

Oxford School News

December 17, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The teachers and I are very concerned about the large number of students who do not know their math facts with quick and accurate recall. We have been talking about how best to make the task of memorization work. We need your help in learning this rote skill. Starting in January we are going to kick off a school-wide math challenge to encourage all students to learn their math facts. Whether or not kindergartners will participate in some way has yet to be determined. Please look for details in the January newsletter about the schoolwide math challenge. Thanks and have a happy and healthy holiday season with your family.

—*Janet Levenson*

School Calendar

12/17	Winter Fair, , 6:30-8:00 PM
12/21	Winter break begins
1/4/2010	School resumes
1/12/2010	PTA meeting, 6:30-8:00 PM
1/18/2010	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
1/28/10	GATE meeting, 6:00 PM at B-Tech
2/1/2010	Staff Development Day (<i>no school</i>)

PTA News

We are wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and safe holiday. We will see you again next year. Please save the date for the **January PTA meeting** that will be held on *Tuesday, January 12th, 2010* from **6:30-8:00 PM**. Dinner and childcare will be provided. **Tarah Fleming** will be attending the *January 12th* meeting to continue discussions around diversity issues at Oxford and how to make Oxford Elementary an inclusive environment.

We'd like to thank everyone who has helped out with the kindergarten tours (*Elena Gardela, Lee Kempf, and Heidi Ross*) this month and with the **kindergarten faire** (*Paulette Butler, Paula Robinson, Carl Kempf, Polly Pagenhart, Marilee Lovell, and Andrea Lampros*). We truly appreciate your help in letting people know how great Oxford is. Also, thank you to *Jean Fichtenkort and Laurie Peterson* for heading up the **Holiday Meals** for our Oxford families and for all the room parents in helping to make the winter faire a success.

—*Chrissy Meuris & Melanie Green,*
PTA Co-Presidents

Turn Off The TV

Thanks to those who sent in ideas this week. Here are some of their suggestions:

- 1) **Make birthday cards**
- 2) **Write thank you notes**

- 3) Play boardgames like Monopoly or Scrabble
- 4) Bake muffins

—Jin Young, mom of *Mateo Young*, first grade

- 1) Go for a family walk around the neighborhood. Variation: bring your scooters (and helmets) along.
- 2) Take the kids to a nearby park or school with a basketball or soccer ball.

Variations: bring the scooters, rollerskates, or bicycles (and helmets).

—Genevieve Nonet, mom of *James and Leda Knowles*

Lost and Found

Many thanks to Yeshim Erim, *Ege Goktekin's mom*, for bringing in the racks for the lost and found clothing. Please write your child's name in their jacket so that we can return it to you should they leave it lying around the school. **All unclaimed clothing will be taken away on the last day of school.**

Trick-or-Treat for Unicef

Oxford students raised about **\$900** this year with Room 22 (**Alison Owens**) raising the most money of any classroom. *Congratulations, Oxford students*, on once again raising money for such a **great cause**.

Submissions for the Oxford School Newsletter

Please email submissions to:

OxfordSchoolNewsletter@gmail.com as attached MS Word documents. Submissions received by Fridays will go out in the Newsletter the following Thursday. Please send an email to the same address if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Thank you.