



The Center Grange Gazette

Welcome to Center Grange!

Center Grange
Primary School

September 2009

Volume 3, Issue 1

It is hard to believe that the 2009–2010 school year is already underway! The staff worked hard as they prepared the rooms and school so that the first days of the new year would be organized and exciting for the students. A few glitches occurred but we think that those have been resolved.

The start of a new school year is always filled with many firsts for the students—meeting this year’s teacher; meeting new friends; learning a new daily schedule; finding the homeroom classroom; riding a new bus; attending a new school; the list could go on. We certainly had many new firsts this year at Center Grange—a first day of school as the Central Valley School District; welcoming many teachers from the Monaca Elementary Schools that are new to Center Grange; welcoming many 1st and 2nd grade students that had attended the Monaca Elementary Schools; bus rides for many of our students that live in Monaca Borough; technology updates in the school. Again, the list could go on and on.

With all of these firsts, one thing certainly did not change—the students’ excitement and energy as they entered the school on September 1st! I am always amazed to see the look in the students’ eyes as they exit the buses and walk through the school doors. You see a certain sparkle that tells you all you need to know. Every day that passes, I continue to look for that “look”. Our job at Center Grange is to promote and maintain the students’ excitement for learning. Some days will be better than others, but we will strive to have students leave school every day with that passion for learning still in their eyes.

I want to personally welcome all of our students and families to Center Grange for the 2009–2010 school year. I look forward to working with you and your children so that this is a positive and successful year for all. If you have questions or concerns regarding the daily happenings at Center Grange, please contact the school. Hopefully we can address your concerns and answer your questions.

We Are...Central Valley!

Ron Kitsko

Center Grange Primary School principal

- 9/10—Black and Gold Steelers Day
- 9/11—Red, White and Blue Day
- 9/14—Scout Talk
- 9/18—Wear Your Favorite Sports Team Jersey/Shirt Day
- 9/19—Market Day pick-up
- 9/21—School Picture Day
- 9/23—Center Grange Open House
- 9/24—Todd Lane Open House
- 9/25—Central Valley School Color Spirit Day



“Back to school!”

First Day of School Pictures



First Day of School Pictures



School Zone Reminder

An active school zone is located along Center Grange Road, in front of Center Grange Primary School. Please adhere to the posted speed limit for the safety of our students and staff. The school zone times (listed below) are in effect during the school year.

8:15 AM—9:15 AM

11:20 AM—11:50 AM

12:20 PM—12:50 PM

3:00—4:00 PM

The Center Township Police Department will enforce the School Zone speed limit during the posted times.

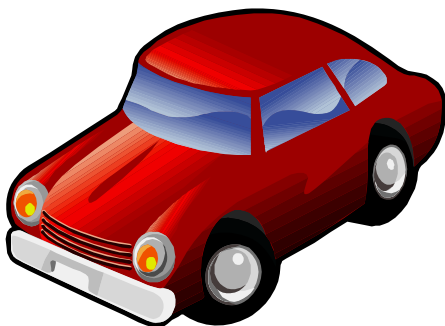
School Picture Day

Mark your calendars—school picture day is coming! On **September 21, 2009**, *Photography by James* will be at Center Grange Primary School to capture your child's best side in a picture. Informational envelopes will be sent home the week of September 14. Individual class times have been scheduled throughout the day. A delivery date for the final photo packages has not been determined. All monies (cash or check) for the school pictures should be submitted on picture day. Checks should be made payable to *Photography by James*. Class composites can be ordered at a later date.



Parent Drop-Off Loop and Parent Pick-Up Zone

Students arriving at Center Grange Primary School by car should use the Drop-Off Loop located on the side of the building (near the kindergarten hallway). This area was specifically designed to keep bus and car traffic separate during student arrival and dismissal times. Students being dropped off in the morning should exit their cars from the passenger side on to the sidewalk. Access to Center Grange for students via the Drop-Off



Loop will be between 8:40—9:00 AM. After this time, ALL students must be brought to the school office to sign in before reporting to class. Students will be marked tardy after 9:00 AM. Students being picked up at the **Parent Pick-Up Zone**, will be released just before all students are dismissed to the buses at 3:20 PM. Please notify the school in writing if your child is going to be a Parent Pick-Up; otherwise your child will be sent home on the school bus. Parents can access the Parent Pick-Up Zone at 3:15 PM. To help maintain the safety and location of your children, ALL students must be signed out daily from the Parent Pick-Up Zone.

Patriot Day

Patriot Day occurs on September 11 of each year, designated in memory of the nearly three thousand who perished in the September 11, 2001, attacks. Each year, the President directs that the American flag be flown at half-staff and displayed from individual homes, the White House, and all U.S. government buildings and establishments, home and abroad. —*Excerpt from www.wikipedia.org*



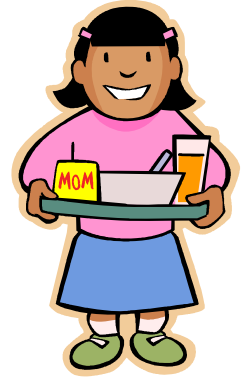
PTA Meeting

The Central Valley PTA meeting was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. **The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13, 2009.** 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!



National School Lunch Program Applications

The Central Valley School District distributes forms to all of its students in regards to the National School Lunch program. This program helps ensure that every child has equal access to a healthy, nutritious meal on a daily basis. To participate in this program, families MUST submit the completed forms to the school district by no later than September 30th. Even if a family participated in this program in previous school years, the application must still be completed and submitted each year. These forms were mailed home to all of our Center Grange families just before the school year began. If you have questions about this program, please contact the school office or the Central Valley School District Business Office.



Handbook Signature Forms

At the start of every school year, parents/guardians are asked to review the Parent-Student Handbook with their children. The handbook contains two (2) forms that parents are asked to complete and return to the school. The first form is the Handbook Awareness statement. By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have reviewed the handbook and understand all of its contents. The second is a student network/internet usage form. This form is used to hold students accountable for their use of the internet and computer systems at school. Please return these forms to your child's teacher as soon as possible.



Open House

The Center Grange Open House will be held on **Wednesday, September 23, 2009, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.** Students and parents will be able to visit the classrooms, have time to informally talk with the teachers, and walk throughout the school. The PTA will have an informational table set up in the school gymnasium. Central Valley T-shirts (Youth and Adult sizes) will also be available for purchase during open house. Cookies and drinks will be served in the cafeteria. We hope to see you there!



School Spirit Days

Be sure to wear your Spirit Day gear on the following dates!

Black and Gold Steelers Day – September 10

Red, White and Blue Day – September 11

Sports Team Jersey/Shirt Day – September 18

Central Valley School Color Day – September 25

2nd Grade News

The 2nd grade hall at Center Grange is full of students and teachers who are off to a great start of a new school year. All the second graders started the year making a Time Capsule. They did work samples and completed questionnaires about themselves. The samples were placed in school made "time capsules" and will be opened on the last day of school. Then students will be able to see how much they have progressed after a year of work. The second graders have been enjoying getting to know new classmates and new teachers. Everyone is working together to create a wonderful year full of learning.



September 2009



Center Grange Primary School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 A First Day of School Kindergarten Orientation	2 B	3 C	4 D	5
6	7 No School Labor Day	8 E	9 A	10 B Black and Gold Steelers Day	11 C Red, White and Blue Day	12
13	14 D Scout Talk 1st and 2nd grade boys 9:30 AM	15 E	16 A	17 B	18 C Wear Your Favorite Sports Team Jersey/Shirt Day	19 Market Day @CHS cafeteria
20	21 D School Picture Day	22 E	23 A Center Grange Open House 6:00—8:00 PM	24 B Todd Lane Open House 6:00—8:00 PM	25 C Central Valley School Color Spirit Day	26
27	28 D	29 E	30 A	10/1 B	10/2 C	10/3

Center Grange Primary School

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1st Grade Celebrates Clifford, The Big Red Dog's Birthday

On Friday, September 4th, our first grade students celebrated Clifford the Big Red Dog's birthday. The students read and listened to different Clifford stories in the classrooms. They were involved with activities that focused on these stories as well. Early that morning, all first grade students and staff came together in the gymnasium to hear Mr. Kitsko read Clifford's Birthday Party. Students listened intently while images within the book were projected from a document camera on to the big screen. The students asked many great questions and enjoyed the time with their friends and teachers.

