Dicken families,
Here are this week’s updates from Principal Madison and the PTO. In this issue:

- Principal Madison’s notes
- Important dates
- Winter walk
- Community night out
- Girls on the run
- Recess lunch help
- WESO
- PTO thrift shop

- Vanessa Revelli
PTO communications chair

—> Follow Dicken PTO on Facebook: Facebook.com/DickenPTO
—> Have an item for the email blast? Email it to dolphinsblast@gmail.com
Blast items must be received by 5:00pm Friday.

**Principal Madison’s Notes**

*5th Grade Robotics:* Special thanks to Project Lead The Way Teacher, Katie Kipp-Dohm, for leading this year’s Dicken Robotics club for our 5th Graders during their lunch time. They have been meeting for several months and competed in the district wide Robotics Competition last Saturday.

*Mobile Planetarium Presentations:* Thank you Dicken PTO & Dana McPherren for obtaining an extra January Assembly on Tuesday for our Dolphins. Our students are excited to learn about science related curriculum tied to their grade level classes within a portable dome erected in our gym on Tuesday. It’s like a mini IMAX experience.

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday:* Mark your calendar for January 20th, there is no school in observance of legacy that Martin Luther King, Jr. has left behind for us to celebrate. There are many free & kid friendly activities around our community for families. Check
out U of M and what they have scheduled. We have scheduled an assembly to celebrate his legacy on January 22nd. Teachers will be teaching about him over the course of the next few weeks as well.

**Mobile Dentist:** Please look into the form that was sent home about getting some dental work for your student at Dicken. This is a special service for our Dolphins that are having difficulty obtaining dental services for their children in the community. It is scheduled on January 30th. See Nurse Keely for more information.

**Lost & Found:** The newly arranged Lost & Found area is full of misplaced clothing that belong to someone’s child. Please tell your child to check out the rack this week or come by yourself to go through the items there. We will be donating all remaining items to Salvation Army this Friday.

**Weather Changes/Extra Clothes:** Please remember to check the weather daily & dress your child appropriately. A light sweatshirt, fleece or sweater during the winter will assure your child stays warm inside & outside. In addition a change of clothes/socks left in the classroom is always appreciated. That way we don’t have to call parents to bring in dry clothes if a child gets damp from playing in the snow or falls in a puddle during recess. We always try our best to guide them away from these sloppy areas on the playground, but some kids just seem to be attracted to them.

**The complete version of Principal Madison’s Parent Letter is available here:**
[principal_notes_1_12.pdf](principal_notes_1_12.pdf)
[principal_notes_1_12_japanese_translation.docx](principal_notes_1_12_japanese_translation.docx)

**Important Dates:**
**This Week, January 13th - January 20th**

**Mon Jan 13th**
National Pride Day
9:05am - 9:10am Pledge of Allegiance, Hane’s 5th Class
12:18pm – 1:05pm Dicken Safety Patrol Meeting
4:00pm – 5:00pm Daisies Mtg

**Tue Jan 14th**
12:30pm – 3:50pm PTO Mobile Planetarium Assemblies

**Thu Jan 16th**
12:20pm – 12:42pm 4th Grade National Parks Presentation, Media Center
12:20pm -1:05pm Dicken 5th Grade Robotics Lunch Mtg, Rm 120

**Fri Jan 17th**
School Pride Day

Mon Jan 20th

No School

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Next Week, January 20th - January 24th

Mon Jan 20th
No School
Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday Observance

Tue Jan 21st
National Pride Day
School Resumes

9:05am - 9:10am Pledge of Allegiance, Brann’s 4th Class
2:45pm – 3:15pm 5th Grade Winter Survival Orientation

Wed Jan 22nd
2:00pm - 2:30pm MLK, Jr 3rd Grade Vocal Music Assembly, MPR

3:00pm - 8:00pm PTO Community Night Out, Potbelly’s Eisenhower
Thu Jan 23rd
9:30am - 11:00am WESO Fair, 2nd – 5th Graders, MPR
7:00pm - 7:30pm MLK, Jr 3rd Grade Vocal Music Concert, MPR

Fri Jan 24th
School Pride Day
9:30am – 2:15pm 5th Grade Winter Survival Field Trip
1:15pm – 2:15pm LSNC, Creswell, “Hunters of the Sky” presentation
2:25pm – 3:25pm LSNC, Hubbard, “Hunters of the Sky” presentation
2:45pm – 3:15pm Rossi Kensington Field Trip Orientation

Notes from Our PTO
Welcome Back! We have the winter walk coming up on January 28th from 6:30-7:30. PTO will have hot coca and cookies. This is an outside only event so dress warm!

Please remember to bring your $10 minimum bottle of WINE for the auction. This years Auction will be March 20th. Please note this is a date change from the school calendar. Thank you to all the room parents that came to our auction meeting to get a jump start on the New Year!

There is no longer trash containers attached to the dog station. Please use the bags at these stations to clean up after your dog and depose of the bags OFF Dicken grounds.

Continue collecting BOX TOPS or scanning your receipts! They will be collected in February!

Thanks for all you do-
Carrie Klimkowicz
PTO President
**Winter Walk**
On Tuesday January 28, from 6:30-7:30, please join your Dicken school community for a magical night of Mrs. Erickson’s winter walk. Our Dicken students have been creatively working in art class to create beautiful lanterns that will light up a path around our school.

Enjoy hot cocoa provided by your PTO!

Please bring a bottle of wine to donate to the auctions wine poll.

Please also sign up to help with the winter walk by clicking this link.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C45AAA62CABF58-dicken1

**Community Night Out**
Potbelly Sandwich Shop on Eisenhower (across from Whole Foods) will be donating 25% of all participating sales to the Dicken PTO for purchases on Wednesday, January 22nd from 3:00-8:00 PM!!!
You just need to show a printed or electronic version of the attached flyer. Enjoy a toasty sandwich and a delicious shake and support our Dicken Dolphins. Please be sure to tell your family, friends and neighbors too!

School spirit tastes great!

For questions please contact Anna Lavery (alavery@metlife.com)
dicken elementary potbelly fundraiser 2020.pdf

**Girls on the Run**
Hello Dicken Community! Thank you very much for donating old blankets & towels - all donations were given to the Humane Society and they were very happy to receive these!

Additionally, we are still looking for additional volunteer coaches to sign up: https://www.girlsontherunsemi.org/Coach and help us run this wonderful program for our 3rd-5th grade girls for the Spring Season. If you are the parent of a girl in those grades and decide to coach, your child will also get a discount to sign up for the program!

General Registration for the program has begun and early pricing will end on Feb 21st:https://www.raceplanner.com/register/index/
Practices will be held Mondays and Thursdays 4-5:30pm and the program will run from early March-mid May.

Please feel free to fill out the coach application and let me know if you have any questions regarding practices or the program itself. Thank you!

- Daniela Lopez Girls on the Run Dicken Elementary Site Leader & Coach

**Recess Lunch Clubs Looking for Volunteers!**

**WHAT:** The Dicken Student Lighthouse Team is launching Recess Lunch Clubs starting as soon as possible. Topics include the following:

- Arts and Crafts
- STEM Gaming/Coding
- Photography/Movie Making
- Drama/Theatre
- Environmental Education
- Debate
- Music/Dance/Singing
- Book (Reading and Writing)
- Meditation/Yoga
- Board games
- Sewing/Knitting
- Travel/Explorations

**WHEN:** Volunteers interested in teaching on the subjects above would need to be available once a week during one or several of the following times:

- 11:30 – 11:54 (1st and 2nd grades)
- 11:54 – 12:18 (Y5/K)
- 12:18 – 12:42 (4th and 5th grades)
- 12:42 – 1:06 (3rd grade)
ACTION REQUIRED: If you are interested in sharing your talents and leading one or more of these clubs, please contact Laite Odetola laiteodetola@gmail.com and Dana McPherren (d.mcphherren@gmail.com) as soon as possible with your availability.

Science Olympiad Coaches Needed:
The Science Olympiad program at Dicken is in great need of new coaches. Washtenaw Elementary Science Olympiad (or WESO) is a program for 2nd through 5th graders, where students can choose from up to 23 different science-related “events”. Students attend weekly practices from February to May to learn more about their topic and to prepare for the WESO competition on May 9, 2020. Coaches are needed for each event to teach or guide students through the practices. Coaches can set their own practice schedules, and do not need to be experts in the topic they are coaching. The list of events (along with brief descriptions) can be found on the WESO website. For more information on coaching, contact Nick Hutchinson (DickenWESO@umich.edu; 734-913-9418)

Nick Hutchinson
Dicken WESO Head Coach

PTO Thrift Shop
Here is the current PTO Thrift Shop Promotion: