

A Note from Our Principal

Dear Van Hise Families,

In This Issue

- ◆ Principal's Letter
- ◆ Snow Ball!
- ◆ Box Tops Contest
- ◆ School Calendar
- ◆ International Night
- ◆ PTO Notes

Happy New Year! I don't know about you, but I have a great deal of hope and excitement for 2012☺. This winter, I had some time to read for pleasure. While doing so, the following few lines in the book, Animal Dreams, written by Barbara Kingsolver, stood out for me:

**The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for.
And the most you can do is live inside that hope.
Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof.**

It only takes a stroll down our hallways to feel the sense of possibility emanating from our classrooms. Each day we hope for and work towards all of our children having strong relationships, feeling a sense of belonging and learning at high levels under our school roof☺. I speak for all of us at Van Hise when I say that it is a true honor to work with you and your children.

As a school, we are doing quite well with kids coming in and being picked up on time. It is so important that kids are here and in class by 8:30 so that they can participate in the opening activities which include literacy and math applications and learning. Even missing ten minutes a day will add up to a lot of missed instructional time. With winter here in full force, it may mean starting a.m. routine a little earlier to accommodate the need for putting on coats, gloves, hats and the like. We are responsible for knowing where students are if they are not at school, so please call the Safe Arrival line (204-4807) if your child is staying home due to illness. There are two dates this month to pay attention to for attendance purposes. Please remember that we do not have school on Monday, January 16th to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In addition, we have an early release on January 27th at 11:30 a.m. for grade reporting. Thank you for working with us to keep our attendance rate high, and ensure that our children are here ready for learning every day.

During the week of January 23rd, our students in 3rd through 5th grades will be taking the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment in reading once again. The information from MAP along with our data will give us a clear indication of how our children are progressing in reading. More information will be forthcoming about this assessment.

(Continued)



Como verá en este boletín, celebraremos un baile de invierno patrocinado por el PTO, Organización de Padres y Maestros el 20 de enero. Estoy notando que tenemos un número de niños (maestros y familias) ¡que realmente les gusta moverse a la música! ¡Estoy esperando esta noche porque soy una de esas personas que disfruta bailar también!

Cada día, nuestros niños vienen a un lugar lleno de maestros trabajadores y atentos, cuyo objetivo común es inspirarlos a aprender y convertirse en gente con integridad. Este mes de enero, me acuerdo de lo afortunada que soy al ser su directora aquí en Van Hise, y le invitamos a pensar en la abundancia en sus propias vidas con nuestros hijos. ¡Tengamos un año muy exitoso por delante!

Cariñosamente,

Peg Keeler, Directora

Dance!
Dance!
Dance!



Van Hise Elementary's Winter Dance...the **SNOW BALL!**

Friday, January 20,
6pm-8pm, in the gym.

Watch for a special announcement in your child's take-home folder right after winter break. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, contact Danielle Thai, ddthai5121@gmail.com, 233-2253.



Ready. Set. GO!!!

The VHE Box Tops Winter Challenge is
January 17-February 10th!

Collect as many Box Tops as you can during the 4-week contest. Ask friends, neighbors, and family members to collect Box Tops!

More than 9500 Box Tops were collected last winter...
Can we set a new record?!

Prizes will be given to winning classrooms. Watch for more information via backpack mail.



SCHOOL Calendar

www.madison.k12.wi.us

School Telephone: 204-4800
Voice Mail: 204-4801

School Fax Number: 204-0419
Safe Arrival: 204-4807

January

Mon	9	School Resumes
Tues	10	PTO Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Art Room
Mon	16	No School – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Tues	17	February Newsletter Articles Due
Fri	20	SNOW BALL: Winter Dance, 6:00 p.m.
Fri	27	Early Release, 11:30 a.m., End of 2nd Quarter

February

Tues	7	PTO Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Art Room
Mon	13	March Newsletter Articles Due
Fri	17	CARNIVAL! 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Fri	24	No School - Professional Development



VHE International Night

Friday, March 16
5:30 – 8:00pm

Watch for more information to come home in your child's backpack mail.

Don't forget...

**Hedgehog Herald
Newsletter Articles Due**



**February Newsletter
articles due
Tuesday, January 17**

**Email to Kim Mohoney at
garykimmohoney@att.net**



NOTES FROM THE PTO

Come and join the fun!

Support your kids and Van Hise Elementary!

*Our next PTO meeting is **Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00 pm in the Cafeteria.***

An occupational therapist from the Children's Therapy Network will be leading a discussion about sensory regulation and integration.

Child care will be provided for school-aged children in the gymnasium.

Teacher Conference Luncheon Success!

A big Thank You to everyone who helped make the Teacher Conference Luncheon such a big success. The Teachers were amazed at how delicious and wonderful the spread was. It is truly amazing what we can put together with our fantastic VHE Families. Special thank you to those who helped and donated: Hannah Renfro, Valencia Bennett, Vanitha Suresh, Hongmei Gu, Lisa Stern, Weijun Shang, Kim Mohoney, Katie Herringa, Sarah Van Riet, Sheryl Nields, Jane Faber, Beth Gunshor, Nimmi Gulati, Kate Deck, Bhavani, Daniela Sponseller, Susan Smetzer-Anderson, Jodi Streicher-Bremer, Maureen Beilke, Stephanie Whitehorse, Carousel Bayrd, Rosemary Barrientos-Irigoyen, Kimanh To, Sara Gordon, Gianna Childs diFranco, and Mattia Sussman. (Many apologies if we missed a volunteer).

1st Ever Noodles Night a HUGE Success!

VHE's 1st ever Noodles and Company Benefit Night (back on October 17th) earned \$734.77! Thank you again to everyone who attended!

DonorsChoose.org: The three projects are: Read-Alouds on the Go (Mileham – K/1), Fitness Fun (Koval) and Art Room Storage (Cantwell). Go to **DonorsChoose.org** and follow the prompts to make a donation to one or all of these wonderful projects.

A NEW WAY TO EARN FREE MONEY FOR VAN HISE

Recycle4fundraising

Bring in your used

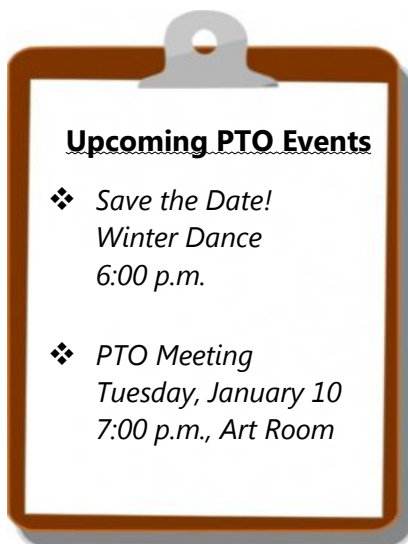
- ink jet cartridges
- laser printer toner cartridges
- cell phones
- digital cameras
- IPODS
- GPS
- Laptops

...from your home or work to raise money for our school!

A new collection box for these items will be in the hallway just inside the doorway leading to the classrooms next to the TerraCycle collection boxes for glue sticks (or give them to your child's teacher).

Our school will earn money for every piece we recycle.

For more information, go to www.recycle4fundraising.com or ask Sarah Van Riet (svanriet@charter.net or 232-0216) Thanks!



Check out all the great ways you can help Van Hise!

◆ **Amazon.com:** You can shop for books, music, movies, computers, electronics, furniture, pet supplies, toys, clothing, sporting equipment, car parts, and even the kitchen sink on Amazon! Amazon is the perfect location to shop if you are looking for school supplies, birthday gifts, getting an early start on holiday shopping, or just want to avoid lines at the store? Most items over \$25 ship for free. Next time you place an order on Amazon, first go to vanhisepto.org and click on the Amazon School Rewards link, then do your shopping. Note that only new items added to your cart AFTER clicking on the link will apply. Up to 15% of your purchase at Amazon.com will go to Van Hise Elementary. Share the link with friends and family!

◆ **Target REDCard:** Shop at Target? The Take Care of Education program is a credit card program through Target where 1% of every purchase on your Target REDCard is donated to the school you select. If you don't already have a REDCard, please take the time to sign up the next time you visit the store. If you already have a REDCard, please make sure that you have designated Van Hise (code is 108762) as your school of choice. And, if you have already designated Van Hise, thank you and keep shopping.

◆ **Box Tops for Education:** Have you heard about eBoxTops from Box Tops Marketplace? Go to www.boxtops4education.com and register (enter VHE's zip code – 53705, select Van Hise from the list, and complete the registration). Once you have an account, you can earn eBoxTops (www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace) whenever you shop online at Barnes and Noble, Crate and Barrel, Dell, Disney Store, Eddie Bauer, Hanna Andersson, hotels.com, iTunes, Lands End, Old Navy, Oriental Trading Company, Snapfish, Children's Place, and many more. Select your store of interest from the Box Tops Marketplace list and you will automatically be taken to your shopping destination once you click on that store's icon. All Box Tops earn money for Van Hise "special" programs (Art, Music, PE).

◆ **TerraCycle** is a company that makes affordable, eco-friendly products from non-recycleable waste materials. TerraCycle prevents 1000s of tons of waste from going to the landfill. To do so, they run a free national collection program that pays non-profits and schools to collect various materials, which are then upcycled into products such as totes and shower curtains. Van Hise Elementary can earn 2 cents for every ELMER's glue bottle, ELMER's glue stick, SCOTCH tape dispenser, and plastic (#6) cup. Please save these items and drop them in the collection bin located just inside the doorway leading to the classrooms (or give them to your child's teacher).

◆ **Swiss Valley: Caps for Cash and Kemps: Nickels for Schools:** Mrs. Cantwell collects milk caps for the art program. Each cap collected is worth 5 cents. The caps have a sticker on the top indicating that they are part of the school donation program. Caps can be turned into the art room. Thanks for drinking milk and helping art!

◆ **The Giving Tree:** The PTO has asked all of the teachers at Van Hise for classroom wish lists. The wish lists have been put on a Giving Tree near the Segoe Entrance. Donating an item(s) from these wish lists makes a difference to your child's teacher and in the classroom. Please take a look at the items on the tree. Please contact Shelby Connell (sconnell@tds.net) if you have any questions.

Don't forget to mention Van Hise Elementary when making purchases from Office Depot who will donate a percentage of your sales to our local stores. Earn easy money for Van Hise when you shop...

Please join us and get involved! Together, we can and will do great things!

Thank you VHE Families, Friends and Supporters!

Thank you for making last year's PTO fundraisers such a HUGE success!