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

- Principal Madison’s notes
- Important dates
- PTO notes
- Sewing/knitting recess club supplies needed this week
- Recess lunch club help
- Girls on the run
- 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**

**Y5’s/Kindergarten Round-Up:** Please help spread the word and encourage parents who have kids that will be eligible to attend Y5’s or Kindergarten next year to attend our Y5’s/Kindergarten Round Up being held on Thursday, February 20th, 2020. The evening will start with registration beginning at 6:00 pm. Current Dicken families who have children eligible still need to enroll their child as soon as possible.

**NAAPID:** Thank you to all of the Dicken parents who stopped by last Monday to visit classrooms, see the PTO sponsored Jazzistry Assembly, eat lunch and watch the 5th grade African American Wax Museum sketches. It was great to see so many parents in our school. Parents are always welcomed at Dicken, so please come by again to visit or help out in the classrooms.
**Valentine’s Day Celebrations:** Thanks to all of the Dicken Room parents who helped organize healthy snacks and activities for our Dolphins last Friday. Every class had a celebrations and all kids had a blast!

**Recess Clubs:** Ms. Jennifer Brogno has arranged for our students to receive some lunch time enrichment activities. Students will be able to choose to stay inside during their lunch recess time and participate in some neat activities including singing, sewing, writing a play, & meditation/yoga. Check out the schedule above in the weekly agenda.

**Security Drill #3:** We will conduct our final Lockdown Drill of the year on Friday, February 21st. I will walk the students through the entire drill so that they understand that it is just a drill. We are required by the state to conduct these drills. Staff will also inform students so that they are aware of the upcoming practice session. Parents you can also talk to your child Thursday evening if you like to prep them.

**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. Winter jackets, snow pants, boots, hats & gloves a must! 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:**

parent_letter_2_16.pdf

parent_letter_2_16_japanese-translation.pdf
Important Dates:

This Week, February 17th - February 21st
Mon Feb 17th
National Pride Day
President’s Day
  9:05am - 9:10am Pledge of Allegiance, Hubbard’s 3rd grade class
  12:20pm – 12:42pm Recess Singers (4th & 5th), Room 116
  4:00pm – 5:30pm Daisies Mtg, Art Room

Tue Feb 18th
  11:30am – 11:54am Recess Sewing (1st), Media Center
  11:54am – 12:18pm Recess Sewing (Kdg), Media Center
  12:18pm – 12:42pm Recess Sewing (5th), Media Center
  12:42pm – 1:06pm Recess Sewing (3rd), Media Center

Wed Feb 19th
  11:30am – 12:18pm Recess Drama/Writing (Y5’s-2nd), Media Center
  12:20pm – 12:55pm 3rd/4th/5th Grades GOTR Informational Mtg, Art Room

Thu Feb 20th
  9:00am – 10:00am Safe Routes to School Mtg, PCR
  12:18pm – 12:42pm Recess Drama/Writing (4th & 5th), Media Center
  12:18pm – 12:42pm Recess Meditation/Yoga (4th & 5th) Music Room
  6:00pm – 8:00pm Y5’s/Kdg Round Up, Whole Building

Fri Feb 21st
School Pride Day
  9:30am - 11:45am 1st Grade to Wild Swan Theater Performance
  3:00pm – 3:15pm Security Drill #3
Next Week, February 24th - February 28th

Mon Feb 24th
National Pride Day
9:05am - 9:10am Pledge of Allegiance, Bahr’s 2nd grade class
12:00pm – 3:00pm Lifetouch “Candid Pictures” taken
12:20pm – 12:42pm Recess Singers (4th & 5th), Room 116
4:00pm – 5:30pm Brownies/Juniors Mtg, Art Room

Tue Feb 25th
Early Release Day
Teachers write Winter Report Cards
11:30am – 11:54am Recess Sewing (2nd), Media Center
11:54am – 12:18pm Recess Sewing (Kdg), Media Center
12:18pm – 12:42pm Recess Sewing (4th), Media Center
12:42pm – 1:06pm Recess Sewing (3rd), Media Center
1:29pm Students Dismissed

Wed Feb 26th
11:30am – 12:18pm Recess Drama/Writing (Y5’s-2nd), Media Center

Thu Feb 27th
12:18pm – 12:42pm Recess Drama/Writing (4th & 5th), Media Center
12:18pm – 12:42pm Recess Meditation/Yoga (4th & 5th) Music Room
1:00pm - 2:00pm PTO sponsored LSNC “Understanding Owls” Posey
1:30pm – 2:30pm Slauson Counselors visit 5th Graders
2:15pm - 3:15pm PTO sponsored LSNC “Understanding Owls” Bahr
4:00pm - 9:00pm PTO Community Night Out at KouZina

Fri Feb 28th
School Pride Day
9:00am - 9:30am Dicken Dolphin Pods, Building Wide
Notes from Our PTO

February-
Box tops are due at the end of the month if you are clipping them off boxes please turn them into your classroom teacher now.

Looking ahead to March -
March 3- Sweet Treats for staff - sweets and cookie exchange for Dicken staff, buy or bake 2-3 dozen and bring them to the media center on the morning of March 3. Volunteers will organize into boxes and deliver them to all staff. Please consider volunteering for an hour in the morning! Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C45AAA62CABF58-sweet

Used book Sale March 13th and Family Reading Night at Dicken! Please begin bringing in books of all reading levels To donate. All books are .25 cents. Please send your child with money to buy books on this day-$5 or less please. We will need 4 daytime volunteers and 2 evening volunteers during family reading night from 6-8 pm. Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C45AAA62CABF58-used

March 20th - Auction Fundraiser! Bring you Boo, Bring your Bestie, Bring your Brain and Book your Babysitter because it’s trivia auction time people!

Carrie Klimkowicz
PTO President

Sewing/Knitting Recess Club – Supplies Needed ASAP
The recess clubs have started. Our most popular one is Sewing/knitting with over 80 students participating!! In order to keep this club going we will need help with supplies for the kids to use.

Our next creation is to make project bags out of T-shirts!
WHAT IS NEEDED:

- T-shirts, the bigger the better (it will be cut and no longer a shirt)
- Sewing scissors

WHEN: Monday, 2/17 (we meet on Tuesdays during recess)

I've created a sign-up of future supplies need, if you are able to help.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4DAEA62F4-sewing

WHEN: I'm looking for most supplies by Friday 2/21 so we can prepare for the following week

The older kids will be hand sewing PJ bottoms and will need 1-2 yards fleece per student as well.

Any questions can go to: Tammy Bauer tambauer@gmail.com or Jen Brogno brognoj@aaps.k12.mi.us

Recess Lunch Clubs Looking for Volunteers!
We’re doing something new and exciting this year.

The Dicken kids lighthouse group has come up with a number of activities for the student body to participate in during recess. These activities will improve and enrich all who partake and as usual, we need volunteers to bring the kids’ vision to reality.

Please follow this link to match your availability with an activity you are interested in helping the children with. Information collected from here will be used to create a schedule going forward. Feel free to pass this on to responsible, interested talented parties that you may know.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b084aacaa292-recess

Laite Odetola
In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

**Girls on the Run**
We are still looking for additional volunteer coaches to sign up: [https://www.girlsontherunsemi.org/Coach](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/spring2020programregistration?sid=24fc41dfc5544e8b80f0197bd4dda183](https://www.raceplanner.com/register/index/spring2020programregistration?sid=24fc41dfc5544e8b80f0197bd4dda183). 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