



# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

University Academy

January 9th, 2017

## Students of the Month



**Kindergarten** ~ Amari Sims ~ **1st Grade** - Ire Cherry ~ **2nd Grade** - Aniyah Williams  
**3rd Grade** - Syanne Willard ~ **4th Grade** - Arrion Cornelius ~ **5th Grade** - Heaven Brooks-Smith

We have extra shirts for sale!

“One Team, One School, One Family, Gryphon Pride” t-shirts come in grey or navy blue

\$10 each



Long sleeve, light blue “100% APR” shirts

\$10 each

Payments can be made with cash or by calling Ms. Ward in the Lower School Office: 816-412-9282



## Cold Weather Reminder

It is hard to believe that we are into the winter season and the cold weather is all around us. We need your help to make sure your children have on appropriate clothing for outdoor recess.



**Please make sure you are letting the lower school office know about afternoon transportation changes before noon**

816-412-9230

Or

816-412-9282

**Please leave a voicemail if we are not able to answer**

~ Thank you ~

## Upcoming Events

**NO SCHOOL**  
Staff Development  
January 13th, 2017

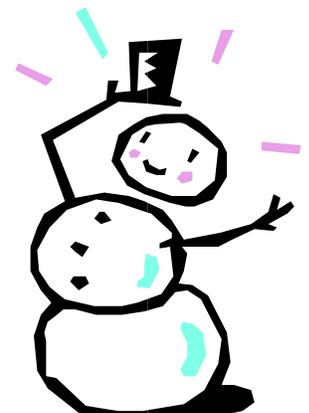
**NO SCHOOL**  
Dr. Martin Luther King Day  
January 16th, 2017

**4th Grade Field Trip**  
Petting Zoo  
January 25th, 2017  
8am-11am

**5th Grade Field Trip**  
Coterie  
January 31st, 2017  
8:30am-12pm

**Sweet Heart Dance**  
February 3rd, 2017  
6pm-8pm, doors open at 5:30pm

**Heart to Heart Dance**  
February 4th, 2017  
6pm-8pm, doors open at 5:30pm





## **Title Tidbits**

The upcoming gift-giving season is a perfect time to support your children whether they are new readers or very experienced readers! Encourage family members and friends to give books to your child as gifts. Along with books, think of markers, colored pencils and pads of paper to extend what they read. You might also consider buying a subscription to a favorite children's magazine. Words games such as Scrabble (or Scrabble Junior), Boggle, Scattergories, ABC Bingo, and Probe are just a few examples of games that use language and words.



**It's a gift every parent can give: reading aloud to a child before he can read on his own. And once a youngster can read aloud, continuing to read aloud can build his vocabulary and keep him excited about books.**



### **Three parts of reading aloud**

From choosing a book to talking about what you've read, you can fit learning and fun into every minute of story time.

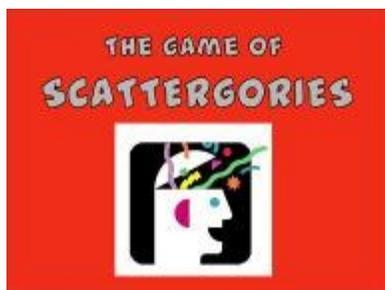
**1. Before.** Let your youngster pick a story, even if she always reaches for the same one. Familiar stories are comforting, and she'll recognize more words each time she hears a story. To introduce her to new titles, you can choose the next story.

back to an earlier page to look at a picture again. This lets her participate in reading aloud.

You can draw her attention to pictures of objects by pointing out things mentioned in the story: "See—he thinks that's his button on the bed." Talking about a book builds comprehension and makes reading aloud more fun. *Tip:* Relax while you're reading. Laugh and let your child see how much you enjoy books.

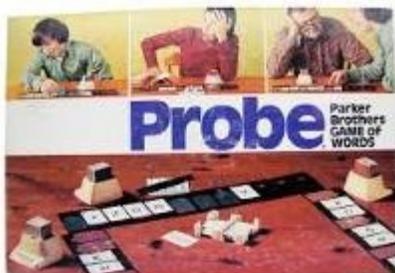
**3. After.** Have your youngster show you her favorite page and explain why she likes it. Compare the book with another story you have read to help her make connections between books. ("Corduroy reminds me of *Home for a Bunny* because they both have a character that needs a home.") Ask your child questions about the characters' feelings so she can learn to read between the lines. ("How do you think Corduroy felt when the girl came back?")

You might also help her start a read-aloud journal. Your youngster can draw a picture of her favorite part, write words describing how it made her feel, or write sentences telling the plot. She'll pay closer attention as you read when she knows she'll be drawing and writing in her journal.



Read the title and author before you open a book. Look at the cover picture, and predict what the story might be about. ("This is *Corduroy*, by Don Freeman. Look—that bear is missing a button. I wonder what happened to it.")

**2. During.** Allow your child to set the tone. She may want to point out rhyming words, ask questions, tell you something the story reminds her of, or turn



## **1st and 2nd Grade Winter Concert**



On Tuesday, December 6th our talented 1st and 2nd grade students presented their winter musical, "A Bear-y Merry Holiday". This musical was about different types of bears coming together to celebrate the holiday season. It featured several 2nd grade speakers and even had a fun rendition of "Jingle Bells", renamed "Jingle BEARS". It was a fun time had by students and the audience.



## **3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Winter Concert**



On Tuesday, December 13th, our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students presented their musical, "Disney: The Movies, The Music". Our students speakers gave information about the history of Disney music and composers and each grade level presented their own song. Music for the concert was from such Disney classics as, Peter Pan, Mary Poppins, The Jungle Book, The Little Mermaid, and The Lion King. We had a full audience for this performance and it was enjoyed by all who attended!



*The mission of University Academy is to prepare students to succeed in an institution of higher learning and to become leaders in society.*

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