

Roosevelt School
Family Newsletter
December 16, 2011

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:

- December 19—January 2, Winter Break School Resumes January 3, 2012
- January 10, PTA Meeting at 7:00 PM at Roosevelt, Media Center
- January 11, New School Family Tour, 9:00 AM
- January 13, Roosevelt's Annual Peace Walk @ 2:00 PM
- January 16 & 20, No school for students

New Years Resolutions...

We need to make sure that all students are in class on time each day. We have numerous tardies and it adds up quickly. If your child is 5 minutes late for one week that adds up to 25 minutes of instruction lost. Tardies interrupt teaching time for other students and is very difficult on young students.

Students need to be in class by 8:00 AM daily. Please support our school expectations of being on time daily.

Quote of the Week:

**If you think you
can't— you are right.
If you think you
CAN you are right!**

Important School News

Principal's Points

When we think about the holidays we are always in the mindset of what gifts to purchase, where can I find the best gifts for the lowest price and at times the holiday season seems busier and more stressful than even our ordinary busy life. Let's take a step back and remember that old saying, "Presence is what individuals need more than just presents."

How can you make sure your presence is top priority this holiday season with your children and family? With our busy lifestyles it's tough, but let's make a commitment!

Focusing on Learning

Every child at Roosevelt received a bag of books today to celebrate our success from September to December! Please take care of these books and allow your child to place them in a special area. All books were purchased with money raised through bagel and other school sales. We hope your child enjoys his/her books and treasures them. Reading to a child is the #1 indicator of school success. During the holidays designate reading time daily so your child is reading to himself, listening to you read stories aloud and having books in his/her hand often. In the car, in a store and at home books are easily accessible.

Other great and easy ideas for your child to stay focused on learning:

1. Write thank you letters for all his/her gifts
2. Help writing the grocery lists
3. Looking at the ads in the newspaper or even online to look at how much, sale price, etc...
4. After watching a favorite holiday movie talk about what happened at the beginning, middle, end; discuss who the characters were, his/her favorite part and what the main idea of the movie...

We wish you a Happy Holiday Season with friends & family!

Wishing you joy, happiness and peace this season!

Social & Emotional Development

The third skill that is shared in the best seller, *Mind in the Making* is COMMUNICATION. Communicating well involves executive functions of the brain—for example, reflecting upon the goal of what we want to communicate and inhibiting our point of view so that we can understand the viewpoints of others. What we do as parents matters a great deal in developing key communication skills. Here are 3 attributes that parents should use when talking with your child:

1. When reading books or talking at the dinner table, talk about issues that go beyond the 'here and now.'
2. Use sophisticated vocabulary with your children.
3. Support children's literacy by reading aloud to your child, allow your child to read his/her independent leveled books and listen to appropriate children's songs.