

Wildcat Way Family Newsletter

November 2025

Central Elementary School Information

Principal: [Dr. Jennifer Hennegan](#)

Assistant Principal: [Ms. April Mrozik](#)

Special Education Administrator: [Mrs. Liz Kjellman](#)

Secretaries: [Mrs. Jen Gottschalk](#) & [Ms. Judi LaBarbera](#)

Office Clerk: [Mrs. Tricia Kramer](#)

Building Registered Nurse: [Mrs. Ellen Pasch](#)

Address: 23723 Getson Ave. Plainfield, IL 60544

Phone Number: 815-436-9278

Website: cees.psd202.org

School Hours (Beginning August 14th, 2025): 9:05am - 3:40pm (First bell rings at 8:50am signaling students can enter the building)

Bus Information:

[PSD202 Transportation Information](#)

[ParentView General Education Bus App Information](#) and [HOW TO find the App](#)

First Student (815) 726-0033 (General Education)

First Student (815) 782-0030 (Special Education)



Central's Vision & Collective Commitments (Embedded below)

Our vision is to collaborate as a professional learning community dedicated to continued personal and academic growth through perseverance and flexibility for all members within our school. We envision a school in which we:

- Promote overall wellness (social-emotional, physical, mental)
- Encourage positive growth mindset through grit and determination
- Monitor student progress on a frequent basis
- Participate in student-centered decision making (seek and implement promising strategies)
- Support and encourage family and community involvement
- Engage in respectful, cooperative, and productive teams
- Always learn as a professional team

*Central's vision statement was updated this summer by our Guiding Coalition (School Improvement Team) which consists of staff across all grade levels and departments.



Important Dates

Ongoing:

- [CE Events Calendar 2025-2026](#)
- [CE Admin Google Classroom + Daily Announcements](#) (CODE - wcaitko)
- [ABCDE Schedule 2025-2026](#)
- [D202 School Calendar 2025-2026, ENGLISH](#)
- [D202 School Calendar 2025-2026, SPANISH](#)
- [D202 Student Registration Information & Forms](#)
- [November Breakfast Menu](#) (FREE for ALL students)
- [November Lunch Menu](#) (FREE for ALL students)
- [Home Access Center](#) (HAC)
- ISBE accepts [nominations](#) to the Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards all year round.
- [2025-2026 PTO Information for Families & Staff](#)

Future Dates:

November 2nd @ 2:00AM - Fall Back 1 Hour, End of Daylight Savings Time

November 3rd-14th - Mrs. Gottschalk, Principal Secretary - Out of the Office

November 3rd (Week Of) - [IAR Results Go Home](#) (4th & 5th Grade)

November 4th @ 9:30-11:30AM - 5th Grade @ PHS-CC Band/Choir Presentation

November 6th @ 9:00AM-1:30PM - Teacher Institute, No Student Attendance

November 6th @ 3:00-8:00PM - P/T Conferences ([SIGN UP LINK](#))

November 7th @ 8:00AM-1:00PM - P/T Conferences, No Student Attendance ([SIGN UP LINK](#))

November 8th - [Last Day to Sign Up for Conferences](#)

November 11th @ 12:25-12:55PM - Mindy Jackson, Plainfield Public Library, Presents to 3rd Grade on Inherited and Acquired Traits (Room 125)

November 11th @ 1:40-2:10PM - Mr. & Mrs. Kellner will present to 4th grade about Veterans Day (Media Center)

November 11th @ 2:10-2:40PM - Mr. & Mrs. Kellner will present to 3rd grade about Veterans Day (Media Center)

November 11th @ 4:15PM - PTO Meeting (Media Center)

November 12th - Mass Vision & Hearing Screening (Media Center)

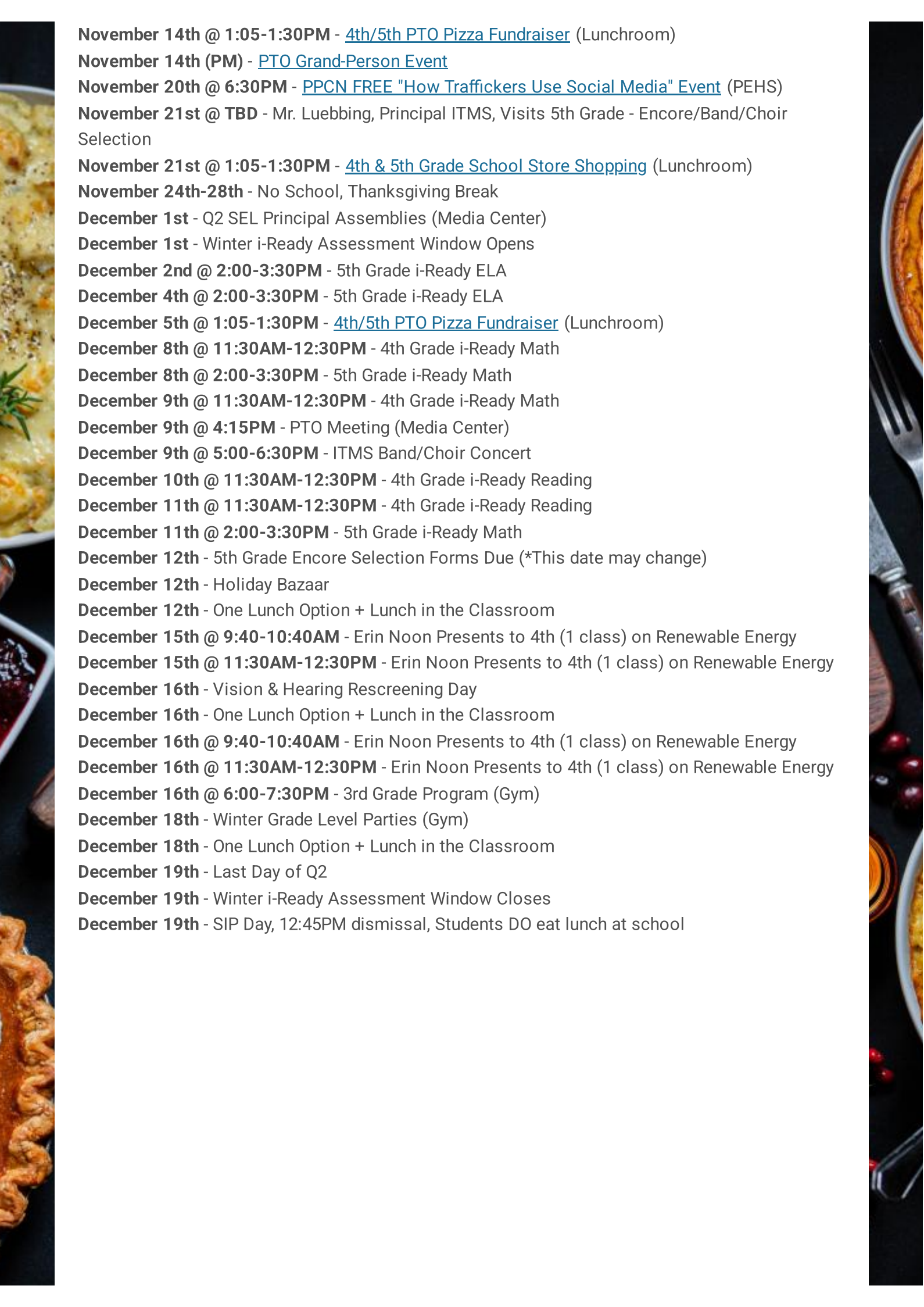
November 13th @ 1:40-2:25PM - Mindy Jackson, Plainfield Public Library, Presents to 4th Grade, Southwest Region (Leprich & Sullivan, Room 217)

November 13th @ 2:30-3:15PM - Mindy Jackson, Plainfield Public Library, Presents to 4th Grade, Southwest Region (Silva & Marlowe, Room 215)

November 14th - 3rd Grade Under the Sea Day!

November 14th @ 11:35AM-12:00PM - [2nd & 3rd Grade School Store Shopping](#) (During Lunch)

November 14th @ 12:05-12:30PM - [1st Grade School Store Shopping](#) (During Lunch)



November 14th @ 1:05-1:30PM - [4th/5th PTO Pizza Fundraiser](#) (Lunchroom)
November 14th (PM) - [PTO Grand-Person Event](#)
November 20th @ 6:30PM - [PPCN FREE "How Traffickers Use Social Media" Event](#) (PEHS)
November 21st @ TBD - Mr. Luebbing, Principal ITMS, Visits 5th Grade - Encore/Band/Choir Selection
November 21st @ 1:05-1:30PM - [4th & 5th Grade School Store Shopping](#) (Lunchroom)
November 24th-28th - No School, Thanksgiving Break
December 1st - Q2 SEL Principal Assemblies (Media Center)
December 1st - Winter i-Ready Assessment Window Opens
December 2nd @ 2:00-3:30PM - 5th Grade i-Ready ELA
December 4th @ 2:00-3:30PM - 5th Grade i-Ready ELA
December 5th @ 1:05-1:30PM - [4th/5th PTO Pizza Fundraiser](#) (Lunchroom)
December 8th @ 11:30AM-12:30PM - 4th Grade i-Ready Math
December 8th @ 2:00-3:30PM - 5th Grade i-Ready Math
December 9th @ 11:30AM-12:30PM - 4th Grade i-Ready Math
December 9th @ 4:15PM - PTO Meeting (Media Center)
December 9th @ 5:00-6:30PM - ITMS Band/Choir Concert
December 10th @ 11:30AM-12:30PM - 4th Grade i-Ready Reading
December 11th @ 11:30AM-12:30PM - 4th Grade i-Ready Reading
December 11th @ 2:00-3:30PM - 5th Grade i-Ready Math
December 12th - 5th Grade Encore Selection Forms Due (*This date may change)
December 12th - Holiday Bazaar
December 12th - One Lunch Option + Lunch in the Classroom
December 15th @ 9:40-10:40AM - Erin Noon Presents to 4th (1 class) on Renewable Energy
December 15th @ 11:30AM-12:30PM - Erin Noon Presents to 4th (1 class) on Renewable Energy
December 16th - Vision & Hearing Rescreening Day
December 16th - One Lunch Option + Lunch in the Classroom
December 16th @ 9:40-10:40AM - Erin Noon Presents to 4th (1 class) on Renewable Energy
December 16th @ 11:30AM-12:30PM - Erin Noon Presents to 4th (1 class) on Renewable Energy
December 16th @ 6:00-7:30PM - 3rd Grade Program (Gym)
December 18th - Winter Grade Level Parties (Gym)
December 18th - One Lunch Option + Lunch in the Classroom
December 19th - Last Day of Q2
December 19th - Winter i-Ready Assessment Window Closes
December 19th - SIP Day, 12:45PM dismissal, Students DO eat lunch at school

TREATS FOR TROOPS



DONATE HALLOWEEN CANDY NOVEMBER 1-21, 2025



**YOU
DONATE
CANDY**



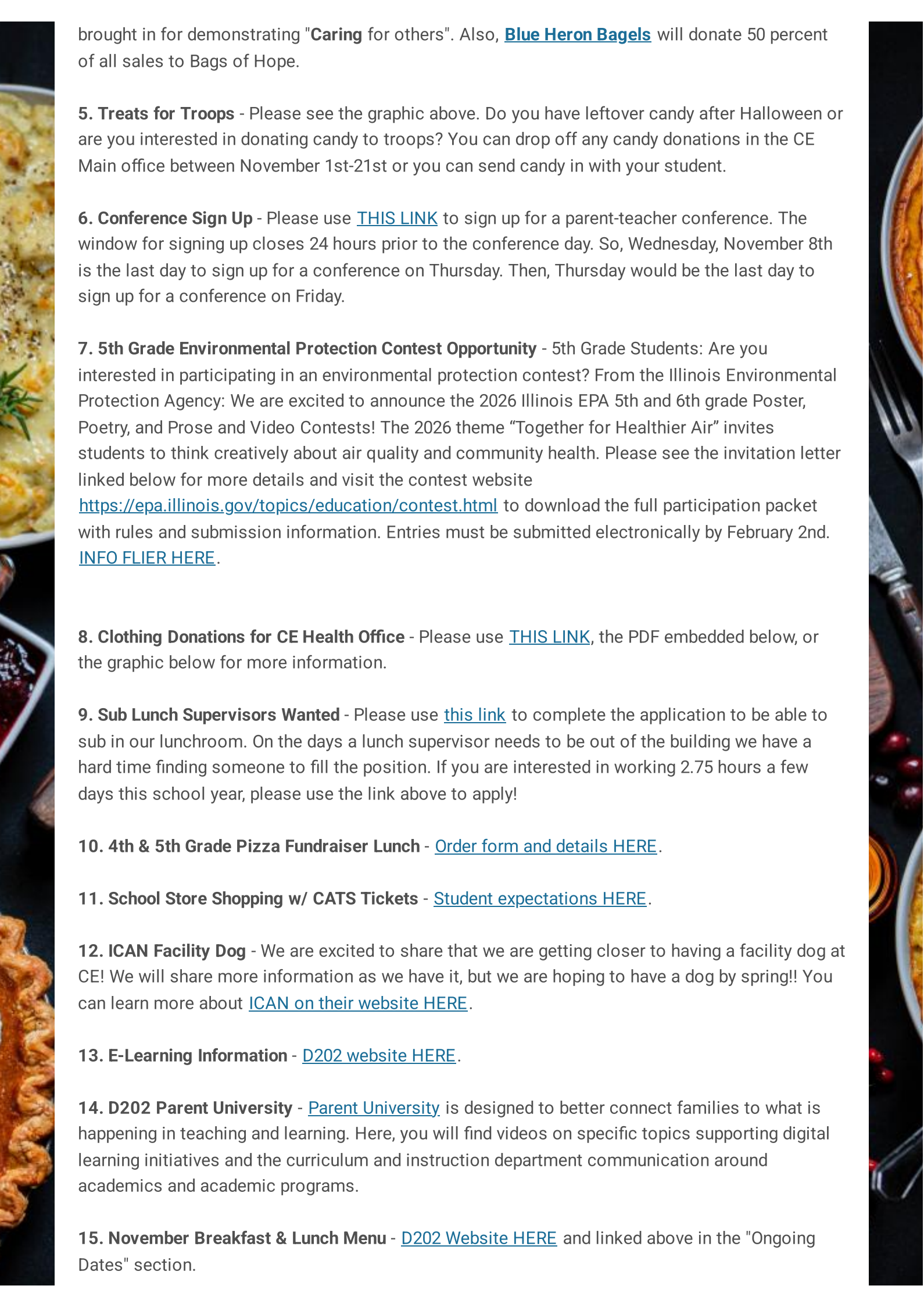
**WE BOX
AND
SHIP**



**TROOPS
GET
TREATS!**

Updates for All (NEW)

- 1. PTO GrandPerson Event Sign Up, Appetizer and Dessert Sign Up, & Volunteer Info** - [Event information sign up and volunteer opportunities HERE](#). The same information is embedded below as a PDF and a graphic. The PTO is looking for families to donate appetizers and/or desserts to the event on 11/14.
- 2. PPCN FREE Event** - The [Plainfield Parent Community Network will be hosting our next event, "DMs, Likes, and Lies: How Traffickers Use Social Media"](#) on Thursday, November 20th at Plainfield East High School, with a provider fair starting at 6:30pm and the presentation starting at 7:00pm. The presenter, Chris Baker, Tattoo Artist & Owner of Ink180 will expose how traffickers use social media to target victims. The link above take you to the flier on our CE website. It is also embedded below as a PDF.
- 3. Beanstack** - Mrs. Domanski, Media Specialist, introduced our students to Beanstack. The online resource allows students to log their reading minutes electronically through Beanstack. Students can view the leaderboard and earn badges as they log their reading minutes. There is an overview [video HERE](#) (1:27), and an excellent [Beanstack Teacher Experience video](#) (4:41), and resources on our [CE website HERE](#). Dr. Hennegan will be presenting on Beanstack at the next PTO meeting on Tuesday, November 11th in our Media Center.
- 4. Bags of Hope Information & Collection** - Bags of Hope provides food to District 202 families in need. We will be collecting non-perishable food donations from Monday, November 3rd through Friday, November 21st. Students can bring donations to be dropped off near Door A (flag pole side). [Bags of Hope Information HERE](#). Students will receive one CATS tickets for every item



brought in for demonstrating "Caring for others". Also, [Blue Heron Bagels](#) will donate 50 percent of all sales to Bags of Hope.

5. Treats for Troops - Please see the graphic above. Do you have leftover candy after Halloween or are you interested in donating candy to troops? You can drop off any candy donations in the CE Main office between November 1st-21st or you can send candy in with your student.

6. Conference Sign Up - Please use [THIS LINK](#) to sign up for a parent-teacher conference. The window for signing up closes 24 hours prior to the conference day. So, Wednesday, November 8th is the last day to sign up for a conference on Thursday. Then, Thursday would be the last day to sign up for a conference on Friday.

7. 5th Grade Environmental Protection Contest Opportunity - 5th Grade Students: Are you interested in participating in an environmental protection contest? From the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency: We are excited to announce the 2026 Illinois EPA 5th and 6th grade Poster, Poetry, and Prose and Video Contests! The 2026 theme "Together for Healthier Air" invites students to think creatively about air quality and community health. Please see the invitation letter linked below for more details and visit the contest website <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/education/contest.html> to download the full participation packet with rules and submission information. Entries must be submitted electronically by February 2nd. [INFO FLIER HERE](#).

8. Clothing Donations for CE Health Office - Please use [THIS LINK](#), the PDF embedded below, or the graphic below for more information.

9. Sub Lunch Supervisors Wanted - Please use [this link](#) to complete the application to be able to sub in our lunchroom. On the days a lunch supervisor needs to be out of the building we have a hard time finding someone to fill the position. If you are interested in working 2.75 hours a few days this school year, please use the link above to apply!

10. 4th & 5th Grade Pizza Fundraiser Lunch - [Order form and details HERE](#).

11. School Store Shopping w/ CATS Tickets - [Student expectations HERE](#).

12. ICAN Facility Dog - We are excited to share that we are getting closer to having a facility dog at CE! We will share more information as we have it, but we are hoping to have a dog by spring!! You can learn more about [ICAN on their website HERE](#).

13. E-Learning Information - [D202 website HERE](#).

14. D202 Parent University - [Parent University](#) is designed to better connect families to what is happening in teaching and learning. Here, you will find videos on specific topics supporting digital learning initiatives and the curriculum and instruction department communication around academics and academic programs.

15. November Breakfast & Lunch Menu - [D202 Website HERE](#) and linked above in the "Ongoing Dates" section.

16. PM Car Rider Line - We have had more PM car riders this school year. Let's all work together to use ALL three lanes for dismissal. Please note, if you are parking in the second lane (middle lane), please do not block the space before the narrow two lane curve until lane three (lane closest to the parked cars) is full. When we don't use all three lanes we end up with multiple cars that cannot fit in our regular car rider line which results in confusion, a slower dismissal, and students and parents/guardians walking through the side lot to a car. Let's all commit to following our dismissal procedures so we can keep all Wildcats safe! Also, to put it in perspective, the bell rings at 3:40 signaling dismissal. Our 5-11 year old students leave their class, exit the building, load their car, and lanes get checked by 3:45-3:46. That means we are ready to safely exit the car rider lines within 6 minutes since dismissal. That is about as fast as any car rider dismissal out there! Thank you for your help and attention to our procedures.

16. Social Media (REPEAT) - Please follow our social media sites using the links below:

- * [Central Administration Facebook](#)
- * [Central Administration Twitter \(X\)](#)
- * [Central Administration Instagram](#)
- * [Central PTO Facebook](#)



PTO GrandPerson Event Sign Up 11-14-2025.pdf

[Download](#)
526.2 KB



PTO GrandPerson Event Appetizer and Dessert Sign Up Info 11-14-2025.pdf

[Download](#)
396.7 KB



PPCN- DMs, Likes & Lies Flier 11-20-2025.pdf

[Download](#)
292.9 KB



Clothing Donations for the CE Health Office Wanted!.pdf

[Download](#)
106.7 KB



ABCDE Schedule 2025-2026.pdf

[Download](#)
194.7 KB



i-Ready Diagnostic Information For Families

Students in K-5 grade take the i-Ready Diagnostic Math & Reading assessment 3x/year (fall, winter, & spring). Students will be taking the Reading & Math i-Ready winter assessment in December. Please use the resources below to learn more about the i-Ready Diagnostic assessments.

[Understanding Your Child's i-Ready Diagnostic Results \(ENGLISH\)](#)

[Understanding Your Child's i-Ready Diagnostic Results \(SPANISH\)](#)

[Which Domains are Covered on the i-Ready Diagnostic Math & Reading Assessments?](#)

Diversity Calendar

November

- Diabetes Awareness Month
- National Native American Heritage Month
- Lung cancer Awareness Month
- Epilepsy Awareness Month
- Alzheimer's Awareness Month
- National Veterans & Military Families Month
- Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

- November 1-2 – Dia de los Muertos
- November 1 – All Saints' Day (Roman Catholic)
- November 1 – National Stress Awareness Day
- November 2 – All Souls' Day
- November 9 – World Freedom Day
- November 9 – World Adoption Day
- November 11 – Remembrance/Veterans Day
- November 13 – World Kindness Day
- November 16 – International Day for Tolerance
- November 19 – International Men's Day
- November 20 – Transgender Day of Remembrance
- November 20 – Universal Children's Day (Human Rights, U.N.)
- November 27 – Thanksgiving
- November 25 – Day of the Covenant (Baha'i)
- November 25 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- November 27 – Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha (Baha'i)

[D202 Cultural Calendar 2025-2026](#)

[Resource - Worktango](#)

[Resource - Diversity Resources](#)

*Is there a holiday and/or special day that you would like to see included in the months ahead? Please email Dr. Hennega at jhennega@psd202.org to have it added to our diversity awareness calendar.



2025 Diversity Calendar.pdf

Download

961.0 KB

2025-2026 PTO Information

[PTO Information HERE](#) (CE website)

- Joining the PTO
- Volunteering for events
- Spirit wear orders

PTO Membership, Volunteer Opportunities, & Website - [Membership information HERE](#). [Volunteer opportunities HERE](#). [PTO website HERE](#). Everything our PTO does is for our students. We hope you consider joining the PTO, attending meetings, and volunteering at our incredible events!

4th & 5th Grade Monthly Pizza Fundraisers - [Info and order form HERE](#). A paper order form will also come home with your 4th and/or 5th grade student.

School Store - New this year at Central! The Wildcat Way store! During lunch hours students will be able to use their Wildcat Way CATS tickets to purchase items from the school store. (Kindergarten will begin their shopping in January after using the first few months to adjust to school)

We are looking for 2 volunteers per day to help at the school store. Please use [THIS LINK](#) if you are interested in helping work the table while students shop with their CATS tickets!

1st Grade will "shop" from 12:05-12:30 during their lunch.

2nd & 3rd Grade will "shop" from 11:35-12:00 during their lunch.

4th & 5th Grade will "shop" from 1:05-1:30 during their lunch.

Updates For All (Repeats From Previous Family Newsletters)

1. Dropping Students Off Late - Students must be signed in by an adult if you arrive to school after 9:05. Please do not drop your student off out front of CE and drive away. We have a bright sign out

front communicating if it is past the drop off time and you need to bring your student all the way into the main office for check in. Thank you for your attention to our safety procedures.

2. Bus Information & Reporting Concerns - [PSD202 Transportation Information](#), [ParentView General Education Bus App Information](#) (Allows families to track the GPS of your student's bus), and [HOW TO find the App](#)

First Student (815) 726-0033 (General Education)

First Student (815) 782-0030 (Special Education)

3. PSD202 Virtual Backpack - The Virtual Backpack helps District 202 "go green" by allowing non-profit and approved community organizations to post information online instead of making and distributing thousands of paper copies and saving everyone involved a tremendous amount of time, cost, and work. Information on [D202 website HERE](#).

4. CE Admin Google Classroom (REPEAT) - Please add our [CE Admin Google Classroom](#). Use CODE: wcaitko. You can view our daily announcements on our CE Admin Google Classroom. Please use the "Classwork" tab at the top to access our video recorded daily announcements.

5. Arrival & Dismissal Procedures (REPEAT) - Please read our [arrival & dismissal procedures](#) for car riders, walkers, & bus riders.

6. FREE Breakfast & Lunch (REPEAT) - ALL students are able to get FREE breakfast and lunch at school every day.

7. Reporting Your Child Absent From School (REPEAT) - If your child is going to be absent from school, you must notify the office of the absence. To report an absence, you can call the main office or you can send an email to "ce-attendance@psd202.org" and let us know your name, your student's name, and the reason for the absence. This information is necessary to code the absence accurately in the system. If you know of an extended absence ahead of time, please notify your child's teacher and the main office.

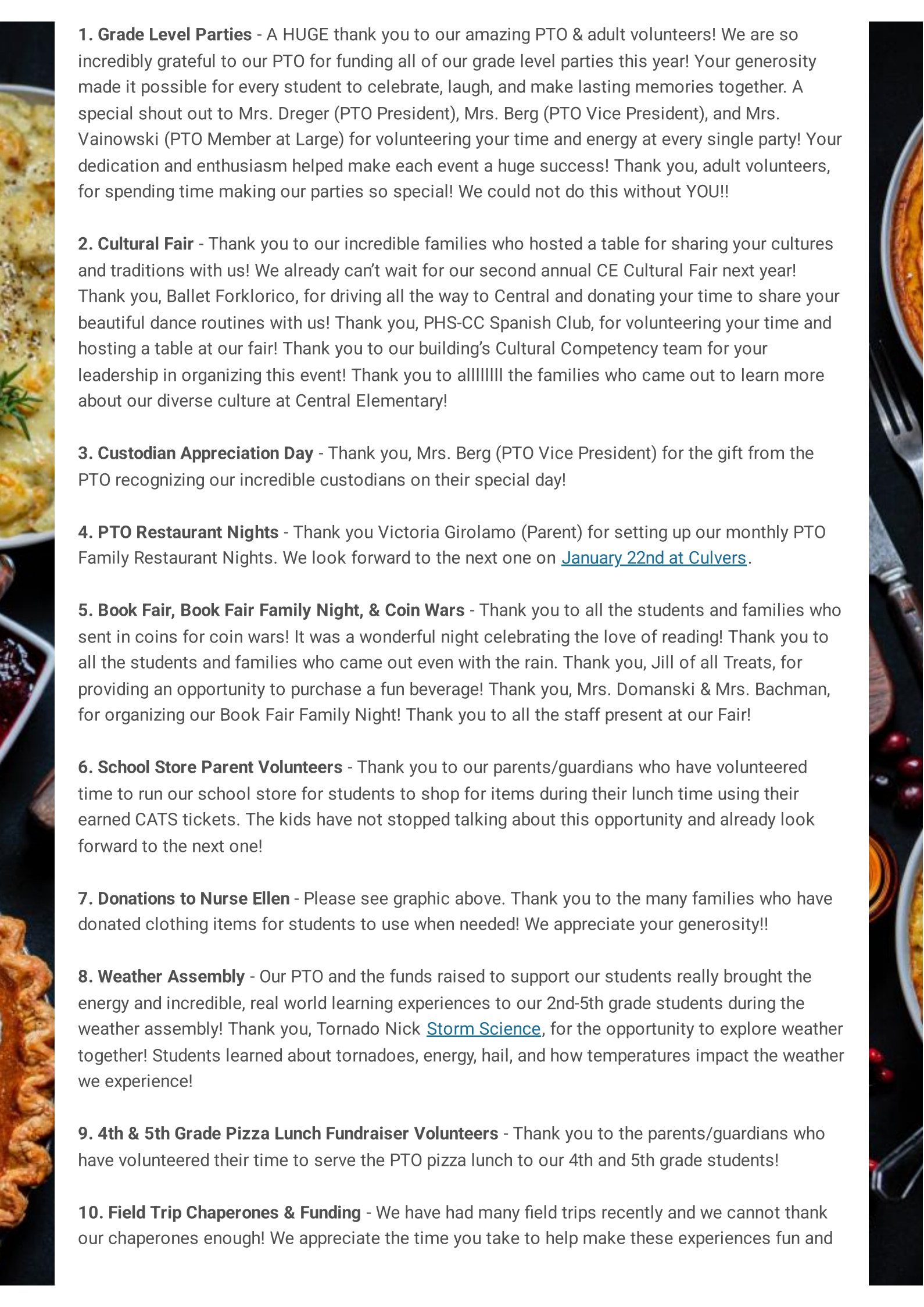
8. ABCDE Schedule 2025-2026 (REPEAT) - Embedded below as a PDF and on our [CE website HERE](#).

9. Homeroom Specials Schedule (REPEAT) - On our [CE website HERE](#).

10. Before & After School Care 2025-2026 School Year (REPEAT) - District 202 partners with the [C.W. Avery YMCA](#) to provide before and after-school childcare through the Y's "KidZone" program in all 18 of our elementary schools. For more information, please call the YMCA directly at [\(815\) 267-8600](#) or visit the [here](#).

11. Spirit Wear (REPEAT) - Did you know that you can purchase Wildcat spirit wear at any time? Use [THIS LINK](#) to access our CE Spirit Wear store.

Thank You Items



1. Grade Level Parties - A HUGE thank you to our amazing PTO & adult volunteers! We are so incredibly grateful to our PTO for funding all of our grade level parties this year! Your generosity made it possible for every student to celebrate, laugh, and make lasting memories together. A special shout out to Mrs. Dreger (PTO President), Mrs. Berg (PTO Vice President), and Mrs. Vainowski (PTO Member at Large) for volunteering your time and energy at every single party! Your dedication and enthusiasm helped make each event a huge success! Thank you, adult volunteers, for spending time making our parties so special! We could not do this without YOU!!

2. Cultural Fair - Thank you to our incredible families who hosted a table for sharing your cultures and traditions with us! We already can't wait for our second annual CE Cultural Fair next year! Thank you, Ballet Forklorico, for driving all the way to Central and donating your time to share your beautiful dance routines with us! Thank you, PHS-CC Spanish Club, for volunteering your time and hosting a table at our fair! Thank you to our building's Cultural Competency team for your leadership in organizing this event! Thank you to allllllll the families who came out to learn more about our diverse culture at Central Elementary!

3. Custodian Appreciation Day - Thank you, Mrs. Berg (PTO Vice President) for the gift from the PTO recognizing our incredible custodians on their special day!

4. PTO Restaurant Nights - Thank you Victoria Girolamo (Parent) for setting up our monthly PTO Family Restaurant Nights. We look forward to the next one on [January 22nd at Culvers](#).

5. Book Fair, Book Fair Family Night, & Coin Wars - Thank you to all the students and families who sent in coins for coin wars! It was a wonderful night celebrating the love of reading! Thank you to all the students and families who came out even with the rain. Thank you, Jill of all Treats, for providing an opportunity to purchase a fun beverage! Thank you, Mrs. Domanski & Mrs. Bachman, for organizing our Book Fair Family Night! Thank you to all the staff present at our Fair!

6. School Store Parent Volunteers - Thank you to our parents/guardians who have volunteered time to run our school store for students to shop for items during their lunch time using their earned CATS tickets. The kids have not stopped talking about this opportunity and already look forward to the next one!

7. Donations to Nurse Ellen - Please see graphic above. Thank you to the many families who have donated clothing items for students to use when needed! We appreciate your generosity!!

8. Weather Assembly - Our PTO and the funds raised to support our students really brought the energy and incredible, real world learning experiences to our 2nd-5th grade students during the weather assembly! Thank you, Tornado Nick [Storm Science](#), for the opportunity to explore weather together! Students learned about tornadoes, energy, hail, and how temperatures impact the weather we experience!

9. 4th & 5th Grade Pizza Lunch Fundraiser Volunteers - Thank you to the parents/guardians who have volunteered their time to serve the PTO pizza lunch to our 4th and 5th grade students!

10. Field Trip Chaperones & Funding - We have had many field trips recently and we cannot thank our chaperones enough! We appreciate the time you take to help make these experiences fun and

safe for all! Thank you to our PTO for donating \$12 per student at Central School. We are grateful for your partnership and generosity!

Thank you!

Thank you for your attention to this newsletter and all the links embedded within it. We hope you found the format clear, informative, and easy to navigate. If there is other information you would like to see added to future newsletters, please e-mail Dr. Hennegan at jhennega@psd202.org

Central Elementary Mission: We commit to high levels of learning and growth for ALL Wildcats



Stay Connected With Central Elementary School

Email: jhennega@psd202.org

Website: <http://cees.psd202.org/>

Location: 23723 Getson Drive, Plainfield, IL 60544

Phone: [\(815\)436-9278](tel:(815)436-9278)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)



Jennifer Hennegan

Jennifer is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters