



February 2009
 ISSUE 5: 2008-2009

What can you do to help at Little Elementary?

Ways to give money to school that cost Nothing! - Save with these websites. Go to www.boxtops4education.com Select Little Elementary to receive any bonus Boxtops that are won. Login daily & go to "Bonus Boxtops" for contests to win Boxtops which turn into CASH for the school. You can also shop online & earn \$ for Little by selecting "Marketplace".

Also, go to www.searchandgive.com When signing up select Little Elementary School at 8448 Otis Drive, Arvada, CO 80003 to receive the contributions. Search & Give will donate a penny, per search to Little. You may get a max of \$5.00 (or 500 searches) per month. Microsoft will then make an annual donation. There is no limit to how much our school can receive from people donating to our cause. Login daily to earn cash for Little.

February 25th – Butter Braids pick-up day -

Butter Braid orders will be given to students if it is small enough to carry. If not please make arrangements to pick them up at school from 2:00p.m. till 4:00p.m. If you can offer help to pass out please contact - Kim Judson - kimjudson@msn.com or Susan Sterns sallymcnally4@hotmail.com
 Thank you.

The Principal's Corner

February 2009

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful return we have had back to school! Our students all seemed anxious to get back to work and their friends. Research shows that the learning time from January until Spring Break shows great gains for students. It is a relatively large block of uninterrupted instruction time when students solidify their basic skills and demonstrate continual growth and learning. There is much to do to make sure your child is ready for next year. There are things that you can do at home to help support your child's education. Make sure your child reads silently or out loud every day for at least 20 minutes. Also, review basic math facts with your child weekly. It is important that addition and subtraction facts are mastered by the end of 2nd grade, and multiplication and division facts are mastered by the end of 4th grade. Knowing these basic facts will support your child's higher-level math learning in 5th and 6th grade. Use flash cards at home and practice facts while in the car driving together. Your child may also have weekly or nightly homework assignments. Each grade level approaches homework in a slightly different manner, however as a school, we believe homework is an opportunity for your child to develop organization and positive study skills as well as a time to reinforce and practice skills taught in class.

The second half of the school year always seems to go faster than the first half. The general CSAP testing schedule is as follows:

CSAP TESTING DATES

Date	Grade Level
February 18 & 19 March 3, 4 March 11, 12	3 rd Grade Reading, Writing, Math
March 3, 4, 5, 6, March 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	4 th and 6 th Graders Reading, Writing, Math
March 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 March 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	5 th Grade Reading, Writing, Math & Science

As you plan family events, doctor and dentist appointments, etc. please be aware of these testing dates and make every effort to have your child present at school and on time.

As always, questions, concerns and celebrations are always welcome.

Sincerely,

Esther G. Valdez
 Principal

Letter from the PTSA President

Dear Families and Friends,

I want to thank all of you for supporting our PTSA in getting needed resources into our school. When we set up fundraisers, it is to generate enough funds to buy computers, books, smart boards, and incentives for everyone to benefit from. Your support also allows us to continue learning programs for our kids. Such as the Science Fair, running club, or the reflections art competition. In these trying economic times your support is even more needed than ever. With new budget cuts in our upcoming school year, we need our PTSA to find room for more scholarships, technology, and extra's our school has traditionally always had.

We also urge our parents who have not been able to donate time to their student's class rooms, give it a try. Your time spent will be well worth it. You are always welcome at our two parent groups at the school as well. Parent Information Team meets @ 5:30 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month. Our PTSA meeting follows in the library @ 6:30p.m. We hope to see new faces this month. Again, thank you Little parents, staff and students for doing so much to make our school such a great learning environment.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Jones, PTSA President



News from the Little Library

The library has added a section to the PTSA webpage. On our page you will find:

1. A place to search for books in the Little Library
2. A place to connect to Jefferson County Public Libraries databases
3. Internet search engines for kids to use

We use this site when working with kids to find books and information. It is a great tool for at home too.

ARE YOU GETTING EMAIL NOTICES FOR OVERDUE BOOKS?

We have a new library circulation system that automatically sends overdue email notices. Please note that the system may notify you that your child's book is overdue. However, the system may not take into account: our vacation days, book fair days, or that your child's book may be in the classroom and the teacher has not turned his/her books into the library. We do our best to try to locate the books before sending overdue notices home. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us. Thank you for your support.

*Your Little Teacher-Librarians,
Lisa Polacsek and Marine Roush*

Thank You

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS!

Leslie Cavaliere for countless hours of cataloging (for the last 20 years!), Brent Heaviland for all his tech support, the library student assistants who give up a recess each week, Book Fair helpers, and Anna Ortega-Wehner and Bonnie Graham who always just "pop-in" to help cover books! The library is a great place to be because of you!

Donated Books

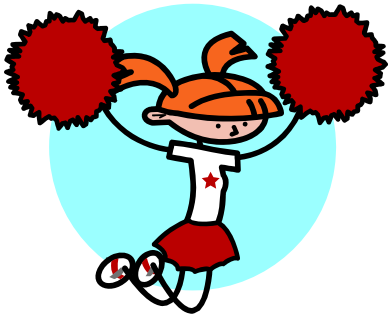
Thanks: Reagan Nix for the great Rainbow Magic books. Brandon Antczak for Because of Winn-Dixie.

Butter Braids



Tried and true, the **Butter Braid** brand has made quite a name for itself in the fundraising industry - a good name that is! Starting from a family recipe, the original Butter Braid braided pastries we all know and love continue to bring smiles to millions of faces each year. Still braided by hand and made with 100% real butter our quality has remained true throughout the ever changing times.

We will be taking orders starting February 2nd through the 12th. Watch your Friday folders for more information. Thank you for your continued support.



Little Elementary School Annual Read-a-thon and Spirit Week is Coming!

After the **CSAPS** are over in March, everyone needs a break and a chance to celebrate. Spring will be just starting to bloom and that means it's time for **Spirit Week and the Read-a-thon!**

Little Spirit Week will kick off on **Friday March 20th** with our annual “**Dinner and Movie night at Little**”. Go to www.LittlePTSA.com to **VOTE** for the movie you would most like to see. The choices are:



“Wall-E”



“Horton Hears a Who”,

“Journey to the
Center of the Earth.”



Polls will close March 2nd. Sign up sheets will arrive home in late February and early March for reservations for this event.

The student council is working on the events that will happen during Spirit Week now and we are all eager to hear what they will have planned soon.

The Read-a-thon occurs on Friday March 27th. For those of you who are new to Little, the Read-a-thon is an day that celebrates the joy of reading. The students get pledges from their family and friends for number of pages or time they will read. Then they read, read, and then read some more during the read-a-thon. Many people also come into the classroom to read to the classes as well.

We are really shaking it up this year and the kids will have a chance to win books and other fabulous prizes. Even the teachers are getting involved this year in bringing in their own pledges!

We have many local celebrity readers coming in this year, but we need more! We need our terrific **celebrity parents** to come and read their favorite books to our Little children as well! This is a great inspirational, heart warming event for everyone involved! If you can only be involved occasionally at school, make this event the one you participate in! You won't be sorry! Contact your teacher if you can spare an hour on this very special day! Watch your Friday folders for more information that will be coming home later this month.



Kindergarten Registration

has started for the 2009 -2010 school year. Office hours to register are 8:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. daily.

Children must be five years of age on or before October 1, 2009 to attend kindergarten in the upcoming school year. If you will be registering a child for kindergarten please bring their **birth certificate and immunization record**, or provide copies of these documents. We will not be able to register your child without this important information.

We will be offering morning and afternoon classes. The classes are filled on a first come basis.

Little Elementary is a great school with teachers and staff that really care about our kids.



Tell
everyone
you know!



Congratulations to Amanda and Steve Biles on the birth of their new son, Cooper Jayden!

Baby and mom are doing great!
Cooper was born on January 2nd ,
weighing 7 pounds 15 ounces and was 21.5 inches. He's going
to be tall like his mom and dad!
The second graders really miss you, Ms. Biles!



At the January PTSA meeting, John White, the Moore Middle School principal, came and discussed the programs and curriculum available at Moore. Did you know in addition to a strong core curriculum, Moore offers many different electives such as: drama; music; art; physical education; and technology? There are 7 different elementary schools that feed into Moore middle school with over seven hundred students per year.

During the last few weeks, Moore hosted a few "6th grade information nights" to help acquaint potential students with their future educational home and the Moore faculty.

We also had a fabulous History demonstration by our Little 4th graders!

Now, don't you wish you had come to the meeting? Come on February 18th to the next PTSA meeting to see what is happening.



Welcome Ms. Waterman to the Little Elementary family!



We are in need of new board members for next year. All Officers will receive training before the new school year begins. This organization helps its own. With our support, knowledge, and experience

YOU CAN DO THIS JOB!

Please contact Tiffany Jones with any nominations or questions - tiffanyjptsa@aol.com

Also, keep in mind there are many "jobs" you can do to support our PTSA officers. Please go to our website www.LittlePTSA.com and check out the PTSA info tab to see what jobs and positions will be open next year.

Times are rough out there and we all need a helping hand sometimes. The PTSA has budgeted funds available to help with fieldtrip scholarships. It is Little's policy that no child will be left behind on a field trip just because their family has fallen on hard times. If you are having trouble gathering the funds needed to send your child on a class fieldtrip, please let your child's teacher know so that the PTSA can help support your child in their learning. One of the reasons we sell cookies and have other fundraisers is so that we can help our "Little Family" when they need help.



Employment Opportunity
 Looking for the perfect
 PT/job?
 2 -6 hours/day
 \$9.05/hour
 Advancement Opportunity
 Call 303.982.6747

Jeffco Schools
Food & Nutrition Services
Elementary Lunch Menu Condensed Menu Version
February 2009



Prices:
Lunch: Full Price \$1.85
Reduced Price K - 2 at
No Charge
Reduced Price 3 - 6 at
\$0.40
Adult Meals: \$2.75

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 French Toast w/Pork Sausage or BBQ Chicken Sandwich or Taco Salad PBJ Uncrstable	3 Burrito or Grilled Cheese Sandwich w/Tomato Soup or "Snack Lunch" Egg Salad Sandwich Breakfast Burrito	4 Baked Penne w/Meat Sauce or Corn Dog or Mandarin Chicken Salad Breakfast Sandwich	5 Chicken Sandwich or Pork & Vegetable Egg Roll w/ Fried Rice or Chef Salad Wh.Grain Pop Tart w/ Sausage	6 Galaxy Pizza or Deli Ham Wrap or Chicken Caesar Salad Waffles
9 Chicken Nuggets or Beef Soft Taco or Taco Salad Yogurt & Muffin	10 Macaroni & Cheese or BBQ Pork Sandwich or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese, & Muffin) Scrambled Egg & Toast	11 Seasoned Bread Sticks or Oven Fried Chicken or Mandarin Chicken Salad Bagel Stick	12 Hamburger or Cheeseburger or Cuban Pork Potatoes or Chef Salad Egg Omelet	13 Non Contact Day No School
16 President's Day No School	17 Chili w/Corn Bread or Deli Turkey Wrap or "Snack Lunch" (Seeds, Cheese, & Muffin) Breakfast Burrito	18 Country Style Steak Strips or Cheese Enchiladas or Mandarin Chicken Salad Breakfast Sandwich	19 Italian Dunkers w/Stromboli Sauce or Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich or Chef Salad Wh.Grain Pop Tart w/ Sausage	20 Galaxy Pizza or Tuna Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad Waffles
23 Hot Dog on a Bun or Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Brown Rice or Taco Salad Yogurt & Muffin	24 Ravioli or Pork Rib Dippers or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese & Muffin) Scrambled Egg & Toast	25 Chicken Quesadilla or Sloppy Joe on a Bun or Mandarin Chicken Salad Bagel Stick	26 Turkey & Gravy or Fish Nuggets or Chef Salad Egg Omelet	27 Baked Potato or PBJ w/Seeds or Cheese or Chicken Caesar Salad French Toast

Lunch includes an entrée and a choice of sides. Milk is offered daily at lunch. Menus are nutritionally balanced with a wide variety of healthy selections including fruits and vegetables. Menu is subject to change without notice due to price and product availability.

Breakfast Entrée, check with your school for availability

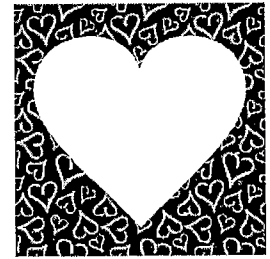
Full menu selection is available at the school site or on line @jeffcopublicschools.org

Look for the menus on the left side and click on Lunch Menus & Food Service .



Little Elementary Refrigerator Reminder

February



February - 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 School Event (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	3 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	4 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	5 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	6 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	7 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale
8 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	9 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	10 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	11 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	12 (Feb 2-12) Butter Braid Sale	13 School Event NO SCHOOL - No student contact day	14 School Event Valentine's Day!
15	16 School Event NO SCHOOL - President's Day	17	18 School Event (Feb 18-19) CSAP - 3rd Grade PTSA Event PTSA Meeting 6:30 p.m. CAT Event CAT meeting 5:30 p.m.	19 (Feb 18-19) CSAP - 3rd Grade	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 School Event Report cards go home	28
February - 2009						