

The Lincoln Log

October 2009

From Our Principal Shannon Walston-Cross

Abraham Lincoln Mission Statement:

We are a group of children and adults who work together, grow together, and most of all, learn together.

Abraham Lincoln Vision Statement:

Abraham Lincoln School - where children enjoy using their minds, working together, and helping each other grow.

Dear Parents, Happy October! I wanted to start by thanking each of you for such an excellent start to the 2009-2010 school year. It is exciting to walk through Abraham Lincoln School from classroom to classroom and see all of the wonderful work and engaged learning that is taking place each day. The year began so smoothly due to the efforts of a cast of hundreds, from passionate, child centered teachers and paraprofessionals to our hard working custodians; dedicated administrative staff lunchroom/ recess supervisors and amazing students and supportive parents. Absolutely everyone has contributed to a successful start and positive learning community at school and we thank you.

As the winter weather approaches, please plan ahead and "Don't be late, your learning can't wait!"

Thank you so much for helping us to maximize instructional time by having your child ready and at school by 8:50 each morning. As the winter weather approaches, please take the necessary steps to leave a bit earlier, dressed in your winter wear so we can continue to begin school on time. The teachers and I greatly appreciate your help!

8:50 AM 1st Bell K-5 Students enter building

8:55 AM 2nd Bell Pledge of Allegiance

9:00 AM 3rd Bell **Instruction BEGINS... PROMPTLY!!**

11:40 AM Morning Kindergarten instructional day ends and students begin to get ready to dismiss

12 Noon Grade 1-5 students begin to dismiss for Lunch

12:35 PM Afternoon Kindergarten students enter building

12:45 PM Afternoon Kindergarten instruction begins... Promptly!!

12:50 PM Grade 1-5 Afternoon instruction begins... Promptly!!

3:25 PM Instructional Day ends for all students and students begin to get ready to dismiss

From Our Principal- Shannon Walston-Cross

Standards Based Report Card parent meetings coming up! Please come! This year, a number of our teachers are field-testing the Standards Based Report Card (SBRC). This field-test is an important milestone in the district's work to improve our report card so that it clearly communicates student progress. Standards-based reporting is a change, but one that is very consistent with all the work we are doing as a system to create powerful, standards-aligned learning. The new report cards will definitely look different, but the biggest difference will be the amount of useful information parents will receive about their child's progress. If your child's teacher is using the SBRC this year, I strongly urge you to attend one of the parent information meetings coming up. If your child's teacher is not using SBRC, you are still welcome to come and learn. Also, SBRC information (including a list of teachers who are using SBRC) is posted online at www.d41.org/curriculum/parents/sbrc/sbrc.htm

Here are the SBRC meeting times and dates. Please come to whichever of these is most convenient, regardless of your school. **All meetings will be from 7-8 p.m.**

October 22, 2009 - Churchill School/MPR **October 26, 2009** - Franklin School/LLC **October 27, 2009** - Forest Glen School/LLC **October 28, 2009** - Lincoln School/Old Gym **November 3, 2009** - Hadley Junior High/LLC

Schedule of Activities on October 30th

We will maintain our regular academic schedule in the morning with a **delayed lunch hour**. Afternoon kindergarten and early childhood will begin at their normally scheduled time on this day.

Below is the schedule for our afternoon activities.

12:45 – 1:35	Lunch (one hour later than usual)
1:35	Students return to school for attendance
1:50-2:10	Halloween Parade begins
2:15 – 3:15	Halloween Parties
3:25	Dismissal

From Our Principal- Shannon Walston-Cross

Children/Families Who Do Not Celebrate Halloween

If you prefer that your child not participate in our Halloween activities, we have alternative plans during the parade and party time. Certified non-classroom teachers will provide enrichment activities in the Art/Music Room and gym from 1:50 – 3:15 p.m.

We hope that all children will attend school on October 31st.

Costumes

Children will be allowed to wear their Halloween costume to school on the **afternoon** of October 30th.

As you and your child select a costume, please keep in mind the guidelines for costumes at Lincoln School:

Costumes that include blood, any type of weapons, fake or candy cigarettes/cigars, or liquor cans/bottles are **not** allowed at school.

Masks may be brought to school for use during the party time. However, for safety reasons, **we will not allow** children to wear their masks during the parade.

We encourage children to dress in creative, non-offensive and non-violent costumes. What may seem appropriate to you or your child may scare a younger child at school. Due to these guidelines, your child may need to save certain pieces of his/her costume for Halloween activities that occur outside of school. Students will be asked to change if the costume or make-up is not appropriate.

Parade Plans

We will begin our parade promptly at 1:50 p.m. at door # 4 and we will work our way around the outside of the school picking up each class at their classroom door until we have made our way around the entire school. Please find a comfy spot to watch and enjoy!

Although this day is filled with excitement, please know that we will focus our efforts towards maintaining and maximizing our learning environment in the morning. Thank you for your cooperation in making our Halloween celebration safe and enjoyable for our students. We look forward to seeing you on October 30th

Sincerely,

Shannon Cross

Ms. Shannon Cross

From our PTA President Lee Fruit

Dear Lincoln Families,

Autumn has made a swift arrival as we find ourselves already a full month into school. Students are settling in to new routines, leaving behind shorts and tee shirts in favor of fall gear. Preparations on the part of our able staff and faculty have made for a smooth back-to-school transition.

The 2009-2010 annual PTA budget was approved at the first general meeting held in September. Plans are under way to raise additional funds required for the year. Keep your eyes out for information on a variety of ways to support your PTA sponsored programs and activities. The next regularly scheduled PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Lincoln library (LLC).

You will soon receive your **Lincoln Directory**, listing contact information for families, class lists, and important school information and procedures. Katie Cairns and Mary Beth Bletsas have spent many hours putting together the latest version of this valuable resource.

The following committees are already hard at work in 2009:

- **Hot Lunch** Bill Enright, Melissa Erickson and Lorie Diletti kicked off Hot Lunch in September. There is still time to sign your child up for hot lunches for the remainder of the year by logging on to OneStep (www.d41.onestep.org). The program will run regularly on the third Tuesday of each month. Order by October 16 for the next lunch on Tuesday, Oct. 20.
- **Third and Fourth Grade Drama** Lincoln's newest club got off to a strong start at the end of September. Students offered rave reviews of their first opportunity to indulge their dramatic talents. Thanks go to Katie Cairns and Heidi Hoppe for taking on this huge endeavor.
- **Chess Club** With the help of Diane Ondrejka, Lincoln's 2009 Chess Club is now underway. Chess enthusiasts will enjoy another season under the tutelage of a Chess Master and attend tournaments to practice their acquired skills.
- **Yearbook** Marylin Speizman is coordinating the efforts of 60 students who will participate in this year's Yearbook activities. Students will acquire skills in desktop publishing, time management, writing, and working cooperatively toward a common goal.
- **SERC** Renie Atchison worked in combination with other SERC district Chairs and representatives at their first workshop of the year. SERC focuses on awareness, acceptance, education, support and resources of students with special educational needs within our community.
- **Fundraising** Thanks to all who came out at the SIP day event at Monkey Joe's. Through the efforts of Fundraising Chair Kristin Jensen, students came in from the rain for hours of indoor fun.
- **Language at Lunch** The 2009 Language at Lunch program has begun. Chair Kristin Trippel has organized students participating in both Spanish and French language instruction.
- **Teacher Appreciation** The first quarterly teachers' luncheon, organized by Ann Martenson and Karen Evans, was a huge success. Many teachers requested "must-have" recipes from those who graciously contributed food to the event.
- **Box Tops for Education** Cris Kalivas, Meliissa Pauer and Alicia Hopper are coordinating this fundraising effort this year. Remember to clip and save your box tops. It's the easiest way to make extra funds for our school!

Thanks go to the following for their work in August and September:

- Thanks to Joyce Hetzel, **Cultural Arts** Chair, for bringing the students two exciting performances by Guitars of Spain. Student feedback was overwhelmingly positive on this educational and entertaining experience.
- Parents of K-1 students attended a **Welcome Coffee** at the Glen Ellyn library. Alicia Hopper and Karen Tolman passed along pertinent PTA details and Lincoln school general pointers.
- Julia Ahlers and Catherine Voigt took time out to care for the **Courtyard Garden** and facade of the school.

From our PTA President Lee Fruit

- Linda Fanning and Rachael Flewelling offered countless hours of technical experience to the **OneStep** process and the **Lincoln PTA website**.
- Kim Prickett offered her time once again this year to coordinate and educate the **Room Parents** on their duties.

Coming up this month:

Hobby Night is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 15 from 7-8 p.m. Joy Goebbert and Judy Moody are organizing an evening for students to share their collections and hobbies.

The October **Market Day** pickup date is Oct. 20 from 4-5 p.m. in the Old Gym. Thanks to Stacy Sarley for organizing and distributing orders again this year.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Lincoln's **International Night**. This biennial event will be held on Oct. 23 from 7-8:30 p.m. and will allow students and families an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of the Lincoln school community. Contact Margaret Hernandez (mhernandez272@gmail.com) or Lisa Zorilla (lisaz@wideopenwest.com) for more information.

The deadline for entries for this year's **Reflections** program is Monday, Oct. 26. Therese Maginot, Paula Schumacher and Paula Breunig are hard at work planning for the Reflections Reception on Thursday, Nov. 12 from 7-8 p.m. Students will showcase their original works in the area of literature, music, photography, visual arts, film/video production and dance.

Lincoln Easy Fundraisers Reminders

The following local businesses will offer incentives for Lincoln families during the month of October:

October 19-23 — Dairy Queen Week Pickwick Plaza, Glen Ellyn

Oct 17-23 — Great Clips (Pickwick Plaza, Glen Ellyn) donates \$2 for every haircut during this week. Any Lincoln student who gets a haircut is entered into a drawing for a free haircut!

All Thursdays in October — Chili's Restaurant (240 Danada Square West, Wheaton) donates 10% of your total bill to Lincoln School.

All school year — J&S Cleaners (433 Pennsylvania Ave.) donates 5% of receipts to our PTA

More information will soon go out regarding the following November events/fundraisers:

Movie Day at the Glen Theater, Thursday, Nov. 5

Holiday Brunch/Fashion Show at Bistro Monet, Tuesday, Nov. 10

Dad's football night at Tap House, Thursday, Nov. 12

As always, thank you for your support of PTA. None of the above would be possible without your time and creative energies! Please contact me or the board at anytime with comments or concerns.

Sincerely,
Lee Fruit

From Media Specialist Cecilia White



Change, change, everywhere there's change in the library!

Many new things are happening in our Lincoln LLC! First the look of the library changed. Now our schedule is changing. At the present time, the kindergarten through 2nd graders are checking out their library books during library instruction. Our 3rd through 5th graders are coming down in groups to check out their books during their independent reading time. One of our goals this year is to empower the children. I am telling all the classes that I want them to be **MASTERS OF THEIR BOOKS!** and **MASTERS OF THEIR READING!** Starting 2nd trimester, 1st through 5th grades will be coming to the library in small groups to check out their library books during independent reading time. The children will also be checking out their **OWN** books. In the past, Mrs. Wyatt, our library aide, has checked out books for the kids, but now the kids will check out their own books. Since the children are coming to the library **ON THEIR OWN** and checking out their books **ON THEIR OWN**, they will need to keep track of how many books they can check out and the books they do check out, need to be **JUST RIGHT** for them – Hence, they will be **MASTERS OF THEIR OWN BOOKS** and **MASTERS OF THEIR OWN READING**.

With this new check out system, Mrs. Wyatt, who is assisting kids while they checkout, will no longer be able to check IN books first thing in the morning. Therefore, all books need to be returned the **DAY BEFORE** the kids check out.

I would like to thank you in advance for helping your children to transition to this new schedule. I know change is not always easy. However, I am confident that this new flexible check out system, will give children opportunity to exercise responsibility and will provide a much more peaceful and relaxing atmosphere for the children to enjoy the precious gift of reading.

Happy Fall Y'all

Miss Cecelia White

Lincoln Library Media Specialist



In September, our students reviewed all of the Character Counts Pillars: Responsibility, Citizenship, Respect, Caring, Fairness and Trustworthiness.

In October, Lincoln School will focus on the pillar of Responsibility. Our students are learning to think about what effects their actions may have on others both in school and out of school. To support this Pillar, Lincoln School will hold its annual October Food Drive for the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry from Oct. 26 -30. We will collect non-perishable food and toiletries for the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry. You will receive a note in backpack mail soon! Please support this important food drive. In the past, Lincoln has collected a record-breaking amount of food!

If you have any questions about the Food Drive or Character Counts, please contact Maureen Lawrence at maureenlaw@sbcglobal.net

Upcoming events

International Night 2009

On Friday, Oct. 23, approximately 300 are expected to come to celebrate our diverse Lincoln community! The night will begin with an Opening Ceremony and the Parade of Flags. Students will carry 25 different flags that represent the Lincoln family and process into the West gym. Most of the students will be dressed in their traditional costumes and then say "Hello" in their native tongue. In addition to traditional clothing, families will come to share their foods, their artifacts, and sometimes even their talents.

Some of our talented students from India, Ireland, Palestine, Greece, and Scotland will perform acts related to their country.

Programming will also be in the Learning Center with a Power Point Slide show of THIS YEAR's school pictures to show pictorially our Lincoln family. Another activity offered will be a beautiful mural, designed by Lincoln Art teacher Mrs. Gates, for all of our children to help color. Ms. White, our Learning Center Coordinator, will display culturally interesting and wonderful books for families to view while enjoying refreshments.

The bi-annual event will showcase approximately 25 different countries including the following: India, Poland, Ireland, Palestine, Mexico, Japan, Colombia, Greece, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Philippines, Belgium, Spain, Burundi, Burma, Rwanda, Egypt, Nepal, and Cuba.

It will be made possible through a community effort. Through the efforts of District 41, Glen Ellyn Resource Center, St. Petronille's OWL literacy group, Lincoln's ENL faculty, PTA volunteers, and our very own 4th and 5th Girl Scouts, the night will be one to remember!

Join us on Oct. 23 from 7-8:30 p.m., grab a passport, and enjoy the journey!

Contact

Margaret Hernandez mhernandez272@gmail.com, Lisa Zorrilla lisaz@wideopenwest.com, International Night Chairs, if you have questions or comments.

Order hot lunch by Oct. 16

The next hot lunch is Tuesday, Oct. 20. Please place your order by Friday, Oct. 16. To volunteer to help serve hot lunch, please contact Bill Enright at (630) 234-8747 or billenright@yahoo.com. Volunteers hand out the lunches and help to clean up. You will need to arrive by 11:45 a.m. and will be done by 1 p.m. Hot lunch is served the third Tuesday of each month.

Upcoming events

Lincoln to honor veterans Nov. 11

Lincoln School will be holding a Veterans Day assembly on Nov. 11. All students will be participating. Do you have a family member or friend who is a veteran? If so, we would be honored to have them attend the assembly. The assembly includes students or teachers introducing their guest veterans, the veterans telling where and when they served, all grades of students singing patriotic songs, some Student Ambassadors acting as MCs and greeters, and students reading a few brief essays. This is a special day at Lincoln and we would love to have your friend or family member join us. For more information, please contact Joyce Hetzel at (630)858-1544 or hetzrj@comcast.net or Sherry Scheller at (630)858-8307 or schelleretc@sbcglobal.net as soon as possible.

We are asking all students to color a flag and write the name of a veteran below it . We are planning to decorate the walls of the gym with these flags. Flags were sent home about three weeks ago. If you need another, extras are available in the office or in the Lincoln library.

Veterans Day Volunteers Needed!

We need help in several areas that require very little time commitment and would allow you to see the assembly. The areas where we really need help are:

-Sound Technician - This person would be in charge of the sound system and would adjust volume, cue the songs, etc. Wendee Passini would give you a quick lesson There are assemblies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Nov. 11. If you can only help in the morning or the afternoon, that is fine. .

Refreshment Room Host/Hostess (1-2:30 p.m.) –Oversee the refreshment room. You do not have to purchase, make or set up anything. All food will be set up- all you have to do is help serve coffee/ light refreshments to the veterans and their families. This will primarily be from 1:15-1:50 p.m. on Nov. 11th .

Decorations- Are you creative? This would involve helping the week of Nov. 2 at home making seat cards and name tags for the veterans (very flexible) or helping at school the day or evening before the assembly to decorate the entryway/gym. (Even if you can only spare a half hour or hour, we can find a way for you to help).

If you are able to help in any of these areas please contact Joyce Hetzel at hetzrj@comcast.net or (630)858-1544. We would really appreciate your help in making this a meaningful and educational experience for the Lincoln students, as well as showing our appreciation to the veterans for all that they have done.

Joyce Hetzel

Student news and thanks

Notes from the Nurse

Here's an easy way to help at school. Vision and hearing screening volunteers are needed Oct. 19 and 20.

Vision and Hearing Screening (done by the Illinois Department of public Health vision and hearing screening certified district nurses and health aides) will take place at Lincoln School on Monday, Oct. 19 and Tuesday, Oct. 20. Vision screening is done for all 2nd and 4th graders and for those kindergarten students who have not had an eye exam. Hearing screening is done at the kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grade levels.

We are in need of parent volunteers to help with "crowd control," bringing classes to the screening area, and logging the screening results. If you are able to help the morning of Monday, Oct. 19, the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 19, or the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 20, please notify Lee Fruit, Lincoln PTA president at leefruit@ameritech.net. If you have any questions regarding screening or volunteering, please call Karen Pfaff RN at 630-534-7692 or email at kpffaff@d41.org.

Fifth Grade Robert Crown Field Trip and Parent Night

On Wednesday, Oct. 28, Fifth grade students from Lincoln will be going to the Robert Crown Health Education Center in Hinsdale to attend the Michael and Linda programs on normal adolescent growth and development.

Information has been previously mailed home regarding this field trip. In the letter mailed home, the website for Robert Crown was incorrect. The correct website address for Robert Crown is robertcrown.org.

Parents, please remember that if you have questions regarding the program or just want to hear about the presentation, please join us on Thursday, October 15 at 7 p.m. at Franklin School. No students at the evening presentation. If you have any questions please call Karen Pfaff RN at 630-534-7692.

School safety

Just a friendly reminder that No dogs are allowed on school property (including sidewalks adjacent to the school) at any time. Please leave them at home or walk them across the street from the school when bringing your child to and from school. This is due to health and safety reasons.

The Glen Ellyn Police Department has also requested that we inform parents of what the proper traffic flow is in front of the school whether dropping off or picking up students. Do not leave your car unattended to go and pick up your child, The GE Police Department will ticket your car if they find an empty vehicle. When in the traffic lane in front of the school for drop off or pick up, DO NOT idle in the lane east of Brandon. This is causing a major traffic jam and the potential for a serious accident

Student news and thanks



Bravo Lincoln parents!

Thank you to the following Lincoln parents for helping provide our teachers with a fabulous luncheon to celebrate “Teacher Appreciation” during September:

ı Bak, Andrea Bilotti, Elise Bishop, Christie Brady, Dolly Choi, Cindy Dayton, Erin Dieter, Melissa Erickson, Susie Halford, Amy Hasso, Kristen Hayes, Joyce Hetzel, Cris Kalivas, Shari Kempf, Molly McNally, Amy Melinder, Jane Moran, Cherri Morowski, Angela Rozak, Stacy Sarley, Amy Schilling, Jill Schultz, Carrie Skelton.

Teacher Appreciation Chairs

Ann Martenson & Karen Evans

Community Outreach News

Thanks to all of the families that helped meet the clothing need requests during September! Lincoln parent volunteers are responsible for meeting the clothing needs for all of District 41 children for the months of October and November, so expect a few more e-mail requests for clothing during these two months.

Winter Clothing Donations

Has your child outgrown their winter coat, boots and/or snow pants? Community Outreach accepts these donations and distributes them to District 41 children in need. Contact Karen Evans at 630-942-8422 or (Supplies4Success@gmail.com) if you would like to donate winter outerwear.

Donate To Family Tree Resale And Help District 41 Families

The PTA Community Outreach Committee has teamed up with Glen Ellyn’s new Family Tree Resale store to provide clothing vouchers to District 41 children in need of clothing. In exchange for donations of clothes and household items, Family Tree Resale will provide vouchers to District 41, which the social workers will distribute to needy families that are requesting help. Please consider using Family Tree Resale when donating your gently used items and make sure your bags/boxes are clearly labeled “District 41”. You’ll find Family Tree Resale at 575 Roosevelt Road in the Market Plaza shopping center (the Jewel/Staples mall). Family Tree Resale is charity based, but is not a not-for-profit and does not provide tax receipts. For more information, please contact Community Outreach Committee member Peg Mickelson at (pmickelson@wowway.com).

Holiday Giving Program

We are still in need of volunteers for Community Outreach’s Holiday Giving Program! This is an easy and rewarding way to help others in our school community during the holidays. Volunteers can sign up to donate grocery store gift cards, Target/Kohl’s gift cards, a toy and/or books for a District 41 child and family in need. For more information, please contact Karen Evans at 630-942-8422 or (Supplies4Success@gmail.com).

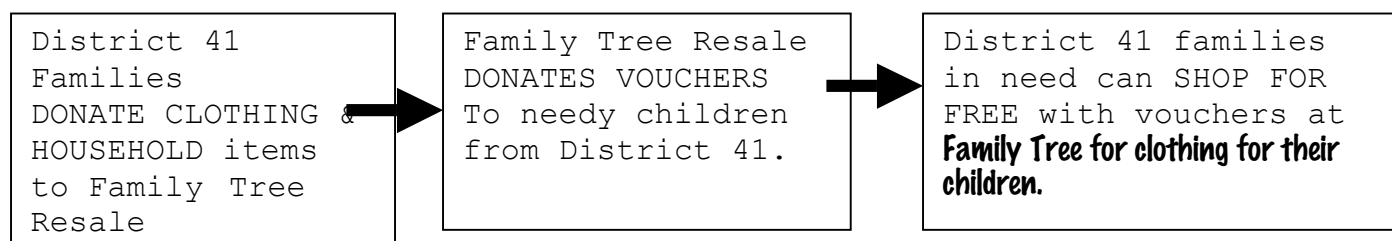
Student news and thanks

The District 41 Community Outreach Committee & Family Tree Resale
Are pleased to announce a new program...

• Recycling for Vouchers

The Community Outreach Committee has teamed up with Glen Ellyn's new Family Tree Resale store to provide clothing vouchers to District 41 children in need of clothing for school and winter weather.

Here's how it works:



Family Tree Resale
575 Roosevelt Rd.
Glen Ellyn, IL
(in Market Plaza two doors west of Blockbuster)
(630) 469-4576
familytreethrift@yahoo.com

Hours of Operation:
Mon. -Sat. 9-9; Sun. 10-6

- Donations may be dropped off anytime!
- Please LABEL bags/boxes with "District 41"
- **A drop off area is located in back of the store.**
- **A furniture pick up service is also available.**

"Since Family Tree is charity based, but **not** non-for-profit, unfortunately we cannot provide tax receipts"

- Family Tree Resale
- ❖ Clothing for the entire family
 - ❖ Household items
 - ❖ Furniture
 - ❖ Brand-New Closeout Jewelry!
 - ❖ Gorgeous hand-made international clothing and **fabrics**
 - ❖ **Toys, books, electronics and more...**
- We can only keep up our charity work with the support of our customers. ☺

Family Tree Resale

COUPON
15% off
entire purchase

Not including other sales or coupons.
Cannot be used with vouchers.

Student news and thanks

Lincoln Log submissions

This is the second issue of The Lincoln Log for the 2009-2010 school year. Submissions to the Lincoln Log are accepted via e-mail to Melissa Erickson at sejnost@gmail.com. Future deadlines are at 5 p.m. on Fridays, Nov. 6, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 9 and May 7.

The primary method of distribution for this *Lincoln Log* is via e-mail. It is also posted on www.abelincolnpta.org/Documents.html, and on Ms. Cross' *Principal's Corner* at <http://www.d41.org/schools/lincoln/principalscorner.htm><http://www.d41.edu>.

Contact AbeLincolnPTA@gmail.com to:

1) request to be **added** or **removed** from the e-mail