



BUZZ SHEET

from the
Matoska International Parent Teacher Organization (MIPTO)
Today's Edition: December 19, 2013

Giving Thanks

The "holidays" has come to mean lots of sales flyers, huge discounts and opportunities to spend hard earned money. We start by giving thanks quickly and run to the nearest store to spend time away from the family. I have had time to reflect on what this holiday season means to me...

This holiday season, where the snow is plentiful and the air is cold, I give thanks for being able to keep myself warm whether I am in my house or car. I recently had the opportunity to work with HVAC employees who had to work outside to get my workplace's rooftop heating units to work. Their dedication - though bundled up in wool jackets, gloves and steel-toe boots - worked for hours outside, made me thankful for my "desk" job. I give thanks to those hardworking men and women who make it safe for me to drive my car, walk on the side walks, provide heat to my building, deliver warm meals to ailing parents, deliver mail and protect my children and home.

We use one month out the year or even worse, one day out of the year, to give thanks. I need to remember that saying "thank you" is not a something I do in passing or seldomly. I need to give thanks daily for everyone who helps make my life and the lives of others better.

So thank you, for all that you have done and all that you will do. Enjoy your winter break and see you all next year!

IMPORTANT DATES

NO School Dates - Winter Break
December 23—January 1

MIPTO Meeting Dates - Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 18, Apr. 8, May 13, June 10.
6:15pm in Media Center.

Leonardo's Pizzeria - The first
Tuesdays of the Month, January 7
3150 Century Ave N, Mahtomedi, MN
55115 - (651) 777-1200

January Events:

- Pizza Night - January 7
- Roller Skating - January 10
- MIPTO Meeting - January 14
- K-2 Movie Night - January 17
- 3-5 Movie Night - January 24



Showtimes
March 7, 8, 9, 2014 (1st Cast)
March 28, 29, 30 (2nd Cast)



Leonardo's Pizzeria Owner, Michele Mondry, wants to thank everyone for their participation in the Matoska Pizza Night Fundraiser. She also wanted to pass along a note:

"Last month was a great month, over \$140 raised for Matoska! The growing popularity of the pizza night does come with a longer wait time, even though we had "all hands on deck". I want to thank everyone for their participation and patience and look forward to continuing the pizza nights with Matoska families!"

Thank you families for spending your first Tuesday's dining at Leonardo's. The funds raised go directly back to MIPTO so we can continue to offer the great family-friendly entertainment throughout the school year. Last Monday, Mrs. Gifford class celebrated their "most visits to Leonardo's" over the last three months. A new tally starts for January - March with a pizza party planned for March. Upcoming Pizza nights are: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6 and June 3.



White Bear Area Emergency Food Shelf
Providing food for our neighbors in need

During the Family Dance Night in November, Matoska collected 161 pounds of food and donated to the WBL Food Shelf. Our donations helped feed 241,317 meals to our neighbors in the WBL area!

Volunteer Opportunities

We have a new volunteer system. Parent volunteers can now go to www.gmail.com and login to email using the following login information:

Email: MatoskaParentVolunteers@isd624.org

Password: mpvol2012

With the new email you can view volunteer requests and an interactive sign-up sheets for various opportunities. Users can also send email to the same address for all volunteers to view.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for ways to volunteer at Matoska International? Supporting your child's education both in the school and at home are some of the ways to enhance your child's education. Contact our volunteer coordinator, Cami Raeburn at **651-653-2852** for more information.



THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS!
130 TOYS FOR 130 CHILDREN. WAY TO GO MATOSKA!



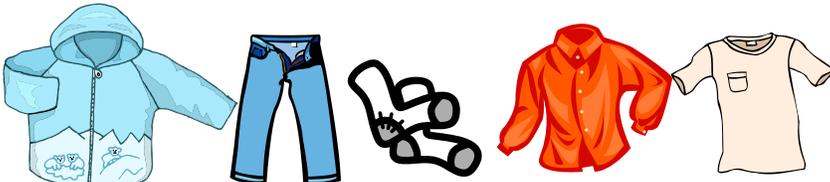
BOX TOPS CLASSROOM WINNERS!

Box Tops have been collected. Congratulations to...K-1 Pam's class, 2-3 Mrs. Fischbach's class and 4-5 Mrs. Mack's class

YEARBOOK ORDERS

You can still submit yearbook orders online at:
<http://ybpay.lifetouch.com>
(yearbook ID code: **5648614**)

The Health Office is in need of pants sizes 8 and up (preferably with elastic waistbands) for our students.



INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

Important Numbers:

Attendance Line: **651-653-2848**.

Transportation Changes? Contact Carolyn Kay in the main office at **651-653-2847**.

Minnesota is quickly jumping from FALL to WINTER. Make sure to dress appropriately for whatever weather conditions come your way. Do you know where the safest place is in your home if there is a tornado or other emergency? In case of any emergency, know who to contact and where your "safe" place is. Practice with your family (and pets).

Should a school closing be necessary, families are notified in the following four ways:

- An instant alert phone message and e-mail will be sent to all parents
- There will be a message on the WBL school closing hotline- **651-407-7540**
- A message will be posted on www.whitebear.k12.mn.us
- Closings will be posted on local news channels

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES



Big Changes are on the way! After Winter Break, watch for more information regarding changes being made to the drop off/pick up process. Mr. John is working very hard to ensure a new system can be implemented in January. Watch for more info to come home soon!