

Note from the Principal

December 4, 2018

Dear Families,

I have connected with many of you over the last week and it seems as though the Thanksgiving holiday weekend was enjoyed by all! Although the holiday season is an exciting time, it can also bring about added stress and anxiety for some. At school, we will do our best over the next couple of weeks to keep our days as consistent and engaging as possible. At home, you can also support your child's learning at school by ensuring that they get sufficient sleep, and by trying to maintain consistent routines at home as well.

As we gear up for the upcoming winter break, we have many fun events planned, starting with the 'Twelve Days of Winter' in Kindergarten and the annual 'Family Fun Run' week. Our students have been building up their running stamina during PE over the last couple of weeks and are excited for families to participate in the fun, running event. In addition, many of our classrooms will be participating in tours of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts through Art Adventure. Art Adventure is a fantastic program that engages our students with artworks from the MIA. The program encourages creativity, critical thinking and global awareness through in-depth explorations of art across various cultures and time periods.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the building over the next couple of weeks. Please be sure to check the announcements below regarding school drop-off and pick-up procedures. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions that may arise.

Sincerely,

Ana Bartl
Principal

Instructional Insights

Dreambox - This is an online math curriculum aligned to the Minnesota State Mathematics standards that is designed to get students thinking differently about mathematics. This year we were fortunate to have the district provide Burroughs with a site license that gives all of our student access to this curriculum. This is an adaptive curriculum that meets students at their level and adjusts as they gain mastery. In the classroom Dreambox is used as a station during small group instruction. You can find more information about Dreambox at <http://www.dreambox.com/>.

Meet the Burroughs Staff

Joyce Lasser, 1st Grade Teacher - Mrs. Lasser has been a teacher at Burroughs for 17 years. She is originally from New York and although she considers herself a midwesterner after living here for many years, she still has a touch of that eastern accent. She taught four years in the Bronx right after receiving her Bachelor's Degree from Cornell University and her Master's degrees from New York University. Her first teaching job in Minnesota was at a school in North Minneapolis where she taught for sixteen years. Mrs. Lasser is a National Board Certified teacher and was a semi-finalist for teacher of the year. Mrs. Lasser has three children and five grandchildren, all of them ten years old and younger. Her daughter, and son and their families live in Minneapolis and her oldest son lives in Santa Monica with his ten year old child. When she is not in school, she loves spending time with her family and friends. She tries to exercise at least five times a week, whether it be at the gym or taking a long walk. She loves cuddling up with a fabulous book and also enjoys baking and sharing her treats with others.

Announcements

- **Feed My Starving Children** - A group of 5th graders from Ms. Walvatne's room will be running a penny drive to raise money for Feed My Starving Children. They will make announcements next week and deliver change collection canisters to classrooms. The drive will begin on Monday, November 26 and run through Friday, December 14.
- **Sinfonia** - Our 5th grade choir will perform with the Sinfonia musicians in the Burroughs Gymnasium on Friday, December 7 at 1:00 and 2:00 pm. All are welcome to join us for this fun event.

Dates to Remember

- **Friday, December 7** - Sinfonia, 12:30-3:00 pm

- **Monday, December 10-14** - Family Fun Run Week
- **Friday, December 7 (Change of Date)**- Coffee with the Principal, 9:30-10:30 am
- **Monday, December 24- Friday, January 4** - No School, Winter Break