

# Applevew Elementary ~ March 2012

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Mr. Kris Vydareny, Principal ~ [kris.vydareny@staff.spartaschools.org](mailto:kris.vydareny@staff.spartaschools.org)

Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm

Dear Applevew Families,

Each year, our school takes time to survey parents about their experience at Applevew. This is part of our School Improvement Process and we feel this feedback is vital to our school's success and that the input of our families is invaluable. This year's survey will once again be on-line. Parents can follow this link- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AVParent11-12> (a direct link can be found on our school's website) and enter responses between now and March 16<sup>th</sup>. The survey should not take longer than 10 minutes to complete. We ask that, when possible, parents provide us with comments, both positive and negative, after each question so as to specify the reasons for their level of satisfaction. If families do not have access to the internet, parents may request to use one of the school's computers or they may pick up a paper copy of the survey which will be available in the main office.

In addition to our annual survey, our March calendar will be highlighted by our celebration of reading. Although our staff views reading as an essential skill twelve months of the year, we take time this month to focus on the pure joy of reading as the month seems to be "universally known" throughout schools across the country as *March is Reading Month*. This year our theme is "*Lights, Camera, Action....Read*". There will be activities throughout the month that will highlight the connection between reading and the movies as so many of our favorite books have been or are being made into feature films (this month we will see the openings of *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss as well as *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins). Please look for information over the next few weeks about our events and look for ways to engage your own family in promoting a love of reading this month.

The weather continues to be crazy.....requiring snow pants and heavy coats one day and barely a heavy sweatshirt the next. Please continue to be diligent about monitoring the weather so that your child is prepared for the elements each day. Students should be prepared with coats, boots, hats, gloves, etc. until temperatures are consistently above 50 degrees. The way this winter has been going, it can be 40 and sunny to start the day and 20 and snowing by lunch.

Have a great month!

Your Principal,

Mr. V

## MARCH CALENDAR

- March 2:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Symphony/Museum, Geers Bowling @ Sparta Lanes, PTC Movie Night ~ The Smurf's @ Ridgeview Elementary
- March 7:** PTC Book Distribution
- March 8, 9 & 10:** MS Play *Romeo & Juliet ~ Together & Alive at Last* @ SHS Auditorium
- March 9:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester Ends, 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, Geers ~ Delta Plex Arena, 2:00 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. USA Days
- March 10:** SEF Retro Bowl @ Sparta Lanes
- March 12:** 6:15 PTC Meeting, 7:30 SAS BOE
- March 13:** 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Lansing Miller & Shuneson
- March 14:** 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Lansing Davis & Davis
- March 15:** 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Music Program
- March 16:** Report Cards Home, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, Geers ~ Bowling @ Sparta Lanes
- March 20:** Molesta & Geers ~ YMCA
- March 21:** 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Lansing Trip Kilpatrick, Shelner & Vanderhyde
- March 23:** 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, Geers Bowling @ Sparta Lanes
- March 28:** LINK Students ~ Pancake Breakfast
- March 29:** No Students ~ Teacher Work Day
- March 30 – April 8** Spring Break
- April 9:** School Resumes, Teacher/Student Characteristic forms available, PTC Board Nomination forms available.
- April 10:** Molesta & Geers ~ YMCA
- April 11:** 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Hearing Screening, 2:00 Tornado Drill
- April 12:** 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Vision Screening, The Beginning Years Round Up @ RV for Preschool & Kdg.
- April 13:** 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Vision & Screening Make Up Date
- April 16:** No PTC Mtg., 7:30 SAS BOE
- April 16 - 20:** Kidz Have Rights Presentation
- April 17:** Molesta & Geers ~ YMCA
- April 18:** Fire Drill 10:30
- April 20:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Sparta Walking Tour, USA Days ~ 2:00
- April 24:** Molesta & Geers ~ YMCA
- April 24 - 25:** Mobile Dentist Returns
- April 26:** Take your Child to Work Day
- April 27:** 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gr ~ Blackall & Wagner to Hoffmaster State Park, Teacher / Student Characteristic forms are due. PTC Board Nomination Forms are due, LINK Students ~ Banquet Crafts during lunch.
- April 28:** PTC Family Fun Festival 11-3pm @ Applevew Elementary
- May 1:** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Vision & Screening, 1:30 Molesta & Geers ~ YMCA
- May 2:** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Vision & Screening
- May 4:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Progress Reports, 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. Chicago Trip, 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Flex Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gr ~ Lehner & McKellar to Hoffmaster

Dear Parents,

Sparta Schools Food offers breakfast every morning. The price is \$1.30 or 30 cents for a reduced price student. If your child qualifies for free lunches then they are qualified for free breakfast. Parents may apply for free/reduced price meals at any time during the school year. Applications are available in each building and at [spartaschools.org](http://spartaschools.org). Applications may be filled out online at [lunchapp.com](http://lunchapp.com).

If you have any questions about the breakfast and lunch program please contact me at [foodservice@spartaschools.org](mailto:foodservice@spartaschools.org). I welcome your comment and suggestions.

Tim Kleaveland  
Food Service Director  
887-1744  
[foodservice@spartaschools.org](mailto:foodservice@spartaschools.org)

### **Gym Shorts ~ Physical Education – Mr. Diebold – 887-7506 Ext. 4108**

March in the gym finds students involved in many different activities. Tag games like “sharks and minnows” and “Pac Man Tag” will be played.

March Madness of course means basketball. We will be doing many different activities that include the use of basketballs. Lightning, 3 on 3 games, sideline basketball are all activities we will be playing in physical education.

### **Technology**

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology in March...

Students will continue to work with line spacing as they complete a St. Patrick’s Day themed word processing project. The project also incorporates text alignment, clipart and font color. Visit <http://staffpage.spartaschools.org/staff/gretchen.goodenow/4th.htm> for more information.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology in March....

We will kick off March with a word processing review and then move on to some Internet searching. Time on the Internet will be closely monitored and controlled. Visit <http://staffpage.spartaschools.org/staff/gretchen.goodenow/5th.htm> for more information.

**Gretchen Goodenow**  
Technology - Applevew Elementary | Sparta Middle School  
616.887.8211 ext 2325  
<http://staffpage.spartaschools.org/staff/gretchen.goodenow/>

### **Mrs. Friederichs – 887-7506 Ext. 4111**

This month in Applevew’s music room, my fifth graders will be preparing for their annual concert! It will be held in the Sparta High School Auditorium. Due to the limited number of seats available, we will hold two performances that evening to accommodate the large number of family and friends who would like to attend. Students of Mrs. Murdock, Mr. Carter, and Mr. Grennan will perform at 6:30 P.M. Students of Mrs. Dzirbowicz, Mrs. Swanson, Mrs. Utter, and Mr. Oudbier will perform at 7:15 P.M. Please watch your child’s Friday Folder in the coming weeks for more specific concert details to follow. With all of the hard work these students are doing to learn their dancing, recorders, rhythm, singing, and staging, these students are sure to put on an energetic, entertaining show!

My third and fourth grade students will be singing and playing March and seasonal songs this month, and will continue with our “Song of the Week”, featuring many musical aspects such as rhythm, movement, listening, notation, history, and more. We will also be on the lookout for our music room mascot, “Rocky”, to take a vacation to a mystery spot around the world... and we will bring him back home after we study the musical clues from his secret hiding place!

Have a wonderful March!

In music,

Mrs. Molly Friederichs

### **Art – Mrs. Ballard – 887-7506 Ext. 4121**

To end our Pop and Op Art unit every class made their own Optical Art Mural. Every student had their own piece of the puzzle. The colors and shapes had to match their neighbors puzzle piece. This project was a real challenge, but they turned out nice and bright!!

We learned how to make a booklet by folding and cutting printing paper and we are filling it with the 6 Elements of ART.

This week the Village of Sparta dropped off wooden kites for our students to design and paint. It is such an honor to have our masterpieces hang downtown Sparta!!!

Helping Applevew students color their world!!

Sandie Ballard  
Art Teacher  
Applevew Elementary