LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Stoner Prairie Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for helping our children to have a good start to the school year. It was great to see so many of you at Back-To-School Night on September 20. The PTO served over 500 people at “Pizza on the Prairie”, and we estimated that between 650-700 people visited Stoner Prairie on that evening. What a great night! A big thank you to Laura Olsen, Michelle Cruz, and our many other PTO volunteers who helped out.

Our school has developed some wonderful partnerships with the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, RSVP Dane, YMCA, Junior Achievement, and FACTV that will provide more learning and leadership opportunities for students at Stoner Prairie. We will share more details with you about these partnerships in the near future.

We value our partnership with you regarding your child's education. Please know that our staff will continually work hard to meet the academic, social, emotional, and developmental needs of your child. We want all of our students to be growing, and we are focused on continually growing as a staff to help meet the needs of students in our ever-changing society. We welcome your involvement with PTO, PAC, school events, homework help, or volunteering at school. Please do not hesitate to contact us immediately if you have questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued support of Stoner Prairie.

Sincerely,
Chris Olson, Stoner Prairie Elementary Principal
**Communication**

Communication between families and school staff is a vital part of educating our children together. Because education is a people-centered environment, differences of opinion, multiple perspectives and even disagreements can happen. Staff relationships with our with our families are very important to us at Stoner Prairie as well as partnering with you to provide a high quality education to all of our students. Our staff works to be proactive, positive, and continually learn more about up-to-date teaching practices and research to best meet the needs of our students. If a concern should ever arise for you regarding your child at school, please contact the immediate staff member that is involved. If you still have the same concern after communicating with the staff member involved, please contact Mr. Olson (845-4210).

**Student Morning Arrival**

Thank you to parents for helping to increase the safety in our school parking lot. It takes everyone working together to make any system work or make it work better. Please follow the parking lot guidelines for the rest of this school year and going into the fall. Please stay in the drop-off/pick-up lane and do not pass other cars in this lane/line. Move up as far as you can along the front of the school when dropping off or picking up your child. By moving up as far as you can along the front of the school when picking up or dropping off, it allows more vehicles to enter our parking lot and alleviates some of the vehicle congestion on Devoro Road. Parking lot speeds should not exceed 10 miles per hour in order to maximize safety. Please be timely with how you drop off or pick up your child in the school parking lot. If we can keep our drop-off and pick-up line moving along, it helps to reduce the congestion in our parking lot and on Devoro Road. Parents may drop off students between 7:30-7:45 A.M. each morning. If students are dropped off closer to 7:30 A.M., it allows students more time to eat breakfast at school and allows your child and their class to be even more ready for the school day. Students need to be in their seats in the classroom by 7:45 A.M. or they are marked tardy. School attendance incentives will be shared in January and in June with students that show consistent and regular attendance including being on time to school.
Picture Day Scheduled for Wednesday, October 3

Student pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 3. Pictures will be taken of students who did not have their pictures taken during the August registration days and of students who would like to have a re-take of the August pictures. If you want a picture retaken, please return the original picture packet to school. Picture order forms will be distributed to students who did not have their pictures taken in August. Please call the Stoner Prairie office (845-4205) if you have any questions.

RECESS BEFORE LUNCH

We are in the second year of “recess before lunch”. The rationale behind this decision was to help our students to exercise before lunch helping them to eat their food better during lunchtime and to help students be more settled going into the afternoon. Many school districts across the country have implemented "recess before lunch", and research has shown the benefits to be less trips to the health room, more/better nourished students, and less student behavior challenges at school. We believe that we will see those benefits at Stoner Prairie for our students as well. We thank the many lunchroom volunteers that help us in the lunchroom in many ways that make it more possible to implement "recess before lunch". Please contact our school office at 845-4200 if you would like to become a lunchroom volunteer or if you have questions about "recess before lunch".

Ever wonder what happens in your child’s school library?

Check the Stoner Prairie/VAIS Library Web Site linked from the school web site or use this address: http://libguides.verona.k12.wi.us/content.php?pid=263093&sid=2172200

There are pages with links to electronic resources, tutorials, games, resources for parents, author websites and more.

Take time to get to know the resources available in the SPE/VAIS Library!

Katherine Krohn, Librarian
Goal 1A: 
- All K-3 students will be Proficient and/or Advanced in May of 2013 on the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment, while also narrowing our achievement gap by at least 25% between all subgroups within the categories of race, socio-economic status, and disability status.
- All 3rd-5th grade students will show at least one year’s growth from Fall of 2012 to Spring of 2013 as measured on the MAP Reading Assessment, while also narrowing our achievement gap by at least 25% between all subgroups within the categories of race, socio-economic status, and disability status. For any students who do not meet their target RIT growth, it will also be noted if they grew at least 5 RIT points.

Goal 1B: All K-5 students receiving reading support will increase one or more proficiency levels (Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Minimal) from the Fall of 2012 to the Spring of 2013, while also narrowing our achievement gap by at least 25% between all subgroups within the categories of race, socio-economic status, and disability status.

Goal 2: All 3rd-5th grade students will show at least one year’s math growth as measured on the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Math Assessment from Fall of 2012 to Spring of 2013, while also narrowing our achievement gap by at least 25% between all subgroups within the categories of race, socio-economic status, and disability status. For any students who do not meet their target RIT growth, it will also be noted if they grew by at least 5 RIT points.

Goal 3: The percentage of Stoner Prairie 1st-5th grade students feeling safe, cared for, competent, respected, and recognized at school will stay the same or increase from spring to spring on a developmentally appropriate survey given to all 1st-5th grade students during the 2012-13 school year. Survey responses from students of color compared to survey responses from white students will not have a gap that exceeds 10% between subgroups on any survey questions. Students feeling cared about by other students and students who like what other students stay about them will increase overall by 10%.

Goal 4: All K-5 students will score proficient on a developmentally appropriate rubric which assesses their problem-solving abilities using computer technology by May of 2013.
The Giving Tree

We are very fortunate to have very supportive parents at Stoner Prairie who help our students, staff, and families in many ways. Because we have many parents that ask us often about how they can help our school, we have posted a “Giving Tree” within our school that you may notice upon entering our school in the future. The “Giving Tree” has teacher names along with “wish list” items shown for each classroom. We will also have a similar system of potential donations available online within the next few weeks as well. If you are interested in purchasing any of these supply items at any time in the future, please contact our school office (845-4200) or the teacher directly. Thank you for your consideration.

Medication at School

Should you child need medication at school, please send it to the school office. All medications need to be in the original container with a parent/guardian’s written consent on a Verona Area School District form. If the medicine is a prescription medication, we need a doctor’s written order. The parent/guardian consent form and doctor’s order for medication form are available in the school office and online at www.verona.k12.wi.us (quicklinks/parent resource/nursing services).

Support Stoner Prairie Elementary & it won’t cost you a dime!

50% OFF, 2-FOR-1 and ABSOLUTELY FREE values at over 300 merchants in your Bucky Book.

$15 from each $35 purchase will support Stoner Prairie Students!

Use your Bucky Book just a few times & it will cost you NOTHING to support our kids!

Scoopie Night at Culver’s in Verona

You are invited to attend Scoopie Night at Culver’s in Verona—10% of the sales will be given to Stoner Prairie Elementary School for classroom and school supplies.

Wednesday, October 24 - 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Culver’s—430 E. Verona Ave., Verona

Head south on US-151 18/Verona Rd. toward McKee Rd. (Hwy. PD), continue south to Exit 81 to merge onto E. Verona Ave., Culver’s will be on your right.

Lost & Found

Please look through our Lost and Found bins to retrieve your child’s lost items.

PTO/PAC 6:30/7:30 p.m.

The PTO meeting will be on Thursday, October 11, at 6:30 p.m. and the Parent Advisory Council meeting will be at 7:30. The meetings will take place in the library.
Related Arts Notes

Related Arts includes ART, MUSIC and PHYSICAL EDUCATION. We enjoy working with your children, as well as each other. We are always learning something new from your children, they are our inspiration. One of the best things about teaching ART, MUSIC and PHYSICAL EDUCATION is the opportunity to build relationships over the years in subjects that we are passionate about.

Celebrate the Arts is our annual all school “ARTS” program which features your children as artists, musicians and dancers. This year the program is scheduled for the morning of Thursday, May 9, 2013, mark your calendars!

Thank you very much for the donated supplies of tissues, baby wipes, grocery bags, newspapers, wood scraps, tennis shoes etc. We really appreciate your help to start the school year off with everything that we need! Please consider dropping off grocery bags, small wood scraps and buttons in the art room throughout the year!

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you might have regarding our classes.
ART - Jayne Baitinger-Peterson 608-845-4276
Jayne.BaitingerPeterson@verona.k12.wi.us
PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Jill Thronson 608-845-4248
Jill.Thronson@verona.k12.wi.us
MUSIC - Leanne Stucki 608-845-4279
Leanne.Stucki@verona.k12.wi.us

'Tis the season to be looking for those PINK Yoplait lids! Each year the Stoner Prairie families send off hundreds of pink lids to Yoplait. You can look for the pink ribbon symbol on GM cereals and other products and send the symbols our way, too! For every lid that we submit, Yoplait will donate 10 cents to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Lids can be submitted to the collection canister in the lunchroom until winter break. We'll keep you updated on the count, we promise!

Stoner Prairie Elementary School
5830 Devoro Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711
Telephone 608-845-4200
Fax 608-845-4220
Principal: Dr. Chris Olson 608-845-4210
Chris.Olson@verona.k12.wi.us
ART NOTES from Ms. Baitinger-Peterson

Children receive art instruction in the ART room for 60 minutes once per week

What a great start to the 2012/13 school year! In all classrooms, we talked about what we think the “art room rules” should be. Many students said; to raise our hands, listen to one another, clean-up after ourselves, treat others respectfully etc which are all very important. However we decided if we just remember to; “do good things”, this theme would cover all aspects of art class from entering the room to leaving the room. In fact those precious words are now hanging on the art room wall as our “golden rule”.

Kindergarteners began the school year learning all about the art room environment. An especially exciting feature was the big round sink. Our first lesson involved LINE and SHAPE. Line and Shape are the first 2 Elements of Art. Kindergarteners learned that lines have many different qualities. They can be straight, curvy, zig-zaggy and swirly etc. Combined with the basic shape of a circle and some “hot” colors (red, orange and yellow), kindergarteners drew pictures of a sun. We then looked at some books written and illustrated by Eric Carle. We found out that he adds a picture of a sun in most of his books.

First Graders are reviewing their knowledge of line and applying this knowledge to a line design. Combined with SHAPE and COLOR, first graders are practicing the first 3 Elements of Art on an abstract design with pattern inspired by the art of Romero Britto.

Second Graders are exploring types of lines created by brushstrokes. Using a variety of paintbrushes dipped in black paint, 2nd graders are dividing their paper into spaces with different types of lines. Color will be added by painting the primary colors; red, yellow and blue, and mixing these colors to paint with the secondary colors; green, orange and violet. LINES and COLOR are 2 of the Elements of Art.

Third Graders are also reviewing LINE and COLOR by creating the look of stained glass. Drawing with markers on transparency paper gives the look of this beautiful glass art form. The next time you are at school, look for these hanging in the art room window.

Fourth and Fifth Graders are applying their knowledge of these Elements of Art; LINE, COLOR and SHAPE. The letters of their names are the subject for an abstract design. Hot and Cold colors will be used to paint the letters of their names as well as the background. Painting with acrylic paints on canvas board is a great experience!

SEPTEMBER’S FAMOUS ARTISTS OF THE MONTH ARE:

Romare Bearden, Jacob Lawrence and Louise Nevelson.

Please look for the FAMOUS ARTIST OF THE MONTH display by the Art Room the next time you are at school.
MUSIC NOTES from Ms. Stucki

Children receive Music instruction in the Music room for 30 minutes twice per week, for a total of 60 min. per week.

**Kindergarten** students were ready to explore in the music room! They have been busy singing and playing classroom rhythm instruments. Egg shakers added a fun accompaniment with a song called “Shakey Shakey Egg”. After reading a book called *Boom Bah*, the tubano drums were introduced and have become a hit!

**First Grade** students began by reviewing the names of classroom rhythm instruments and played a listening game where their ears identify the instrument by its' sound. A song called “Hola!” was fun and quick to learn. Students each found a partner to sing to and share positive words about each other’s singing. A Tumblebook story called “The Best Mariachi In The World” about a boy who learns he is a great singer was enjoyed on the SmartBoard.

**Second Grade** students have been excited about using song sheets and a music textbook. Their great reading skills will enable them to learn songs more quickly this year. They will be learning more about the music staff and notation and enjoyed a song called Zudio in their books that started with an electric guitar solo.

**Grade Three** classes have been singing an infectiously happy tune with 32 varieties of apples in the lyrics called The Apple Song. Maybe you have heard your child singing the chorus “I love apples” around the house or in the car! Students started with a song sheet with lyrics and then moved on to singing the song that included the staff and melody. The repetition helps students quickly learn to follow the written music.

**Grade 4/5** Beatlemania has hit the music room! Students have been learning about how The Fab Four influenced the history of rock and roll. Sounds like we have many parents and grandparents who are fans of the Beatles! Students read a book by Mike Venezia called The Beatles, watched The Beatles first performance on “The Ed Sullivan Show” where they were introduced to music lovers in the United States and followed the Beatles through their breakup in order to pursue their own music interests.
Children receive Physical Education instruction in the Gym for 30 minutes twice per week, for a total of 60 min. per week

Welcome back to the 2012-2013 school year! It is going to be another fantastic year here at Stoner Prairie, and I am looking forward to teaching your child/children in Gym class. My goal is to help each student develop a love for life-long fitness through exposure to a variety of experiences in class. Some of the units the students will be experiencing include throwing, catching, kicking, punting, manipulatives, jump ropes, juggling, parachute, gymnastics, rollerblading, swimming, climbing wall, soccer, football, dance, fitness stations and testing, floor hockey, dodging games, basketball, volleyball, kickball, t-ball and many other games. We also focus on participating with good sportsmanship and how to treat others with courtesy and respect.

The first couple weeks of school we spent working on listening, following directions and playing cooperative games.

The kindergarten, first and second grade students have been working on throwing and catching. The third, fourth and fifth graders have been working on football skills.

The first two weeks of October will be spent working on kicking, punting and soccer skills.

The third, fourth and fifth graders will begin a Fitness Gram test the week of October 15th. Look for more information to be sent home about the test.
Student Attendance and Truancy

In the fall of 2011, VASD implemented a Truancy Review Board as an additional truancy intervention for our kindergarten through 8th grade students. Our Truancy Review Board is comprised of representatives from the school, Dane County Human Services and local law enforcement. Truancy Review Boards are not meant to replace current truancy protocol and procedures as outlined in Wisconsin State Statute 118.15 and VASD Board of Education policies. Rather, a Truancy Review Board is a last step effort when schools have exhausted their resources when working with truant students and their families. Our goal in using this collaborative approach is that we can provide additional support before a truancy citation is issued or a referral to Child Protective Services is made.

Verona Area School District Attendance Policy
(in compliance with Wisconsin State Law)

Compulsory Education Law: Wis. State Statute 118.16; Any person having control of a child between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age shall cause that child to attend school on a regular basis until the end of the school term or semester in which the child becomes eighteen; unless the child has a legal excuse, falls under one of the exceptions in the state statute, or has graduated from high school. Failure to cause a child to attend school regularly can result in fines up to $500, imprisonment of not more than 30 days or both. The penalties for a child can include: loss of their driver’s license, loss of their work permit, community service, foreclosure from attendance of any extra-curricular activities, and a curfew.

School Attendance Enforcement: Wisconsin State Statute 118.16; “Truancy” means any absence of part or all of one or more days from school during which the school attendance officer, principal, or teacher has not been notified of the legal cause of such absence by the parent or guardian of the absent pupil, and also means intermittent attendance carried on for the purpose of defeating the intent of s. 118. Wisconsin State Statute 118.15(3)(c) states students may not be excused for more than 10 days a school year. “Habitual truant” means a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse...for part or all of 5 or more days on which school is held during a school semester.
The Verona Kiwanis Club Collecting New and Gently Used Clothing

The Verona Kiwanis Club is collecting new and gently used winter coats, gloves, hats, and snowpants to be distributed to Verona Area School District children and families in need. To make a donation, please bring your items to one of the many collection bins throughout Verona and Fitchburg. Collection bins will also be placed at the following schools: Sugar Creek, New Century, Savanna Oaks, Glacier Edge and Country View. We ask that all donations be clean and in good condition. Donations will be collected through Wednesday, October 3rd, 2012.

Donated items will be available for Verona Area School District families in need on Friday, October 5th from 3:30-6:00pm in the Sugar Creek Elementary School cafeteria (420 Church Avenue, Verona). There will be entertainment and food provided. Families who need transportation should contact Chris Mand, VASD Social Worker at 845-4733.

Families do not need to register or bring identification to participate. This is a FREE event that helps families get the winter apparel they need to stay warm during our cold months!

El Club Kiwanis de Verona está recolectando ropa de invierno nueva o que no haya sido muy usada, tal como: abrigos, guantes, gorras, pantalones para la nieve, etc. para luego distribuirlos a las familias y niños del Distrito Escolar del Área de Verona que los necesiten. Para hacer una donación, por favor lleve la prenda o artículo a uno de los muchos contenedores o depósitos de recolección disponibles en Verona y en Fitchburg. Los mismos estarán ubicados en las siguientes escuelas: Sugar Creek, New Century, Savanna Oaks, Glacier Edge y Country View. Le pedimos que toda la ropa o prendas que done estén limpias y en buen estado. Todas las donaciones se recogerán regularmente hasta el día miércoles, 3 de octubre de 2012.

Todos los artículos donados estarán disponibles para ser repartidos a las familias y niños necesitados del área del distrito escolar de Verona, el viernes, 5 de octubre de 3:30 a 6:00 de la tarde en la cafetería de la Escuela Primaria Sugar Creek (420 Church Avenue, Verona). Habrá entretenimiento y comida. Las familias que necesiten transporte deben llamar a Chris Mand, trabajadora social de VASD al 845-4733.

Las familias no tienen que inscribirse ni mostrar una identificación para poder participar. Este es un fabuloso evento y es GRATIS con el fin de poder ayudar a las familias a obtener la ropa de invierno que necesitan para mantenerse abrigados durante los fríos meses invernales.
VERONA AQUATIC CLUB

The Verona Aquatic Club has been serving the Central Wisconsin swimming community for over 30 years. The program is nationally recognized as a first-class, year-round swim program. The experienced coaches provide a guided, competitive team swimming experience for your young swimmer, from the beginning level to the most competitive skilled swimmer.

Visit the VAC website for more information:
Www.swimvac.com

Head Coach: Randy Trowbridge,
vaccoach@charter.net, 608-556-4443.

Mark your calendars for MOVIE NIGHT, Friday, November 16. This will take place in the Stoner Prairie Step Room and LMC.

CUB SCOUTS

Come and see what they are up to!
WHERE: Glacier Edge Elementary School: 800 Kimball Lane, Verona
WHEN: Third Thursday of each month, 6:30-8:00
Visit the Website:
http://veronascouts.org/
Pack_549

SEE YOU AT CULVER’S IN VERONA FOR SCOOPIE NIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 4:00-8:00 P.M.