Hello Families and Caregivers,

It is great to be at Stoner Prairie and I hope you are enjoying the start of the school year as much as I have. It has been great to see all the learning taking place and to have the sounds of kids back in the hallways. I am learning a lot of names and have had many opportunities to have fun with kids in the classroom, lunchroom, and, playground.

Back-To-School Night
It was great to see all of you at Back-To-School Night and I would like to thank you for coming and supporting your student in their learning. I also want to thank PTO and all associated with Pizza On The Prairie. It was a great night at Stoner Prairie.

Pick Up/Drop Off
For those of you that pick up or drop off by car please have your student get out on the passenger side of your car as you drop them off. This is the safest way for your child to exit so they are not near moving traffic. Also as you drop off please pull as far forward as you can so we can keep our line of traffic moving.

Birthday Treats
This is a reminder that we will not have food birthday treats at school. If you would like to send something in you can send your child's favorite book and they can share it with the group, send a pencil for each student in the class, or a book donated to the class (possibly your child's favorite).

Enjoy the fall weather and all the football that comes along with it.

Sincerely,

Mike Pisani

Principal’s News

Correction to Child Nutrition Letter
If you received a letter from Verona’s Child Nutrition Department stating that breakfast is $1.00 for elementary students, please note that there is NO COST for breakfast at Stoner Prairie.

SP Newsletter Going to Online!
You can receive this newsletter via your personal email. Please log on to the Verona website at www.verona.k12.wi.us. Go to Parent Quicklinks-Parent Newsletters - subscribe to Stoner Prairie’s newsletter. Thank you for saving paper!

As a first step towards going paperless we will be moving towards having all families receive the newsletter electronically. We will send an email reminder for you to view the newsletter online in the future. A few paper copies will be available in the office for those needing them.
Let’s Do Lunch!

If you have some free time during the school day between 11:00 and 12:30, the children in the lunchroom could really use your help. Opening milk cartons and yogurt pouches, pouring water, squirting catsup, wiping tables, and beyond! We’ll provide the smocks, gloves, and smiles! Please contact Mrs. Schauf, lunchroom supervisor, with questions or to offer your availability (845-4292 or Susan.Schauf@verona.k12.wi.us).

School Hours

Every Monday is a Late Start. Students may enter the building at 9:10 a.m. and should be in their classrooms by 9:25 a.m.

On Tuesday—Friday, students may enter the building at 7:30 a.m. and should be in their classrooms by 7:45 a.m.

Late to School?

Students who arrive at school after 9:25 a.m. on Mondays and 7:45 a.m. the rest of the week are considered late and must stop at the window in corner of the office for a late pass. If students are more than 15 minutes late parents are asked to accompany their child into the building and to sign the sign-in.

For the security of our students and building we ask that parents who would like to accompany their student to the classroom sign in and get a visitor badge before going to the classroom.

Medication at School

Should your child need to take medication at school, please send it to the nurses office 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.

These forms are available in the school office or online at www.verona.k12.wi.us (Quicklinks/Parent Resource/nursing services)
Dear Stoner Prairie Families,

Welcome new and returning families to the 2013-2014 school year! My name is Liz Schlitz and I am the new School Counselor here at Stoner Prairie. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you.

As a school counselor I will see students in a number of settings. Primarily, I will come into your student’s classroom every other week for guidance lessons. The lessons will cover a variety of themes including: academic success, careers, citizenship, diversity, safety, self-knowledge and transitions.

I may also meet with your student individually for a variety of reasons including: family changes, anger management, building social skills, and self-esteem. The focus of individual counseling is to work with students to develop problems solving, social and coping skills, all important factors in their academic success.

Another part of my job as a School Counselor is to facilitate small groups at Stoner Prairie. These groups are an extension of the classroom and individual counseling sessions. Groups allow students to interact with their peers while focusing on a specific topic. Groups can also allow students to learn positive strategies from each other. These groups are formed based on student need. Possible group themes include: friendship, new students, self-esteem, family change, and loss. Groups typically will meet one day a week during the students’ recess, and run for four to six weeks.

If you do not want your child to participate in either group or individual counseling, please email me or give me a call.

I am looking forward to working with you and your student to ensure a successful school year. Please feel free to call, email, or stop by with any questions, concerns, or just to say “hi”.

Sincerely,

Liz Schlitz
Stoner Prairie School Counselor
(608) 845-4228
schlitze@verona.k12.wi.us
Related Arts Notes

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.Baitinger-Peterson@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

Thank you all very much for your donations of supplies!

ART NOTES from Ms. Baitinger-Peterson

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

We started out the year in Art class reviewing and building routines. There are lots of changes in the art room this year, in particular, our tables are named after famous artists, ask your child which artist table he or she sits at.

All children have been learning and reviewing two important Elements of Art; Line and Color. These two elements are the focus of an all school cooperative lesson; “Hands Across Stoner Prairie”. Look for the display soon on the bulletin board in the entrance.

Our PTO will be organizing a fundraiser this year which will incorporate a new school logo. Students in third, fourth and fifth grades are creating the designs and PTO will be choosing one for our school logo. Look for news about this from PTO soon.

If your child has not brought in an Art shirt yet, please send an old t-shirt to school with your child’s name on it.

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

What’s happening in the music room? The top two questions in the music room are:

• Are we going to play instruments today?
• Where are the chairs?

Cue the music as new and returning students are ready to head over to the instrument shelves and work on learning or reviewing rhythm instrument names, working on playing a steady beat or moving to the music.

During the second week of school, the chairs were set up and students chose where they would like to sit for the beginning of the year. Throughout the year, classes will play music games to review orchestra instruments, music symbols and note names to choose seats.

It’s way too soon to think about spring, but this school year we will be moving CELEBRATE THE ARTS to April instead of our usual May arts performance. We are making this change due to the Stoner Prairie swimming schedule. Please save the morning of Thursday, April 17, 2014!
PHYSICAL EDUCATION NOTES from Ms. Thronson

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 2013-2014 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, kickball, 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 next two weeks the kindergarten, first and second grade students will be working on throwing and catching. The third, fourth and fifth graders will focus 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 14th. Look for more information to be sent home about the test.

Look for Related Arts Notes in upcoming family newsletters!

Target Sponsored Field Trip Grant Program

Hello,

Thank you for participating in Target’s Field Trip grant program. As a friend of Target, we are excited to let you know about our 2013 Give with Target campaign. This year, Target is inviting guests to allocate up to $5 million to the schools of their choice to ensure that teachers and students have the resources they need to start the new year off right.

Currently, guests have allocated more than half of the $5 million, which means there is still over $2 million left to be earned. As a recipient of Target funds, you are aware of the impact a few extra dollars can have on providing schools and students with the supplies and resources they need to be successful. If you’re not already involved, we invite you to take part in the 2013 Give With Target campaign.

Here’s how the program works: Guests can visit Target’s Facebook page to vote for a school of their choice once per week to receive a Target donation. Once a school receives 25 votes, Target will donate $1 per vote, with a maximum donation of $10,000 per school.

We’d love you to be a part of this and to help spread the word! Check out the Give With Target Facebook application to vote for a school and then share with your network via social channels (#GiveWithTarget). The program runs until the funds run out or Sept. 21 (whichever comes first) and is part of Target’s commitment to give $1 billion for education by the end of 2015.

We can’t wait to see your school’s votes add up!

Best Regards,
Target Community Relations
Notes from your School Nurse

In need of clothing:
The Health Office closet is in need of shorts, sweatpants, and t-shirts for both boys and girls. If you have any of these items that you are willing to donate they would be greatly appreciated!

A reminder to check at home for lice:
Head lice are quite common among school age children and anyone can get head lice. They are spread by direct contact, such as sharing combs, hats, pillows and upholstered seats in movie theaters and airplanes. Lice are small insects that live anywhere in the hair, but especially around the ears and back of head close to the scalp. Since they feed off human blood, head lice cause itching and you may see scratch marks on your child’s scalp.

Lice eggs are called nits. They are tiny, oval eggs that change color from clear to brown as the egg matures. Nits are attached to the hair shaft and will not wash or blow off like lint or dandruff. They usually take 7-10 days to hatch, but can take up to one month in cold weather. Adult lice are about the size of a sesame seed. They are usually light brown in color, but this can vary. They shy away from light so they move very quickly and are difficult to see. They do not jump or fly. They can live off of the head for 24-48 hours.

Please let us know if you suspect your child has head lice. We have information about the treatment and would like to help you in any way we can. Please call the school health office with any questions. Thank you for your help.

Megan Marten RN, BSN
School Nurse
Verona Area School District
Stoner Prairie/Savanna Oaks/VAIS
(608)845-4215/(608)845-4015

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 and it will cost you NOTHING to support our kids.
Interested in Cub Scouts?

We welcome back last year’s cub scouts and look forward to meeting all the new boys who may be interested in joining our group. Cub scouts engage in many fun scouting activities, which include staying overnight in a cave, camping on sand dunes along Lake Michigan, attending a lock-in at the YMCA, touring Madison’s Veteran Museum, and of course, making and racing cars in our annual Pinewood Derby. Please join us to learn all about the incredible benefits and opportunities provided by the Cub Scouts. Cub Scouts is open to boys in the first through fifth grades. If you would like more information, please visit www.fitchburgpack249.com or send an email to JohnMuellerJD@aol.com. We hope to have you join us this year.

CUB SCOUT PACK 549 WANT TO JOIN THE CUB SCOUTS?
Attend our pack meeting and experience thrill, adventure and unforgettable friendships!
Location: Glacier Edge School
When: Third Thursday Of Each Month, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Visit Our Website At http://veronascouts.org/Pack_549/

Or Girl Scouts??

At Girl Scouts, girls are always counting down to the next adventure we’ll go on together. Maybe it’s artistic. Maybe it’s an experiment. Maybe it’s getting outside or helping the community. With us, you’ll make a bunch of new friends and have tons of new experiences that show you how exciting the word is, and how awesome you are, over and over again. So what are you waiting for?

Join us for a Girl Scout information meeting at the Verona Public Library, located at 500 Silent Street. Parents with girls in kindergarten and 1st grade are encourage attending the meeting on Monday, September 9, from 6:30-7:30 pm. Parents with girls in 2nd and 3rd grade are encouraged to attend the meeting on Tuesday, September 10 from 6:30-7:30 pm. Each meeting is focused on age level, however all ages are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Membership Specialist Maureen Geraghty at 608-237-1161 or email geraghtym@gsbadgerland.org.
Parking
The parking lot in front of the building has parking spaces available for volunteers/visitors. The parking spots along the east sidewalk are “No Parking Zones” during pick-up and drop-off hours. These hours are Mondays between 9:00-9:45, Tuesday through Friday between 7:00-9:00 and in the afternoon between 2:00-3:30.

Picking up and Dropping off Students: Two Choices
1. Student pick-up and drop-off during student arrival/dismissal will occur in the pick-up/drop-off line in the parking lot or in the front of the school by parents. During drop-off and pick-up there are **two lanes of traffic, the pick-up/drop-off lane and the moving traffic lane**. When dropping children off in the morning or picking them up in the afternoon, please pull in along the sidewalk as close to the front of the building as traffic allows. Children should enter and exit cars ONLY on the passenger side of the vehicle parallel to the sidewalk. **Loading and unloading should occur only in the zone along the sidewalk and front of building.** After children are safely in or out of the vehicle pull out into the center lane designed for moving traffic only! **Vehicles should not be stopped in the center lane and children will not be allowed to get in or out of vehicles in this lane of traffic.** Drivers waiting in line to pick up or drop off children should pull forward as far as possible, leaving no empty spaces between cars waiting to drop off or pick up children. **Please stay in your vehicle** and staff will assist in getting students to their cars.
2. Anyone who wishes may park in the designated parking spaces in the center and on the west side of the parking lot. Adults must then walk to the front of the building to escort children to or from vehicles.

Student Responsibilities
Students should wait on the sidewalk by the front door. They should be watching for their ride. **Please stay out of flower beds, trees, water and snow.**