

# Nelson Family News

January 2018



Happy New Year!!

Michael Mitchener  
Principal

## Upcoming Events

**Thurs. Jan. 4**---School Starts Back up  
**Fri. Jan. 5**---“B.E.S.T. Buds” P.B.I.S. Stations  
**Fri. Jan. 5**---Grade Cards Go Home  
**Wed. Jan. 10**---5:30 p.m. Site Council Mtg. in the Media Center  
**Fri. Jan. 12**---Teacher In-Service / No School  
**Mon. Jan. 15**---Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday / No School  
**Thurs. Jan. 18**---Casual & Group Pictures  
**Fri. Jan. 19**---Nelson P.T.A. Movie Night  
**Mon. Jan. 22**---Nelson Skate Night  
**Sat. Jan. 27**---U.S.D. 261 Job Fair at TLC  
**Mon. Jan. 29**---Kansas Birthday



**No School for Students**-This is just a reminder that there will be **No School** for students on **Friday, Jan. 12, Monday, Jan. 15, 2018.** Staff will participate in In-Service Activities on the 12<sup>th</sup>. **Enjoy this time with your family.**



**Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed Jan. 15**



**Casual & Group Picture Day Thurs., Jan. 18**-Parents this is just a reminder that **Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018** is the **Casual & Group Picture Day.** You should receive information on Group Pictures with an envelope to purchase these soon. Group Pictures must be pre-paid. On the casual pictures, you will get a chance to preview these before purchase. Also, as a reminder, information will be sent home in Wednesday Folders on the purchase of yearbooks. Thanks for your help in this matter. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to call.

**Attendance & Punctuality Reminder**-We would ask the help of all in keeping our punctuality and attendance rate high at Nelson School. Good Punctuality and Attendance is very important for student academic and social success. School starts promptly at 8:25 a.m.. We now just have a few weeks until State Assessments. We want students to do their very best and every minute of instruction time does count. We realize that it is not always possible to be here everyday due to illness, etc.; but we desire to have students here everyday possible. Thank you for your help in this very important endeavor.



We would like to thank all of those who were able to donate to the Nelson Food Drive right before break! Thanks to your efforts, Nelson School brought in almost 1,400 food items for needy families around the area. Also, congratulations go out to Ms. Ledbetter's Second Grade Class for bringing in the most items. They will be treated soon to a pizza lunch away from the building. Way to go!!!



**Site Council Mtg. Wed., Jan. 10**-Mark your calendars now for our next regularly scheduled Site Council Meeting which is on **Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 5:30 p.m. in the Nelson Media Center**. We will be giving regular updates and be looking at upcoming assessment preparations. We will plan to see all of those on this important advisory group then.

### **Literacy First (January) Monthly Tips-**

*The National Reading Panel states, "Fluent readers are characterized by the ability to read orally with speed, accuracy and proper expression."*

When teachers listen to their students read daily, they are focusing on 4 major components of fluency: Pace, Phrasing, Expression/Volume, and Smoothness. Teachers model and explicitly teach these guidelines so your child knows what is expected of them. Pace is keeping a consistently conversational and appropriate rate of which they read. Teachers work with students on not reading slowly and laboriously or inappropriately fast. Phrasing is being aware of sentence units and applying appropriate stress and intonation (pausing at commas and other end marks). Readers are encouraged to not read monotonic and word-for-word. Expression/Volume is reading with enthusiasm while sounding natural. Teachers work with students to discourage robot reading with little expression. Smoothness is reading with minimal breaks. It is moving past sounding out words and frequently pausing or hesitating to read.

Have your child practice reading with appropriate fluency on some of their favorite books, poems or comics.

If you have any questions about Literacy First please feel free to contact your child's teacher, myself or check out the official website: [www.literacyfirst.com](http://www.literacyfirst.com)

**Teresa Miller**

**Learning Facilitator**

**Nelson PRIDE Update-**As you are aware, for a number of years now the district has put in place P.B.I.S. or Positive Behavior Intervention Systems. As part of this, we have adopted the "PRIDE" emphasis. "PRIDE." stands for:

 Preparation  Respect  Integrity  Discipline  Excellence

This continues to be a very effective way of helping students show self control and focuses on prevention and training and not the traditional model of just punishment. Students are recognized by staff for showing "PRIDE" and are given "Shark Bucks" which can be redeemed for special class recognitions, drawings, etc.. As part of a standard procedure for this, we will be reinforcing and retraining students at needed areas. This **Friday, January 5** will be the school wide retraining day. Our Nelson 5<sup>th</sup> Grade "Best Buds" will be helping with this process. This should prove again to be highly productive.

**Nelson Mission Statement-***The mission of the Nelson School Community is to provide all students with high levels of learning in a safe and caring environment.*

**WATCH FOR MORE INFO. to Come Out On.....-**

Valentine Parties on Tues. Feb. 14                      Art in the Park Fri. Feb. 2  
Parent Teacher Conferences during the week of February 5-7      Book Fair during Conferences

