

# CARLSON NEWS

## Newsletter March 2021

Marjorie Carlson Elementary School  
12355 Mruk, Warren, MI 48089  
Phone: 586-758-8345  
Fax: 586-758-7397

**Principal**  
Ms. Joann Iras

**School Secretary**  
Ms. Teresa VanNuck



Hello Carlson Families!

Again, it seems like the school year is flying by us as we near the end of the Second Trimester. It is hard to believe we are almost at the 1-year mark since students and staff were in person for school. As we approach this milestone, we are excited to welcome small groups of students back to Carlson starting March 9<sup>th</sup>! We are starting with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students whose families expressed interest in some in person learning on the district survey a few weeks ago. The district continues to plan for the addition of other grade levels. I will be reaching out to the families from the survey as we get to each grade level with specifics about what the return will look like for their student. As stated in Superintendent Bognar's letter on the VDPS website, we are doing a gradual phasing in of students and are closely monitoring the transition to guide our decisions moving forward. It is important to note that teachers are continuing to provide the same virtual education that they have been providing all year long. The time in person would allow for additional support for students while in person.

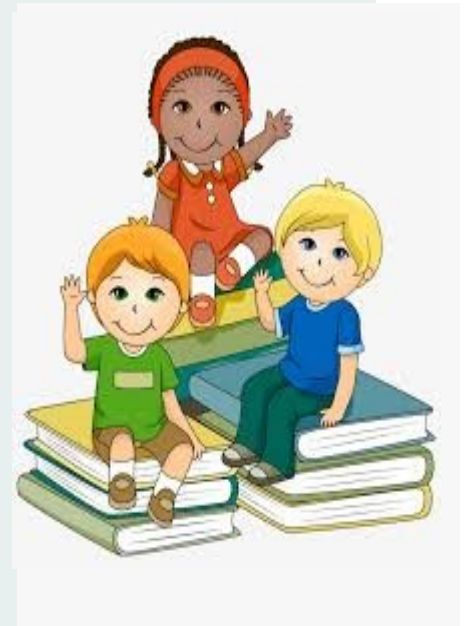
March is Reading Month will be celebrated a bit differently this year but will still be celebrated this month. You will receive a mailing with information about the Carlson Read-A-Thon. We are excited to conduct this virtually! Teachers will be hosting different activities to celebrate the month and promote literacy, including some "guest readers" throughout the month.

I appreciate your support as we continue to navigate an ever-changing situation. If you have questions, please contact me at 586-758-8345. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Ms. Iras

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Letter from the Principal
2. Conferences
3. Food Distribution
4. Remind Calendar
5. Calendar
- 6-7- Home and School
- 8- Computer Care
- 9- Spirit Week
- 10- supply Distribution





Great job!

# Virtual

My Teacher says...  
I'm a Star!

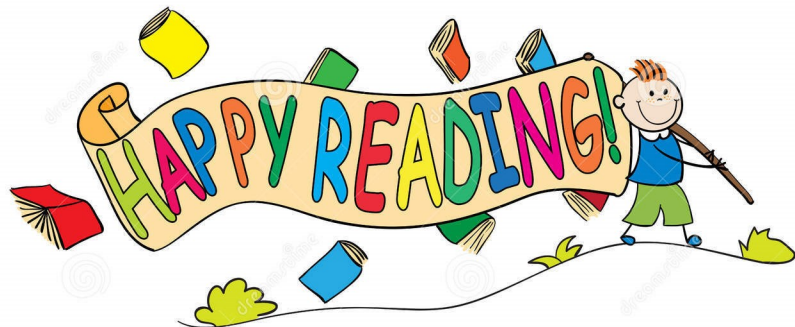


## Parent - Teacher CONFERENCES

Information to come from each teacher.



March 8th-19th  
Contact the main office @ 586-758-8345



# SPIRIT DAY

# WINNERS

ENO

February 10th– Kiera Abell  
February 17th– Carson Poole  
February 24th– Amelia Miller  
March 3rd– Anthony Hinkle

Contact the main  
office for your prize!  
Attendance Matters!!

## Food Distribution Dates

When: Tuesday's and Thursday's

Time: 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

- March 2
- March 4
- March 9
- March 11
- March 16
- March 18
- March 23
- March 25
- March 30



# STAY CONNECTED

## HOW TO SIGN UP FOR MS. JOANN IRAS'S REMIND CARLSON PARENTS

### MESSAGES:

- To receive messages via text, text @mcesfam to **81010**. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying , unsubscribe.



What is remind and why is it safe?

Remind is a one-way text messaging and email system.

With Remind, all personal information remains completely confidential. Teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you ever see theirs. Visit [remind.com](http://remind.com) to learn more.



- March 3rd– PLC Day
- March 8th-19th– Carlson Read-A-Thon
- March 12– 1/2 Day– Records Day
- March 17– PLC Day
- March 25– 1/2 Day– Parent Teacher Conferences
- April 2nd– Spring Break Begins



# March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 PLC Day	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 1/2 Day Records Day	13
<b>Carlson Read-A-Thon</b>						
14	15	16	17 PLC Day	18	19	20
<b>Carlson Read-A-Thon</b>						
21	22	23	24	25 Parent Teacher Conferences 1/2 Day of School	26	27
28	29	30	31	<b>April 2nd- Spring Break Begins</b>		

# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

March 2021

Carlson Elementary School

Mrs. Iras, Principal



## SHORT NOTES

### Ask about tests

If your child has standardized tests coming up, ask her to show you any study guides or practice tests she completes. You might have her explain how she arrived at some of the answers. Your interest shows her that the tests are important to you and will encourage her to do her best on test day.

### Patience pays off

Enjoying leisurely activities with your youngster can teach him the value of patience. For example, make chili together in a slow cooker, then eat a delicious meal you've waited for all day. Play Jenga or build a house of cards—he'll need to take his time to avoid toppling the structure!

### Sad, or depressed?

It's normal for kids to feel sad occasionally. But if your child becomes withdrawn or moody, has changes in her eating or sleeping habits, or loses interest in things she normally enjoys, talk to her pediatrician. Those may be signs of depression, and the doctor can recommend next steps.

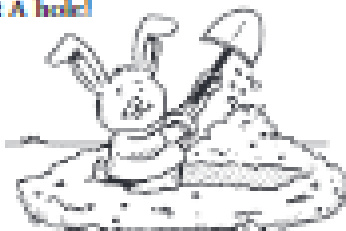
### Worth quoting

"Always be a first-rate version of yourself instead of a second-rate version of someone else." Judy Garland

## JUST FOR FUN

Q: I get bigger every time you subtract something. What am I?

A: A hole!



© 2001 Illustration by Michael, 2001 by Cora Scapellato

## Learning with hobbies

A hobby gives your child a productive way to spend his free time, and it brings a wealth of real-world learning opportunities. Encourage him to pursue a hobby—and learn from it—with these ideas.

### Reading

Let your youngster read to learn more about a hobby that interests him. If he'd like to learn to play chess, he could read a book on opening moves. Or if he collects comic books, he might read about how to draw comics. Then, give him opportunities to share what he learns. For instance, offer to play chess with him or ask to see the comics he sketches.

### Writing

Have your child start a journal or scrapbook about his hobby. A skateboarder can write instructions for tricks he's learning and check off each one as he masters it. A youngster who makes balloon animals could take photos of

his completed projects to put in a scrapbook, then write a caption for each.

### Math

Help your child find math in his hobby. If he's a runner, suggest that he keep track of his times and distances and then make a graph to see how he improves. Or if he plays a musical instrument, he can work on timing by writing the fractions above the notes ( $\frac{1}{4}$  note,  $\frac{1}{2}$  note) in sheet music and using them to keep count. ♣



## Ways to offer encouragement

Going beyond general praise and giving your youngster specific feedback can inspire her to keep up the good work. Consider these examples:

- Instead of "You're so smart," try "You're good at thinking things through." Why? You'll avoid labeling your child.
- Instead of "You're so helpful," try "Thanks for doing your chores before I asked." Why? Your words will motivate your child to repeat her behavior.
- Instead of "Awesome grade," try "I'm proud of you for studying hard." Why? This puts the focus on effort rather than grades only.
- Instead of "What a pretty painting," try "I'm impressed by all the details." Why? Your youngster will know exactly what made it appealing to you. ♣



## A caring family

A supportive family can give your youngster confidence and teach her to care about others. Use these ways to show one another that you care.

**Highlight good news.** Let your child write "Family News" on a sheet of paper and tack it to a bulletin board. When something good happens (her big sister is accepted to college, you get a new job), have her post it on the board. Encourage everyone to add a comment to each news item. ("Way to go, Mom!")



**Build each other up.** When a family member is disappointed or frustrated, chances are someone in your house has been in a similar situation. Ask that person to talk about her experience and how she handled it. For example, your youngster might tell her little brother, "I was sad when I couldn't have a birthday party with my friends because of the pandemic. But we had fun playing games together on Zoom."

**Laugh together.** Humor can relieve stress and strengthen bonds. Many families have a collection of "inside" jokes and stories. Tell them frequently, and share a good laugh. ("Remember when we found the cat on the top shelf of the pantry?")▼

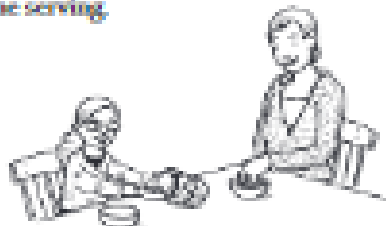


## Healthy snacks

**Q:** The only snacks my daughter wants to eat are cookies and chips. What should I do?

**A:** Try suggesting fun, creative ways your child can prepare nutritious snacks. You'll get her invested in making healthy ones that she'll want to eat.

For instance, have her layer trail mix ingredients in a clear jar. Perhaps she'll use whole-grain cereal pieces, dried fruit, and nuts or seeds. She could store the jar on the counter with a scoop equaling one serving.



She might also make colorful, single-serving veggie bags to keep front and center in the refrigerator. In separate zipper bags, she can put raw (rinsed) vegetables, such as broccoli florets, carrots, grape tomatoes, and snap peas.

Finally, try to avoid buying empty-calorie snacks like chips and cookies so she's not tempted by less-healthy options.▼

### OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more-effective parenting.  
Resources for Educators,  
a division of CCH Incorporated  
138 W. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
800.384.3071 • [decisions@wolenskitower.com](mailto:decisions@wolenskitower.com)  
[www.cch.com](http://www.cch.com)  
ISSN 1540-3021

## PARENT TO PARENT

### Strong work habits

Each year it was the same pattern: My son Luis started off the school year strong, but then his work habits slid in the second half. This year was no exception, so I suggested that Luis make a checklist to keep himself on track.

We talked about his habits, such as waiting until the last minute to study for tests or doing homework in front of the TV. Then for each problem area, he listed a solution on a small whiteboard. He included things like "Study for tests as soon as they're announced" and "Work where I won't be distracted."

Luis hung his whiteboard in his room. He reviews it before he starts working each day, then puts a check mark beside each good habit he uses. He's happy when he shows me he's checked off all his boxes—and I'm relieved to see him staying on track!▼



## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Smart spending starts now

Learning to make smart financial decisions will help your child now and in the future. Try these activities when you shop together.

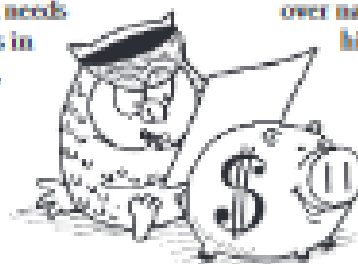
#### Identify needs and wants

Make a grocery list, and ask your youngster to highlight needs in one color and wants in another. For example, he could use a green highlighter for milk and toilet paper and a yellow one for ice cream and popcorn. Explain

that you'll shop for needs first, then wants if there's money left in your grocery budget.

#### Go on a saving spree

How much money can your child save your family by choosing generics over name-brand products? Have him write down the prices for both versions of each item. When you finish shopping, he can subtract to find the savings for each product, then add up all the savings to find the total.▼





## **2021 SUMMER P.A.L. SCHEDULE**

**JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> – AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**MONDAYS: BASKETBALL (AM) / SOCCER (PM)**

**TUESDAYS: BASEBALL (AM) / FLAG FOOTBALL (PM)**

**WEDNESDAYS: BASKETBALL (AM) / SOCCER (PM)**

**THURSDAYS: BASEBALL (AM) / KICK BALL (PM)**

**\*NEW THIS YEAR - BREAKFAST / LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED FOR PARTICIPANTS OF EACH SPORT SESSION. SPECIAL THANKS TO FITZGERALD PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND VAN DYKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR PROVIDING THE MEALS\***

**Registration Opens: March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Go to: [warrenpal.org](http://warrenpal.org) and click Registration Tab**

**Sports Feature:**

- **PAL t-shirt**
- **Basic rules of the game**
- **Individualized instruction**
- **Team play**







## Welcome Parents, Students and Friends to our Read-a-thon!

This year, we are excited to announce that we will hold a Read-a-thon fundraiser. Our Read-a-thon is a program that brings students together with family and friends to encourage reading and to build literacy skills.

The main focus of the Read-a-thon is for everyone to know we are committed to improving reading skills. To that end, the Read-a-thon promises to be a fun, exciting journey for all participants as they begin a personal Reading Adventure that challenges each reader to complete 10 reading sessions over our 2-week event.

Our Read-a-thon will start March 8, 2021.

Approximately 1 week before we start our first reading session we will send home paperwork with your reader explaining how you will activate their personal Read-a-thon page.

You will know that we have distributed the take home sheet because we will also place a Read-a-thon sticker on your child as a reminder.

We understand that, as parents, you have high expectations for the quality of your child's education but also have limited time.

That's why we chose to hold a Read-a-thon.

You will find this to be the easiest fundraiser possible. By simply activating your reader's personal page and using the promotional tools found there, friends and family anywhere in the world can show their support for your reader by making a donation to our Read-a-thon.

Your involvement in the Read-a-thon will help your child develop a lasting love of reading.

We hope each one of you will activate your child's personal page the day your child brings home their paperwork. Hopefully they will be wearing their sticker as well.

Carlson Elementary

## Additional Reading Opportunities for reading month!!

<https://www.bookitprogram.com/>

<https://www.smores.com/mbm8u-summer-reading-with-menchie>

<https://uspbl.com/2021-reading-program/>

<https://uspbl.com/2021-reading-program/>

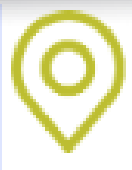


# FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN

30 lbs of Nutritious Groceries\*



Tuesdays:  
1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/13, 4/27, 5/11, 5/25,  
6/8  
from 9:00-11:00 am  
@ Lincoln High School



22900 Federal Ave  
Warran, 48089

## HELPING OUR COMMUNITY DURING URGENT TIMES OF NEED

We love serving our community and we want to ensure all families wishing to receive meals can do so. Families and individuals in need of food are encouraged to attend an upcoming drive-up distribution provided by Gleaners Community Food Bank.

- **~30 pounds of groceries**—Items like milk, canned fruits & vegetables, lean protein and other shelf-stable items.
- **Drive-up or walk-up**—Stay in your vehicle, and groceries will be placed into your trunk. Walk up guests without vehicles or those without a trunk are welcome to obtain groceries from a self-service table. If walking, please be prepared to carry the groceries or have a cart.
- **No appointment needed**—You do not need to bring identification or proof of eligibility to receive food.
- **Increasing safety**- If you wish to pick up for another household you may do so without their presence in the car.

Together with Gleaners Community Food Bank, we are taking all necessary precautions to distribute food safely.



*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*  
\*Food items may vary by distribution site

This pantry is supported by the Child & Adult Care Food Program. Families may receive one CACFP dinner per day during the distribution time period. Please contact Vicky Zoldos at 313-530-8736 with any further questions.



# KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

## Van Dyke's Kindergarten Round-Up will look a little different this year!

*You can register at the administration building, or at your child's school. Simply call the numbers below to make an appointment for registration!*

**When you make an appointment, you can also arrange to take a tour of your Kindergartener's school! Meet the teacher sessions will take place in the fall.**

***You MUST bring the following things with you:***

- Original Birth Certificate
- Shot Records
- Child's current physical/vision screening
- Lease, Tax Bill, or Mortgage Statement for Current Address
- Any LEGAL document with your name and current address
- License or State ID w/ Current Address

### Registration Hours and Contact Information:

Administration Building  
23500 MacArthur, Warren  
(phone)

Admin Bldg. ONLY Registration drop-in hours:  
M/T/W/Th; 9:00—11:00, 1:00—3:00

Carlson Elementary  
12355 Mruk, Warren  
586-758-8345

THURSDAYS through  
June 10, 2021  
from 9:00 AM — 3:00 PM

**School Registration by Appointment Only**



The is the Second Quarter and Let's Do it, be here or online on time.....

March is reading month, make sure you read, read, and continue to read every month. P2P will be visiting Zoom Meetings this month to read a story to your class. Students will be entered into a raffle at the end of the month to win books and gift certificates (3) students and all students will receive a book who participate. All you must do is read a book and write the name of the book down and each week and give to your teacher and you will be entered. (Good Luck)

Reading Resources

**Hoopla:** <https://www.hoopladigital.com/>

**Michigan Library Directory:** <https://mi.countingopinions.com/forms/fv.php?pkey=4323e7468dc17acf815fbaofcabd690b>

# FREE TAX HELP 2021

SITE	ELIGIBILITY	PHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE
<p><b>Accounting Aid Society</b>  <b>VITA ACE</b> - From your home                      IRS certified tax preparer will work with client over the phone to maximize their refund without having to leave their home.  <b>DROP AND GO</b> - In person drop-off.                      Have tax documents scanned and then pick up the completed tax return later.</p>	<p>For those with household incomes up to \$57,000</p>	<p>313-558-1920                      Call for drop and go sites</p>	<p><a href="https://accountingaidsociety.org/taxpayers/">https://accountingaidsociety.org/taxpayers/</a></p>
<p><b>Macomb Community Action</b>                      Provides free tax preparation at various sites throughout Macomb County by appointment, drop off or walk in.</p>	<p>Macomb County resident with household income (single and family) up to \$57,000</p>	<p>588-463-2537                      Call tax phone line with detailed information on how to make appointments, drop off sites and walk ins.</p>	<p><a href="https://mca.macombgov.org/MCA-ES-ActionCenters">https://mca.macombgov.org/MCA-ES-ActionCenters</a></p>
<p><b>AARP</b>                      AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and remote tax assistance free of charge to anyone, with a special focus on taxpayers who are 50 or older or who have low to moderate income.</p>	<p>Anyone 50 or older with low to moderate income</p>	<p>1-888-227-7689                      Toll free tax aid locator</p>	<p><a href="http://www.aarpfoundation.org/taxhelp">www.aarpfoundation.org/taxhelp</a></p>
<p><b>Samaritan House</b>                      Samaritan House partners with the Accounting Aid Society to prepare State and Federal Income Tax forms at no charge. This service is available on Saturdays beginning in late January. Appointments are required. Call or email Samaritan House for details or to make an appointment.</p>	<p>Serves low-income families and individuals who reside within the Villages of Romeo and Armada, Townships of Ray, Bruce, Armada and Washington, and both Shelby and Macomb Townships north of 23 mile rd.</p>	<p>588-338-8958  <a href="mailto:samaritanhouse@ecoglobal.net">samaritanhouse@ecoglobal.net</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.samaritanhousemichigan.org/services">https://www.samaritanhousemichigan.org/services</a></p>
<p><b>United Way- MyFreeTaxes</b>                      MyFreeTaxes helps anyone of any income file their taxes for free while getting the assistance they need.                       The self-preparation software is free for everyone. There are no income limits, no age restrictions, and no geographic limitations.                       MyFreeTaxes also connects users who need more support filing their return to partner nonprofits who are part of the volunteer IRS tax program (VITA)</p>	<p>Anyone-no income limits</p>	<p>888-898-9435 Helpline</p>	<p><a href="https://www.myfreetaxes.com/">https://www.myfreetaxes.com/</a></p>

# MSN - Home to School: Emotional, Behavioral and Social Challenges for Kids

When: Thursday, March 11, 2021

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Fee: No cost

Virtual Training

Presenter: Kimberly Hazel LMSW/ACSW  
Children and Youth Therapist



Target Audience: All professionals that work with parents and children

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92124560707?pwd=anpoai90ZlkrU3dsMXArN2kwRUJnQT09>

Why does the child seem to behave at home, but has problems at school?

How can I help a child that seems anxious?

How can I encourage social interaction/skills?

## Learning Objectives:

- 1) Understand why 3 of the common school challenges for children (anxiety, behavior outbursts and social skills) need to be addressed both at home and at school.
- 2) Explore the daily tasks that both parents and professionals can implement to enhance growth in each area.
- 3) Learn specific activities for each challenge to use with children.
- 4) How to assess if the child/family needs additional help and who might be able to help.

