## Inverness Elementary School Newsletter

# March 2015 "Committed to Academic Excellence" Principal's Message Phone: (662) 265-5752

With spring, comes testing season. Students will begin taking district and state assessments. A good night's rest, a hearty breakfast and being at school on time is very important during the testing period. A more detailed letter and a testing schedule will come home with a practice questions and/or test. A kick-off assembly is being planned. The assembly will help energize and motivate our students to do their best on the test!

### Happy Saint Patricks' Day

## **Upcoming Events**

♦ 3/2-6 Read Across America We
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- ♦ 3/2-6 National School Breakfast Week
- ♦ 3/3 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade/Family Movie Night (5pm)
- ♦ 3/5 Nutrition Workshop (8:45 am)
- ♦ 3/6 Black History Program (9am)
- ♦ 3/8 Daylight savings time begins
- ♦ 3/24 PTA Meeting @ 5:30pm
- ♦ 3/9-13 Spring Break (NO SCHOOL)
- ♦ 3/20 Report Cards
- ♦ 3/28 PTA Spring Dance (5pm)

## **Upcoming Testing Dates**

- Case 21 EOY Assessment (3/2-3/6) Grades K-8
- PARCC PBA (3/16-4/10) Grades: 3-8

# HINTS FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS



Khalilah Ransom, Principal

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If it's spring, it's usually time for standardized tests. To help your child be prepared, share these tips about the types of questions that often appear. Multiple choice: Read all the answers before marking your choice. Remember, your first instinct is usually best-so don't change your answer unless you're sure.

True/False: Look for words such as never, always, all, and none. They're usually in false answers. Words like "may" or "often" are generally found in true answers. Essay: Read essay questions at least twice. Then, make a list of important thoughts, or key points, about each question before writing your essay. Read through the finished essay to be sure you've included all your key points. Check spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

#### PTA EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

PTA continues to support our students and school community. If you have not yet joined this wonderful organization, please consider filling out the enclosed membership form and sending it in. Thank you to our PTA for sponsoring Movie Night.!

The 10 most powerful two-letter words in the English Language - If It Is To Be, It Is Up To Me!



March 2-6, 2015 is

National School Breakfast Week. We are celebrating the school breakfast program and educating students about how a healthy breakfast ensures they "Make the Grade" in the classroom. Breakfast gives you energy to grow, go and glow. Students perform better academically in school and are more alert when they eat breakfast. Breakfast allows kids to be more creative and perform better on tests. Teachers love it when their students eat breakfast because they have a greater attention span, increased memory, and an improved attitude and behavior to tackle their studies. You get the picture!

We're celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday and Read Across America with some fun activities!

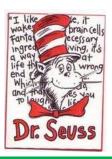
MONDAY, MARCH 2: Dr. Seuss Day Celebrate with <u>The Cat in the Hat</u> - Wear a striped shirt with uniform pants!

TUESDAY, MARCH 3: Celebrate with Fox in Socks -Wear your most colorful socks!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4: Celebrate with <u>Green</u> <u>eggs and ham!</u> Wear a Green shirt with uniform pants!

THURSDAY, MARCH 5: In honor of <u>The Lorax</u>, please wear an orange shirt with uniform pants!

FRIDAY, MARCH 6: Celebrate with The <u>500 Hats</u> of Bartholomew Cubbins - Wear a Hat!



# Counselor

When you ask your child, "What did you do at school today?" or "Do you have any homework?" do you sometimes get the response "I don't know..." or even a shoulder shrug? It is important to help your student understand that these are not acceptable answers. Someday, we hope for all our children to have good jobs. Most employers would not accept a shoulder shrug as the answer to a question, so we need to give kids the words to use now, so it is second nature to them then.

Here are some phrases to encourage your child to use instead of "I don't know": "Can I have a minute to think about the answer to that question?" "Can I have some more time to think about that?" "I'm thinking..." "I don't understand the question. Can you help me?" This may seem like a small thing, but it really helps teach kids responsibility for their words and for their actions, and has the added benefit of opening communication between you and your child. Give it a try and see how it works the next time you get a shoulder shrug!

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Please remember the academic school day begins by 7:25 am. The district follows a policy which requires attendance letters to be sent home at 5 absences OR 2 tardies. Please make every effort to have your child to school by 7:25 am and send in written excuses when they are absent.

