

# Hedgehog



# Highlights

## FELTWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**MILES J. SHEA, PRINCIPAL**

**October 1, 2012**

**Mr. FRANK ROEHL, SUPERINTENDENT**

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***School Mission: To help each child achieve his or her highest potential***

## Calendar of Events

**Oct. 5 – No School for Students – School Improvement / Mandatory Training**

**Oct. 8 – No School for Students – Columbus Day**

Oct. 23 – Red Ribbon Celebration

Oct. 26 – PTO - Fall Frolic

Nov. 1 – End of First Quarter

**Nov. 2 – No School for Students – Teacher Workday**

Nov. 5-8 – Book Fair

**Nov. 7 – Half Day for Students – 11:30 Dismissal Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**Nov. 8 and 9 – No School for Students Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**Nov. 12 – No School for Students – Veterans Day**

Patrol this year. The Hedgehog Safety Patrol will consist of 10 outstanding students from Grades 4 and 5. They will be stationed in teams of two throughout the school to help keep children safe before and after school. These students will serve on the Hedgehog Safety Patrol during the first semester and then 10 different students will have the opportunity to serve in this very important capacity the second semester.

We would also like to invite all Stakeholders to the Stranger Danger Forum presented by Security Forces this Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> in the Gymnasium. The times are as follows:

Kindergarten, First and Second Grades-1030-1100  
Third, Fourth and Fifth Grades-1330-1400

Let's work together to keep our students safe and to teach them the life skills they need in order to be self-advocates for their own safety as well.

Sincerely,  
Miles J. Shea  
Principal



Dear Feltwell Elementary Stakeholders,

October is Crime Prevention Month. With that in mind I am pleased to announce that Feltwell Elementary School has started a Hedgehog Safety

## Attendance Policy



For information regarding the DoDDS Attendance Policy, please see the following link:

<http://www.dodea.edu/attendance/index.cfm>



## MEET OUR FRIEND, BELLA

Bella is a Reading Education Assistance Dog. R.E.A.D. is a program that improves children's reading and communication skills by employing a powerful method . . . reading to a dog! Bella is a registered therapy dog who volunteers with her handler as a team and she will be working with students at Feltwell Elementary School. Dogs can be great listeners and allow the child to practice reading in a relaxed, comfortable, safe, nonjudgmental and empowering way. Dogs like Bella listen attentively, do not judge, laugh or criticize and allow children to proceed at their own pace. Participating kids can make enormous strides in reading and communication skills while also building self-esteem and confidence. Bella's presence in our school has been cleared by the Veterinary Clinic and the Medical Treatment Facility to ensure the safety of our students. Children who work with Bella are referred by their teachers and must have signed permission from their parent. We are very excited to be able to offer this beneficial program for our students. Our students are very excited at the idea of reading to Bella!

## Counselor's Corner

### Emergency Drills

Every year we are required to conduct several emergency drills to ensure that all students know and can demonstrate the correct behaviors that are required in an emergency situation. During the 1<sup>st</sup> month of school we conduct a fire drill once a week.

For the rest of the school year, these are held once a month. The children evacuate the buildings and gather in a safe location where each class and every child is accounted for and checked off of a master list. Members of the fire department are present and always give the school a rating on our overall performance and timeliness.

Another drill that we are required to conduct is a Lock Down Drill. During this drill, each classroom is secured, the blinds are closed and the children gather in a safe location within the classroom. In an Evacuation Drill, all staff and students leave the school and travel to a safe location -where everyone can remain indoors for the duration of the exercise.

Each of these drills is done to help children understand the basic routines and behaviors that are required during an emergency situation. They are all part of the Safe Schools Initiative, and schools all over America conduct similar drills. This "practice" helps ensure that we all learn how to respond in a safe manner. We make every effort to ensure that this is not a frightening experience for the children. It is just a time for us to practice our routines and to do all the things that help keep them safe during their school day at Feltwell Elementary School. Pam Veazey, Guidance Counselor



## Dressing for the Winter

The mornings have been quite chilly for the past couple of weeks. Whether we like it or not, fall is here and winter is on its way. Recess and outdoor play are important for our children throughout all the seasons – even winter. But we also want our children to be safe and that means making sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather. Here are some guidelines we have established here at Feltwell Elementary School for the well being of your children:

Above 60 degrees – No coat is needed but make sure your child is dressed in layers.

Between 32 to 59 degrees – Your child must have a coat and must take it to the playground.

Below 32 degrees – Your child must wear a coat, hat and gloves.

It is always a good idea for you to put your child's name inside his/her coat, hat and gloves just in case an item gets left outside!

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

FES School Improvement Goal #1 is for all students to use literacy skills and strategies to improve written communication. One such strategy used to achieve this goal is the incorporation of Writer's Workshop. Weekly, Writer's Workshop provides opportunities for students to have individualized instruction which enables them to improve and learn at their own rate. This method also allows teachers to meet with students in writing conferences where one-on-one interactions benefits student learning and allows the teacher to tailor lessons to the student's level, including learning disabled and gifted.

If you seek to learn more about Writer's Workshop please see your CSILT team!

Feltwell Elementary

Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month and

Celebrates European Day of Languages

The week of September 24-28 has been a very busy one in our Feltwell Elementary FLES Spanish classes. With the help of military community volunteers from RAF Mildenhall, we have participated in activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 through October 15. These military volunteers came to Feltwell to read to us and to participate in our Spanish class activities. On September 26, six multilingual Feltwell parents came to our classes to teach us a little about their native languages and the places they come from in recognition of European Day of Languages. Our thanks go out to Señoras Falso, Farrell, Cruz, Poole and Ruszkowski, and Sargento Mendoza representing Italy, Panamá, the Philippines, Turkey, Germany, Colombia and Perú and to our RAF Mildenhall military volunteers.



## OUR NEW SOCCER FIELD!



# SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL Takes the Oath



# *Congratulations to our Feltwell Fuzzy Winners for September!*



## **REMINDERS:**



Provide your child's teacher with a written copy of their after school plans. Also, provide the teacher with a note whenever there is a variation to the regular routine.

Whenever bringing your child to school after the school day begins or if you are picking them up early, please be sure to sign them in or out at the Main Office.

If you are picking your child up after school, please arrange to meet them on the playground by the wooden fence which is next to the parent parking lot.

As a security reminder, all visitors to the school are required to check in at the Main Office.

Inform our School Registrar, Mandi Perez, of any changes to your home, duty or cell phone.



## **2012-2013 Hedgehog Singers**

The Hedgehog Singers are looking for members! Please see attached Hedgehog Singers Permission Slips for more information.



