



# Chelsea Intermediate School News – December 2009

## Note from the Main Office

Dear Parents,

It looks as though winter has arrived! We hope you were able to enjoy a fulfilling Thanksgiving Holiday with your families despite the cold weather!

As we plan for the new year we have the good fortune of including several new programs funded directly by the Frankfort 157-C Education Foundation. This organization provided funding for a multitude of grants presented by the Chelsea teaching staff. As a result of their work, we will have the opportunity to add Center Stage Math resources to our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms, continue with our Award for Outstanding Literature Program in the library, enhance our Character Counts Program, add listening centers to 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms, and include the use of wireless presenters in multiple rooms throughout the buildings. However, one of the most significant improvements funded through the Foundation is the addition of nine Mobi's to our building technology program. These are handheld interactive tablets that allow teachers and students to move around the classroom while writing on the tablet that interfaces with the software program being used via the LCD projector. The Mobi's are able to be transferred from one classroom to another, making them a very versatile tool and a smart investment on the part of the Education Foundation. The contributions the Education Foundation has made through these initiatives will directly improve the educational environment for all of the students at Chelsea Intermediate School.

We would like to thank the Education Foundation for their continued support of all the students in the district. Their efforts to raise money to support district and building level goals is an integral part of the success of Frankfort School District 157-C.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Kristin Simpkins, Principal  
Ms. Lisa Scolaro, Assistant Principal

## Reminders

The weather is obviously getting colder each week. Please dress your children appropriately and remember that they will be participating in outdoor activities unless the weather is extremely cold.

Students who will be out of school for an extended absence often request homework in advance. We appreciate your efforts to keep your child up to date with their school work. Please remember that some activities cannot be provided in advance as they may be group work or new skills that require direct instruction. Therefore, teachers will provide only those assignments that can be completed independently during your child's absence.

Please remember to have a picture ID available when visiting the school. All visitors will be asked to check in at the main office.

If you are changing your child's mode of transportation for the day, please send a note in the morning. The teacher will be aware of the change and forward the communication to the office. If you have forgotten to send written notification, please call the office before noon unless it is an emergency. If you call too late in the day, it becomes difficult to notify the teacher and child before dismissal.



## Emergency School Closings

In the event of an emergency school closing the following procedure will take place:

District 157C will initiate the “Xpedite” phone system to all parents/guardians. This system will simultaneously transmit a recorded message informing you of a school closing. Please be mindful that there is a 5-second delay when answering the phone before receiving the recorded message—Please do not hang up.

In the event that any parent is uncertain about the emergency closing, they may call the school their child attends to receive a recorded message indicating that schools are closed.

Information is also available through the following media outlets:

### Radio (AM Stations)

WGN 720  
WBBM 780

### Radio (FM Station)

Zone 94.7

### Television Stations

CBS Channel 2	NBC Channel 5
ABC Channel 7	CLTV News Channel
WGN Channel 9	FOX Channel 32



## Note from the Nurse

**The following is a summary of the policy on medication given during school hours and school related activities for Frankfort School District 157-C.**

- \* All medications, both prescription and non-prescription, must be prescribed by an Illinois licensed prescriber.
- \* The student's parent/guardian and the prescribing physician must complete a Medication Authorization Form.
- \* MEDICATION MUST BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN IN THE ORIGINAL OR A DUPLICATE BOTTLE WITH THE CORRECT PRESCRIPTION LABEL ON THE CONTAINER INCLUDING STUDENT NAME, MEDICATION NAME, DOSAGE, ROUTE, PRESCRIBER NAME, AND PHARMACY INFORMATION. Non-prescription medication must have the manufacturer's original label indicating the ingredients. The student's name must be affixed to the container.
- \* Unless it is a medical emergency, all children must be able to self-administer their medication. This requires that they be able to take the correct amount of medication (pour the prescribed amount of liquid, and obtain the correct amount of pills) and use proper inhaler technique with adult supervision.



We realize many children are able to attend school because of the effective use of medication in the treatment of chronic disabilities, learning disabilities or illnesses. It is recommended that the first dose of medication be given at home. This policy enables us to supervise medication administration in a safe and informed manner. If you have any questions, please contact your school nurse.

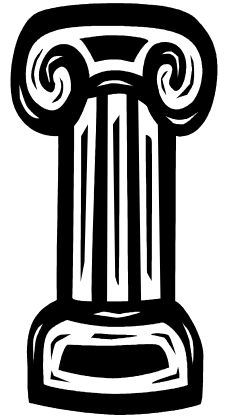
## Character Counts

**“Character is simply habit long continued.”  
Plutarch**

The pillar of character for the months of December and January is “CARING”. Children will participate in activities and lessons focused on: kindness, compassion, expression of gratitude, forgiveness and helping others in need.

### How To Be a Caring Person:

- \*Treat people with kindness and generosity.
- \*Help people in need.
- \*Be sensitive to people’s feelings.
- \*Never be mean or hurtful
- \*Think about how your actions will affect others.
- \*Always remember – we become caring people by doing Caring things!



\*Elkind and Sweet Communications/Live Wire Media / Josephson Institute

### December Chelsea Dates to Remember

12/01	Choir Hot Lunch Vision & Hearing Screening Last week for After School Specials
12/07	Choir Concert Dress Rehearsal @ 3:40-4:45 PM
12/08	Athletic Hot Lunch Winter Choir Concert @ 6:30 PM
12/9	3rd Grade Choir Party & last day to meet @ 3:40-4:30 PM
12/14	DARE Graduation 5th Grade
12/15	FSP Hot Lunch
12/18	Holiday Celebration Early Dismissal @ 2:40 PM
12/21	Board of Education Meeting @ 7 PM
12/21 - 1/1	NO SCHOOL—Winter Break
1/04	School Resumes



# Physical Education

## CHARACTER EDUCATION

Students will continue to be ***Caught Being Good*** at Chelsea. Watch out for those CBG slips coming home for your approval and a place on the refrigerator. Names will be drawn monthly for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. If your child's name is drawn, several things happen:

- Student picture in the main hallway CBG case
- Encore teachers supply incentive awards for each student
- Group photos of all CBG students



### SAVE THOSE BOX TOPS!

The Box Top Store will be open the LAST day of every month. The students are really enjoying spending their "bucks"!

### Upcoming Events:

**November 12<sup>th</sup>:** Guinness Stack Up was a great success. Chelsea had over 1,140 participants. The final total has not yet been tallied but it looks like we are well on our way to breaking a world record!!!!

**November 14<sup>th</sup>:** 4<sup>th</sup> annual Chelsea Speedstack tournament. We had 200 participants in this year's tournament. All stackers did extremely well and showed great character and sportsmanship!

**November 18<sup>th</sup>:** Successful waste free lunch. The students really made a difference this year. During 8 lunches the students filled ONE recycle bin and 1 ½ garbage bags. Yeah Chelsea! Thank you parents for your support of WASTE FREE LUNCHES!

**November 19<sup>th</sup>:** Turkey Talk by Dr. Nelson

**November 20<sup>th</sup>:** Turkey Trot on the track. All students will jog/walk 1 mile.

**Now until December 4<sup>th</sup>---** The deadline for purchasing speedstacks. Go to [www.speedstacks.com](http://www.speedstacks.com) and be a part of the Chelsea group order to take advantage of no shipping and tax. You will receive your orders before Winter break.

### December activities will include:

- Dance Unit--Dancing with the Teachers (Stars!)
- Wii Bowling and Cosmic Bowl



## Art News

Fifth grade students will be finishing up their mask projects. They have really enjoyed working with paint and the results are fantastic. In December we will make a paper collage using symmetrical shapes and complimentary colors. We will finish up 2009 learning to weave a friendship bracelet and designing 3D snowflakes.



Chelsea 4th grade classes learned a lot about shape and symmetry while making a paper quilt. In December, we will use our shoe as a still life. Students will use a variety of lines, shapes, textures and values for a realistic drawing. You may want to frame this one.

In third grade, students used a printing process to copy their own designs and make them symmetrical. They really enjoyed coloring these projects using water color paper and pencils. In December, students will use only two lines, two shapes and all the right colors to capture the mood of the seasons. They will use water colors and crayon resist to add color to their season drawings.

## Technology Time

With Ms. Plestina

In **December** I will be checking if all students know their user names and passwords. I can tell quite a few third graders already have theirs memorized which is fantastic! I will also confirm if new students have their user names and passwords memorized.

The **third graders** have finished their nametag project. We took a game break by playing *Math for the Real World*. The game involves being part of a band and raising money to make a music video. The students earn money by answering real life questions that involve math. Next the third graders will be introduced to *Type to Learn 4*. The program is similar to what they used at Grand Prairie. We will take time to learn the intricacies of the new typing tutorial.

**Fourth graders** have started typing their actual five paragraph essays in Microsoft Word. After the entire essay is typed, we will have fun with WordArt, graphics, font, and color!

**Fifth graders** have bought stocks using their virtual \$100,000 from the Stock Market Game! Using the News Update section and the Investor Research graphs, they hunted for stocks that they thought would bring their teams profit. We will begin tracking our share prices and practicing the use of terms, such as, ticker, loss, profit, etc....

If at anytime you have questions, please feel free to contact me. I hope your Thanksgiving was pleasurable and that the New Year brings with it much happiness for your family.

E-mail: [dplestina@fsd157c.org](mailto:dplestina@fsd157c.org)



## Music News



All grades will be singing various multi-cultural songs during the holiday season. Happy Holidays to every family in the district!

## DARE Graduation

The Dare Graduation Ceremony for 5th graders will be on Monday, December 14th at 10:30 A.M. Fifth grade parents are invited to the ceremony. After the ceremony, the children will have a pizza and pop lunch that is provided by the Frankfort Police Department. The children also receive a free DARE tee shirt provided by FSP.

A big thank you goes out to these generous groups!

