

Monroe Messenger
A PTA Newsletter written by Jani Brooks
September 2006 Newsletter 1

Dear Students & Families,

Welcome to a new, exciting school year! For those who are new to Monroe, I would like to extend a special welcome. Monroe offers a positive learning atmosphere that welcomes exploration and enhances student growth, both academically and socially. Our mission is to offer opportunities that assist each child in reaching his/her potential. The Monroe staff is dedicated to making school enjoyable and exciting, and most importantly, helping students LEARN!

A home-school partnership is extremely important in the Monroe community; therefore, parental involvement is encouraged and families are welcome in our school. Together, we can make the educational experience of your child a wonderful one. Please feel free to call or stop by anytime.

Sincerely,

Danielle Edgar, Principal

Welcome back! Where has the summer gone? It is a new school year at Monroe. There are many things planned for this year. I want to extend the invitation to anyone wanting to volunteer some time at school. Please contact me. It is a wonderful way to get acquainted if you are new to the school. Don't worry. You are not obligated to anything you do not want to do. I would like to get more parents involved at school this year. I want to do everything possible to make sure the kids have the best year ever. Please let me know if you have suggestion that might be fun for the year. Or, maybe you know someone that does something interesting that could come do an assembly for the kids. Monroe has a great group of parents. I hope I get the chance to meet many more of you this year.

Jani Brooks, 222-5528

Officers 2006-2007

President Jani Brooks 222-5528

1st Vice President Ariel Prost 223-4155

2nd Vice President Rachael Petty 223-5113

Secretary Kim Lubbert 224-0603

Fundraiser is Coming!!!

Your kids will be coming home with their fundraising packets this Friday. I want to thank the Fundraising Committee, Kim Lubbert and Lori Wiegand, for all their time and hard work to make this possible. They are using Tri-State as our fundraising company again this year. Tri-State is a Quincy company. I am pleased with what Tri-State has done so far and happy to support a local company with this event. Monroe depends on the money from the Fundraiser for support through the school year. PTA greatly appreciates your participation in the Fundraiser.

PTA Sign Up Sheets

The sign up sheet for helping with PTA committees is coming home in this newsletter. The first one was handed out at registration with all the other papers you received that day. It includes a small explanation of what is needed in a volunteer. It has dates and times of events. If you have any questions about a committee, call me. I would be glad to give you more details. It does not take much to be helpful to a committee. Most of the time, you are signing up for a time slot. Signing up gives the chairperson a list of names to call when it comes time for the event. Just fill out the attached form with whatever interests you and return it to school. Jani Brooks, 222-5528.

PTA Membership

PTA is parents and teachers working together to plan events to ensure a quality education for the children. There are no rules to follow if you join. You help in anyway you feel able. Some parents may be able to attend meetings, others may not. There are many opportunities to help. Most things that go on at Monroe during the year take volunteers to make possible. PTA members are just an organized group of volunteers willing to come together to keep things going through the year. Your membership is very important to this organization. Please send the included PTA envelope back to school along with \$4.00 for the membership fee. PTA is hoping to increase its numbers by 10% this year. Thank you for your support.

Book Fair-Date Change

Jonita Brunier is in charge of both book fairs during the school year with the help of many volunteers. The first Book Fair is October 18-20. The date is later this year than normal. It will be held during Special Person's Days. The location of the Book Fair will be determined as the event gets closer. During this first book fair, the teachers will have lists of books they are "wishing" for their classrooms. Check out those lists while browsing the Book Fair. This year, like always, we have to add tax to the price of items purchased at the Book Fair. PTA is no longer exempt from paying tax at Book Fairs. You might remember this when sending money with your child. Jonita will have more information on the Book Fair and Teacher Wish Lists coming home soon, along with volunteer sheets to come help out during the event. Thank you Jonita for all of your hard work at our book fairs.

Curriculum Night

Curriculum Night is September 7th, following the PTA meeting. This evening allows parents and staff to better know each other. It provides a forum for sharing instructional and management programs available at Monroe. The kindergarten and 1st grade parents meet in their student's classroom at 6:30pm. The 2nd and 3rd grade parents meet in their student's classroom at 7:15pm.

Send in Your Extra Pictures

Monroe would like any extra pictures you might have from events at school through the year. If you would like to donate those extras, send them to school in an envelope marked "Yearbook".

Library

Sheri Dennis, Rachael Petty, and Chris Woodard will soon be sending home a volunteer sign up sheet for the library. If you are able to donate some time this year for library, please sign up. This committee works very hard all year to organize volunteers and keep the library running so the kids can check out books every week. The kids enjoy the library. They especially like it if their parent has come to help when they are in the library. Sheri Dennis and Chris Woodard spent last year reading to the kids during library time along with many guest readers. They would again like to offer guest reader time to any parent willing to come read. They thought the kids enjoyed having someone new from time to time. Information on how to be a guest reader will be coming.

September 1.....Fundraiser Kick-Off
September 4.....Labor Day, No School
September 7.....PTA Meeting, 6pm, followed by
Curriculum Night at 6:30pm, for Kindergarten and 1st grades
and 7:15pm, for 2nd and 3rd grades
September 13.....No School, Teacher Institute
September 22.....Pizza Fun Night, Qcy Gymnastics 6:30-9:30pm
September 25.....Quincy City PTA Council Meeting, 6:30pm at
Baldwin
October 6.....SIP 1/2 Day of School for Pre-K through 12
October 10.....Fundraiser Pick-Up, 3:30-6pm
October 18-20.....Book Fair
October 19.....Special Person's Day for Kindergarten and 1st grade
October 20.....Special Person's Day for 2nd and 3rd grade
October 20.....End of 1st Quarter
October 27.....Sheridan Swim Night, 6:30-8:30pm
October 31.....Fall Festival, 1-3pm

Monroe Physical Education

Welcome Back to Monroe!! The summer went by so quickly, but I am very excited to be back at school. August is a month to get to know the students and my expectations in gym class. We will play lots of fun cooperative games and learn about each other. Late August and September will find us learning about soccer skills and football basics. Kindergarten students will spend time on locomotor movements and movement experience. We will begin a walking unit with pedometers this year. The pedometers will help us learn more about our fitness and responsibility for taking care of the pedometer properly. We will continue to use the pedometers during class throughout the year to help encourage movement in all activities. I am fortunate to be part of such a caring staff and PTA that encourages the success of all children. Thank you for making Monroe such a special place for the children.

Stay Fit, Mrs. Penny Garner, Monroe Physical Education, 223-8871

Pizza Fun Night

On Friday, September 22nd, from 6:30-9:30pm bring your student to Quincy Gymnastics for a Pizza Fun Night. All Monroe students and their siblings ages 4-12, are welcome! Cost is \$10 per child, with siblings just \$5 each. More information will come home when the date gets closer. But mark your calendars now! Trish Santos, along with Mike and Janet Llewellyn, Brad and Lori Eaton, and a few parent volunteers supervise the events. The kids have a blast!

Room Parents

I need to thank all the parents that have volunteered to be Room Parents in their child's classroom this year. Lori Wiegand, Jonell Atwood, Teresa Miller, Lori Orr, Debbie Fasano, Kerri Henderson, Denise Frost, Stacey Arnold, Angie Norris, Donna Parke, Malinda and Tim Vogel, Becky Hoebing, Elaina Martin, and Marcy Bigley. I know a few of you had your arm-twisted. But, the teachers, the kids, and the PTA appreciate you agreeing to help out this year. If you have any questions contact Rachael Petty, room representative coordinator, 223-5113 or myself, Jani Brooks, 222-5528. At this time, a Head Room Parent is still needed for Mrs. Johnson's class. Interested?? Call Rachael.

Campbell Labels, General Mills Box Tops, Hy-Vee UPC Codes, and Tyson Project

A+

Monroe School is asking parents, teachers, and friends in the community to collect labels, box tops, UPC codes, and Project A+ labels for the above listed programs. These programs allow us to turn in their specific items for cash or merchandise. Monroe uses these programs to acquire sports equipment, things of use to the school, and pay for extra activities. It takes a significant amount of collecting to receive anything of value. As an incentive this year we will continue the prize programs. There will be prizes for the top students collecting and a party monthly for the top class. The instructions for collecting are as follows: Please place all labels, box tops, UPC codes, and A+ labels in individual bags by program. Place your child's name and teacher on each bag. The containers for these programs are located near the entrance of the school by the office. Please deposit bags in the appropriate container. The bags will be collected at the end of each month, counted, and prizes awarded to the top students and class at the beginning of the next month. Let's take advantage of these programs to benefit Monroe School and its students. The collection last year was a big success!!! One note- Campbell's has changed what they collect. They no longer want the front label. They want the UPC. For this first collection, I will accept all front labels collected from the summer. I will count them towards the monthly prizes given the first of October. After this collection, I will only count the UPC codes from Campbell's. Thank you.

I want to thank the following people for helping at registration. Gary Haden, Dennis Willingham, Mrs. Carpenter, Shelly Hultz, Heather Derhake, Jody Cook, Trish Santos, Lori Eaton, Erin Mohr, Patti Kruse, Kristin Kendrick, Beth Eckert, Laura Keane, Joanna Hochgraber, Mike and Janet Llewellyn, Kim Lubbert, Teresa Slee, Tim and Wendy Koontz, Sheri Dennis, and Chris Woodard. Thank you for taking time to help at registration.