



# Comet Community Connection . . . .

**Caston Elementary School**  
"Growing Leaders"

**November/December, 2011**  
**Volume 17, Issue 3**

## "Home For the Holidays" to be Theme for Elementary Christmas Program on December 8th

The annual Caston Elementary Christmas Program will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 in the High School Gymnasium. The theme this year is "Home for the Holidays."

All students in grades K-6 are involved in the program and have been working hard to prepare their songs during music class. Along with learning the songs, the children are learning about how to be good performers and good audience members in a music concert.

Although no special attire is required, many students do enjoy the opportunity to dress up in holiday clothes. All we ask is that students look their best (neat and clean) since they will be performing in public.

We encourage all families to attend and welcome the attendance of our community. Hearing the voices of our children during the Christmas season is a wonderful way to start the celebration!

Parking will be available in both the north and south parking lots of the school so that guests may enter the gym from both locations. Students in grades K-4 and grade 6 should meet in their home-rooms between 6:30-6:45 p.m. Students in grade 5 should meet in the band room between 6:30-6:45 p.m.

We look forward to seeing all of you on the evening of December 8<sup>th</sup>!

## **Veteran's Day Program November 11**

Caston will be putting on a Veteran's Day program Friday, November 11th, to honor Veterans in our community and to teach our students about importance of the contributions Veterans have made toward our lives. The High School portion of the program will be at 9:30 a.m. and then the Elementary portion of the program will immediately follow at approximately 10:30. Some of the elementary students will be involved in the program. Parents are invited to attend all of the program, or just the Elementary portion if they choose. It will be held in the High School Gymnasium.

## **What's In the News at Caston?**

- **P. 2—Community Council Meeting to be held November 15th**
- **P. 2 Scripps Cards Orders Due Nov. 15**
- **P. 2 Making Math Meaningful**
- **P. 3 — Caston Elementary School's First Grading Period Honor Roll**
- **P. 4 November/December Events**

### **NOTICE— Substitute Employees Needed At Caston!**

The Cafeteria Staff and the Custodial Staff are both in need of individuals who would be willing to be employed as substitutes. If you have an interest in inquiring about one of these positions please contact **Alysha Kouskousakis** for the cafeteria positions, and **Greg Dalton** for the custodial positions. Many good substitutes have been hired for full-time positions over the years at Caston, so it's a great way to get experience!

## Community Council Meeting—Nov. 15th

Caston Elementary School will be holding a Community Council Meeting on November 15th immediately following the PTO meeting in the Library. The meeting is expected to start at approximately 4:30 PM and last for one hour. We will be reviewing some of the information which is utilized to give Elementary School's in Indiana a letter grade of A-F, and talking about how this will impact Caston Elementary School based upon our current data. This will help us set goals for next year. We encourage any parent or community member interested to attend. The Community Council is an opportunity for parents and community members to give their input as the school makes important decisions about future goals — be sure to come and give your input and ideas! Thanks!

## Scripps Card Orders due November 15th — Great Time for Holiday Gifts!

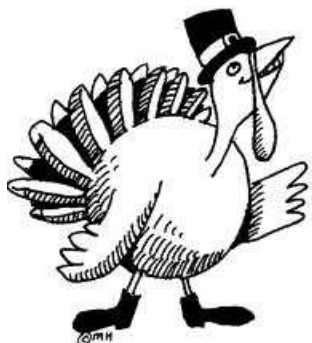
One of the major fundraising efforts of the Caston PTO has been the sales of Scripps cards. This is simply purchasing gift cards, available from dozens of businesses that you may already shop from, at face value. When you purchase these and use them, a percentage of the sale goes back to the Caston PTO. The Holidays are just around the corner and you may be thinking of giving a gift card to someone for Christmas — consider purchasing it through the Scripps order! It's a Win-Win; you have your shopping done AND money comes right back to the students at Caston! Order forms are available at the Caston Elementary Office — call if you need one and we'll send it home in your child's book bag. Orders are due by the 15th of the month and the cards will be delivered on the 18th of November.

We appreciate the business you've already sent our way — the Caston PTO has already made hundreds of dollars off the sales of Scripps cards! Thanks, and happy shopping!

## Make Math Meaningful at Home!

With the Holidays approaching, you can do so many things at home that provide a real-life math lesson. This helps kids understand how we use math everyday. Here's a few ideas:

- Have them count the number of lights on a strand of Christmas lights as you put them on the tree — most kids beyond 1st grade can count to 100 or more.
- Let your child help with cooking over the holidays — assist him/her with measuring some of the ingredients. For older kids, talk about dividing or doubling the recipe.
- If your kids will be doing some of their own shopping for Christmas, help them with making a budget for gifts.
- This year at Thanksgiving — talk to your kids about being blessed and then have them count their blessings!



## Reminder about Thanksgiving Vacation!

**Remember . . . We get three days off this year! The students will not attend Wednesday—Friday the week of Thanksgiving.  
Enjoy your Holiday!**

## **Caston Elementary School Honor Rolls First 9-week Grading Period of 2011-2012 School Year**

### **The All "A" Honor Roll**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Ethan Beaman, Makenzie Bennett, Kaden Brouyette, Megan Brown, Emily Castleman, Kate Cress, Kage DeFore, Alexa Early, Loth Garcia-Ibarra, Autumn Garling, Dylan Gearhart, Kandace Harper, Benaiah Hutsell, Wyatt Jones, Tristan Jordan, Lauren Kelley, Shawna Kimble, Olivia Kinzie, Jacob Paschen, Elizabeth Pierce, Noah Pratt, Byron Rentschler, Samantha Richie, Alyssa Roark, Max Robinson, Rachel Rogers, Bryce Rudicel, Abigail Runkle, Adam Rush, Wayne Shidler, Maddison Smith, Sam Smith, Joseph Spin, Emma Stinson, Brooke-Lynne Ulerick, Kiara Weiss, Connor White, and Abby Williamson

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Olivia Boldry, Bryn Brumett, Brynn Buczkowski, Micah Colvin, Deanna Hoff, Cameron Kline, MaKayla Lee, Noah Rogers, Kiara Taylor, and Stephen Warren

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Wyatt Brumett, Elizabeth Byrum, Curtis Hubenthal, Sarah Kistler, Amelia Lowry, Zoe Roark, Ginger Slisher, Keagan Slocum, and Marley Strasser

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Taylor Anderson, Brock Buczkowski, Noah Colvin, Hunter Emmerd, Isabel Newcom, and McKenzie Paschen

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Ryonn Doan, Hanna Hoover, Kendra Pugh, Abby Rimpler, Jayda Shafer, Bailey Shultz, and Jacob Taylor

### **The "A/B" Honor Roll**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Krista Batchelor, Aidan Davis, Andrew Doty, Garrison Hickie, Grant Hickie, Jordan Lewis-Otteman, Eric McGuire, David Morris, Hailey Osborn, Sybil Paul, Sabian Quaglio, Sara Schleppenbach, E J Swartzell, and Grace Vice

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Jarod Beck, Eillie Deming, Lydia Fagner, Brianna Hubenthal, Tileasha Lozier, Kobi Martindale, Rebekah Milburn, Carley Musall, Layne Oliver, Jessie Rock-Wolf, Paley Scott, Dean Sylvain, Melanie Turnipseed, Kade Zeider, and Bailey Zimpleman

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Elia Aguilar, McKenzie Baldwin, Madelyn Bookwalter, Christophor Bowder, Jordan Brewer, Kaleb Conrad, Rayne Craig, Aubrey Dague, Kyah Davis, Samuel DuVall, Dylan Eastwood, Gavin Hickie, Emily Holt, Hannah Howard, Noah Howdeshell, Sophie Jellison, Dalton Jones, Luke Lowe, James Maness, Sarah Mangelsdorf, Daniel Mittica, Michael Rans, Jasmine Rudicel, Aiden Sarver, Carlie Sarver, Dianna VanLue, and Kaylyn Young

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Hayli Brown, Daven Burdett, Noah Hinkle, Sydney Moon, Destiny Ray, Hannah Siders, Mark Smith, Haven Vorhees, and Ally Wiese

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Branden Bowder, Arieon Burns, Evelyann Byrum, Tayt Cowell, Erin Frye, Holley Hoff, Ashlynn Kline, Jalyn Louthain, Samuel Mittica, Maegan Pendley, and Miranda Thornton

**Caston Elementary School**  
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 School Principal:  
 Mrs. Cindy Douglass

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.caston.k12.in.us](http://www.caston.k12.in.us)

**Caston Elementary School is . . .**  
**“Growing Leaders One Student At A Time”**  
**The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People**  
 Habit 1 - Be Proactive (*Look ahead, think it out, avoid problems*)  
 Habit 2 - Begin With the End in Mind (*Set Goals*)  
 Habit 3 - Put First Things First (*Make Priorities*)  
 Habit 4 - Think Win-Win (*There doesn't always have to be a loser*)  
 Habit 5 - Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood (*listen*)  
 Habit 6 - Synergize (*When we work together we can accomplish more*)  
 Habit 7 - Sharpen the Saw (*Have balance in your life & be healthy*)  
**“High Five” Expectations for Bus, Hallway, Playground, Cafeteria, & Bathrooms**  
 1. Be Kind      2. Be Safe      3. Be Responsible  
 4. Be Respectful      5. Be Peaceful



## CASTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NOVEMBER/DECEMBER EVENTS

- November 1      5/6 Boys & Girls' BB at North White      5:30
- November 3      Picture Retake Day
- November 5      5/6 Boys & Girls BB at South Newton      11:00
- November 7      5/6 Boys' & Girls' BB (A Teams) at Frontier      5:30
- (*Games played in Brookston Gym—Girls play first then boys*)
- November 8      5/6 Boys & Girls' BB—home vs. West Central      5:30
- November 10      5/6 Boys' BB—home vs. Columbia      5:00
- November 11      Veteran's Day Program (HS Gym)      —9:30 HS, 10:30 Elem
- November 12      5th Boys' BB Tournament (5/6 B Team Plays)  
Home—Tournament starts at      9:00
- November 12      6th Boys & Girls MWC Tournament at Tri County  
(teams only play on Saturday if they win on Monday  
at Frontier which is the first game of the MWC Tournament)
- November 15      PTO Meeting in Library      3:30
- November 15      Community Council Meeting following PTO Mtg.      4:30
- November 17      Elementary Spell Bowl State Competition      5:00
- November 23—25      Thanksgiving Vacation
- November 28      5/6 Boys'/Girls' BB (A-Teams) —Home vs. Pioneer      5:30
- December 1      5/6 Boys' BB vs. Argos      5:30
- December 5      5/6 Boys' BB at Rochester      5:00
- December 6      5/6 Girls' (B Team Only)      5:00
- December 8      **ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**      **7:00**
- December 13      5/6 Boys' BB —Home vs. Peru      5:30
- December 15      5/6 Boys' BB Home vs. Lewis Cass      5:30
- December 19      5/6 Boys' BB Home vs. Wabash      5:30
- December 21—January 2—**CHRISTMAS VACATION**—Students return 1/3/12