony will be held on **Tuesday, May 11, 2010**, in the Todd Lane Cafeteria at 7:00 PM following the PTA meeting. Everyone is welcome to join us while students from Kindergarten to 12th grade receive recognition for their entries in the categories of art, music, photography and literature. Come view their displayed artwork, applaud our participants, and enjoy the festivities while these talented students receive their awards! Everyone is a winner!

Memorial Day

Memorial Day will be celebrated on Monday, May 31, 2010. Therefore, **school will be closed** for students and staff this day. School will resume on Tuesday, June 1, 2010.



Clerical Day

Thursday, June 10, 2010, is a scheduled Clerical Day for the Central Valley School District. There is no school for students this day.



Last Day of School

Friday, June 11, 2010, is the last day of school. **An early dismissal is scheduled at 10:30 AM for all Center Grange students this day.** PM Kindergarten will be in session that morning along with the AM Kindergarten session students.

It is amazing that we have already come to the end of our first year at Center Grange as a part of the Central Valley School District!

Year-end Assessments—DIBELS and ScanTron

During the last 6 weeks of school, all students will participate in the year-end assessments scheduled at Center Grange. For the third time this year, the students will complete the DIBELS and ScanTron assessments. DIBELS, which stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills, focuses on determining how students are developing with regards to their reading/literacy skills. The ScanTron assessments, which are given in Reading and Mathematics, provide additional reading skill information, as well as tell us how the students are performing in math when compared to year-end performance levels. Please encourage your child to do his/her best on these assessments. Summary reports for all assessments will be sent home with the final report cards for each student.

2nd Grade News

Second grade students and teachers are beginning the month of May with great anticipation for a fun filled month of learning. We will be finishing all the stories in our readers: *Big World Atlas*, *Dinosaur's Travel*, *Montigue on the High Seas*, and *Ruth Law*. Then we will end the year with the last theme test.

The second grade field trip is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 2010. We will be riding busses to the Children's Museum in Pittsburgh for a day of exploration and fun. Lunches will need to be sent from home with students that day. They will take their lunches from home along and eat them at the museum. Be on the look-out for permission slips that will be sent home at a later date.

Highlights from Special Olympics

Every year in May, Beaver County holds the Special Olympics in the track and field events. Opening ceremonies for the 2010 Special Olympics took place on Friday, April 30, at the Western Beaver High School Stadium. Five second grade students and one first grade student from Center Grange Primary School participated in the events. Our Olympians brought back 3 gold, 5 silver and 5 bronze medals, as well as 5 fourth place ribbons. We could not be more proud of their efforts and accomplishments.

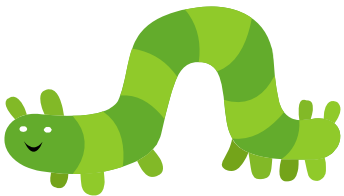


Congratulations to our Special Olympians!



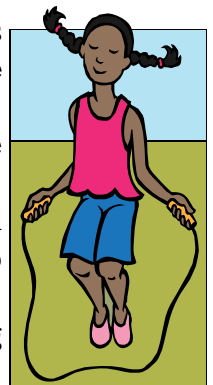
Caterpillars Invade 1st Grade!

On May 5th, the 1st grade classes received a delivery of caterpillars. For the next several weeks, they will observe the caterpillars as they grow, build chrysalises and emerge as a beautiful butterflies. During this process, the students will carefully watch the changes that occur and note them in their butterfly journals. Our students will also learn more about butterflies and other insects throughout the month. Keep your eyes open! One day soon you may see the 1st graders outside releasing their monarch butter-



Jump Rope for Heart Update

Many students at Center Grange participated in the 2009-2010 American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser event. **The students were able to raise an impressive \$4,022.99!** Our top individual fundraiser was Alexis Zurynski, a 2nd grade student in Mrs. Hand's homeroom. She raised \$210. This fundraising event would not have been possible without the hard work from a few key people at Center Grange. Join us in thanking Mrs. Daskalakis (our PE teacher), Mrs. Magnotta (our school nurse) and Mrs. Wood (our school RN)), for their time and efforts to make this a successful endeavor. We would also like to thank all of our participants and those that made contributions towards this worthy program. Kudos to all on a job well done! We are looking forward to participating in this event during the 2010—2011 school year.





May—June 2010



Center Grange Primary School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9	10 A	11 B K Registration PTA meeting and Reflections program @Todd Lane 6:30 PM	12 C K Registration	13 D K Registration	14 E	15
16	17 A	18 B 1st Grade DIBELS tests	19 C 1st Grade DIBELS tests	20 D	21 E Last Day of AR program	22
23	24 A Kindergarten DIBELS tests	25 B Kindergarten DIBELS tests	26 C	27 D	28 E Kindergarten field trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium	29
30	31 Memorial Day No School	6/1 A	6/2 B AR Store (All day)	6/3 C AR Store (AM only)	6/4 D Center Grange Grand Finale	6/5
6/6	6/7 E AR Movie and Popcorn Incentive	6/8 A 1st grade field trip to the Carnegie Museum	6/9 B 2nd grade field trip to the Children's Museum	6/10 C Clerical Day No School for students	6/11 D Last Day of School	

Center Grange Primary School

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AR Store is Coming!

On **June 2–3, 2010**, students will be able to shop at the AR Store one last time to use points they accumulated in the Accelerated Reader program. Below are the guidelines for students to be able to shop at the AR Store.

- A majority of the books a student reads should be within that student's AR reading level.
- Students are expected to read at least 6 books each nine week grading period.

Students must spend all of their points that have been earned during the 4th nine week grading period. Students will not be able to "bank" or "carry over" points.



AR Movie and Popcorn Party



On **June 7, 2010**, students in 2 classrooms will watch a movie on the big screen (in the gym), while enjoying popcorn and drinks. The top AR point earning classrooms for 2009–2010 (in 1st and 2nd grades) will be rewarded with this special treat. The AR point race in each grade level is too close to call! Stay tuned—We will be announcing the winning classrooms sometime after May 21, 2010. Good luck to all of our 1st and 2nd grade classes.