



2020

8259 S. Lavergne
Burbank, IL 60459

Principal's Notes

Byrd School began the New Year by hosting its annual Spelling Bee. It was a very competitive event. The spellers competed in the morning. Byrd School was proud to have Giselle, a fifth grader, represent Byrd at the District Spelling Bee at Liberty Junior High. Giselle came in fourth place at the District Spelling Bee. We were so proud to have Giselle represent Byrd School at the District Spelling Bee. Congratulations, Giselle!

The teachers at Byrd School had a difficult job reading all of the Young Authors Contest entries; however, they were able to read all of them and choose a winner from each grade. Byrd submitted a winner from each grade to participate in the upcoming District event that will take place at Edward J. Tobin School on February 19th. Congratulations to every student who submitted a story. They were very creative.

The EL teachers have been in the process of administering the ACCESS test since mid-January and will finish ahead of schedule. Keeping a testing schedule during normal everyday classroom instruction was difficult; however, the EL teachers worked very hard at administering the test as efficiently as possible. EL services should resume on Thursday, February 6th.

Byrd School participated in the 2nd Byrd vs Burbank AR Book Battle on Thursday, January 23rd. Before the event, the teachers picked seven books for the students to read. After reading the books, the students generated some questions for the principals to answer during the Battle. The student AR points leaders from each school got to read the questions to the principals during the event. The principal that answered the least amount of questions correctly, received a pie in the face. Unfortunately, I was that principal. The event was streamed on Facebook and was Skyped to Burbank so the students could watch the event, live. A special thank you to the teachers who organized the event.

McDonald's hosted its first McCare Teacher Night at McDonald's on 79th street. During the event, the PTO handed out raffle tickets for an Indoor Activity gift basket that was raffled off the following day. Jayden, from Ms. Valentino's room won the basket. We do not have a dollar amount on how much we earned during the event; however, it will be reported during the next PTO meeting on Tuesday,

February 11th. Thank you, families for attending the event and thank you Mr. Conn and McDonald's for the fundraising opportunity. Also, thank you Mrs. Bronkhorst for creating the basket!

Byrd School celebrated Chinese New Year by creating 'lanterns' and hanging them in the hallways and classroom doors. Each morning during the week leading up to the New Year we talked about Chinese traditions that take place during this time of year. We ended the week by giving each student a fortune cookie on Chinese New Year Eve. Thank you, Mrs. Motola for organizing the celebration!

Byrd School will be participating in the annual St. Baldrick's fundraising event this year. The event will take place on March 18th. More details will be provided on this event as soon as it becomes known to us. We look forward to participating in this event every year. Byrd is always well represented at this event. Ms. Kijak, Ms. Harrison and Mrs. Motola are sponsoring Byrd School's fundraising efforts.

Our regularly scheduled after-school activities will continue in February. The Kindergarten Academic Guidance will continue on Tuesday afternoons with 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade Reading. Second and 5th grade Reading will take place on Thursday as well as 1st and 6th grade Reading. Ms. Harrison's Recycling Club will take place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Ms. Catizone is hosting 3rd and 4th grade Club Enrichment on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. As you can see, our school day doesn't really end at 2:35 pm. Many students are staying and working with teachers well past the end of the regularly scheduled day.

There will be no school on Monday, February 17th, in honor of Presidents' Day. There will be a half-day of school on February 19th for a teacher in-service day.

Students are encouraged to wear red or pink on Valentine's Day. Classroom parties will start at 1:30. Students are also encouraged to wear purple and green on Tuesday, February 25th for Mardi Gras.

Please mark your calendar for The Young Authors Night which will take place on Wednesday, February 19th at Edward J. Tobin School at 6:30 pm.

Progress reports will be sent home on February 14th.

Have a wonderful Valentine's Day!

