

The Hinkle Herald

February 14, 2008

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Molly Hinkle, Teacher

BIZ Town Elections: As many of you have heard, we will be holding our classroom primary for the BIZ Town mayor tomorrow. The winner of our classroom primary will run against representatives from each of the other fifth grade classes in our general election on Tuesday, March 4th.

There are nine students in our class who have chosen to run for mayor. They've made posters and other campaign items, been interviewed in front of the class, and presented formal speeches. The class brainstormed qualifications for the position and has listened attentively to the candidates in order to elect the best candidate possible. I've been very impressed by the way all of the students have handled this unique event in the life of our class community.

Tomorrow's election will make one of our candidates very happy and eight others quite disappointed. If your child is a candidate, please help prepare him/her for the possibility that tomorrow's vote will not go his/her way. It is my sincere hope that everyone will be able to handle this as a learning and growing experience regardless of the result.

I also ask that each of you speak with your child tonight about the qualifications needed to lead a community, and that you will encourage your child to vote based on those qualifications. We have discussed this at length, but it never hurts to have it reiterated from home. Thank you in advance for your help with this!

Field Trip Reminder: An information sheet and permission slip were sent home earlier this week for two trips we'll take next week (finally!). Extras were sent home today with students who have not returned them yet. Please complete, sign, and return your child's permission slip tomorrow. See below for dates and times.

Mark Your Calendars! Please make note of the following winter dates...

- Friday, February 29th – Permission slips due; Town Meeting; Jazz program (1:30 – 2:15)
- Tuesday, March 4th – Field trip to Anthony Thomas (depart 12:30; return 2:15)
- Thursday, March 6th – Field trip to the American Whistle Company (depart 9:15; return 11:15)
- Friday, March 7th – Town Meeting
- Friday, March 14th – Spring Break Begins
- Monday, March 24th – Back to School!

Ask Your Child About...

- BIZ Town learning
- math learning
- progress with the February "Phases of the Moon" calendar (due Monday)
- Spinelli book groups & assignments
- our new class read aloud, A Long Way from Chicago
- writing & publishing Diamante poems
- students' love and moon stories and providing feedback to one another in partners
- learning about the earth, sun & moon
- how things are going at school