

# ***Kalida Elementary - January, 2015***

***Happy New Year!!***

## **Pen Pal Visit**

First graders at Kalida Elementary visited their pen pals at Unverferth Manufacturing in Kalida on December 16th. The program with U.M. and Kalida Elementary School is celebrating its 20th year. The purpose of the program is to incorporate letter writing into the school curriculum, expose the students to a variety of careers, and create an awareness of the community. Pen pals write letters once a month throughout the school year. Thank you UM!!

## **State Testing: New Name and New Look**

Beginning this year, the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA) are being replaced by the Next Generation Assessments in math, English language arts, science and social studies, except for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading. It will still be an OAA. The format for state testing in grades 3-8 has also changed; the tests will now be taken on-line not via paper/pencil. There will also be two testing windows: one for Performance Based Assessments (**PBA Feb 16 - Mar 20**) and the other for End of Year Assessments (**EOY Apr 13 - May 15**). Along with that, each content area test will be broken down into smaller testing sessions. For example, three – 50 minute math tests will replace the one – 2½ hour math test.

PBA testing dates by grade level and content area are as follows:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading – No PBA test  
Math – Mar 10 and 11
- 4<sup>th</sup> Reading/LA - Feb 24, 25 and 26  
SS – Mar 6  
Math – Mar 12 and 13
- 5<sup>th</sup> Reading/LA – Mar 3, 4 and 5  
Science – Mar 6  
Math – Mar 16 and 17

While it appears there are more days of testing, the students will only be testing approximately 1 hour per day.

EOY test window is April 13 - May 15 for 3<sup>rd</sup> -Reading(OAA) and Math; 4<sup>th</sup> -Reading/LA, SS and Math; 5<sup>th</sup> - Reading/LA, Science and Math. Exact dates are to be determined.

If you have any questions/concerns, please don't hesitate to call the Elementary office.

## **Kindergarten Registration**

We currently have 54 youngsters registered for the kindergarten this fall. If you know of anyone who is still interested in registering, please let them know there are registration forms available in the elementary office. Children must be 5 years old on or before September 30, 2015 to register for the 2015-16 school year. If you have any questions, please call the elementary office at 419-532-3845.

## **Kalida Elem Facebook Page**

You will want to visit Kalida Elementary School on Facebook and check out what is happening in our school. We have 147 'Likes' and still growing.

## **The Scholastic Book Fair – Way to Go!**

With your help, we were able to add over \$2600 worth of new books to our library. We'd like to thank Mrs. Scherer and Mrs. Hoffman for organizing this event and the volunteers who assisted.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, January 19**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Many Thanks to...**

- our Pen Pals at Unverferth Manufacturing
- all who bring in BoxTops. We recently received a check for over \$2,000 from General Mills. Every little bit adds up!
- the Kalida Lions Club for providing treats and a visit from Santa after the Christmas Program
- the Ottoville VFW for providing a little extra to two of our students this holiday.
- the PTO for providing cookies for everyone on December 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Joe and Linda Hovest for coordinating activities for a number of our primary classes. The activities were shared with the residents of the Meadows of Kalida.

## **Calendar of Events**

- Jan 13-14 – DIBELS Testing K-2
- Jan 14 – School Lunch Day, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade
- Jan 16 – End of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- Jan 19 – No School/Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 23 – Grade cards sent home