



Symons Elementary

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www.milanareaschools.org

Winter 2010

Temporary Secretary Switch

Mrs. Lund, the main office secretary will be out until the end of February. She has just had knee replacement surgery and will be recuperating at home for six weeks.

While Mrs. Lund is out, Mrs. Foerester, one of our long-time Para pros, will be working in the office. Many of our students already know her, but thanks for understanding when you stop by or call in that she may be unaware of what room your child is in or how to spell their name..... She's doing a wonderful job learning the office routines.

Please also remember when you come to the office to check your child out to be prepared to show ID and allow us time to make sure your name is on the emergency form. This is a REALLY good time to update contact information and phone numbers so we have plenty of ways to contact you in the event of an emergency.

YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US!!!

Family Guide Reminders

Attendance

At Symons Elementary School we value and strive to use every instructional minute to help your child learn to the best of his/her ability. While we know emergencies and appointments occur, we ask that students **arrive** at school by **9:05** and **remain in school until 3:50**. On an average day we're sometimes seeing a large number of students either arriving late or leaving early. These minutes add up and will ultimately affect the education of our students. In an effort to improve punctuality and attendance we consider a student **tardy** if they arrive after 9:10 and **absent a half day** if they arrive after 9:25. If a student is picked up prior to 3:30, they will be **marked a half day absent**. We hope you will support this by ensuring your child's attendance in school.

Cancellations And Delay Of School

Should school be canceled for any reason, the announcement will be made several ways. If you are registered with Honeywell Instant Alert you will get a phone message. Information will also be available on local radio and television stations. Our phone lines are often busy, so we encourage you to listen to one or more of the TV or radio stations for information. Inclement weather decisions are never easy to make. Sometimes the bad weather gives us a lot of notice and on other days, it arrives just as our buses are beginning their runs. We always do our best to assure the safety of our students.

After School Plans

While we understand that emergencies occasionally occur and plans must change, whenever possible, please make sure that when your child leaves for school in the morning, they know what the after-school plans are and what they are to do. This helps to allow students to assume more responsibility and will also eliminate the need to call into classrooms at the end of the day and disrupt classroom instruction.

The Symons Family Guide is on the Symons Web Site and in your child's planner.

Haiti Support

Symons students once again amaze us!!! They have asked if we can help out with the earthquake victims in Haiti. We've planned a few things students may choose to participate in.

Friday, January 22nd is "Hats For Haiti" day. Students will be able to wear a hat during the school day by making a donation (\$1.00 recommended but all donations gratefully accepted) to the American Red Cross.

Tuesday, January 26 we will hold a "Bake Sale" at Symons during the lunch hours. If you would like to donate something to the Bake Sale, please wrap in individual baggies and send to school on Tuesday, January 26th. Students wishing to purchase a baked good may do so during their lunch period.

Friday, January 29 we will have a "PJ's for Port-au-Prince" day. Students will be able to wear PJ's to school by making a donation (\$1.00 recommended but all donations gratefully accepted) to the American Red Cross. Recess inside on this day.



Calendar :

- February 11 - 1/2 day of school for students (PM records day for elementary staff)
- February 12 - No school for students (Professional Development day for staff)
- February 15 - No school
- March 3 - Second report cards issued
- March 25 - Parent Teacher conferences will be scheduled with some families
- March 26 - 1/2 day of school for students (Spring Break begins at the end of the day)
- April 5 - School resumes
- April 28 – May 1 – Fifth Grade Trip to Washington D.C.

Campbell's Soup Labels and Box Tops for Kids



Symons students have done an incredible job of saving and turning in both types of labels. Mrs. Bowman is organizing and collecting and has set up several fun contests to encourage participation.

Money raised by saving the labels goes towards defraying the cost of field trips, special school events for our students.

School Success Ideas and Tips Parents

Along with current information about our school and coming events; tips, suggestions, and parenting ideas can be found on the Symons Web Site at <http://www.milanareaschools.org/symons/> under "Today's Tips For Parents or School Success Ideas For Parents."