#### **Vilseck Elementary School**

# **The Mane Event**



Interview with Ms. Balcer

Our VES Assistant Principal loves her job and working with children. When Ms. Balcer wasn't working for VES, she was a reading teacher for sixteen years at Schweinfurt Elementary School. Ms. Balcer enjoys completing activities with students and parents. She enjoys seeing the varied activities throughout the school. Ms. Balcer has lived in Germany for twenty-three years.





# **Yearbook News**

Hey! You know how you just have plain yearbooks? Well, not at VES. At VES we have designed yearbooks. On each page we have awesome designs and pictures! Did you know that each year we vote for the winners of the cover? This year's winners are Chandler Lugo from fifth grade and Zoe Kitajewitz from third grade. This year the yearbook is going to be filled with marvelous pictures of people doing projects, math, reading, and science. The yearbook will also include pictures of student projects. If you would like to order the yearbook today, you could cut out the coupon, but remember the coupon expires March 1, 2013. The Mane Event



#### Wall of Fame

What is the Wall of Fame? The Wall of Fame shows students who have earned one hundred Scholastic Counts Reading points in one quarter. All students in any grade at Vilseck Elementary can read to achieve a place on the Wall of Fame. Our librarian thought it would be a nice way to honor the students who have read many books and passed the test earning one hundred points or more. Ten students earned the prestige of the Wall of Fame in the first quarter. You can see their pictures on the library door. The pictures say "read" in the background. Another ten students earned this prestige in the second quarter, one third grader, six fourth graders, and three fifth graders. Fourth grade was the leader of Reading Counts Points last quarter and leader of books read. Fourth grade is still in the lead for Reading Counts Points, but third grade is in the lead for books read. Third grade needs 2,726 points to catch up. Fifth grade is still ahead of third grade by 2,509 points. Third grade read 1,846 books. Fourth grade read 1,693 books. Fifth grade read 818 books.

Congratulations to Wall of Fame Recipients.



### **Clubs at VES**

These are the clubs at VES. At WOW Club, we get to do physical games, and then at the end we get to go to Mega Play! For Game Club we get to play board games, teach strategy, and enhance social skills. We will play: Apples to Apples Junior, Buzz Word Junior, Yahtzee, Pass the Bomb (word-game), Battleship, Life, Backgammon, Mancala, Chinese Checkers, Chess, card games and more! In addition, in Chess Club they teach you how to play chess, and you get to play with other students. In Book, Cook, and Craft Club you get to read a cookbook and make the food you read about. The Running Club will be in spring and will end with the school-wide Fun Run. There will be a boys group and a girls group. For Homework Club, kids can go after school and do their homework. In Art Club they will do art activities like making new playground activities. What will they think of next! For the Writing Club it will start in February. Each participant will publish a book in writing club. VES has a large variety of afterschool clubs. Which one do you want to attend?



#### **Playground Update**

We are here to tell you the "Playground Update!" We would like to recognize Mrs. Carter's Art Club for making snowball boards to throw snowballs at. Mr. Finlay said, "At a school I worked at in Japan, we had lots of snow in the winter, and we had snowball targets for the boys and girl to throw snowballs at." So Mr. Finlay thought it would be fun for our school to have snowball targets. There will be two targets on each side, so that's one for each grade level. There is nothing else Mr. Finlay is going to put up, but he is excited to put up the snowball boards. These are some new rules for the playground: always be safe and respectful to others, and only throw snowballs at the boards. Hope you have fun throwing snowballs!

# **Family Library Night**

Family Library Night is when everyone can come to the school library and read, take scholastic counts tests, and eat hot dogs. Family Library Night started in November and ends in April. It is held on Wednesday nights from four to six. Mrs. Young helps by serving hot dogs and helping kids find new books they've never heard of and might like to read. Mrs.

Young prepares by getting the food ready. Mrs. Young would like to see more third,

fourth, and fifth graders at Family Library Night.



#### **Box Tops**

What do Box Tops do for our school? Box Tops help us earn money for new things like BrainPOP and new equipment for the playground. There is a Box Top collection box in the Vilseck commissary. Our goal for Box Tops is \$2,983, and what we have now is \$2,173.91. Each Box Top is ten cents, and we have seventy-three percent completion of our goal. Our previous earnings were \$2,485.77 from last year. Since 2004 our school has earned \$20,033 total for the school. The school is ranked twenty-sixth in the Box Tops collections. Look for future news about a Box Top collection contest.





Hello fellow students of VES! We interviewed the VES Spelling Bee expert, and learned that PTSA sponsors the Spelling Bee and asked our school to join in. We also learned that the Scripps Spelling Bee is the National Spelling Bee's publisher. We did not know this, but we

**Spelling Bee** 

also learned that the Scripps Spelling Bee began in 1925. The spelling bee coordinator thought we would get to the eighth grade spelling words, but we only made it to the fifth grade spelling words. The judges were from the school and community. Last, but not least, are the fourteen students that were in the Spelling Bee. Contestants were third through fifth graders. The winner of the Spelling Bee was a fifth grader. A fourth grader came in second place, and third place was a third grader. Congratulations to all the contestants!





The writers, editors, photographers, and staff of The Mane Event.

# **Pen Pals**

Students at VES are writing letters to students at Greenwood Elementary School in Missouri. The students at Greenwood Elementary picked their pen pals, and students at VES wrote back. The students wrote to their pen pals about what they did over Christmas break and answered the Greenwood students' questions. The students at Greenwood Elementary School sent their letters to the students at our school to begin the letter exchange. The students got help from their teachers. The teachers checked the letters before the kids sent their letters. Greenwood and Vilseck Elementary School students are enjoying writing to each other.



