

# Take-Home Tuesday

November 19, 2013

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Sward's Winter Concert featuring all of the KDG, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, as well as the Chorus students, will be on Thursday, DECEMBER 19<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m. **NOTE THE CHANGE IN START TIME!! THIS IS A MORNING CONCERT ONLY.** More information will be sent home on Dec. 3rd.

\*\*\*\*\*Please remember PARENT CONFERENCES this Thursday evening from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Appointment notices with confirmed dates and times were sent home to all families two weeks ago. Conferences are by appointment only! Please be sure to arrive on the right date and at the right time. Our second date for conferences is Monday, 11/25. Students do not come to school on Monday, 11/25. If parents have questions about their scheduled time for conferences, please contact the school office asap. There are still limited appointments available; please call 423-7820 for information.

\*\*\*\*\*Parents are invited to attend the November BEPAC meeting on 11/20/13 at 4:00 at Covington School. What is BEPAC? It is our Bilingual Education Parent Advisory Committee. This group meets almost once a month to share information and concerns about the district's bilingual programs. All parents are welcome, no rsvp needed.

\*\*\*\*\*NEW THIS YEAR!! The FUN PAC pictures were sent home last week with every Sward student. We've sent them home on the honor system. Please return all of the items or the \$10 payment by Nov. 20th. Please follow the directions on the envelope inside the plastic package.

\*\*\*\*\*Please do not forget the PTA Holiday Party is coming up on December 6th. The cost is \$17.00 per person. Bring a \$5.00 - \$10.00 ornament for the ornament exchange! Please turn in your RSVP by 12/2/13. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*November 25 – 29 are NO SCHOOL days for students! Enjoy some quality family time. School resumes at 8:25 a.m. on Monday, December 2nd.

\*\*\*\*\*Our Winter Carnival game "Walk Around the World" is a fun version of the old-fashioned "Cake Walk" game. But, instead of giving cakes as prizes, we give BOOKS to the students as prizes. Our PTA is asking for donations of age-appropriate new books that are gender neutral. If your family can donate a book or two (please do not spend any more than \$6 per book), please send them to the school office with your family's name on the bag. All donations should be made by 12/6/13. Thanks!

Our Student Council is planning a service project for the victims of the tornadoes in Washington, IL and the surrounding areas. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, all students will participate in a "Walk-A-Thon" during their recess period (walking around the school as many times as they can in the 20 minute period – supervised, of course!). Parents and family members may sponsor their child by promising to donate an amount of money per lap completed around the school. For example, if a parent promises \$2 per lap and their child completes 4 laps, then the family's donation is \$8. The Student Council will give all donations to the American Red Cross/Washington, IL Relief Fund. There is a sponsor form in your child's THT folder today for families to record their pledges. Thank you very much.

\*\*\*\*\*MARKET DAY NEWS! Due to the Thanksgiving Break next week, all paper orders for Market Day are due on or before Dec. 2nd; online orders have to be placed on or before Dec. 3rd until 11:00 p.m. The December Pick up date is Friday 12/6.

REMEMBER – It's Cookie Dough Bonus month! The more cookie dough sold, the higher the profits for our PTA. Please consider ordering one or more of the delicious, easy to bake varieties. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*Congratulations to the Sward students who advanced to the district level in the PTA Reflections Contest!

Photography: Gabriella Plude, Blake Attig

Visual Arts: Thomas Hernandez, Kayla McSweeney, Meghan McSweeney, Jessica Dole

Literature: Evan Sweetser, Deniza Fuentes, Anna Enderle

\*\*\*\*\*Congratulations to the PTA Market Day PIE SALES winners: Cassidy Gaspard & Jack Kazmierczak. Both students sold 15 pies each. The classroom winner for K-2 was 2-19, Mrs. Budewitz's homeroom and for grades 3-5 was 4-12, Mrs. Ignacek's homeroom. Each classroom has received a board game for indoor recess compliments of the PTA. Many thanks to everyone who helped this pie sale be such a success!

\*\*\*\*\*The plans for our wonderful WINTER CARNIVAL are under way! We need many parents to assist with this event. It's a lot of FUN! Here is the link to volunteer: <http://vols.pt/8RyVVZ>

\*\*\*\*\*It's AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK! Remember to thank your child's teachers for extraordinary dedication to our Sward learning community! They deserve it.

# Take-Home Tuesday

November 12, 2013

FANNIE MAY candy orders and payments are due to the school office on or before THURSDAY - 11/14/13.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. If your family has volunteered for this event, please arrive at Sward School at 8:00 am for a list of addresses and leaf bags. Please bring your own rake. There will be a free lunch provided to all our hard-working volunteers at noon at OLHMS. Many thanks to our Sward PTA for providing free slices of PIE to all the volunteers also!  
\*\*\*\*\*

The plans for our wonderful WINTER CARNIVAL are under way! Please look for the information sheet in your child's THT folder today; it contains information on how you can volunteer to help at one of the activities or help with a specific classroom. We need many parents to assist with this event. It's a lot of FUN! Here is the link to volunteer: <http://vols.pt/8RyVVZ>  
\*\*\*\*\*

With the flu season at hand, please use great caution in sending your child to school if s/he is exhibiting symptoms such as fever, dry cough, headache, body aches, etc. Your consideration of others is appreciated by all. Also, the school tends to be a bit chilly on Mondays and Tuesdays so you might want to have your child dress in layers on these days.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Parents are invited to attend the November SEPAC meeting on 11/13/13 at 4:00 at our District Office. What is SEPAC? It is our Special Education Parent Advisory Committee. This groups meets almost once a month to share information and concerns about the District's Special Education programs. All parents are welcomed, no RSVP needed.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Parents – Please do not ignore the reminder notices that are sent home on Tuesdays and Fridays each week regarding over-drawn lunch accounts. Students whose lunch account balances show them owing more than \$7 will not be allowed to order lunches until the balance is paid in full and additional money has been added to the account. We will only be sending notices home to students whose lunch account balances show them owing \$4 or more. This notice will act as a “one lunch warning” before the \$7 cut-off.  
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Sward's Winter Concert featuring all of the KDG, 1<sup>st</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, as well as the Chorus students, will be on Thursday, DECEMBER 19<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m. **NOTE THE CHANGE IN START TIME!! THIS IS A MORNING CONCERT ONLY.** More information will be sent home on December 3rd.

NEW THIS YEAR!! A FUN PAC of pictures was sent home today with every Sward student. PLEASE be sure to read the information letter stapled to each package.

**No one has paid any money for these pictures yet.**

We've sent them home on the honor system. Please return the package, or the \$10 payment by Nov. 20th. Please follow the directions on the envelope inside the plastic package. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Gloodt at 423-7820. Thanks.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Please do not forget the PTA Holiday Party is coming up on December 6th. The cost is \$17.00 per person. Bring a \$5.00 - \$10.00 ornament for the ornament exchange! Please turn in your RSVP by 12/2/13. Thank you.  
\*\*\*\*\*

November 25 – 29 are NO SCHOOL days for students! Enjoy some quality family time. School resumes at 8:25 a.m. on Monday, December 2nd.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Hats, gloves, scarves, COATS...students should have all of the above on chilly days! Please don't think that students will always be inside for morning drop-off or recess now. Please dress your child for the weather.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Reading with and to your child is the single most important academic activity a parent can do! Children need to see their parents as good role models when it comes to reading. Children need to see their parents reading for a variety of purposes, including enjoyment and relaxation! Studies show just 20 minutes per night of reading at home has a HUGE impact on achievement. Do you have 20 minutes to share with your child?  
\*\*\*\*\*

Our Winter Carnival game “Walk Around the World” is a fun version of the old-fashioned “Cake Walk” game. Instead of giving cakes as prizes, though, we give BOOKS to the students as prizes. Our PTA is asking for donations of age-appropriate new books that are gender neutral. If your family can donate a book or two (please do not spend any more than \$6 per book), please send them to the school office with your family's name on the bag. All donations should be made by 12/6/13. Thanks!  
\*\*\*\*\*

CONGRATULATIONS to our Sward students for their outstanding participation in the Oak Lawn Public Library's Summer Reading program! Although the number of students participating across Oak Lawn was less than in past years, Sward students and their parents demonstrated their commitment to the program. Students who completed the requirements of the program will receive their Library certificate with their report cards on 11/22/13.

# Take-Home Tuesday

November 5, 2013

If you have not returned your Parent-Teacher appointment request yet, it's not too late. Please note that there are no more evening appointments left for nearly all of our teachers. Please keep this in mind when calling the school office (708) 423-7820.

\*\*\*\*\*

Help support Sward school and our community by purchasing a pie thru Market Day. Enjoy the pie yourself or donate it back to the community at Market Day pick up on 11/8. Internet orders may be placed until 11PM TONIGHT.

Volunteers are needed this Friday, 11/8 to assist with the Market Day pick-up. If you can lend a hand with the process, please arrive at the school by 1:30. Thanks.

\*\*\*\*\*

FROM THE HEART is this year's theme for our Veterans Day tribute. Students at every grade level will create some type of creative piece of work that illustrates their understanding of who a veteran is and why we honor veterans with a special day. From poems to drawings, to word search puzzles created by students for the veterans to complete, our students will give from the heart to those who gave so much. All of the students' creations will be shared with the men and women at the Manteno VA Hospital.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. Please send your candidates for this worthy program to Mrs. Herbold at [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org). Volunteer families who want to do the raking of the leaves should return their permission form (sent home last Friday, 10/25) to school by 11/8.

\*\*\*\*\*

The plans for our wonderful WINTER CARNIVAL are under way! The PTA Planning committee is seeking parents who would like to volunteer to run a game or activity that represents their cultural/ethnic/racial heritage. If you are interested in sharing your families' traditions with our students, please contact Mrs. Gomez at [cgomez5053@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cgomez5053@sbcglobal.net). Thank you!

\*\*\*\*\*

With the flu season on hand, please use great caution in sending your child to school if s/he is exhibiting symptoms such as fever, dry cough, headache, body aches, etc. Your consideration of others is appreciated by all. Also, the school tends to be a bit chilly on Mondays and Tuesdays so you might want to have your child dress in layers on these days.

\*\*\*\*\*

We will go outside for recess during these cooler days of November! Be sure your child is dressed right!!

The FANNIE MAY candy sale is our annual school fundraiser. Please sell to your co-workers, family members, and friends. We appreciate everyone's help to make this sale a big success! Orders and payments are due to the school office no later than 11/14/13.

\*\*\*\*\*

IT'S A VERY SPECIAL SPIRIT DAY! On Monday, 11/11/13 – we are inviting all of our students and staff to wear the colors of our GREAT NATION in HONOR of VETERANS DAY! Break out the RED, WHITE and BLUE and WEAR the colors with PRIDE! Each of our classrooms will be learning about the meaning of Veterans Day in special ways throughout the day.

\*\*\*\*\*

Parents are invited to attend the November SEPAC meeting on 11/13/13 at 4:00 at our District Office. What is SEPAC? It is our Special Education Parent Advisory Committee. This group meets almost once a month to share information and concerns about the District's special education programs. All parents are welcomed, no rsvp needed.

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE AROUND THE BUSES during morning drop-off on 50th Court and 98th Street! Sometimes, accidents are not accidents at all; they are the results of poor decisions.

\*\*\*\*\*

Parents – Please do not ignore the reminder notices that are sent home on Tuesdays and Fridays each week regarding over-drawn lunch accounts. Students whose lunch account balance shows them owing more than \$7 will not be allowed to order lunches until the balance is paid in full and additional money has been added to the account. We will only be sending notices home to students whose lunch account balance shows them owing \$4 or more. This notice will act as a “one lunch warning” before the \$7 cut-off.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Sward office is having a “SPIRIT WEAR ODDS and ENDS” clearance sale! All items are only \$5.00 each!! The following items are what we have in stock: 2 Youth Sm. and 1 Youth Lg. Tye Dye T-shirts; 1 Youth Med. Baseball T-shirt; 4 Adult Med. and 3 Adult Lg. Sward 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirts; 1 Youth Sm. and 1 Youth Med. Hooded Sweatshirt; 1 Youth Lg. Zipper Hooded Sweatshirt; 1 Youth Med. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sweatshirt; 1 Youth Lg. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Flannel Pant; 1 Adult Lg. Flannel Pant. All items will be 1<sup>st</sup> come, first serve. Stop by the Sward office and get them while they last!! Cash only please!

# Take-Home Tuesday

October 29, 2013

Help support Sward school and our community by purchasing a pie from Market Day. Enjoy the pie yourself or donate it back to the community at Market Day pick up on 11/8. The Oak Lawn Fire Department will be the first recipients of the donated pies! Thank you for your support.

Paper orders are due in the school office by 3:30 on Friday, 11/1. Internet orders may be placed until Tuesday, 11/5 at 11:00 pm.

\*\*\*\*\*  
The PTA Family REAL Pumpkin Decorating contest is THIS WEDNESDAY! Pumpkins can be dropped off beginning at 8:00 a.m. & must be picked up no later than 4:00. Be creative & have fun!

\*\*\*\*\*  
Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. Please send your candidates for this worthy program to Mrs. Herbold at [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org). Volunteer families who want to do the raking of the leaves should return their permission form (sent home last Friday, 10/25) to school by 11/8.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Don't forget that you can shop at our ONLINE BOOK FAIR - - just go to <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/swardelementaryschool>. All orders support our school and will be shipped to Sward for FREE after the online fair has closed on 10/30. Thank you for your support!

\*\*\*\*\*  
ROOM COORDINATORS: Please send an email to your classroom teacher to let her know about the games that you are considering for the Fall/Halloween Party. The teacher must approve all activities for her classroom.

\*\*\*\*\*  
The plans for our wonderful WINTER CARNIVAL are under way! The PTA planning committee is seeking parents who would like to volunteer to run a game or activity that represents their cultural/ethnic/racial heritage. If you are interested in sharing your families' traditions with our students, please contact Mrs. Gomez at [cgomez5053@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cgomez5053@sbcglobal.net). Thank you!

\*\*\*\*\*  
Thursday, 10/31 HALLOWEEN is a half-day of school. Students will be dismissed at 11:30. There are no lunch periods. Please be certain to make note of this early dismissal and be prompt to pick up your child from school.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Parent conference confirmation notices will be sent home next week with the PAPER THT note!

On HALLOWEEN -

- 1) Students arrive to school in costume! Students will enter the school upon arrival.
- 2) The parade of classrooms will take place in the gym at approximately 9:30.
- 3) Parents and visitors WILL NOT be allowed in the school until 9:00. (Please stay in your cars until then if it is cold!)
- 4) There is NO seating for the parade - Standing Room Only!
- 5) Parents setting up class parties will be allowed in the classrooms at 9:30.
- 6) STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BRING TREATS/CANDY TO SCHOOL FOR THE PARTIES.

\*\*\*\*\*  
With the flu season on hand, please use great caution in sending your child to school if s/he is exhibiting symptoms such as fever, dry cough, headache, body aches, etc. Your consideration of others is appreciated by all. Also, the school tends to be a bit chilly on Mondays and Tuesdays so you might want to have your child dress in layers on these days.

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FANNIE MAY is here! The annual school fundraiser information was sent home last week with every family. Please sell to your co-workers, family members and friends. We appreciate everyone's help to make this sale a big success!

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Parents are invited to attend the November SEPAC meeting on 11/13/13 at 4:00 at our District Office. What is SEPAC? It is our Special Education Parent Advisory Committee. This group meets almost once a month to share information and concerns about the District's special education programs. All parents are welcome, no rsvp needed.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Many thanks go to Mrs. J. Enderle and Mrs. K. Moore and all of our PTA volunteers for hosting a terrific Book Fair for our students and families last week! We appreciate everyone's support of the Book Fair.

\*\*\*\*\*  
PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE AROUND THE BUSES during morning drop-off on 50th Court and 98th Street! Many cars have been observed pulling around buses when students are exiting the bus. Please practice patience and wait for the bus to pull away from the curb to join the traffic line instead of trying to beat your way in front of the bus. Sometimes, accidents are not accidents at all; they are the results of poor decisions.

\*\*\*\*\*  
We will go outside for recess during these cooler days of October/November! Be sure your child is dressed right!!

# Take-Home Tuesday

October 22, 2013

FANNIE MAY is here! The annual school fundraiser information was sent home today with every family. Please sell to your co-workers, family members, and friends. We appreciate everyone's help to make this sale a big success!

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Room coordinators should contact teachers to gain approval for upcoming party activities.

\*\*\*\*\*

IMPORTANT reminder to parents! Please DO NOT email notes to your child's teacher that contain information regarding your child's lunch plans, dismissal plans, or any other items that require action before the close of that school day. More often than not, teachers do not have the available time to check emails for this kind of information during the school day. This type of information is best communicated through a telephone call to the office AND ONLY in EMERGENCY situations. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our Student Council has prepared special events for our students for Red Ribbon Week! We hope all of our students can join in the pledge to live a healthy life style!

Wednesday, 10/23 – Special “Give-Away” Day! Lots of surprises for our students; don't miss out.

Thursday, 10/24 - Crazy Sock Day! Find the craziest pair of socks in your house and wear them with PRIDE!

Friday, 10/25 - Wear Red Day! We'll end Red Ribbon week with an invitation for everyone to wear something RED. (No hats today)

*Special thanks are extended to Sward dad Mr. Gade for the generous offer of Red Ribbon goodies to be shared with our Sward students!*

\*\*\*\*\*

Fathers & Daughters: Remember to return your RSVP form and payment for the November 15th PTA dance. It's going to be a fun night for the girls (and their favorite fellows!); don't miss out.

\*\*\*\*\*

MARKET DAY orders are due to school no later than November 1st. Online orders may be placed through 11 pm on November 5th. Pick up is November 8th.

Help support Sward school and our community by purchasing a pie thru Market Day. Enjoy the pie yourself or donate it back to the community at Market Day pick up on 11/8. The Oak Lawn Fire Department and other local support facilities will be the first recipients of the donated pies! Thank you for your support.

Who wants to see their principal with pink hair? Turn in all of the BOX TOPS labels you have by 10/31; that's the due date for our mid-year check. Remember, we are trying to earn \$5000 in Box Tops money this year for our PTA. Do what you can to help! Thanks

\*\*\*\*\*

Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. Please see the flyer in your child's THT folder for more information. We need you to think of any senior citizens and/or disabled homeowners in your section of the neighborhood who could benefit from this program. Please send your candidates for this worthy program to Mrs. Herbold at [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

The PTA is looking for parent volunteers for the upcoming Father/Daughter Dance on November 15th. Please use this link on your computer to register for helping: <http://vols.pt/eLjS1v>. Thank you!

\*\*\*\*\*

The PTA Scholastic Book Fair is here! Our Family Night is TONIGHT from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Stop in to browse and purchase some of the best children's books on the market. You can shop our online fair - - just go to <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/swardelementaryschool>. All orders support our school and will be shipped to Sward for FREE after the online fair has closed on 10/30. Thank you for your support!

\*\*\*\*\*

REMINDER: The PTA REFLECTIONS CONTEST entries are due by Friday, 10/25/13. For more information, go to [illinoispta.org/reflections.html](http://illinoispta.org/reflections.html) Please be certain that your child's entry has the completed paperwork attached to it before submitting the entry to the school office. Thanks and good luck!

\*\*\*\*\*

A word about Parent Conferences for those parents with children at both Sward and OLHMS: If you would like to know the date and time of your Sward conference(s) so that you can schedule your OLHMS conference, please send an email to [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org) requesting the information. Please be sure to include the name(s) of your OLHMS child(ren) in the email. ALL Sward parents will receive their conference appointment confirmation on 11/5 via THT. Only those parents with OLHMS children can request the information before 11/5. Thank you.

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NOTE THIS CHANGE: On Friday, October 25th, we will flip-flop the lunch schedule to accommodate our teachers' professional learning day. Therefore, grades 3, 4 and 5 will eat/recess from 11:00 – 11:50 and grades KDG, 1 and 2 will eat/recess from 11:50 – 12:40.

# Take-Home Tuesday

October 15, 2013

THE SPIRIT WEAR orders are being sent home today! Thank you to everyone who ordered this year. While the school does not make a profit on any of these items, we like to see all of our students with Sward Eagles spirit wear for our special spirit days and events.

All of the orders were carefully checked and packed according to the order forms. Remember, all sales are final; we do not have provisions for exchanges or refunds. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gloodt at your earliest convenience. Thanks again.

Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. Although more information will be coming home about the need for volunteer families, right now we need you to think of any senior citizens and/or disabled homeowners in your section of the neighborhood who could benefit from this program. Please send your candidates for this worthy program to Mrs. Herbold at [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org). Thanks and more to come.

All Sward students were given the PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE REQUEST form last week. Be sure to look for the green paper at home, fill it out and return it to school asap!

The PTA is looking for parent volunteers for the upcoming Father/Daughter Dance on November 15th. Please use this link on your computer to register for helping: <http://vols.pt/eLjS1v>. Thank you!

Sward's October PBIS theme is "Uniqueness." The classroom teachers will be reading various books to their students that promote this theme and will hold oral, written and technology driven discussions about who the students identify with, how the story relates to their lives and about celebrating differences.

Don't forget that the Scholastic Book Fair is going to be here 10/21-10/23. Please visit <http://vols.pt/Z3eiYW> to sign up to volunteer...we need your help!

Starting Monday, 10/14 you can shop at our online fair - just go to <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/swardelementaryschool>. All orders support our school and will be shipped to Sward for FREE after the online fair has closed on 10/30. Thank you for your support!

ROOM COORDINATORS: Please send an email to your classroom teacher to let her know about the games that you are considering for the Fall/Halloween Party. The teacher must approve all activities for her classroom.

Has your child begun working on his/her PTA REFLECTIONS CONTEST entry? The information packets about Reflections were sent home last week (we have more in the office if you need another). This year's theme is "BELIEVE, DREAM, INSPIRE". All Sward entries are due by 10/25/13. For more information, go to [illinoispta.org/reflections.html](http://illinoispta.org/reflections.html)

TRAFFIC NOTE: PARENTS: If you are not dropping off a student on the 50<sup>th</sup> Court zone, PLEASE do not drive on 50<sup>th</sup> Court. If you have a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, and need to drop off on 98<sup>th</sup> Street, please enter the traffic flow pattern from 51<sup>st</sup> Street or Tulley Avenue. We need to reduce the number of cars on 50<sup>th</sup> Court. Thank you!

Overdrawn notices for lunch accounts are sent home on Tuesdays and Fridays each week. Please check!!

Mark your calendars now for Sward's Family Math Night for parents and students in grades 3 & 4! October 23rd is the night for math fun; return your family's RSVP form this week!

Now that school is in full swing, feel free to send in your Campbell's Soup Labels. Please send them to school with your child now and throughout the year. Also, if your label is torn or missing a part of it, do not throw it out! If you have at least 51% of the UPC intact, it will be considered valid.

Our Student Council is preparing for National Red Ribbon Week (October 21 – 25) with special events for our students. We hope all of our students can join in the pledge to live a healthy life style!

Monday, 10/21 - Each student fills out a red ribbon "pledge" to be drug free. We're going to hang them outside of each classroom as a reminder to always make healthy choices.

Tuesday, 10/22 – Wear Your Favorite Hat Day! Students will be allowed to wear their favorite hats during the school day (appropriately, of course).

Wednesday, 10/23 – Special "Give-Away" Day! Lots of surprises for our students; don't miss out.

Thursday, 10/24 - Crazy Sock Day! Find the craziest pair of socks in your house and wear them with PRIDE!

Friday, 10/25 - Wear Red Day! We'll end Red Ribbon week with an invitation for everyone to wear something RED. (No hats today)

# Take-Home Tuesday

October 8, 2013

## MENU CHANGE FOR TOMORROW!!

The two entrees for Wednesday 10/9 are BEEF RAVIOLI and CHEESEBURGER. (No Lasagna Roll-up).

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Don't forget to place your Market Day order. Internet orders can be placed thru TONIGHT - 11:00 pm. Pick up is on Friday, Oct. 11th (2:45 to 3:45). Every order helps our PTA meets its financial goals for the year! Volunteers are needed on 10/11 at 1:30. Thanks!

\*\*\*\*\*

Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. Although more information will be coming home about the need for volunteer families, right now we need you to think of any senior citizens and/or disabled homeowners in your section of the neighborhood who could benefit from this program. Please send your candidates for this worthy program to Mrs. Herbold at [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org). Thanks and more to come.

\*\*\*\*\*

All Sward students were given the PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE REQUEST form TODAY. Be sure to look for the green paper in the THT, fill it out and return it to school asap!

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember to return your child's class PARTY MONEY contribution for this school year. We ask for \$6 per student to cover the costs of all three class parties.

Parents are not expected to donate anything else for the year. While no child will be refused participation in a class party, every family is expected to donate the \$6 for their child. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact Mrs. Gloodt. Thank you.

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Looking ahead... There is no school on Monday, October 14th in observance of Columbus Day! Thursday, October 31st is a half-day of school, dismissal at 11:30.

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Send your Taffy Apple orders to the school office by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>! Mark your envelope "PTA Taffy Apple order". Be sure to include the correct payment.

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Mid-term progress reports will be sent home to parents on Friday 10/11. For parents with students in grades 3 – 5, we will also send home your child's MAP assessment data and the 2013 Spring ISAT reports (grades 4-5 only).

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The PTA is looking for parent volunteers for the upcoming Father/Daughter Dance on November 15th.

Please use this link on your computer to register for helping: <http://vols.pt/eLjS1v>. Thank you!

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Now that school is in full swing, feel free to send in your Campbell's Soup Labels. Please send them to school with your child now and throughout the year. Also, if your label is torn or missing a part of it, do not throw it out! If you have at least 51% of the UPC intact, it will be considered valid.

\*\*\*\*\*

Reminder: Our Fall Picture Retake day is this Friday 10/11. Those students who were absent on the original day (9/3), are new to the school since then, or have returned their original photo package will participate.

\*\*\*\*\*

What do you want to see on the webpage belonging to your child's teacher? Let us know what features you have found most helpful and what types of information would support the work you do with your child at home. Please send your thoughts via email to Mrs. Gloodt c/o [lgloodt@d123.org](mailto:lgloodt@d123.org). Thanks.

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For quick reads about the district's mission statement coming to life at Sward School, read Mrs. Gloodt's blog each month. Add your thoughts; join the conversation.

<http://www.d123.org/sward/lgloodt/blog>

# Take-Home Tuesday

October 1, 2013

TOMORROW is LATE START Wednesday, 10/2/13. All district schools will begin school ONE HOUR LATER than usual. Students should arrive to school no later than 9:25 (and no earlier than 9:15). Students will be dismissed at the usual time on Late Start Wednesdays.

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Don't forget to place your Market Day order. Paper orders are due to school by 3:00 on Oct. 4th. Internet orders can be placed thru Oct. 8th - 11:00 pm. Pick up is on Friday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2:45 to 3:45. Every order helps our PTA meet its financial goals for the year! Volunteers are needed on 10/11 at 1:30. Thanks!

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE LET US KNOW!! How was the first month without a HOT PINK THT newsletter in your child's THT folder? If you'd like to share your thoughts, please complete the form on the back of this newsletter and return it to school with your child.

Our new 2013-14 practice is to send home a paper copy of the THT on the first Tuesday of the month and send an electronic copy via emails every other Tuesday in the month. The THT is always available on our Sward website also, found under "From the Principal".

\*\*\*\*\*

Our district will once again participate in the Oak Lawn community LEAF RAKING program on November 16th. Although more information will be coming home about the need for volunteer families, right now we need you to think of any senior citizens and/or disabled homeowners in your section of the neighborhood who could benefit from this program. Please send your candidates for this worthy program to Mrs. Herbold at [cherbold@d123.org](mailto:cherbold@d123.org). Thanks and more to come.

\*\*\*\*\*

Next week on 10/8/13, all Sward students will bring home the PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE REQUEST form. Be sure to look for the green paper in the THT on 10/8, fill it out and return it to school asap!

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember to return your child's class PARTY MONEY contribution for this school year. We ask for \$6 per student to cover the costs of all three class parties. Parents are not expected to donate anything else for the year. While no child will be refused participation in a class party, every family is expected to donate the \$6 for their child. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact Mrs. Gloodt. Thank you.

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Looking ahead...there is no school on Monday, October 14th in observance of Columbus Day! Thursday, October 31st is a half-day of school, dismissal at 11:30.

The OCTOBER PTA meeting is set for TOMORROW, Wednesday, October 2nd at 6:30 pm in the faculty room. Remember – Room Coordinators: Your meeting begins at 6:00 pm! Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

\*\*\*\*\*

State law requires that each school district creates and maintains a bullying policy and communicates that policy to its parents, guardians, and students each year.

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors is an important goal in District 123. Our Social Worker, Mrs. Hernandez, engages all of our students throughout the year with anti-bullying presentations. She clarifies with students the differences between bullying and conflicts.

Cyberbullying is a growing concern for many parents and students. It is an indirect form of social bullying that uses technological communications to humiliate, harass, tease, intimidate, threaten or slander one or more individuals. What children (and parents!) put on Facebook can be considered bullying due to the chosen words and tone of the message.

Students and parents are encouraged to assist in preventing harassment by reporting any incidents of alleged bullying/harassment to the building principal.

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Send your Taffy Apple orders to the school office by Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>! Mark your envelope "PTA Taffy Apple order". Be sure to include the correct payment.

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Mid-term progress reports will be sent home to parents next week. For parents with students in grades 3 – 5, we will also send home your child's MAP assessment data and the 2013 Spring ISAT reports (grades 4-5 only).

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D123 has a "virtual backpack" for parents! Look on our D123 home page under Parent Resources for the virtual backpack link. There you will find information for after-school programming including programs from the Oak Lawn Park District. We also have reminders on the D123 Facebook page.

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Many thanks are extended to PTA Co-Chairs Mrs. Amy Enderle and Mrs. Kate Kazeneskie, along with their committee of volunteers, for the truly fabulous Father/Son Carnival last Friday night! With over 250 Sward dads and sons in attendance, it was a great time for family fun. Sward PTA is the best in town ☺

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Please keep reading>>>>>there is more to share>>>>>



A few years ago, our PTA received a laptop as a donation. This laptop has served the PTA well, but is no longer needed. We are looking for ideas of what to do with the laptop. At the Sept. PTA Meeting, members suggested some places to donate the computer. If anyone has additional ideas, please email them to Jen Donnan at [jen\\_donnan@att.net](mailto:jen_donnan@att.net). These ideas will be discussed at the PTA Meeting on October 2nd.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming back to Sward, October 21st - 23rd and we are looking for volunteers. There are many different opportunities to choose from and all you need to do is sign up at VolunteerSpot with this link: <http://vols.pt/Z3eiYW>.

There will also be an opportunity to purchase items from our online fair - (open 10/14-10/30) with an even larger selection to choose from. Our book fair is not only a wonderful way to encourage the love of reading but it also is a great fundraiser for our school! Please visit our PTA website, [www.d123/sward/pta](http://www.d123/sward/pta) for more specific details about the fair. Thank you in advance for your support!

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At the October PTA meeting on 10/2, parents are invited to join the discussion regarding Sward School's 2013 Measures of Success, including the state's AYP and other considerations. Be "in the know" by being there!

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Many thanks to all our parents and partners who joined the Raise Your Hand for Anaphylaxis campaign! While we may not have won the \$15,000 grant (p.s. you can still vote until 11:59 pm tonight!!), we put D123 on the map by proudly showing our 5th Place status to all the other schools in the nation, demonstrating that WE CARE about our students' health and safety issues ☺

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*CUT HERE and Return bottom portion.  
(Complete the survey below and return*

1. I like getting the email version of the THT newsletter.

YES                      NO

2. I prefer to have the paper version of the THT newsletter each week.

YES                      NO

3. I did not know there was an email version of the THT newsletter.

Agree                      Disagree

Looking for Art in the Classroom volunteers! Pablo Picasso said, "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up." Mrs. Kreydich and Mr. Deiters, co-chairs of the Art Committee, are looking for parent presenters to be scheduled in October, December, February, and April. Classroom visits are typically 15-20 minutes, and Michelle and Jim are happy to help with the planning. In fact, we have a few lessons ready-to-go. Call, text, or email, and thank you in advance for bringing art into your child's classroom.

5th and 3rd Grades: Michelle Kreydich – [708.439.4759](tel:708.439.4759) or [tmdk@aol.com](mailto:tmdk@aol.com)

4th and 2nd Grades: Jim Deiters – [708.217.0195](tel:708.217.0195) or [jdeiters30@hotmail.com](mailto:jdeiters30@hotmail.com)

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Has your child begun working on his/her PTA REFLECTIONS CONTEST entry? The information packets about Reflections were sent home last week (we have more in the office if you need another). This year's theme is "BELIEVE, DREAM, INSPIRE". All Sward entries are due by 10/25/13. For more information, go to [illinoispta.org/reflections.html](http://illinoispta.org/reflections.html)

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Our student patrols need your help! Please do not park in the crosswalk areas in the intersections of the streets around the school. Reduce your speed any time you are driving around the school AND NO CELL PHONES WHILE DRIVING IN A SCHOOL ZONE!!

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Mark your calendars now for Sward's Family Math Night for parents and students in grades 3 & 4! October 23rd is the night for math fun; more information and your family's RSVP form will be coming home soon!

\*\*\*\*\*

Proud To Be...In D123!

\*\*\*\*\*

*CUT HERE and Return bottom portion.  
to your child's teacher this week! Thanks.)*

Please add my email address to the list so I can receive the THT each week via email!

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Other comments I'd like to share: \_\_\_\_\_

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