

COUGAR

O N N E C T I O



PTA President's Message

Welcome, Clow Cougars and Cougar families, to the 2008-2009 school year! Now that summer is coming to an end, it's time to get back into a daily routine of school and family life. I know my family is ready for that, even with the first day of school tears and smiles. In my house, mom had the tears and my boys had the smiles.

I am very happy to share with you, that we are utilizing the Have-a-Heart theme for school this year. The teachers, staff and PTA board will be reinforcing this theme with the children throughout the year. We will be creating a 'bucket-filling' atmosphere in school, and hopefully it will be extended outside the school walls into the community. Have-a-Heart will be incorporated into our class parties, assemblies and many other activities the children participate in. Ask your child to share with you

what 'bucket-filling' means!

We are also pleased to be hosting the 1/2 day Kindergarten program at Clow School. Please help us welcome all the 'little cougars' into our community and make them feel at home. If you see an unfamiliar face, or someone looking overwhelmed, please help us make them feel comfortable by greeting them as you would a returning friend. By doing this, you will show the children and parents that Clow families do 'Have-a-Heart'!

By now, you should have all received a Volunteer Request packet that came home with your children on the 1st day of school. I hope you've reviewed it and filled in those opportunities for you to participate in your child's school experience. This year there are many ways to help out, and I am sure that at least one will fit into your

busy schedule. Other ways to directly impact your child are to join the PTA and participate in our fundraisers throughout the year. The monies collected help us fund the activities we provide for our children. As always, Wrapping Paper and Market Day are our main fundraisers. You can learn more about them at Curriculum Night.

I am looking forward to the new school year and my responsibilities as PTA President.

Dee Valiga
PTA President

Let's work together and show our children that parents also 'Have-a-Heart!!'

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PTA Executive Board

Dee Valiga
President

630/357-5411

Deenbv@yahoo.com

Sonia Hertogs
Vice President

Dione Schick
Secretary

Bill Raczyk
Treasurer

Bill_Raczyk@hotmail.com

Robert E. Clow Elementary School

Barbara Kaufman, Principal
Barbara_Kaufman@ipsd.org

<http://clow.ipdsd.org>
Phone: 630/428-6060

Cougar Connection Editor

Shannon Raczyk
shannonLraczyk@yahoo.com

From the Principal's Desk



Welcome back to what promises to be another exciting and positive year of learning at Clow School. The lessons planned for this year include reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and the arts. Invariably many "life" lessons will occur as well. I encourage you to communicate frequently with your child(ren) about how school "is going" – your child will confide in you emotional experiences that he/she may need help processing. These moments allow you to teach your family values as well as build your child's self-esteem.

The staff has plans to bring the **"Have a Heart"** theme to life every day this school year. "Be careful what you say and do, I have a heart just like you" speaks to the importance of conscientiously monitoring how we treat others

on a daily basis. We each have the responsibility to demonstrate respect for all people on an ongoing basis. We teach the importance of interpersonal skills daily through our interactions with others; this year the staff is committed to specific discussions about relationships.

In the next few weeks, every child and staff member will be creating a unique t-shirt to be worn on special days throughout the school year. These days will help us to take special note of our commitment to Have a Heart. Please watch the Cougar Connection and Kaufman Communicator for details about special events.

Recently, all the teacher read to their students a special story entitled, "Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Young Kids." The wonderful story describes

the figurative emotional bucket we each carry with us. At any given moment, we have the opportunity to fill the bucket of another or to dip into that bucket. One of the great by-products of filling someone's bucket is that our own bucket is filled as well. Ask your child to tell you about the story in his/her own words.

I personally look forward to a positive year of caring and sharing at Clow School.

Barbara Kaufman
Clow Principal



Welcome Back
Cougars!

2008-2009 Clow PTA Board

Executive Committee

President: Dee Valiga
Vice President: Sonia Hertogs
Secretary: Dione Schick
Treasurer: Bill Raczky

Arts in Education

Art Awareness: Roxanna Fotovat
Framing: Heidi Oliver
Reflections: Samatha Elkins

Health and Safety

Blood Drive: Eileen Skrbec
CPR Class: Eileen Skrbec
Helping Hand: Kristi Rieke
Red Ribbon Week: Cathy Bosma
Wellness Liaison: Theresa White

Hospitality

JoAnn Degnan
Jennifer Isakson

IPPC

IPSN

LMC

Accelerated Reader
Birthday Books
Book Fairs
Box Tops
Morning Book Disc.
Publishing Center

Membership

Volunteer Coordinator
Welcoming

Publicity

Historian

School Spirit

Apparel
Courtyard Maintenance

School Supplies

Family Fun

Halloween Party
Holiday Shop

Chris Brinkler
Amy Skarr
Lori Patterson
Tammy Hughes
Patty Schiewe
JoAnn Degnan
Gaye Vicik

Chris Bickler
Debbie Lendino
Sonia Hertogs
Heather Orlow
Shannon Raczky
Heather Orlow
Leah Keane
Dee Valiga
Dee Valiga
Kim Rappe
Angie McKissick

Kathleen Keenan
Theresa White

Ice Cream Social
Movie Night/Bingo

Pottery Night
Rollerskating
Science Fair
Spirit Dance

Talent Show
Ways and Means
Carnival

DNA Certificates
Market Day
Sport Events
Traverso Night
Wrapping Paper

Stella Jimoh
Lori Summers
Pennie Major
Stella Jimoh
Jennifer Sprietzer
Rochelle Walwer
Londa Luehrsen
Janine Premo
Toni Picket
Gina Ramsey
JoAnn Degnan
Jennifer Isakson
Theresa White
Patty Schiewe
Peggy Blankenschein
Dee Valiga
Julie Rouches
Gina Ramsey

Class Highlights...

Kindergarten

During the first week of kindergarten, we have been working very hard to learn our classroom routines and to improve our listening skills. The first week was a big success with the introduction of several letters. We are learning to identify them and learn the sound each letter makes. This month we will meet one letter each day. After all are introduced, we look forward to spending an entire week getting to know each letter a little better. We also began talking about friends, families, and ourselves. In math we will begin sorting, classifying, graphing, and learning about patterns. We will also do many activities involving shapes, colors, and counting.

Kindergarten at Clow is a place for growing, learning, and having fun. Our day is filled with a variety of different learning experiences. The alphabet is a large part of our day!

The ABC's of Kindergarten

A	Alphabet	We learn each and every letter. We even make words!
B	Birthday	We will get a crown, special pencil, and a book on our birthday.
C	Computers	We will go to the lab each month. We have 3 computers in our room.
D	Dinosaurs	Our dinosaur unit is dino-mite!
E	Every day	We come to school every day and each day is different.
F	Fun	It is fun to go to music, art and PE.
G	Games	We have many learning games to play.
H	Housekeeping	The housekeeping center is always great fun.
I	I think I can...	learn a lot in kindergarten.
J	Journals	Journals help us to grow from drawing to writing.
K	Kindness	We learn to show kindness in many ways.
L	Letters	We learn the letter names and their sounds.
M	Manipulatives	It's fun to learn math using hands-on activities.
N	Newsletter	It goes home on Friday and tells parents what we've done all week & what is to come.
O	Optimistic	We are optimistic about losing our teeth.
P	Play	When we play, we also learn.
Q	Quiet	It is seldom quiet. We're always too busy!
R	Right	We learn to say the pledge and place our right hand on our heart.
S	Spelling	Kindergarten spelling helps us to learn to read and write
T	Teeth	Be sure to let us know when you lose a tooth.
U	Unique	Kindergartners are very unique.
V	Very funny	Kindergarten teachers are very funny.
W	Water	In science we do many activities with water.
X	eXciting	Kindergarten is always exciting.
Y	Yippee	What kindergartners shout when outside for recess.
Z	Zoom	The year zooms by!



We know all the kindergartners are special and we look forward to a fun and rewarding year!

The Kindergarten Team

Class Highlights...

First Grade

The first graders are starting the year off getting used to classroom routines, renewing “old” friendships, and establishing new ones. Ask any first grader the highlight of their day and they will probably tell you it’s *lunch!*

We are having an exciting adventure in our reading series. Language Arts has us reviewing letter sounds and practicing proper D’Nealian

formation. The use of small chalkboards is important in our daily lessons.

In Math, we are working to establish a sense of number order. We are also learning to tell time to the hour and count coins.

In Social Studies, we are learning how to resolve conflicts in a positive manner by “Talking It Out.” We are

working towards building a cooperative community in which to learn and play.

We are looking forward to meeting our parents on Curriculum Night, September 4th.



The First Grade Team

Second Grade

Welcome to Second Grade! We hope you had a great summer and are ready for a wonderful year. We have many exciting activities planned this year.

Second graders love to read and our year will be filled with reading books, books and more books. The children will immerse themselves in a wide variety of literature both from our basal series and other wonderful literature available to them.

The children will be able to participate for the first time



in the Accelerated Reader program where they have the ability to earn points for prizes. Along with reading, second graders love to write. We will be writing many stories and even publishing our own books. We will begin by learning the process of writing and focusing on the traits of good writing.

In math, we will begin the year by reviewing calendars, time, money sequencing and comparing numbers. Math facts will be an important part of our curriculum.

Social studies brings us this month to “Communities.” WE know we live in the “BEST” community and will explore other types of communities.

We look forward to meeting you on Curriculum Night and are ready to make this a very special year for your child!

The Second Grade Team

Third Grade

Welcome back! We hope your summer vacation was wonderful and relaxing. As we begin our year, third graders will make a splash as they dive into a new year with many new and exciting opportunities!

Third graders will sail on a journey around the world as we study our oceans and continents. They will also become more inquisitive scientists as they investigate and research different animals near the end of the month. Students will discover more

about classifying these animals into groups as well as the habitats they live in.



During the month of September, composing quality paragraphs will be our focus in writing. Also, third graders will be encouraged to read daily using our A.K.O.R.N. reading program. Students will be responsible for logging their minutes and watching their growth throughout the year.

Third grade teachers would like to remind you to keep watching and checking the yellow assignment notebooks daily. This will notify and remind third graders about homework, upcoming tests, and school events.

We look forward to meeting all parents on Curriculum Night, Thursday, September 4. Third grade will prove to be an exhilarating and rewarding year for your student!

The Third Grade Team

Class Highlights...

Fourth Grade

Try not to "sweat the Small Stuff," even though warm weather seems to have become a tradition for the opening days of school. We're looking forward to sharing all about fourth grade with you on curriculum night, which is September 4 at 7:00 p.m. with the same session repeated at 7:45 p.m. All fourth grade parents and teachers will be meeting in rooms 202 and 203.

Until then, look for your child's assignment book to come home each evening. Communication about homework, special projects, and important dates are included daily. There are also resource pages in the back of the assignment book which may be very helpful to you.

In the beginning days of fourth grade, your child will be coming home very excited to share with you about crashing eggs, traveling the country in an envelope, meeting Leigh and Mr. Henshaw, and T.G.I.F. !!!

We look forward to an awesome year!

The Fourth Grade Team

Fifth Grade

Welcome Back! We hope your summer vacation was terrific and relaxing. This year the fifth grade team is comprised of three teachers: Mrs. Sara Pettett (5P), Mrs. Victoria Mulacek (5M), and Mr. Aaron Sovern (5S). We look forward to meeting you on Curriculum Night when we can give you an overview of what you and your fifth grader can expect throughout the school year.

You may have already noticed that we try to help the students develop good organizational skills and teach them to budget time. The assignment notebook that was specifically created for Clow

students is a valuable tool. Please check it over and sign it often. Be sure to look at the back of the assignment notebook for some helpful pages on writing, test taking, schedules, calendars, and more. Completion of homework is a vital component to a successful 5th grade year. Late, missing, or incomplete assignments will impact grades in a negative way.



We consider it a privilege to teach your children and look forward to assisting them as they begin to make the

transition to middle school. If you ever have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call any of us. We encourage you to visit the Clow Schoolbag Site where you can see samples of student work, project explanations, a monthly calendar, curriculum notes and more! We're sure it's going to be a great year, particularly if we approach it with positive attitudes, work together, and maintain open lines of communication. We'll see you on September 4th!

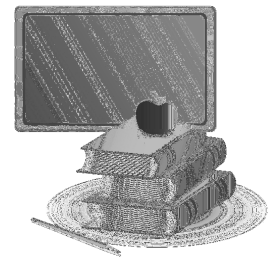
The Fifth Grade Team

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Thursday, September 4, 2008

Two Sessions: 7:00 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.

- KMI & KME will meet in the gymnasium.
- KG & First Grade will meet in their own classrooms.
- Second Grade will all meet together in the Multi-Purpose Room.
- Third Grade will all meet together in the LMC.
- Fourth Grade will all meet together in Rooms 202 and 203.
- Fifth Grade will all meet together in Rooms 209 and 210.



Class Highlights...

Music

Welcome back to general music! It's great to see the students back at school and ready for music-making! As students have had a busy summer enjoying the outdoors and vacationing, the district music staff has been very busy updating the music curriculum. With the addition of all-day Kindergarten, the district music curriculum now reflects a more in-depth introduction to the elements of music. In all grade levels across the curriculum, students will also be introduced to a new sight-singing curriculum designed to improve music literacy. In addition to these new aspects of the music curricula, students will continue to study the role of music in other cultures and countries as they compare them to different styles of American music. Students have much to look forward to this year as they embark on many musical journeys!

In the first and second grades, we will focus on folk and world music as we develop basic rhythmic skills and find a steady beat. Students will be introduced to basic musical concepts such as melody and harmony through singing, movement, and playing Orff instruments (barred xylophones and drums). The second graders will showcase what they have learned in a spring musical.

In third grade, we will continue developing vocal technique and will also begin the recorder. Recorder playing helps students develop fine motor coordination and understand musical notation. The third grade students will showcase their recorder skills with a performance in February.

In the fourth and fifth grades we will continue playing the recorder, as we explore notes on the staff. We will explore more instrumental and vocal ensembles using percussion instruments and different layering patterns.

The fifth grade class will perform a musical in early December. Please watch for additional communications that will be coming home with students. Our musical will focus on the Orff concepts developed through fifth grade and will be an exciting one not to miss!

Fourth and fifth grade students have several opportunities to develop their musical skills through performance ensembles outside of the general music class. Clow Drum Ensemble and Clow Chorus are both open to fourth and fifth grade students. Fifth grade students also have the opportunity to join band, orchestra, and chorus. Fifth grade students who join band and orchestra may also join chorus, as we rehearse on different days.



Clow Chorus will rehearse on **Thursday** mornings from 8:00-8:50 am. Drum Ensemble will rehearses on **Mondays** after school from 3:35-4:15. Students will be receiving permission slips in the upcoming weeks with start and performance dates for both ensembles.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year, and I look forward to another successful year teaching your children!

Maureen McCoy
Music Teacher

Art

Welcome! It's great to have the art room filled again with creative students! All grade levels have art class once a week for 50 minutes except for kindergarten. If your child attends ½ day kindergarten, then they will have art for 25 minutes once a week. Full day kindergartners will have art for 25 minutes twice a week.

Please make sure that your child comes prepared to art class with their art materials and art shirts. All grade levels will be working with a variety of media including messy media like paint and oil pastels.

Clow students learn from each other. It is exciting to have such a diverse community attending Clow. Our students learn about many different cultures through the arts. If your child would like to share art work or artifacts from another country or even art created by a relative, we would love to have your child present these to us. A few of the cultures that we touch on are African, Mexican, Asian, Aboriginal, European as well as Native American. Clow families are a wonderful resource. Thank you for your support of the art program!

One interesting find I'd like to share with you is the Chicago Architecture Foundation Family Studio Sundays. The 3rd Sunday of each month the foundation will conduct hand-on activities, walking tours, stories and more. It is free and goes from 11am-3pm. You may find more information at www.architecture.org.



Denise Nickel
Art Teacher

Class Highlights...

Physical Education

Welcome back to everyone! It is nice to see all the smiling faces. We have had a great start to the year and I know it will continue that way as we work together. How 'bout those Olympics!?! I watched quite a bit of the games and was really impressed with the amazing achievements of the athletes. If you stop to think what we as the human race can really achieve with great skill and training it really is astonishing. What sport/discipline do you think was the most difficult and why? To me, they all had their unique challenges, but I enjoyed the sand volleyball games. Why? For two people to cover the area they had to, to move on sand, to jump up so high, to do all that with no subs, and to perform in different weather extremes (from heat to rain) appears to be extremely demanding. But then again to do what Michael Phelps did with all that pressure and to master all those different strokes and to break a 36 year old record, most in world record fashion. You know what...It is hard to pick the most difficult activity. Good luck!

THE GAME PLAN

Kindergarten is learning the value of stopping and starting (body control) with different activities many using directionals and level changes (spatial awareness). Movement explorations will be an on-going theme through the year. We have played some game like **Space City** and **See You Later, Alligator**.

First grade is reviewing stopping and starting, level changes, and how to work together. This will be year one for the fitness test. Our District-wide fitness test will see the development of the student in push-ups, curl-ups,

sit and reach, the Pace test (jogging test), and the Endurance test (a distance run for time).

Second grade, like first grade, will be developing a better understanding of how the body moves at different levels and in different patterns. Scanning and anticipating movements of others will be used. Second graders will be much further ahead with their experience in the fitness test from first grade. Also, second graders will be assessed this year on skipping, moving safely, and in the cognitive sense of- do they know the 4 major changes your body goes through when exercising? (Our answers: heart beats faster, breathing is faster, your body gets warmer/hotter, and you need a drink of water).

Third grade is very proficient by now on our fitness test requirements. We are fine tuning our form for the tests. Our first units are flag-football and soccer, so we should have a better appreciation for how those games are played. The skills of throwing, catching, kicking, and running as well as learning defense and offense and some strategies will be introduced.

Fourth grade is a very exciting year as we will do square dancing as one of our activities. Fourth grade will hopefully delve into our team sports sooner as our skill levels improve. Fourth and fifth grade will be playing flag football, soccer, and an Olympic sport called Team Handball to start the year out.

Fifth grade, like second grade, will be assessed this year on tracking their heart rates, creating their own movement pattern (dance) and taking the Endurance test. Overall each upper level skill will build off the level(s) that preceded it.

We move with a purpose!

FITNESS IS FUN SECTION

As of this writing, I am not sure about our **Fun Runs/Walk Talks**. I had hoped the attendance would have grown but it didn't. Any ideas are welcome to grow the numbers. However, I may do a morning exercise routine implementing elements of yoga and core training. I am in the construction phase with that.

Also the national **Punt, Pass and Kick Competition** (as sponsored by the NFL and Pepsi) will be conducted after school. More information is forth coming. If this letter is after our contest, please go to the following web site for participating sites: <https://nflppk.active.com/CompetitionFinder.aspx>

REMEMBER

Please continue to have your student(s) prepared for P.E. class with safe and comfortable gym shoes. Appropriate clothing to allow for movement is also so important. Our gym is now carpeted!

Timm Jayne
Physical Education Teacher

*When you exercise, your brain releases a chemical called **endorphins** (say: en-dor-funz), which may make you feel happier. It's just another reason why exercise is cool!*

--- Mary L. Gavin, MD

Library Media Center

What's Up in the LMC , You Ask...

We're back and circulating books, books, and more books!!! For the first time, we were open for book checkout the very first day of school! Students have been visiting the LMC borrowing books and participating in LMCcenter literacy activities. If your child hasn't brought home at least one library book by now, please ask him or her why not. We would love to know so that we can arrange to see them more frequently!

Thank you to the dedicated parent volunteers who helped out the first two weeks of school. They made our opening on day #1 possible. If you are interested in helping out in the LMC, please give Lori Patterson a call at 548-9192. Lori is our Volunteer Coordinator and she will be happy to explain just what our volunteers do to help the students at Clow and maybe even add you to the schedule.

This past summer, our reading incentive program was tied to the Olympics. After reading great books, students traveled the world as they colored flags from a variety of countries. Be sure to stop in the LMC and take a look at the bulletin board display that recognizes our gold medal winning readers. If your child misplaced the summer reading packet, it is available on our website at:

http://clow.ipisd.org/lmc_whatsup_june_2008.html.

Website News...

Please visit the LMC portion of the Clow School site with your child to learn about:

- ◆ "What's Up In the LMC" and learn about the exciting things going on throughout the month
- ◆ Online resources for you and your child on our Schoolbag site at <http://clow.ipisd.org/schoolbag.html>
- ◆ Our patron catalog where you can browse all of the books in our collection
- ◆ What books our students have recommended and how your student can recommend good books

Visit the LMC Website:
<http://clow.ipisd.org/lmc.html>

- ◆ The Clow Storytellers and our storytelling program
- ◆ The award winning Webographer program and find out about the valuable contribution these students make to Clow
- ◆ The AR Interactive Quiz List where you can find out about books from our collection that are in our Accelerated Reader program
- ◆ *Who's Who in the LMC*
- ◆ The many ways that the PTA supports the LMC program and each student attending Clow
- ◆ Past LMC events
- ◆ The academics of our Library Media Center Program and the many ways it contributes to your child's education at Clow.

We wish you a school year filled with the joy of reading together as a family!

The LMC Staff

Mrs. Sparks, LMC Assistant & Mrs Frett, LMC Director

LMC HOURS

Before School Hours*

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
8:30 - 9:05 a.m.

After School Hours*

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, 3:35 - 4:15
(closed after school on half days or afternoons
before a holiday)

During the School Day

Monday - Friday
9:05 - 3:35

**Parent/Adult Supervision required during these hours.*



Students discussing a book in the LMC.

Library Media Center



Welcome back! I hope all of you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer vacation. I am anxious to get our volunteers scheduled and back in the LMC so our students can continue to enjoy all the wonderful resources we have available to them. Many thanks to all who have volunteered in the LMC in the past. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

If you would like to volunteer, you can complete the volunteer form that came home in your student's backpack last week. Volunteers are scheduled weekly, every other week, or once a month. Shifts are in the morning and the afternoon. I will do my very best to accommodate every scheduling request. Volunteering in the LMC is a great opportunity to observe your children in action as every student uses the LMC almost every day.

I look forward to seeing many new and familiar faces in the LMC this year. Clow volunteers are so very important to the children and the staff. Thank you again for your commitment and support to the students of Clow School.

Lori Patterson
LMC Coordinator

Birthday Book Club

Is your child's birthday coming up soon? The Birthday Book Club provides a great opportunity for you to honor your child's birthday with a book donation to the Clow LMC. Your contribution for a personally dedicated book for the LMC is \$10.00. Your child will be the first to check out the book and they will be invited to our birthday book club party at the end of the school year.

Beginning late September your child can just check out a birthday book catalog from the LMC. There you will find instructions, order forms and a list of book titles and descriptions from which to choose. OR...starting in October, you can find the catalog online at http://clow.ipisd.org/lmc_pta_birthday-book-club.html.

Another option, if your child prefers seeing the books, is to visit Anderson's Bookshop in Naperville and purchase a new hardcover book from the Best Books for Children book list that is also available in our catalog.

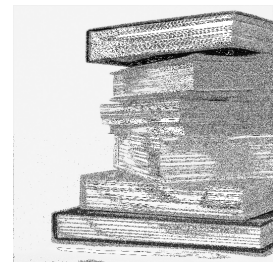
Hopefully these options for ordering books will make it easier for you to donate a book to the LMC. Patty Schiewe

Birthday Book Club Chairperson

Birthday Book Catalog Online

- Go to www.clow.ipisd.org
- Click on the LMC link on the left
- Scroll down to The Clow PTA Supports the Clow LMC Program,
- Click on Birthday Book Club, then click on the Birthday Book Catalog link.

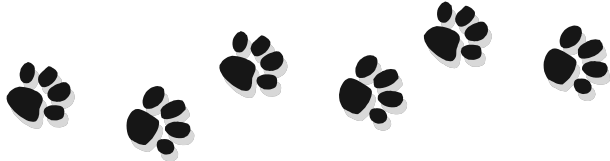
Note: The Birthday Book Order Form is available for you to print online also.



Library Media Center

Clow PawPrints Publishing Center

Welcome back Clow Cougars! The PawPrints Publishing Center is getting ready to open its doors! We'll be ready soon to publish your great stories! So sharpen those pencils and write about your adventures! Don't forget, if your story is really good, it might be published in hardback and added to our library!



PawPrints Publishing Committee

Accelerated Reader Program

The accelerated reader program is a fabulous incentive program for **ALL** 2nd through 5th graders in which students earn rewards for reading!

Here is how it works...

- **READ AN A.R. BOOK.** In our LMC these books have yellow spine labels. You can see a complete list of applicable books in the LMC as well as the Clow website at http://clow.ipeds.org/lmc_books_ar-list.html.
- **TAKE A TEST ON A SCHOOL COMPUTER.** Students will earn points for correctly answering multiple choice questions. Point value start with half a point and go up depending on the length and difficulty of the book. For each test points are pro rated based on the number of questions answered correctly. Students must have a passing score (60%) to earn any points.
- **ACCUMULATE POINTS AND EARN PRIZES.** Points accumulate and are tallied each week by parent volunteers. Students receive prizes each time they reach a new prize/point level. The top point earners for the month will also be recognized right here in Cougar Connection.

So start reading! Teachers will let you know when you can start to take A.R. tests for this school year.

****PARENTS****

We really need your help tallying points and handing out prizes! If you can give a few hours **once every 6 weeks**. Please contact me or Mrs. Frett in the LMC.

Tammy Hughes
Accelerated Reading

PTA Happenings

Note From PTA Vice President

Welcome Back Cougars!

It's hard to believe that summer vacation is over and a new school year is upon us. I hope everyone had a great summer.

As the Vice President, I'd like to take this opportunity to give you a brief overview of some volunteer opportunities whose success depends on dedicated parents such as yourselves.

One of my responsibilities is the designation of a head room parent for each class. Once the head room parents are selected, I will work with this group to ensure that they have a firm understanding of their responsibilities.

Please take a moment to consider being a head room parent. It is a very rewarding experience that allows you to be directly involved in the school parties. I have been a room parent myself, so I speak from experience. More information on the head room parent duties can be found on the front page of the volunteer packet

sent home on the first day of school. Also in the packet are volunteer opportunities for the Fall Have-A-Heart Party, the Holiday Sing-A-Long, and Field Day.

The Vice President is also responsible for the coordination of volunteers of events such as the Fall Have-A-Heart party, the Holiday Sing-A-Long, and the 5th Grade Promo Como Party. In addition to volunteer coordination, I will be directly involved in the planning of the Fall Have-A-Heart party which is going in an exciting new direction this year!

If you have any questions regarding the parties or the head room parent duties, feel free to contact me.

I am really looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones. Welcome back Cougars!

Sonia Hertogs
PTA Vice President

PTA MEMBERSHIP

Welcome back to school fellow Cougars! I truly hope everyone had a terrific summer spending quality time with family and friends.

As we get back to business, I want to first thank all of the families for becoming a PTA member. Becoming a PTA member not only gets one a school directory, but really helps support the cause of parents, guardians and educators as we work together for the benefit of our children and community. As a member, volunteering also becomes a right and privilege.

So, if you have not signed on to be a PTA member yet, now is the time! Check the backpacks for a membership form and promptly return it back to school with your child. I look forward to a fantastic school year.

Debbie Lendino
Clow PTA Membership Chair

Go Cougars! Go Clow! This means YOU, Parents!

As School Spirit Chair this year, I oversee many of the activities and services so capably run by other parents, and so valued and enjoyed by the students and parents (and sometimes, the staff) of the Clow Community. These include: Apparel, School Supplies, Spirit Dance, Bingo and Movie Nights (new this year!), Holiday Shop, Rollerskating Night, Talent Show, and Ice Cream Social.

I am also in charge of implementing National PTA's "Three for Me" Volunteer program at Clow. The PTA would like to ensure that all parents are aware of the opportunities for them to contribute to their children's education and growth by volunteering just three hours of their

time this school year. Try and compute what that would mean for Clow in terms of volunteer hours - amazing, right? The Volunteer request packet has just come home and lists a variety of ways Cougar Parents can contribute to the school community - and they do NOT all require your presence during the school day! Parents will receive credit for work done at home, donations of material goods (count your shopping time!), even attending PTA, IPPC or School Board meetings.

We'd like each parent to sign a promise card, committing to three hours dedicated to Clow this year, and on the back of it keep track of the date, duration and service performed. When you've met

your three-hour commitment, please send it in to school via backpack mail, and you'll receive recognition of your contribution via Ms. Kaufman's newsletter and the Cougar Connections, plus a certificate that your child will carry home to you with pride! Share with your children your excitement about their school, and your example of volunteerism! Wouldn't these be great gifts for all our children?

I look forward to working with many of you, and writing certificates out to ALL of you!

Leah Keane
School Spirit Committee Chair

PTA Happenings

Downtown Naperville Alliance Gift Certificates

Starting this month, the Clow PTA is selling Downtown Naperville Alliance Gift Certificates (DNA Gift Certificates).

What are they? DNA Gift Certificates are 'generic' gift certificates that can be used at most of the downtown stores and restaurants. They come in increments of \$10, \$25, \$50, and \$100. Check out the list of DNA participating stores/restaurants at www.naperville.net and click on the Downtown Naperville link, then click on the gift certificate link. Finally click on the listing link and you'll be pleasantly surprised when you find over **150** participating businesses!

What does it mean? It means you can buy gift certificates for all your favorite downtown stores and restaurants right here at Clow!

How will it work? Each month an order form will be sent out via backpack mail. Just fill out your order and submit your check made payable to Clow PTA. DNA gift certificate orders will be available for pick up from 5-6 pm on Market Day pick up dates.

Why are we doing this? The Downtown Naperville Alliance allows the PTA to have 5% of each certificate **sold**.

What's the catch? There is absolutely no catch! You get exactly what you pay for. You pay nothing extra!

So...

Planning dinner in downtown Naperville...get a DNA gift certificate!

Going shopping downtown Naperville...get a DNA gift certificate!

Need a gift for a teacher, friend or relative...get a DNA gift certificate!

Patty Schiewe
DNA Certificates Coordinator

The first order form will be sent home in late September!



Spirit Apparel

NEW SPIRIT WEAR HAS ARRIVED!!

Look for the new Clow Spirit wear in the halls this fall!

If you missed the spring order, it's not too late. Fall order forms will be sent home this month. Send in your order form and payment. Items will be delivered in October.

Christy Rustemeyer
Spirit Apparel



Art Awareness Program

A wonderful way to enrich your child's education is to be involved in the Art Awareness Program. As a volunteer, you visit your child's classroom once a month and discuss a piece of art work and talk about the artist. You also lead a simple project that relates to the piece. All art pieces have a package of information to review and suggestions that have been successful for the past several years. You do not need to have any special knowledge of art. All you need is the package.

There will be an Art Awareness Training Breakfast on Tuesday, September 23rd from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM in the Clow Multi-Purpose Room. Please attend if you are interested in volunteering for the Art Awareness Program.

Roxanna Fotovat
Art Awareness

PTA Happenings



A special thank you to the following Boy Scout families for building the arbor now located in the courtyard:

Bickler, Manna, Doranski, Caponigro, Lukas,
Jourdan, Hughes, & Engmark

Thanks to the following committees for working hard over the summer to get ready for 2008-2009:

Reflections	Samantha Elkins & Kathleen Roberts
Welcoming	Heather Orlow
Hospitality	JoAnn Degnan & Jennifer Isackson
Audit & Budget Committees	Kim Anderson, Sonia Hertogs, Bill Raczyk, Gina Ramsey & Dione Schick
IPSN	Amy Skarr
Volunteer Coordinator	Sonia Hertogs

Upcoming PTA Meetings

September 10
7:00 p.m.

October 8
2:00 p.m.

Multi-Purpose Room

Daytime meetings are changing to 2:00 p.m. instead of 1:30 p.m. This will allow custodial staff time to clean up the multipurpose after the All-Day Kindergarten and 1st Grade lunches. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but we really have no choice with the addition of the Kindergarten lunch. Thanks for your understanding.

Dee Valiga, PTA President

PTA Needs Your Help

PTA HALLOWEEN PARTY STILL NEEDS A CHAIR

We are still looking for someone to run our night time Halloween Party for the PTA. If you have enjoyed this event in the past, like the costume parade, or are new and want to go to a PTA sponsored Halloween Party, please sign up to run/help with this event. We will not be having our party if the chair position goes unfilled.

Please contact myself or Leah Keane if you would be willing to run this event for our children.

OTHER PTA OPENINGS

We are still looking for chair people for Morning Book Discussion and Red Ribbon Week. Please contact me if you can help with these events.

**Dee Valiga
PTA President
630/357-5411**



Did you know there is a link to the district's school lunch program on the Clow website? You will find an explanation on how the lunch program works. There is information about how to pay for lunches, a link to menus, and account information.

If you have questions about your child's lunch account, contact Barb Pesola (from the District 204 Support Services) at 630/375-3652 or barb_pesola@ipsd.org.

PTA Happenings

Come and join the Clow PTA in kicking off the 2008-2009 school year with our first Family Fun Event!

Spirit Dance

Friday, September 19, 2008

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Clow Gymnasium

Bring the whole family for a fun filled night of dancing and socializing! There will be raffle prizes to win and concessions for purchase. Show your school spirit by wearing Clow apparel or Clow school colors. Hope to see you there!

Londa Luehrsen & Janine Premo
Spirit Dance Chairpersons

Reflections Program

The 2008-2009 Reflections program is underway. The theme for this year is "Wow!" Information packets will be sent home with students in early September. All submissions will be due on Wednesday October 8 to the school office, so students should get started as soon as possible on their projects!

There are six categories in this year's program: visual arts, photography, musical composition, dance/choreography, film/video, and literature. The condensed rules will be included in the information packets; full rules regarding each category are available at the school's website <http://clow.ipdsd.org>. You can also find the project submission forms on the website, in case you need another copy.

Please encourage your child to participate in the program! It's a wonderful way to promote and enhance children's creativity. All Clow students who participate will be recognized and given a special award at a fun ceremony held in the spring.

Samantha Elkins
Kathleen Roberts
Reflections Chairpersons



PTA Happenings

Wrapping Paper Fundraiser

First, before I introduce the first fundraiser of the year, I would like to introduce myself and give you some information that as a parent of a first time elementary school child I found very interesting.

My name is Gina Ramsey and my oldest daughter, Megan, is attending Clow as a kindergarten student this year. Naturally, being an outgoing and energetic parent, I wanted to be a part of the PTA, (something that until recently I thought was just sitting on a board that would allow me to be an active part of her elementary school years). Boy was I surprised when I went to my first budget meeting! (Maybe I am just naïve, but I never realized that it is the PTA who raises and disperses the funds for most all of the children's' extracurricular school activities and many of the extras that the school needs for making our children's education more interesting and more entertaining.) Now I am really motivated to work hard. After working over a very tight budget and still trying to provide for everything that we want for our teachers and our children, I now realize how even purchasing one roll of wrapping paper from our wrapping paper fundraiser really helps to contribute to the quality of life our children have in school. Imagine if every child in school

could sell just 5 items or more, we could accomplish so much!

Ok, enough about a first time school mom's PTA epiphany! Now for the big pitch.....

This year we have chosen to go with a new company who we agreed have a lot more than just cute wrapping paper to offer. The catalogue also has a great deal of great gift ideas as well as some things you can have personalized and pictures that you can have made into canvas wall hangings, all at what I thought to be quite reasonable prices. I hope that you will take a look at the catalogue that your children brought home in August try to sell **at least 5 items**.

The forms are due back on September 19th, and the items will be delivered to the school by November 6th. (This is just in time for the holidays and there are some great gift items for both kids and adults!) Please remember that you can also place orders online, so for out of state friends and family, this makes things really convenient! I look forward to seeing all those orders come in and to being a part of planning the best school year Clow students have ever had!

Gina Ramsey
Wrapping Paper Chair

Recently I had an opportunity to sample few of the Catherine Beich products offered in the catalog.

I tried the white chocolate peanut butter cups anticipating them to be the typical, stale tasting fund raiser chocolates I normally get from these things and then had to move them to the back of my car to keep from eating the entire 6 oz bag. I also thought that if this was something that I was going to feel comfortable selling, I would make the apple cake too. Being someone who rarely makes things from a mix in a box, I was shocked at how good it was.

So, I can defiantly attest to the quality of some of the food products. (Incidentally, the cake and bread mixes are made by the same company who makes them for Williams Sonoma.)

— Gina

Place Orders Online:
www.gafundraising.com



Welcome back everyone. While we are not entirely back in the groove yet, it will soon be time to place your Market Day Order! If you are new to our school, Market Day is a delicious fundraiser for Clow. It is also a huge help in the kitchen with quick and tasty ideas for breakfast, lunch, dinner, school snacks, all kinds of wonderful things!

Order forms should be coming home in your eldest child's backpack soon; or, order online (who doesn't like shopping online!). It's quick and easy and you don't pay until you pick up your order at the Clow Gym.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me -- and remember, I'm new as the Market Day coordinator and will need all the help I can get! Thanks.

Peggy Blankschein
Market Day Coordinator

District News

Indian Prairie Special Needs PTA

The Indian Prairie Special Needs (ISPN) PTA is a group of parents and caregivers who have children with special needs in IPSD 204. Our mission is to unify and support parents and caregivers of children with special needs from birth to age 21 by providing them with an opportunity to: meet with other parents to share experiences and learn more about topics of interest to them through regular meetings and workshops; Learn about and support legislation, funding, services and community resources that support and strengthen the families of children with special needs in our communities; and Meet with educators and community leaders to increase awareness of and change support for the children with special needs in our communities.

Following is the a schedule of the fall meetings which will be held in the Board Room at the Howard E. Crouse Education Center at 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 16, 2008	Topic:	Update on special education and Student Services personnel changes
	Speakers:	Dr. Stephen Daeschner, Superintendent of Dist. 204 and Sharon Tate, Asst. Supt. of Student Services
Oct. 21, 2008	Topic:	Nutrition for the Special Needs child
	Speaker:	TBA
Nov. 18, 2008	Topic:	Explanation of Fast Track Program & ways the Police Dept. and Fast Track team members communicate with people who have Down Syndrome, Autism or other special needs.

To learn more about ISPN PTA, you can visit the district website at www.ipsd.org and click on "Organizations", then click on "Special Needs PTA" for more information or email ipsn_pta@yahoo.com

Please contact Amy Skarr, Clow parent and PTA - IPSNPTA Liaison with any comments, questions or suggestions at 630/527-1382 and markandamyskarr@comcast.net.

Family Portrait Day

sponsored by IPSN PTA


Photo dates:

October 2, October 3 & October 4

Free 5"x7" portrait with paid \$10.00 sitting fee (IPSN PTA receives 100% of this fee!)

To schedule an appointment, contact Please contact Amy Skarr, Clow parent and PTA - IPSNPTA Liaison with any comments, questions or suggestions at 630/527-1382 and markandamyskarr@comcast.net

September Lunch Menu

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN EVENT	SEPT. 1 NO SCHOOL	SEPT. 2 Baked Bean Enchrito topped with Salsa and Cheese	SEPT. 3 *Double Mini Pancakes with Sausage Patty	SEPT. 4 *Make Your Own Pita Pizza with Pepperoni or Cheese	SEPT. 5 ****Oriental Rice Boat with choice of Stir Fry Vegetables or Orange Chicken
	SEPT. 8 NO SCHOOL	SEPT. 9 Taco Meat and or Cheese Stuffed Potato Shell	SEPT. 10 *French Toast Sticks with Sausage Patty	SEPT. 11 *Toasted Pretzel Bun with Cheese	SEPT. 12 ****Roasted Red Pepper Hummus Dip with Pita Bread
"Novel Lunch" September 15th inspired by the book "Gimme Cracked Corn & I will Share"	SEPT. 15 "Novel Lunch" BBQ Ribette on a Bun and CORN ON THE COBB	SEPT. 16 Cheese Quesadilla with Corn Tortilla Chips and Salsa	SEPT. 17 *Cheese Omelet with Sausage Patty	 SEPT. 18 GALAXY PIZZA PARTY w FROZEN FRUIT JUICY	SEPT. 19 ****Spanish Rice Boat with Fajita Chicken or Cheese
	SEPT. 22 Oven Baked Chicken Drumstick with Mashed Potatoes	SEPT. 23 Baked Bean Enchrito topped with Salsa and Cheese	SEPT. 24 *Double Mini Pancakes with Sausage Patty	SEPT. 25 *Make your own Pita Pizza with Pepperoni or Cheese	SEPT. 26 ****Oriental Rice Boat with choice of Stir Fry Vegetables or Orange Chicken
	SEPT. 29 Baked Chicken Tender Wraps with Cheese or Black Bean Salad Wrap	SEPT. 30 Taco Meat and or Cheese Stuffed Potato Shell			
GRILL	All Beef Hot Dog on a Bun	Cheeseburger with Reduced Fat Cheese on a Bun	Enjoy today's Breakfast for Lunch Menu	Chicken Patty on a Bun	Enjoy today's "Around the World" Menu
FAVORITE	Cheese Pizza Crust	Baked Chicken Sticks	Mini Bagel with Cream Cheese and or Sausage Patty	Mini Corn Dog	Baked Chicken Tenders
SALAD CHANGES DAILY	Chef Salad	Taco Salad	Pepperoni Pizza Salad	Cheese Salad	Chicken Caesar Salad
***FUN ON THE RUN	Blueberry Muffin String Cheese Trix Yogurt Cup Strawberry/Banana	Toast Crisps String Cheese Trix Yogurt Cup Strawberry/Banana	Soft Pretzel String Cheese Trix Yogurt Cup Strawberry/Banana	Cinnamon Toast Crisps String Cheese Trix Yogurt Cup Strawberry/Banana	Blueberry Muffin String Cheese Trix Yogurt Cup Strawberry/Banana
FROM THE GARDEN ***CHANGE DAILY	Tossed Romaine Carrot Sticks Peas Mandarin Oranges Grapes Diced Pears	Shredded Lettuce Red Kidney Beans Tomato Salas Applesauce Orange Wedges Mixed Fruit	Tossed Romaine Cauliflower Carrot Coins Diced Peaches Apple Pineapple Chunks	Tossed Romaine Cucumber Slice Cherry Tomatoes Apricot Halves Applesauce Grapes	Tossed Romaine Whole Radishes Broccoli Florettes Apple Mixed Fruit Diced Peaches
	BAKED WHOLE GRAIN SNACKS	BAKED WHOLE GRAIN SNACKS	BAKED WHOLE GRAIN SNACKS	BAKED WHOLE GRAIN SNACKS	BAKED WHOLE GRAIN SNACKS

*MEATLESS ITEM

**Make your own salad *FROM THE GARDEN* and we will give you the Salad Topper (protein for the salad)

*****Fun on the Run** – Choose your sides *FROM THE GARDEN* then pick up Fun on the Run Bag

**** Every Friday we introduce new items in our Menu, which is called **'Around The World'**.

PRODUCT of the **MONTH** will be offered on the "Salad Bar", this will be the only choice fruit choice the date it's served at your school



September 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 No School Labor Day	2	3	4 Curriculum Night 7:00 & 7:45	5 Clow Spirit Day Wear Green/Gold or Clow Apparel	6
7	8 No School Building Articulation	9 Fifth Grade Band and Orchestra Parent Orientation @ NVHS	10 PTA Meeting 7 p.m. Multipurpose Room Market Day Pickup 5-6 p.m.	11	12	13
14	15 Fifth Grade Band & Orchestra Registration	16	17	18	19 Spirit Dance 7-9 Clow Gym Wrapping Paper Fundraiser Deadline	20
21	22	23 Art Awareness Volunteer Mtg. 9:15 a.m.	24	25 Picture Day	26	27
28	29	30				