

Principals' Newsletter

January 2018

CREC: Proud to be a School-Wide Title I Building

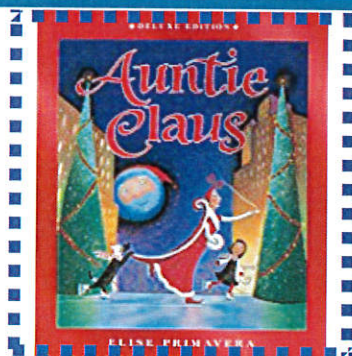
Auntie Claus's Closet



This year, CREC took a slightly different approach with our traditional Holiday Shoppe. Based upon the children's book, Auntie Claus by Elise Primavera (presented by first grade teacher Marla Wolff), students were taught that *it is far better to give than to receive*.

Rather than purchasing presents for family and friends with money, students were able to exchange their hard-earned Super Paws for gifts. Every student started out with a list of four people, but were then able to return to the "magical closet," after all classes had a chance to shop, if they had additional Super Paws to spend.

A special thanks to our PTO, Super Paw Committee, and all members of the community who donated money, or new or gently used items to this initiative. We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of the volunteers (high school students from the Academy, parents, grandparents, a school board member and his wife, etc.) who assisted our children with finding the perfect gift to show their love and appreciation for their loved ones in their little lives.





A special sleigh was delivered to CREC on the morning of Thursday, December 21st. In it, were books for every child at CREC. Special activities like this are made possible with funding through Title I.

Band and chorus students from CRIS helped members of the staff and faculty deliver this special surprise.



Santa Sighting



Students from the West High School posed as Santa and his helpers from the North Pole. Kindergarteners and first graders got to experience the special event, which included a complimentary photo with Santa.



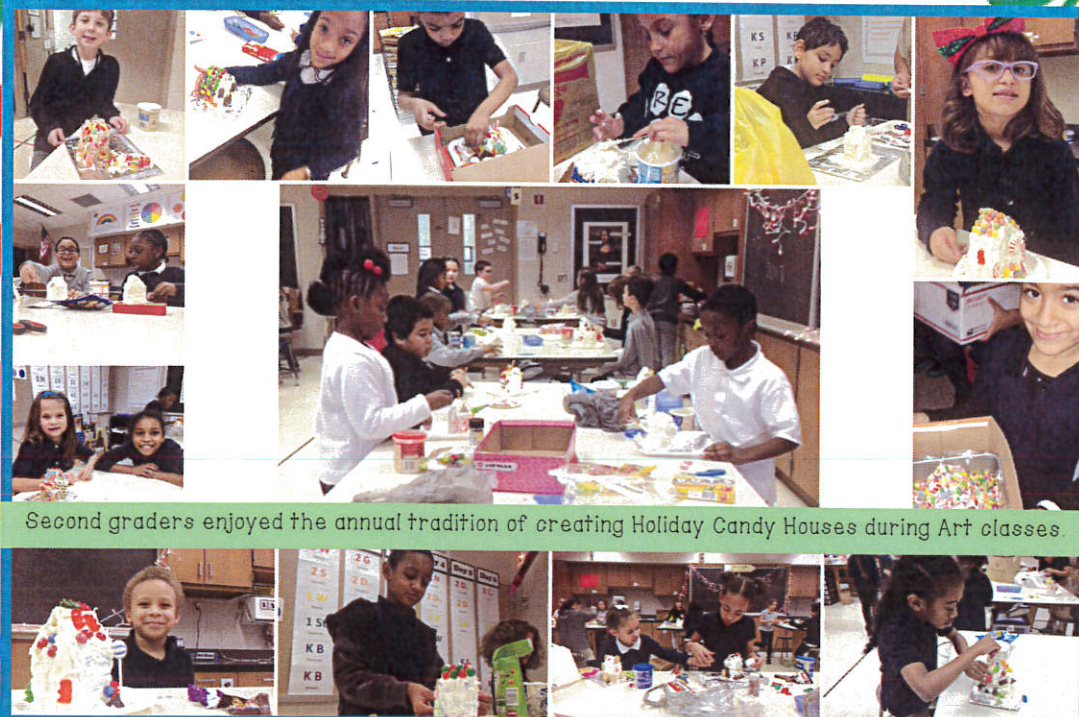
Gingerbread Ornaments

Just another way in which CREC takes pride in making memories that will last a lifetime . . .

With assistance from their teachers, and high school volunteers from the Academy, kindergartners took part in making gingerbread ornaments.



Sweet Creations



Second graders enjoyed the annual tradition of creating Holiday Candy Houses during Art classes.

Building Snowmen



First graders were excited to create a special gift for their families. First, they painted a block of wood with white paint. Then, with a sharpie marker, they added two eyes, a carrot nose and a nice snowman smile. Finally, students had the opportunity to choose different types of fabric to make a scarf and a selected a sock for the hat!

Students took their snowman home in gift bags to give to their family. As Auntie Claus says, "It is far better to give than it is to receive!"

Spaghetti PJs for Pasta



'Tis the season to be generous and give to others . . . Therefore, CREC continued its annual tradition of wearing pajamas to school on the last day of school before the Winter Break. In doing so, they were asked to donate a box of pasta. Over 400 boxes of pasta were donated, and will be delivered to the *Feeding Families* food pantry at the beginning of the new year.

Brrr . . . It's cold out there!

Suggestions for keeping our little ones warm this winter:

- With unpredictable weather conditions, it is suggested that students dress in layers. It is suggested that, if you are dressing a young child or infant for the cold, the rule of thumb is to dress the child in one more layer than an adult would wear in those same conditions.
- Keep out of the cold as much as possible. Make sure that they are wearing a hat to keep their ears covered. Also make sure that they are keeping their hands covered. Mittens keep their hands warmer, because their fingers are not separated.
- Stay dry—When a child gets wet, clothing stops protecting them from the cold.



Tips were taken from an article on parent savvy.com - <http://parentsavvy.com>

PTO News



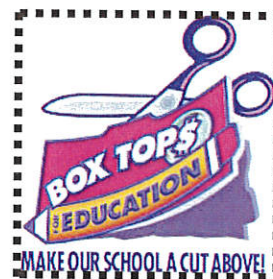
KARATE

Students took part in a karate demonstration, which also involved breaking a board, at our PTO meeting that was held on Tuesday, December 19th. Then, while parents were instructed in self-defense strategies, children learned about the Chinese New Year and made a paper dragon to take home. Thank you to Shihan Anthony, Sensei Joe, and Sensei Juice from Pocono Crimson Dragons for their valuable demonstrations. Also, a special thank you is extended to Mrs. Paul and students from the West High School Student Council for the arts n' craft activity.



The PTO hosted a Movie Night on Friday, December 8th.

Mikolaj Baranski gave a thumbs up for the movie. Coincidentally, he and his family were the lucky winners of the Movie Raffle.



Next PTO Meeting - January 16th at 6:00 pm

Mark your calendar!



Learn all about holistic healing with essential oils from doTerra Wellness Advocate Lindsey Fierros.

There will be prizes and free babysitting.

January Food Focus

DARK LEAFY GREENS

GOING GREEN NEVER TASTED SO GREAT!

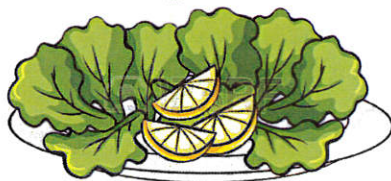


Dark leafy greens are nutrition champions—they're chock full of vitamins and minerals that have been shown to improve our health and protect us from many illnesses and diseases. In particular, dark leafy greens are an excellent source of vitamin K, which helps stop cuts and scrapes from bleeding too much and helps build strong bones. It is recommended that kids eat 1 to 2 cups of dark leafy greens per week. The dark leafy green food group includes lettuce, kale, chard, bok choy, broccoli, spinach, turnip greens, watercress, collard greens. Be sure to eat a variety to get the most nutrition!

Try these great ways to fill up on your leafy greens:

- Make a colorful salad using lettuce by adding a variety of fruits and vegetables. Add lettuce to your favorite sandwich or wrap!
- Bake kale chips in the oven with a drizzle of olive oil. Add kale to smoothies, soups, salads and sandwiches.
- Chard makes a delicious and unexpected pizza topping. Sauté chard with fresh garlic and olive oil and drizzle with fresh lemon juice and parmesan cheese before serving for a simple, refreshing side dish.

MAKE AS MANY WORDS AS YOU CAN OUT OF THE LETTERS IN
DARK LEAFY GREENS



WORD SCRAMBLE

These letters were mixed up in the salad bowl!
Can you unscramble them to make words?

PAHICSN

RENSEG

LAADS

YLAEF

TLEECTU

AENORMI

Spinach, Salad, Lettuce
Greens, Leafy, Romaine

#LOL: WHAT'S A PENGUIN'S FAVORITE SALAD INGREDIENT?
ANSWER: ICEBERG LETTUCE!

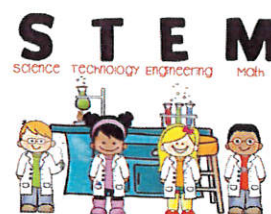
Visit the Chartwells website, through our school webpage,
to learn more information about good nutrition and monthly food focuses.

Arts & Crafts



The students in Art club have been creating some beautiful treasures!

Over the last couple of months, they have made candle holders, place mats, ornaments and centerpieces!



Students in first and second grade enjoyed many STEM challenges that corresponded with major holidays.

For Thanksgiving, students listened to the book, [A Turkey for Thanksgiving](#) by Eve Bunting, and were then challenged to build a structure that would conceal a turkey, who is very worried about becoming part of a Thanksgiving dinner.

In December, students were challenged to build a tall shelf constructed from Popsicle sticks and playdoh for their "Elf in the Shelf" to sit upon.

Most recently, students who participated in the club were challenged to construct a bridge that was stable enough for a gingerbread man to run across while trying to avoid the townspeople. Students were given toothpicks, gum drops and tongue depressors for this particular challenge.

Our Fall session of STEM Club was a huge success! Students really enjoyed putting their engineering and cooperative work skills to good use.

Don't delay . . . Schedule your appointment today!

Kindergarten Registration for next year is now open . . .

If you have a child who meets eligibility for the 2018-2019 school year Kindergarten class (must be five years of age or older on or before September 1, 2018), please contact the Pocono Mountain School District Central Registration Office at 839-7121 ext. 40400 to schedule an appointment.

Once your child is registered, you will receive notification about upcoming workshops that are specially-designed for the parents of preschoolers and receive invitations to special events that include, but are not limited to, our Kindergarten Orientation that will take place in May.



Upcoming Events

January 15th
No School

January 16th
PTO Meeting @ 6:00 pm



Rocco Lombordo, Family Engagement Coordinator with *Pocono Services for Families and Children*, will be hosting a series of tours of The Mountain Center:

Tuesday, January 16th @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm
Monday, January 22nd @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm
Tuesday, January 30th @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm

The first 100 families
to tour The Mountain Center
will receive a \$25 gift card to Shop Rite.

Call Angela Vadhwana at (570) 839-7121 ext. 29412 to sign up today!



Always in Character

Ms. Doyle is one of our reading specialists. She is also the host of a special segment on our morning announcements called "As Seen on TV." During her special presentations, she highlights her favorite children's books. In addition to sharing her love for reading, her other goal is to promote our upcoming Character Day during the week of *Read Across America* — Monday, February 26th.