

## Kindergarten Community Service Projects 2008-2009

### **September:**

Make book marks for the BFCCPS School Library

### **October:**

Rake the school grounds with our 5<sup>th</sup> grade buddies

### **November:**

Make a donation to the BFCCPS food drive to benefit the Franklin Food Panty

### **December:**

Donate new books and toys to benefit the Friends of Franklin Annual Drive for gifts for Franklin children in need

### **January:**

Organize and clean up the Kindergarten classroom

### **February:**

Organize and clean the school library

### **March:**

Make bird feeders for our local feathered friends

### **April:**

Clean up the school grounds with our 5<sup>th</sup> grade buddies

### **May:**

Plant flowers around the school grounds

## First Grade Community Service 2008/9

**September:** Review school rules, establish classroom rules together.

**October:** Make bookmarks for the town of Franklin library patrons; make cards for Franklin firefighters expressing appreciation for all they do.

**November:** Thanksgiving cards are made for Meals-on-Wheels recipients.

**December:** Place mats are made for patients at St. Jude's Hospital.

**January:** Make birdfeeders to help feed the birds that don't fly south during the winter. Make napkin holders for Meals-on-Wheels recipients.

**February:** Donations for Walter Reed Medical Center. Students complete chores at home during February vacation in order to purchase supplies requested.

**March:** *Haiti ?????????????? We will talk to Mr. Louis to determine what first graders can do to help this cause.*

**April:** Various projects are done around school and at home in honor of Earth Day (i.e.: recycling, picking up trash on our playground, etc.).

**May/June:** Students work with a friend from each kindergarten class. We write each kindergartener a friendly letter and have an "open-house" where first graders show the kindergarteners the first grade classroom. In addition, first grade teachers work with kindergarten teachers and plan an activity for students to complete together to ease the transition from kindergarten to first grade.

\*Mrs. Mayer and Mrs. Weidman are always willing to initiate community service activities that pertain to families in our classrooms. If a family has a charity or cause that they wish to receive help with please feel free to contact the teacher(s).

## Community Service Plan 2008-2009

### Second Grade

#### **SCHOOL PROJECT:** Grounds clean-up

*-Spring 2009:* After the last snow has melted, second graders walk around the grounds, courtyard and playground with gloves, picking up trash (and there's usually lots of it!

#### **LOCAL PROJECT:** Partnership with Franklin Senior Center

*-November 2008:* Gift Card Drive

Second graders collect \$5-\$10 gift cards for area pharmacies, grocery stores and gas stations over a period of 4 weeks. Gift cards were requested from the Friends of Franklin Seniors organization to send out with homemade holiday cards (made by BFCCPS second graders) to Franklin's neediest seniors.

*-December 2008:* Visit to Senior Center

Second graders walk to senior center, present gift cards to the director, make holiday cards, sing holiday songs, have a tour of the senior center and enjoy a snack provided by the seniors.

*-February 2009:* Valentine goodie bags

Second graders do chores at home to earn money to buy bags of wrapped valentine candy and bring to school. They decorate paper bags with hearts and stickers, make a Valentine card, then fill the bags with the cards and Valentine candy. These bags are then delivered to the Senior Center to be distributed to Franklin seniors.

*-April 2009:* Spring place cards for Meals on Wheels

*-June 2009:* Senior Center Visit

Second graders walk to the senior center to sing songs and enjoy an ice cream social hosted by the seniors.

#### **GLOBAL PROJECT:** Heifer Project International

*-Mid-March through early May:* Read-to-Feed Program

Second graders ask family and friends to sponsor them as they read books for 6 weeks (goal of 100 books each). During those 6 weeks we learn about the need for, and importance of, helping to end poverty and malnutrition around the globe through the gift of domestic animals, which

provide much-needed nutrition, extra income and education to the world's most impoverished families. Heifer Project International gives training in animal husbandry to every family it helps and every family passes on the gift by giving a neighbor an offspring of the animal it received. Entire villages are brought out of devastating poverty and destitution through Heifer Project. At the end of the 6 weeks the second graders collect their donations, we tally the total and we go through a budget and voting process to decide which animals to send where.

## **THIRD GRADE Community Service Plan 2008/9**

\*\*Weekly Book Buddies with first grade students

\*\*Commitment to Forge Hill Retirement Community: We take a field trip every other month to visit and complete an activity with the residents, sing songs, and share stories. The remaining months we either write letters to the residents, or send them student-created cards. We hope to culminate our year-long commitment by creating a book of memories for our Senior friends.

## **FOURTH GRADE**

### **Community Service Plan 2008/9**

1. Establishing a "company" that creates a product to market to the school community, with the proceeds going to local charities. As you know, past companies have sold scarves or cookie ingredients in jars. This year, we are in the process of making two quilts that will be raffled off to the school community. The project ties in with history and mathematics, as students have learned about the history of quilts in America and have been and will continue to do math problems and discussions related to the quilts. Students chose this year's charities: Random Smiles, the Monkey Helpers, and the Franklin Veterans' Memorial Foundation.
2. Reading Buddies with 2nd Grade classes.
3. Making seasonal and holiday cards for the Meals on Wheels Program in Franklin.

## FIFTH GRADE Community Service Plan 2008/9

Kindergartnen Buddies: 5th graders act as mentors to kindergarten students, modeling good character and spending time with them doing activities (i.e. raking and doing crafts).

School Store

Four Community Service Activities through advising

Grady - adopting a soldier through the "Any Soldier" program. It will include fundraising and/or supplies drives to collect items to send to a soldier oversea.

Hollis- Heifer International

Velky- Senior Center

Harrington- TBA

## SIXTH GRADE Community Service 2008/9

\*Our next endeavor will be putting 6th grade in charge of the **Lost & Found**. L&F a disaster right now, so it will be the 6th graders' responsibility to clean, organize, and distribute the homeless items back to their rightful owners. This activity will happen on Fridays (potentially every 6 weeks or so?), beginning **Jan. 30**. I will develop a more specific plan to work out the logistics of this, such as dividing specific duties among small groups of students so we don't have 55 kids down at the L&F at once.

\*Box Tops on **Feb. 13**. Students will organize the Box Tops per usual.

\*A larger project that I am working on is a **used book drive**. I would like to have the students run a drive to collect books for a nonprofit organization in Massachusetts. One such organization that I'm considering is called Reach Out and Read (ROR). ROR helps give gently used books to pediatric primary care sites to create literacy rich waiting rooms, hand out to siblings, and have on hand for sick visits. There are over 200 ROR coalitions in MA, so I am going to contact the person in charge for more details on donating books. I believe there is a ROR primary care site right in Franklin, which would be ideal! More info to come....

\*In the spring, we are looking to do a spring cleanup in which the students would do yardwork for a BFCCPS neighbor, and also have students fill luminaries and set them up for Franklin's Relay for Life.

## **SEVENTH GRADE Community Service 2008/9**

Capstone: Beginning in 2009 Capstone will begin in January of seventh grade. Students will design individual service learning projects. These projects are intended to be culminating experiences, where students combine their personal talents and interests with what they have learned through years of character education and community service.

Grade Level: TBA

## **EIGHTH GRADE Community Service 2008/9**

Capstone: Students design individual service learning projects. These projects are intended to be culminating experiences, where students combine their personal talents and interests with what they have learned through years of character education and community service.

Projects are ongoing, and celebrated at the end of the year with a Capstone Breakfast, and presentation.

Cradles to Crayons: Cradle to Crayons is a Massachusetts based charity organization that collects and distributes clothes and toys for underprivileged children. Building on a successful seventh grade experience students will fundraise and donate their time to this organization.