

# The Greyhound Press

Volume I, Issue I

Sorento School  
510 S. Main  
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Sorento, Il. 62086  
Phone  
217-272-4111  
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School begins at 8:20

Dismissal at 2:55

Please do not drop off students earlier than 7:30 am

Students must be signed out if you are picking them up from school early



## Sorento School's Monthly Newsletter February 26, 2016



From Mr. Carpenter:

Dear Parents,

The 3rd academic quarter will end on March 8th. Please notify your child's teacher if you have any academic concerns to this point in the school year. The teachers have been instructed to communicate with parents if a child is in jeopardy of being retained for the next school year. This is not always a pleasant conversation, but one that is often needed for the success of the child in years to come.

We still have an unusually high number of students who are coming to school without their homework completed. Please understand, this must be a priority in every household. Homework reinforces previous lessons in class, and teaches a students to become disciplined, with time management skills. It has been proven many times that parents who work with their child each night on homework, produce outstanding students and productive citizens.

If I can help you at any time, please feel free to call me at 272-4111

Thank you,

Mr. C

Our school district has developed a unit wide **Character Education** program that will focus on one character trait each month. The purpose of this program is to introduce and familiarize all students with characteristics of those traits.

<u>August/September</u>	Responsibility	<u>December</u>	Service	<u>March</u>	Caring
<u>October</u>	Self Control	<u>January</u>	Courage	<u>April</u>	Fairness
<u>November</u>	Citizenship	<u>February</u>	Honesty	<u>May</u>	Respect

# Sorento PTO News

## PTO Meetings are held in the (Cafeteria) Laura Wall and Christina Pashia, Co-Presidents

### Great School Events !!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you are interested in volunteering for upcoming events sponsored by our PTO, please contact Laura Wall at dlwall1@frontiernet.net

Thank you Sorento PTO for hosting Mr. Olsen, Superintendent at our last meeting on Thursday, February 18th. He was very informative and the subject was an obvious need for our district.



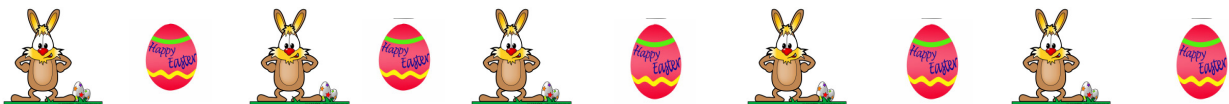
## IMPORTANT DATES

- \*March 1 & 2 7th Grade Volleyball Regional at Sorento—TBA
- \*March 7 No School—Casmir Pulaski Day
- \*March 8 8th Grade Volleyball Regional at Pocahontas—TBA
- \*March 11 Toby the Tire Assembly Grades—KRP—6th grade—9:30 am
- \*March 12 DAR Awards Ceremony at Greenville Christian Church
- \*March 16 IPA Student Recognition Breakfast at Greenville College—9:00 am
- \*March 21 Junior High Track Starts—7th/8th Grades
- \*March 21 School Board Meeting—HS Media Center—7:00 pm
- \*March 24-29 Easter Vacation—No School
- \*March 31st Title I Night—(See handout in this edition)
- \*April 11-19 PARCC Testing Grades 3-8



## Early Dismissal/No School

School will be not be in session on Monday, March 7 due to the observance of Casmir Pulaski Day. School will also be dismissed at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, March 16 due to a teacher in-service. School will dismiss at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, March 23 for Easter Vacation and resume again on Wednesday, March 30th.



# The Greyhound Press Continued.....

## BOND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #2 ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR STUDENTS

### Parents.... Please Read.....

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between seven and seventeen years of age (unless the child has already graduated from high school) shall assure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session. Illinois law also requires that whoever has custody or control of a child who is enrolled in the school, regardless of the child's age, shall assure that the child attends school during the entire time school is in session.

Regular school attendance will help you be more successful in your schoolwork. Although students who have excused absences have full make-up privileges for the work missed, it is very difficult for students to fully "make up" the information missed. Regular school attendance is a responsibility of both the student and the parent. One of the most important things parents can do to help their children succeed is to ensure that they are in attendance every day. We at Bond County Unit #2 expect you to be in school because success depends on it. To miss school is to miss out. The school works with the Regional Attendance Officer and Truancy Interventionist when attendance becomes a problem for a student.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES** - Approved by the Principal, include (a) personal illness, (b) medical or dental appointments, (c) observance of a religious holiday, (d) death in the family, (e) family emergency, (f) pre-planned absences, and (g) other absences approved by Administration. The school may classify excessive absences as unexcused, unless accompanied by a physician's statement. Medical notes must have specific appointment times listed or state that the student is to be excused for an entire day. Medical notes should be turned into the office upon the student's return to school. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the procedures for make-up work the day they return to school.

**PRE-PLANNED ABSENCES** - If a student is aware that they are going to be out of school in advance, the principal or secretary should be notified and a pre-planned absence form needs to be filled out and signed by all teachers 3 days in advance of days requested. This form then needs to be returned to the office verifying that the teachers are aware of the absence. The building principal will then determine if an absence will be excused. **Failure to have this form filled out and returned to the office will result in the absences being unexcused.** It is expected that the student will be caught up on all assignments upon return. **NO PRE-PLANNED ABSENCES WILL BE GRANTED OR APPROVED DURING PARCC TESTING (March) or hunting seasons. No more than 5 days of pre-planned absences will be excused for the school year.**

**UNEXCUSED ABSENCES** - Any student who misses school without notification, appropriate justification or prior planning for absence, will be counted unexcused for that time out of school. No make-up privileges will be given.

**When a student is absent from school, it is the responsibility of the parent to notify the school. When a student is absent, the absence will be marked EXCUSED if the parent calls the office with a valid reason before 9:30 a.m. the morning of the absence. If contact is not made, the absence will be marked UNEXCUSED. If the parent sends a note with the student the next school day, stating a valid reason for the absence, the absence will be changed to an excused. Parents have only three days to provide a Doctor's note in order to change unexcused absences to an excused.** The school will attempt to contact parents, at home or work, on the day of an absence if no call is received. After 10 absences in a year a Doctor's note may be required for the absence to be excused.

**BY LAW, THE PRINCIPAL OR DESIGNEE IN CHARGE, MUST SEND OUT A FORM LETTER STATING THE ABSENCES AND WHAT THE RESULT OF THE ABSENCES MUST ENTAIL.**

**When a student is absent in excess of 5 days, the following will happen:**

**5 absences – formal parent contact and then student referred to an Attendance Program.**

**10 absences – formal parent conference with Attendance Coordinator, Principal, or Truant Intervention Officer.**

**11 absences – attendance officer contact with family**

**TARDY** - Students who arrive at school after the tardy bell (8:20 a.m.) **MUST** report to the office for a pass. The only acceptable reason for being tardy is due to a late bus or a scheduled appointment. **Students being tardy for the third time in a quarter will receive a warning/parent contact. Students being tardy for the fourth time will receive a loss of privileges/detentions. On subsequent tardiness, the student will receive an in-school suspension. If this continues to be a problem, suspensions may result.** Parents must enter school and sign their child in.

**GO GREYHOUNDS!!!!!!**

**DAR Award Winner**

Megan Halleemann, an 8th grader, is this year's recipient of the Daughter's of the American Revolution Award for the Benjamin Mills local chapter. A ceremony will be held on Saturday, March 12 at the Greenville Christian Church in Greenville. The selection was based on citizenship, character, and patriotism. Congrats to you Megan, and we are very proud of you.

March is almost here!!!!



**IPA Student Recognition Breakfast**

**Kyle Tipsword, an 8th grader, will be honored on Wednesday, March 16 at 9:00 am at the annual Kaskaskia Region of the Illinois Principal's Association breakfast at Greenville College. Kyle, and his parents Kevin and Kristy Tipsword, will be treated to a breakfast, a featured speaker, and the awards portion of the ceremony. Kyle's selection was based on academics, school participation, and citizenship. Congratulations Kyle on a job well done.**

**PARCC Testing is April 11-19. Students will not be excused for any reason during the testing week. Please do not schedule any appointments during the school day or during this testing window. Please mark your calendars for these important dates.**

**February Students of the Month**

Kindergarten— Madi Krummel, Jackson Joiner, Hunter Schehl

1st Grade— Cydney Gifford, Bianka Gleason

2nd Grade— Ava Potthast, Logan Aibuschon

3rd Grade— Abby Davidson, Karissa Tucker

4th Grade— Gabe Wylde, Delaney Smith

5th Grade— Hannah Potthast

6th Grade— Selah Koehler, Lilee Joiner

7th Grade— Thomas Baker

8th Grade— Kyle Tipsword



**We are so proud of you! Thank you for being model students.**

## **“Why No Cell Phones in School ????”**

I was recently asked the question, “Why no cell phones in school?” My answer is simple. It is in the school handbook! In fact, it is on page 4 under the heading School Procedures, and number 5 in a list of 30 informational items.

Students come to school daily with cell phones in their book bags, and they know that those phones must be powered off when they enter the doorway. Often, students in the upper pod give their phones to their teacher before school begins. That teacher hands the phone back to them at the end of the day, and the phone remains turned off until they leave school grounds. If a child needs to call a parent after an athletic or extra-curricular event, then a teacher or coach will grant permission to use a cell phone.

When students come back to a basketball game or a school dance, cell phones are still prohibited at all times. I believe this is the time where cell phones with their capabilities such as cameras and snap chats, can be the most damaging to others or used inappropriately.

Students are here to watch the extra-curricular event and not play on phones. Certainly, all school rules apply while they are here, and that includes the use of phones. There would be nothing more hurtful for someone to take an inappropriate picture in the locker room while someone is dressing, and or snap a picture of someone during an awkward moment while playing in a contest and then post those pictures on social media.

We cannot stop everything that deals with cell phones, but at least the students and the parents know cell phones are not to be out, on, or visible during the school day or at evening activities here at Sorento School.

I understand everyone will not agree with this, but those are the rules.

Mr. C