

Happy New Year! Please take time to read the following information to learn more about what is going on at Sonnesyn! - Leia Ward, Principal

Science and Engineering at Sonnesyn

Science and Engineering continue to be an important facet of a well-rounded education. Beyond what happens in the classroom, we have a special event coming up that focuses on the Science and Engineering process and aims to help students understand how Science and Engineering apply to our everyday world. Once again, students in Grades 3-5 will be encouraged to participate in our Science Fair with presentations of projects at our Science Night on February 2nd. In addition to the individual projects, we will have K-2 grade level projects on display along with a variety of science and engineering activities and presentations. This event will take place on February 2, 2016 from 5pm-7pm. We hope to see you there!

How can you encourage your scientist or engineer at home?

Check out the website ww.scimathmn.org/parents for many valuable resources and suggestions for encouraging your child to get more interested in science and engineering in their world. There is also information regarding what students should be learning in the elementary science classroom.

Winter Weather Gear

Winter is here! Our students go outside for recess every day unless the weather is below 0° F or -10° F wind chill. That means students need to come to school prepared to go outside with their coats, hats, mittens, snowpants, and boots! If you are in need of winter clothing for your child, please let the office know as we do have some select items available through donation.

Substitute Shortage

The metro area has been experiencing a shortage of available substitute teachers. While we try to fill all our open positions when a teacher needs to be absent, there are times when we start the day with no teacher assigned to a classroom. One of our solutions is to split the class within the rest of the grade level. We feel this provides more continuity for the students as they are with another teacher who knows the content that the students are working on in their classrooms. While we know this may not seem ideal with additional students in each classroom, it is temporary and we find that students are more successful with another grade level teacher than with any other staff member we may pull from their own duties. If you have any questions about this practice, please contact Ms. Ward at leia_ward@rdale.org



Lego League

Congratulations to our 4th and 5th grade Lego League team. They did well in their last tournament and we wish them well as they compete again this Saturday, January 9th in Elk River!

Listening Sessions with Ms. Ward

Listening sessions are an opportunity for families to ask questions, share concerns, and learn more about what is happening at Sonnesyn. These sessions will be held monthly prior to the PTSO meetings. Ms. Ward will be holding the next listening session on January 12th from 6:00-6:30. Childcare will be provided.

December in Review

Congratulations to our 5th graders. We had our DARE graduation on Wednesday December 16th. Guest speakers included Dr. Jenkins, Mayor Hempken, and Chief Fornier. We heard from 6 students about the lessons they learned in DARE and their commitments to making good decisions in the future!



Our Student Council was a hit on KARE 11 as they stopped by to donate all the toys we collected for our Toys for Tots drive. Thank you for your generous donations.

Monthly Cultural Theme

Throughout the month of January, we will focus on the contributions of the Asian American community in the United States. Some facts students might learn include:

MN has the second largest Hmong population next to California.

The Chinese New Year is based on the lunar calendar and is celebrated between mid-January and mid-February.

Character Corner: Cooperation

Throughout the month of January, we will be talking to students about Cooperation. To kick off the theme of cooperation, we were fortunate to have the Cooper High School Step Team at Sonnesyn. The students and staff really enjoyed their performance along with learning about strategies the team uses to be successful!





January 2015

Theme: Cooperation

Month: Asian Heritage Month

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1	2
3	4 School Resumes Today	5	6 Math Masters 3:45pm	7 Chess Club 3:45pm	8	9	
10	11	12 Ms. Ward Listening Mtg. 6-6:30pm PTSO Mtg. 6:30-7:30pm	13 Math Masters 3:45pm	14 Chess Club 3:45pm	15	16	
17	18 No School	19 No School	20 Math Masters 3:45pm	21 Chess Club 3:45pm	22 Movie Night Gr K-2 6:30-8:30pm	23	
24	31	25	26 Crazy Hair/Hat day Pride Assembly 10:15a Gr 3-5 2:30p K-2	27 Math Masters 3:45pm Parents As Our Partners 5:00-7:00 p.m.	28 Chess Club 3:45pm	29	30

