



Vincent L. Triggs Elementary School

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 Sheila Cooper, Principal
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Triggs Telegraph

December 2015 Newsletter

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
R 30 Progress Reports	I 1	G 2 VOYAGES – 8:15 AM	S 3	V 4 Holiday Store OPENS BOOK FAIR Spirit Day!
T 7 Holiday Store BOOK FAIR	R 8 Holiday Store BOOK FAIR	I 9 Holiday Store BOOK FAIR VOYAGES – 8:15 AM Speedway Lights	G 10 Holiday Store BOOK FAIR Speedway Lights	S 11 Holiday Store BOOK FAIR PTSO FUN FRIDAY! Spirit Day!
14 PSTAPT NO SCHOOL BOOK FAIR LAST DAY!	V 15	T 16 NO VOYAGES TODAY	R 17	I 18 PTSO MEETING 8:10 Spirit Day!
21	22	23	24	25
WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK
28	29	30	31	JANUARY 1st
WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK

PSTAPT ~ Parent-Student-Teacher Academic Planning Time

Parent-Student-Teacher Academic Planning Time is a data-driven version of traditional Parent Teacher Conferences. Every parent/guardian and student will be scheduled for a conference. There will be no school on **December 14** for conferences to be held during the day. Please bring your child with you to the conference so everyone can participate in this academic planning time. The most recent assessment data, along with classroom performance, and an instructional plan will be discussed. Please contact the teacher with any questions. This will also be the last day of our **BOOK FAIR**, where quality books will be available for purchase for your children's reading enjoyment!

Winter Break

There will be no school on Monday, December 21st through Friday, January 1st for Winter Break. Enjoy this holiday season together with friends and family!

Garden Fundraiser

We have been getting great use out of our garden so far this year. Fourth graders participated in a nutrition and cooking demo to learn how to use fruits and vegetables to make after-school snacks. We have also had two very successful cooking demos in the science lab, where Chef Justin has taught families how to use garden ingredients in easy meals for everyone.

With all these great activities and more to come, the garden is in need of donations. On December 14th, during parent teacher conferences, the Garden committee will be selling garden pavers for \$10. You'll be able to decorate the paver, which will be displayed in the garden for years to come. Not only are the pavers going to make the garden look beautiful, they are also going to serve a purpose. Grass and weeds have been growing in our garden and damaging the garden beds. We are going to build a wall of pavers to protect the garden from harmful weeds.

Any other donations to the garden are greatly appreciated as well. Thank you for your help in maintaining our garden.

Drivers, please help us ensure student safety at dismissal by

☺ Not making U-turns in the school zone

☺ Not blocking the bus lane

☺ Not double parking

☺ Not allowing your child to run across the street

Thank you for following the rules of the road to keep our students safe.



This month is our PTSO sponsored Elves Shelves. The Holiday Store will be going on December 4th – 11th during students' Library time. This is a fun opportunity for your child to purchase holiday gifts for family and friends with a little help from the PTSO elves! The shopping list form and envelope will be going out the first week of December. Please watch for them in your student's backpack.

If you enjoy going to the Speedway to look at the lights, this will be a great way to help us with our next fun and easy fundraiser. On December 9th and 10th go to the Speedway and enjoy the lights! The school will receive \$5 per regular priced car. Don't forget to bring the flyer with you. It's that simple!

Thank you all for your continued support!
Triggs PTSO

Don't forget to join us for our
PTSO General Meeting December
18th at 8:10 AM.
**We will be voting for our new
Vice President of Fundraising
and Events.**

- Mark your December calendars...**
- **4th – 11th Elves Shelves** (during students' Library time)
 - **9th and 10th Speedway Lights Fundraiser** (don't forget to bring your flyer to the Speedway)
 - **11th – Fun Friday**
 - **18th – PTSO General Meeting** at 8:10 AM in the Library




Short Notes

A Fresh Start: A calm morning can help your child(ren) go to school with a positive attitude. Build an extra 10 minutes into their wake-up time so they won't be rushed when coming back to school.

Backpack Check: Use your child's backpack to spark conversations about school. Sit together while you both go through it, and talk about what's inside.

Be A Team Player: You and the teacher have the same goal: for your youngster to succeed. If the teacher shares a concern about your child's progress or behavior, ask how you can help. At home, make nice comments about the teacher.

Stay in Touch: Tell the teacher about any changes in your child's life, such as the birth of a sibling or a separation or divorce. 

During our recent Staff Development Days, teachers participated in professional learning sessions which addressed some of our School Performance Plan goals. Teachers learned how to use cooperative learning structures to promote high cognitive demand. As a result, teachers are implementing activities in the classroom which require students to work together to solve problems and make decisions which require reasoning and critical thinking. In addition, teachers learned how to increase the cognitive demand of their classroom activities. DOK (Depth of Knowledge) refers to the complexity of mental processing that must occur to answer a question, perform a task, or generate a product. There are four levels ranging in complexity from lowest to highest. Level One involves recall and basic recognition. Level Two involves some mental processing beyond just recall. It requires students to make some decisions about how to approach a problem or question. DOK Three involves strategic thinking, including more sophisticated reasoning and analysis requiring students to solve problems and draw conclusions. DOK Four involves extended thinking, integration of knowledge from multiple sources, and usually requires an extended period of time. Teachers are working to increase the DOK level of the activities in their classrooms so that all students are required to develop more strategic thinking skills.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CARS UNATTENDED IN THE DROP-OFF ZONE!



Coach's Corner ~ TIP of the Month

A great snack for after school is apple slices with peanut butter spread on them. Some people also like to eat celery with peanut butter as well. Frozen low-fat yogurt with berries or kiwi can also hit the spot.
Dan Anderson, Jr.

ALL LOST AND FOUND WILL BE DONATED OVER WINTER BREAK!