

Roosevelt School
Family Newsletter
January 6, 2012

State & National School of Character 2010-2011
National Promising Practice Award Winner 2008-2009
Oakland Press Educational Excellence 2nd Place Award
Winner 2009
National Promising Practice Award Winner 2007-2008
Michigan Education Excellence Award Winner 2007-2008

Important Dates:

- January 6th—school mall kick off, please return by January 13th
- January 10, PTA Meeting at 7:00 PM at Roosevelt, Media Center
- January 11, New School Family Tour, 9:00 AM
- January 11, Kindergarten Information Night at Grant located at 21131 Gardenlane from 6:00—7:30 PM
- January 13, Roosevelt's Annual Peace Walk @ 2:00 PM
- January 16 for MLK day & 20

School Safety Reminders

Students need to leave all toys at home unless a note has been sent home by his/her teacher. Toys are not permitted in school and cause multiple concerns. PLEASE check your child's backpack each morning before school to help in our efforts to keep toys at home.

Students need to be dressed for cold weather. We go outside daily unless the temperatures and/or wind chill are below 20 degrees.

Quote of the Week:

We need to work together like fingers on a hand.

Booker T. Washington

Important School News

Principal's Points

Each year we hold an annual **PEACE WALK** to honor Dr. Martin Luther King. This year our PEACE WALK will be held on Friday, January 13 at 2:00 pm within our school. The parade begins with students singing and holding their banners high to show their pride in Dr. MLK while parading the hallways. The parade ends in the gymnasium where the school family sings a variety of songs and supports the idea of PEACE. Parents are welcome to attend. Please sign in the front office.

Reminder—Piston ticket vouchers are available. If you are interested in attending a Piston's game please return school order form.

Focusing on Learning

During the month of January we will be doing our 2nd round of assessments on each child. Teachers will be using a variety of tests to see how much your child has improved in specific math concepts and reading skills. Once the assessments are complete the information will be available for parents. Please speak with your child's teacher about the assessment data.

Also in January we will be celebrating students who have achieved academic success and have incredible attendance. Each grade level is planning a celebration ceremony to honor these students for their achievements. To receive an Achievement Award the child needs to be at benchmark or above at this time during the school year as reflected on his/her report card and assessment data. To receive an Attendance Award the child needs to have less than 3 absences and/or tardies. Parents will receive more information within the next few weeks.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Social & Emotional Development

The fourth skill that is shared in the best seller, Mind in the Making is MAKING CONNECTIONS. Making connections begins with sorting and categorizing. It begins with an understanding that one thing can stand for or represent another (I.E.—that a photograph of the family dog represents the real dog.) One of the BEST ways to help children learn to make connections that focus on academic success is playing BOARD GAMES. By playing board games such as Chutes & Ladders, children are not only gaining information but also getting better at the skill of making connections. They're learning the # on a spinner stand for a rule—how many squares you can advance and that there is a linear relationship between the numbers from one to ten. Making multiple connections is a skill that calls on the executive functions of the brain including working memory, inhibitory control and cognitive flexibility. So get busy having fun, playing board games and enjoying your quality time with your child—it's more than just fun, it's imperative!