



The Riders



W.B. Simpson
Elementary School



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5 Old North Road, Camden DE 19934

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Christy Tolliver, Editor

November 2011

Let Us Give Thanks

Thanksgiving. Immediately we think of turkey dinners, football games, falling leaves and family gatherings. We all have a lot to be thankful for these days: health, family, and friends but, giving thanks is not a once a year event. We at W.B. Simpson know what it is like to be thankful. We endured a year without a home of our own while the new one was being built. We endured golf cart racing between buildings on the air force base. We endured our Simpson family scattered around the district: teachers and specialists racing from location to location to ensure every student received speech, P.E., music classes, library, O.T. and art.

Just recently, we celebrated homecoming and rededicated our new building. Included in the celebrations were new friends and old...everyone thankful. Homecoming was especially significant for us as we entered the doors of our new building and came *home!* We are truly grateful that the Simpson family extends beyond the walls of our beautiful building to include a superintendant and district office staff who direct us, teachers, staff, custodians, cafeteria staff, bus drivers, crossing guards, a community who supports us and parents/guardians who entrust us with their most prized possession: **their children**. As many times as it has been said, it cannot be said enough: **THANK YOU!**

As we enter into the 2011 holiday season, remember that giving thanks transcends so take a moment to say thanks to everyone who enriches your life. The smallest smile, handshake or hug goes a long way to let someone know you care.



- **PTO Grandparents Breakfast** on November 2nd @ 7:30 PM – Cafeteria
- **School Wide Title One Parent Night** on November 3rd
- **Book Fair Ends** on November 4th
- **Abbreviated Day for Evening Parent Conferences (6-8 PM)** on November 9th. Dismissal at 1:05 PM.
- **Report Cards Issued** on November 9th
- **Veterans' Day Ceremony on November 10th** from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM for Grades 1-5 in the Gymnasium
- **Abbreviated Day for Afternoon Parent Conferences (1:30-3:30 PM)** on November 10th. Dismissal at 1:05 PM.
- **Schools & Offices Closed for Veterans' Day** on November 11th
- **PTO Meeting** on November 14th @ 6:30 PM
- **5th Grade Field Trip** on November 15th & 16th from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM
- **School Board Meeting** on November 15th @ 7:00 PM –CRHS
- **St. Jude's Math-A-Thon Kick-Off Begins** on November 21st.
- **Honor Roll Assembly for the 1st Marking Period** on November 22nd – Times TBA
- **School Closed for Thanksgiving Vacation** on November 23rd
- **Schools & Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Vacation** on November 24th & 25th
- **Schools & Offices Reopen** on November 28th





Box Tops & Labels Results for October's Collection

Thank you for your supports in our very successful Box Tops and Labels collection.

First Grade

Childers –250
Marshall –103
Krugh –472
Wallden - 217

Second Grade

Miclette – 291
Kraus – 372
Wells – 138
Smith – 217
McDermott – 531

Third Grade

Walls - 332
Kelly - 244
Pires - 233
Shockley -182

Fourth Grade

Tracy – 202
Delong – 255
Herrera –660
Tinsley –106

Fifth Grade

Ganc – 423
Roberson – 144
Bonner –922
Melvin – 408

ILC

Cairns - 42
Murray - 75
Marchioni - 38
Simons - 0
Gordon – 0

Top Classroom: Mr. Bonner (922) WOW!!

Mr. Bonner's class wins an extra Scholastic Book Fair Coupon worth \$2 each.

Top collecting student so far: Avery Seager (1260) Impressive!

School Total: 7340 pieces collected

- Each participating student (bag w/name) will receive a Pride Buck.
- Top Collector for the school will receive 5 Pride Bucks
- The top 3 students at the *end* of the school year earn special prizes!

November Challenge: Boys vs. Girls (who is the better collector?)

November's top classroom earns a pretzel tray and juice boxes.

Our Next PBS Celebration will be in December with a movie, popcorn and hot chocolate!

...and in other news

- ✚ W.B. Simpson, along with the entire CR School District will again be participating in the service project "Holiday Mail for Heroes". This is coordinated by CR High School student, Jennifer Hoffstadt. Students are asked to make holiday cards to extend greetings, expressions of gratitude, and well wishes to our American service members and their families. Last year, Miss. Hoffstadt collected over 2,000 cards to give to the American Red Cross for distribution of our soldiers. The project will begin in November. The cards will be picked up on November 28, 2011.
- ✚ CRHS Theater Production of "You Can't Take it With You". Times: 11/4 – 5 @ 7:30 P.M.



Nurse Hoffmann's Healthful Hints

Mrs. Susan Hoffmann, MSN, RN, NCSN
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November can be a very stressful month for both families and students.

Every kid (and adult) worries and feels stressed out sometimes. Kids worry about grades, school, homework and also about family, friends and siblings. When kids feel stressed out they often choose the following:

- ▶ Playing or doing something active
- ▶ Listening to music
- ▶ Watching TV or playing a video game

That's good news. Playing, listening to music, watching TV, or playing a video game are often good things to do if you're stressed out. You get a chance to think about something else. Being active — like running around, playing a sport, or riding your bike — may be the best choice of all of these. It's a good way to let out some of that energy that builds up when a person is frustrated, [mad](#), stressed, or upset. Plus, [exercise](#) releases chemicals in your brain that help improve your mood.

Sometimes Families Can Get Too Busy

Some parents feel it's more productive to keep their kids constantly occupied rather than leave free time for playing and learning on their own. They may feel that their kids may miss out on experiences if not doing what the other kids are. Kids may be driving the schedule themselves because they do not want to be left out. Teens may feel pressure to boost their roster of activities to get into college. The truth is most parents just want what is best for their kids. Kids can easily become overscheduled even when intentions are good. The pressure to "keep up" and participate in activities all the time can be physically and emotionally exhausting for parents and kids. The key is to keep organized activities and sports fun and not overwhelming in order to be most beneficial.

SIGNS KIDS ARE TOO BUSY

- ❖ Feeling tired
- ❖ Anxious
- ❖ Depressed
- ❖ Complaints of headaches & stomachaches - which may be due to missed meals, lack of sleep or stress
- ❖ Falling behind on their schoolwork, grades dropping



TIPS FOR BUSY FAMILIES

- Schedule things in moderation & choose activities with a child's age, temperament, interests and abilities in mind.
- Depending on the kid's age and interests, it is possible to set reasonable limits on extracurricular activities making them more enjoyable.
- Agree on ground rules ahead of time. Like playing one sport per season.
- Know how much time is required.
- Keep a calendar to stay organized. Display it so everyone can stay up to date.
- Sometimes it may be necessary to miss a session even if you paid for it, this is ok.
- Try to carpool with other parents to make life easier.
- Create family time. Plan a couple dinners when everyone can be home even if it means eating later.
- Set priorities: School should come first.
- Know when to say "no."
- Remember the importance of downtime.

SLOOOOOOOOW IT DOWN

If you think that your child's life is hectic, sit down together and decide where you can cut back. Set aside time for downtime, whether it is taking a walk, riding a bike, playing a game, listening to music, or just doing nothing. Get together with other kids simply to play allows kids to just be kids.

Notes from the Counselor's Corner

Great Things Are Happening In The ILC!!!

By

Mrs. Rochelle Mason, LCSW @ Kent ILC

This Fall has proven to be an awesome time for many of our students in the ILC. We have welcomed a lot of new friends who are getting acclimated to the routine and expectations of the school. I have started a new behavior incentive for students called "Shooting for 100." Each student is on a point system, and the number of points required for each day for the student to "make their day," is based on the color or level they are on. As an incentive to have each student work toward earning a 100, a lunch **out** with me, Mrs. Mason, has been offered. At the end of each month, the student that has earned the most 100's gets to go out to lunch at the place of their choice. Congratulations to September's winner, Michael Butler. The 5 students who have demonstrated the most improved behavior over the course of the month will earn lunch **in** with me, from the place of their choice. So please pump your child up each morning to work hard in school to get that 100!

We are also excited about 2 of our 5th grade students participating in the band this year. Curtis Scott is doing percussion & bells, and Nasier Anderson is playing the trumpet. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn how to play an instrument and be integrated with the rest of the student body. We all can't wait to cheer them on at the Winter Concert.

Finally, Josh Bovee, in Mr. Simon's 4th grade class raised enough money for the dance-a-thon fund raiser to earn a limo ride to Chick-Fil-A for lunch with several other students. Way to go Josh!!

We are excited about the success many of our students are having in school thus far. Thank you parents and caregivers for trusting us with educating your child and supporting all of their efforts.



Great Things Are Happening Simpson!!!

By

Mrs. Jen Wissman, Counselor

In Life Skills Class all the students have completed lessons on Conflict Resolution, Bullying vs. Bothering and the different ways to handle these two distinct issues. Just recently, all the classes were involved in a lesson on refusal skills connected to our activities with Red Ribbon Week. During the Week of October 24th – 27th students all participated in lessons on this topic in Life Skills Class in addition to all the festivities going on with the week. As we look to November, lessons will be shifting to Study Skills and ways to be successful in school. Each class will be participating in a 5 week unit on this topic. Students will be discussing school work organization, active listening,

ways to study and strategies for school success. Talk to your child about their school work, are they organized when it comes to their studies and how they handle themselves as a student.

As always remind your child about our School Wide Conflict Resolution program, “Kelso’s Choices”... this is a great way to help out students solve on the spot situations as well as for self-referring situations to me as the school counselor, when that might need a trusted adult to help with by getting involved.

Club News – News and events about clubs at W.B. Simpson



Chorus meets every Tuesday, 3:20 – 4:00. Students are learning new music and songs for the Holiday Concert December 14th @ 7P.M. (windsor.allen@cr.k12.de.us)

Student Council meets the first Tuesday of each month from 3:20 – 4P.M. The council is currently planning a fundraiser to purchase *indoor* recess items for classrooms; more to come in the future. (daniel.schockley@cr.k12.de.us).

5th Grade Band meets each Wednesday during assigned pullout times during the day. (maureen.cannon@cr.k12.de.us).

Unicycle Club (james.fennemore@cr.k12.de.us)

Math League meets each Wednesday, 3:35 – 4:35. (ashley.miclette@cr.k12.de.us).

T.A.G. meets each Tuesday & Thursday, 3:20-4:45 (michael.kenny@cr.k12.de.us).

Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month, 3:20-4:15. (holly.smith@cr.k12.de.us).

Welcome to W.B. Simpson

This month, the Simpson Monitor is pleased to introduce the teachers and staff of **CRSD's Early Intervention Program**. The **Early Intervention Program** provides speech therapy and special education services for children ages 3-5 who reside within district boundaries. Their students experience school for the *very first time* and as a Caesar Rodney School District program, the EIP shapes the "littlest Riders!" Please read *their favorite thing* and why these dedicated teachers and staff members make learning successful and fun.

Kim Steele, 20Yrs....watching the children's faces when they successfully accomplish a task – priceless.

Chelsie Poore, 1Yr.
...Giving our youngest students a good start in their long journey of education.

Sherri Gray, 10 Yrs
...There is nothing better than seeing the kids smile, laugh, and have while learning.

Michelle Poplos, 14 Yrs (Speech Pathology)
...helping the little ones communicate and say things they haven't said before.

Jill Harman, 3Yrs. (Speech Pathology)
...giving children the skill of communication.

Debbie Moore, 19 Yrs.
...Seeing the growth of the children both physically and academically.

Kristin Ciaramella, 10 Yrs...I love having the ability to watch a child who has never been in school become willing, eager & prepared for kindergarten.

Jen Hogan, 10Yrs.
My favorite thing is reading books to my students.

Linda Davis, EIP Coordinator 19 Yrs.... I like being the 1st CRSD contact for families. Our program gets to make that 1st impression that lasts forever! That's why we are so important.

Jill Olshenske, CRSD OT...I like seeing the joy in a kid's face when they realize they can do something they couldn't do before!

Nancy Wallace, 19 Yrs.
...arts and crafts. I love making and creating projects for children!

Judy Grassano, 2 Yrs.
I want students to become eager learners for the rest of their lives

Charlton Program

The **John S. Charlton School** is another program which provides Autistic, Trainable and Severely Disabled students for Kent County, Delaware. Also as part of an inclusion project, some of the classes are at Off-Site locations at elementary, middle and high school levels in our district. W.B. Simpson currently has two awesome classrooms full of eager students. Please welcome this talented and dedicated group of educators:

Beth Scott, 4Yrs...
experiencing and being a part
of our student's achievements
& best of all knowing that I
had a part in that each day.

Vickey Curl, 15 Yrs.
... watching the students
accomplish new goals.

Deb Goerger, 17 Yrs... watching my
students learn concepts that will help
them become happy & productive
citizens. I enjoy realizing that even
though many of my students are
unable to speak, they still have many
wonderful qualities & abilities. It is
my privilege to know and teach these

Jill Knight, 16 Yrs.,
My favorite thing
about what I do is
seeing the
achievements our
students make no
matter how big or
small.

Peg Darling, 10Yrs, My
favorite thing about what I do
is watching students make
progress.

