

HOME SCOOP

Skokie School To Hold Parent Focus Groups for District Strategic Planning

The Skokie School will be hosting two strategic planning focus groups in the Community Room for parents on Thursday, February 2nd from 7:00-8:00p.m. and Monday, February 13th from 10:00-11:00a.m. for parents with students *currently* in attendance. If you have more than one child enrolled in a District 36 school, you may attend at the school of your choice.

For further information about the District's Strategic Planning Process please see the District website. We look forward to receiving your input to help shape the future of Winnetka Public Schools.

Dates for 2012 Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT)

The testing dates for this year's Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) will be March 6-March 14, 2012. Fifth graders and sixth graders will be assessed in the areas of reading and mathematics.

These tests are being given to all public school students in the state of Illinois at the same time. The test results will show how well our school and district is doing in meeting the Illinois Learning Standards. Individual student data is sent to the district by the fall of next school year and will be mailed to parents providing specific information about your child's performance.

We will provide tips for helping your child do his or her best in an upcoming Home Scoop closer to the testing dates.

The Next Two Weeks

Thurs. Feb. 2	Strategic Planning Parent Focus Group 7:00pm
Fri. Feb. 10	Sixth Grade Party- 7:00-9:00pm CW-Cafeteria & Gym
Mon. Feb. 13	Strategic Planning Parent Focus Group 10:00am

THE SKOKIE SCHOOL
520 Glendale Avenue
Phone: 847.441.1750
Fax: 847.441.2193

THE INSIDE SCOOP

-Page 1-

Skokie School to Hold Parent Focus Groups for District Strategic Planning

Dates for 2012 ISAT

The Next Two Weeks

The Inside Scoop

Community News Link

-Page 2-

District Writing Assessment Window is Jan. 23-Feb. 3

Central PTO Nominating is about to Begin

Exploratory Report Card Date Correction

6th Grade Party Coming Soon

-Page 3-

From the Resource Center

-Page 4-

From the Art Room



To access updates to Community News, Events, and Partnerships please visit: <http://www.winnetka36.org/communitynews>

District Writing Assessment Window is January 23- February 3.

We are in the midst of our first District writing assessment window when students grades 3-8 will be asked to respond to an expository writing prompt during their language arts class period.

The writing pieces will be scored by the grade level teachers, and the results will be used to inform our writing instruction, as well as provide grade levels with curricular feedback.



Central PTO Nominating is about to begin.....

The Central PTO **nominating committee** for the 2011-2012 year is forming. If you are willing to donate your time (probably 1 or 2 meetings), please contact Robin Doerge at robindoerge@me.com or 847-502-4553. With that being said, if you are interested in being part of next year's **Central PTO executive team**, please contact Robin also. It is a great way to contribute to your children's school and get to be a part of the many of decisions that make District 36 work.

Exploratory Report Card Date Correction

In last week's Home Scoop we erroneously reported that the next round of exploratory report cards will include sixth grade Music, Drama, and Service reports. Instead, these report cards will be mailed home after the March conferences. We regret the error.

6th Grade Party Coming Soon!

Our annual 6th grade party is set to be held at Washburne School in the cafeteria and the gymnasiums from 7:00-9:00p.m. on Friday, February 10th.

Students will have the opportunity to play ping-pong or foosball in the cafeteria, play basketball in one gym, or dance along with a DJ in the other. Refreshments will also be sold in the cafeteria.

Permission slips, along with a non-refundable \$5.00 admission, will be sent home with your child shortly. Please be sure to go over the expectations for the event so we can make it the best party it can be for everyone. We look forward to the students enjoying themselves!

The PTO will be looking for willing volunteers to chaperone the event. You should be hearing from them soon through a separate communication.

from the resource center

Mrs. Candy Gordon, Director

As the newspapers indicate, we are now in the awards season. This week, the American Library Association announced the 2012 Newbery Award winners. The Newbery Award recognizes the authors who have made the greatest contribution to American children's literature this year. The Schneider Award recognizes the book, "...that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences." The winner of the Schneider Award was also declared this week.



Dead End in Norvelt
By Jack Gantos

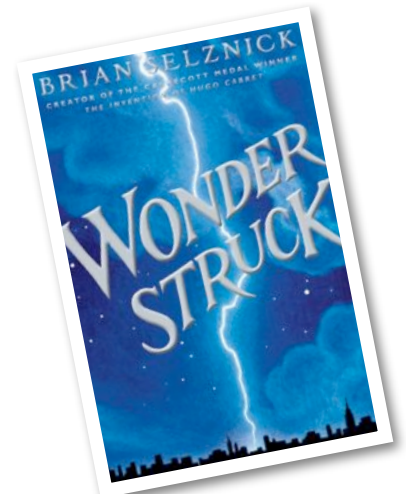
This hilarious book is the 2012 Newbery Gold Medal winner. At the beginning of the summer, Jack finds himself grounded forever! He wonders if he can possibly salvage his summer. Jack is afflicted by frequent nosebleeds. His nose gushes whenever he is upset. Unfortunately, when he is forced to help an elderly woman, he is placed in many tense situations. Jack wonders if he will ever survive 1962!



Inside Out and Back Again
By Thanhha Lai

Hà and her family flee war-torn Viet Nam and emigrate to the United States. Unfortunately, life remains difficult for Hà. She experiences many challenges while adjusting to her new life in Alabama.

This touching first novel won the 2012 Newbery Honor.



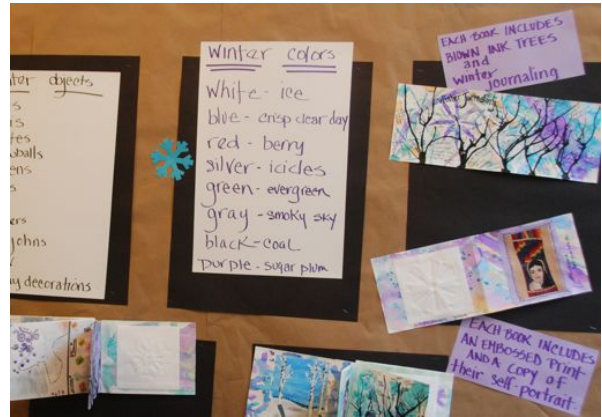
Wonderstruck
By Brian Selznick

The Schneider Award was awarded to *Wonderstruck*. This book presents two stories, one related in text and the other related in pictures. One story relates how Ben becomes deaf in a freak accident. At the moment he loses his hearing, he learns the identity of his father. Ben follows a series of clues to meet his father.

The second story tells the story of Rose who is also deaf. She is trying to find her mother. However, her quest occurs 50 years before Ben's.

At the conclusion of the book, Ben's story and Rose's story come together in a surprising way.

From the Art Studio



The 2nd quarter *Winter Books* are finally done and on display in the 6th grade wing. Please come and admire all the wonderful artwork that has been compiled in to this beautiful hand made book! There are 8 pages that consist of an embossed snowflake print, the embossment plate, a winter animal block print, an acrylic painting of winter birch trees, a haiku and illustration, blown ink trees with journaling, and a copy of the student's self portrait.



The lunch group is busy making dynamic mosaic silhouettes with personal meanings. Hopefully they will be done and permanently installed by the end of 3rd quarter.