

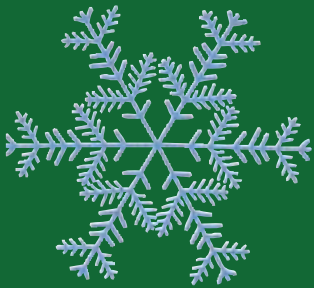
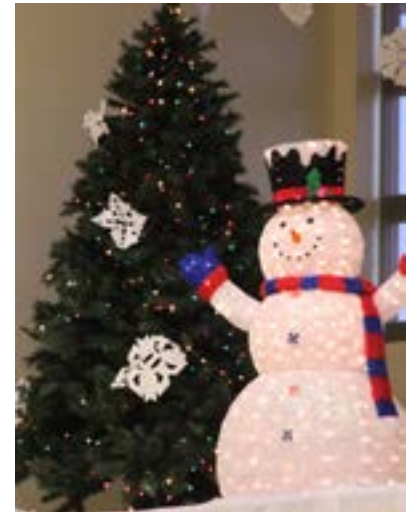
# THE PROTSMAN PSA

Glenn Brown - Principal / Frank Zaremba- Dean of Students / Karren Tarant- Secretary  
 Charlene Thoreson- Secretary / MaryBeth Rinaldi- Nurse / Stefan Krajisnik- Public Relations Intern

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 20 *Student Council Meeting*
- 20 *Choir Concert*
- 22 *Staff Luncheon*
- 22 *Winter Parties*
- 22 *Choir Concert for school*
- 23 *Teacher Record Day*
- 26-1/8 *Winter Break*
- 1/9 *First day of second semester*
- 1/16 *No school- MLK Jr. Day*

## PROTSMAN GETS FESTIVE



## CONTACT US

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As many of you may know from the corporation newsletter, this school year LCSC created their first Public Relations internship for students. I decided to take up the offer as a chance to strengthen my resume for college, but I quickly learned there is much more to it than building a resume.

As I look back on first semester I am beyond thankful that I did this. Getting to know the Protsman staff and being able to go back to the elementary school I attended has been a blast and has taught me so much. The amount of gratitude I received from the staff and students blew me away. I went from being nervous about how I would fit in, to feeling as if I've been working with Protsman for years. It may seem early for you, Protsman parents, but this internship is an outstanding opportunity for your student to consider. I hope that you can remember this when making decisions as to what to do in high school and beyond. I cannot wait to see what the second semester has to offer!

## STEFAN KRAJISNIK



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## MATH CORNER

**In 2014, Indiana adopted new academic standards in mathematics.** These standards reflect a shift in math education that is occurring across the country. We will share information in upcoming newsletters to help you understand what the new standards ask your child to know and be able to do as well as how you can help them at home. This month, we are sharing an excerpt from the book, *A Parent's Guide to Understanding Math Education in Today's Schools* by Cathrine Kellison and Cathy Fosnot (2012).

**Classrooms today often look different than what we remember.** How can we help our children succeed when the goals of instruction seem so different from what we experienced? This is especially true in math. Today the focus is more on conceptual understanding. Most of us probably experienced math lessons where teachers focused on procedures and we practiced them. We may be able to do arithmetic with pencil and paper quite well, but do we truly understand why the procedures work? Are we competent in estimating, seeing patterns, problem solving, and using mental math strategies to compute?

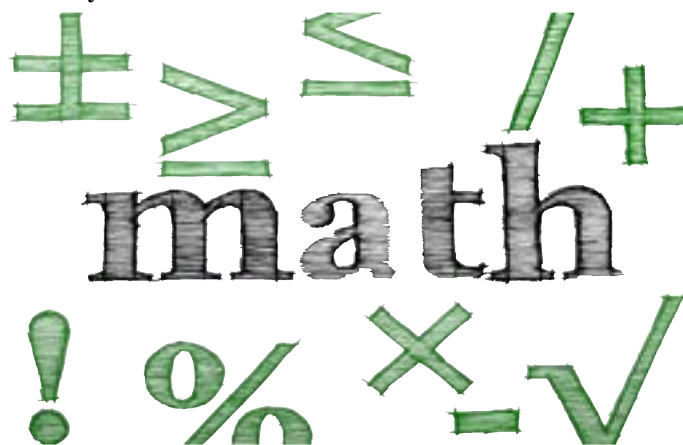
### **Math Education today...**

- Encourages students to explore why procedures work and to find various strategies for solving a problem and to examine each strategy for its efficiency.
- Allows teachers to work more closely with students, one-on one and in groups, discussing and questioning and refining their strategies.
- Supports students to work collaboratively with one another, in pairs and groups, to look at options, and to exchange ideas and develop ways to communicate and defend their ideas.
- Supports children to persevere in solving problems and to appreciate puzzlement and the fun of "cracking" a problem.
- Makes the mathematical connection between the classroom ideas and the real world in which children and their teachers and families live and work.
- Emphasizes clever mental math computation and focuses to a lesser degree on pencil and paper arithmetic strategies.
- Encourages children to model problems, for example with arrays, ratio tables, and number lines.

**Traditionally, arithmetic was often taught as if there was "just one way to do it."** Teachers would explain the procedure (like adding and carrying over, or long division) and students would practice it, trying to grasp what the teacher was explaining. Learners were rarely allowed to take the numbers apart in their own ways. Yet, problem solving and playing with number relationships are at the heart of what mathematicians do.

**Doing mathematics can be like solving a mystery.** Math is exciting and creative, and it's also very personal. Each mathematician looks at a problem differently. He or she examines a range of strategies for efficiency, elegance, and ability to model and solve the problem – and others like it.

**They write up their solutions and proofs to convince each other.** Even computation is done creatively. Anne Dowker (1992), a researcher at the University of Oxford, examined the computation strategies of 44 professional mathematicians and found that they used the standard strategies we learned and practiced in school only about 4% of the time when they did arithmetic! Mostly they pulled the numbers apart and used creative mental math strategies. They tinkered with the numbers and they found this "tinkering" fun! Rarely did elementary schooling provide us with opportunities like this - to really do mathematics. Usually it was about doing the teacher's problem in the teacher's way. And when the teacher's way didn't make sense, math anxiety was the result.





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## ART SECTION- MRS. YANG

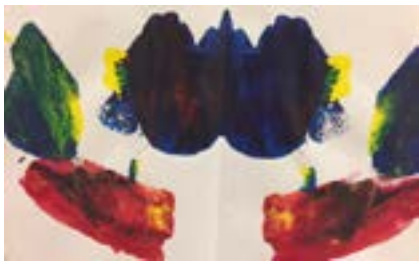
**Kindergarten:** Kindergartners have been learning about colors. They learned the three primary colors (red, yellow and blue) and how they are special (they cannot be created). They also learned the three secondary colors (orange, purple and green) and how to create each one by mixing two primaries to create the secondary (yellow+blue=green, red+blue=purple and red+yellow=orange). They created symmetrical squish paintings by putting the three primary colors on the paper and rubbing the paper together to create secondary colors. Please help students learn their colors by asking them what two primaries make a secondary. This is a great car activity!

**First Grade:** First graders have been reviewing their knowledge about colors. They also learned about famous Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh and his sunflower paintings. Students created sunflower paintings by using only primary colors to create secondary colors on their sunflower artworks.

**Second Grade:** Second graders have been learning about Southwestern United States landscapes and Pueblo Native American pottery. They designed their own Pueblo inspired pottery and placed it in a Southwestern landscape.

**Third Grade:** Third graders have been learning about continuous line artworks (an artwork created by using only one line to complete the entire drawing). Students created a continuous line drawing of an owl and then used oil pastels and markers to create beautiful colorful designs.

**Fourth Grade:** Fourth graders have been learning about Monochromatic artworks (an artwork created by using only one color plus black and white). Students also learned about how shapes, lines and colors can create mood or emotion. Students chose a mood, drew that mood using appropriate lines and shapes and then painted the artwork in a color that reflected the mood.





# STUDENT COUNCIL

Humane Society Donation Drive

For the month of December, Student Council will be doing a donation drive for the local Humane Society of the Calumet Area.

We will be taking donations up until Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

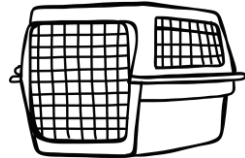
We are looking for anything on the attached wish list.

We will have tables with boxes set up in the kindergarten hallway for anything donated off their list.

Tables will be in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade hallway for anything on their list. There will be tables set up in between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade & also down the 4<sup>th</sup> grade hallway.

# STUDENT COUNCIL

## Humane Society Donation Drive



### Westlake & Kindergarten

#### Cleaning & Puppy/Kitten Supplies

- \*KMR (Kitten Formula) &
- \*Towels (used or new)
- \*Blankets (used or new)
- \*Puppy & Kitten canned food (Science Diet preferred)
- \*Canned Pumpkin
- \*Nutri-Cal
- \*Esbilac (Puppy Formula)
- \*KMR (Kitten Formula)

### 1st Grade

#### Cleaning & Puppy/Kitten Supplies

- \*Heating Pads
- \*Clay, non-clumping cat litter
- \*Liquid laundry detergent
- \*55 gallon contractor bags
- \*Paper towels
- \*Digital Thermometers
- \*Large Dog Crates for nursing mothers with puppies
- \*Cat nail trimmers
- \*Small pet beds



### 2nd/3rd Grade

#### Cleaning & Maintenance

- \*13 and 55 Gallon Trash Bags
- \*Lysol/Disinfectant Wipes
- \*Windex and refills
- \*Brooms/Dustpans
- \*Laundry Detergent (liquid)
- \*Large Towels
- \*Blankets
- \*Paper Towels
- \*Powder-Free Latex Gloves (medium and large)
- \*Hand Sanitizer
- \*Mop Replacement Heads (large stringy kind)



### 4th Grade

#### Animal Care, Toys & Puppy/Misc.

- \*[Stretch and Scratch](#) cat exercise cage attachment
- \*Small & Medium Litter Pans
- \*Cat Condos
- \*Pet Beds
- \*Postage Stamps (regular and Post Card)
- Gift Cards (PetSmart, Walmart, Meijer, Target, Office Max, Staples, Petco, etc.)
- & Gas Cards for Animal Transport Vehicle

