

The Lion's Roar

Tate Woods Elementary School

Dear Tate Woods and Schiesher Families,

As we enter March, we take time to reflect on all the wonderful things we've accomplished at Tate Woods and Schiesher this year and send a warm thank you for all your support as parents and caregivers.

We also use March to begin planning for the 2011-2012 school year. One of the most important things we do to prepare is create our class lists. A great deal of thought and hard work goes into the process of placing students in classrooms. Placement decisions involve team (teachers, specials teachers, student services and administrators) input and are completed with great care. As class assignments are finalized, a wide variety of factors such as individual learning styles and needs, peer relations, gender, personalities, behavior, special needs, overall class composition, and class size are considered. Final classroom/teacher placement is a team decision and is not made by any one individual, including the principal. This process helps to insure that student needs are met and that all children are treated equitably. Please be mindful that our teachers are knowledgeable professionals who teach to students of all learning styles through a variety of differentiation techniques. Consequently, parent requests to have your child placed with a particular teacher are not appropriate and will not be granted. However, if a parent feels that there is an area of particular concern, that the school is unaware of, please feel free to share it with your Principal.

We will be sending additional information regarding Step-Up Day activities in upcoming newsletters. Please watch for this information along with dates when we will announce class lists for the coming school year. Thank you for all you do and we look forward to another great school year at Tate Woods and Schiesher.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wesley Gosselink
Tate Woods Elementary

Dr. Linda Kotalik
Schiesher Elementary

Newsletter Date
March 2011

Volume 3, Issue 8

**No School
Mon, March 7th
Casmir Pulaski**

**See Back Page
for Important
March
Dates**

[Help Us Update Our Records](#)

**Have you
moved recently?
Phone Numbers
Changed?**

If you have had any changes in your contact information or that of your emergency contacts, please take time to **call us at 630-493-8050** or send a note with your child and share the new information with us. In the event of an emergency, we want to have updated information so we can reach you quickly. Thank you for helping us keep our records up-to-date. NOTE: These updates will also be added to our emergency calling system.

2011 Kids Helping Kids Is Here!!!!



Each year Tate Woods students help a needy DuPage County School by donating books to their family reading night. Tate Woods students donate books, read one of them, write a “review” of the book and then the “reviews” are tucked inside and the book is wrapped in a bow and sent to a needy child at the partner school. They receive the books at a special event at their school.

Book Donations are Being Accepted Now!

New and Gently Used Children’s Books
Ages 3-12 (picture books to chapter books)

Please bring books to the main office anytime

before April 1st

Students can bring to school and drop off at the main office as well!

WE thank you and the kids
thank you!!



Ms. Bell



Mrs. Julie



Healthy Birthday Treats Reminder

In an effort to promote a healthy lifestyle for our students, we have food-free birthday treats at Tate Woods School. Birthdays are special events for young children, their families and their friends. We certainly want children to feel special on their birthdays, but we do ask that if you will be sending a treat for the class that you send a treat that is not food. A few ideas of treats that would be acceptable would be:

- Pencils
- Stickers
- Erasers
- Bookmarks

Making a book donation to the library in your child's name

We appreciate your assistance in addressing the new wellness initiative throughout the nation. Big change starts at home and we are proud to be maintaining our celebrations while making sure that we are thoughtful about the items we are providing as treats.

Getting to Know...

our Tate Woods Support Staff

We'd like you to meet Ms. Bell and Mrs. Julie.. Ms. Bell works as a teaching assistant at Tate Woods. She works most often with students who have special needs. Ms. Bell also can be seen welcoming our car riders to school or seeing them off in the afternoon. Ms. Bell is a valuable part of our Tate Woods staff and we are pleased to introduce her.

Mrs. Julie is an assistant in our Early Childhood classroom. She works with our 3-5 year olds with special needs. Mrs. Julie is a perfect fit for our Early Childhood classroom. She has a wonderful smile and all the patience needed for our youngest learners. She can be seen in Miss Maggie's class in the morning and in Miss Diane's class in the afternoon.

Both of these very special individuals can be found at Tate Woods. They both make a big difference in the lives of children every day.

Save the Date

1st Grade Learning Fair

Tuesday, April 12th

2nd Grade Learning Fair

Thursday, April 14th

Motivating Kids to Read

Studies show that the more children read, the better readers and writers they become.

But what can you do to motivate your children to read more regularly?



As a parent, you know that reading is important, and you probably feel frustrated if your child doesn't like to read. Many forces in children's lives pull them away from reading — television, video games, and after-school activities — but finding a way to incorporate reading and writing activities into your child's daily routine may not be as difficult as it seems. Try the following:

- **Learn more about your child's interests** and suggest books, magazines, and articles that relate to those topics.
- **Sometimes good movies are a starting point for pleasure reading** — after seeing a movie based on a book, children will be motivated to read the book.
- **Sometimes travel sparks reading**, and finding books that relate to a place you visit on a family vacation can get a child hooked.
- **Keeps books and other reading materials at home.**
- **Read books with your children!** Children of any age can appreciate being read to.
- **Be a good role model** — let your children see you reading.
- **Try a hands on activity.** There are many activities that tie in literacy themes.

Your Young Readers (ages 5-8)

From kindergarten through third grade, you may see tremendous growth in your child's literacy development. While your child may receive a lot of educational guidance from teachers, remember that you play a major role in your child's success in reading and writing at every stage of development.



Your Beginning Reader (Grades K-2)

Here are a few things that you can do to help build your child's literacy skills:

- Let your child gradually share some of the reading aloud. You read a sentence, paragraph, or page, then it's your child's turn. Take over if your beginner seems tired or discouraged to ensure that reading is always fun, not just hard work.
- If your child can't sound out a word, suggest skipping it, reading the rest of the sentence, and deciding what word would make sense.
- Leave notes on the refrigerator or in a lunch bag for your child to discover and read.
- Take your new reader to the library to sign up for his or her own library card.

Try introducing the following types of books to your child:

- Read-aloud books with plots to follow and challenging vocabulary
- Easy-to-read books your child can read alone
- Books in a variety of genres, including nonfiction and poetry

See the following website for additional information: <http://www.rif.org/parents/motivate/default.aspx>
Take over if your beginner seems tired or discouraged to ensure that reading is always fun, not just hard work.

- If your child can't sound out a word, suggest skipping it, reading the rest of the sentence, and deciding what word would make

The Big Read...

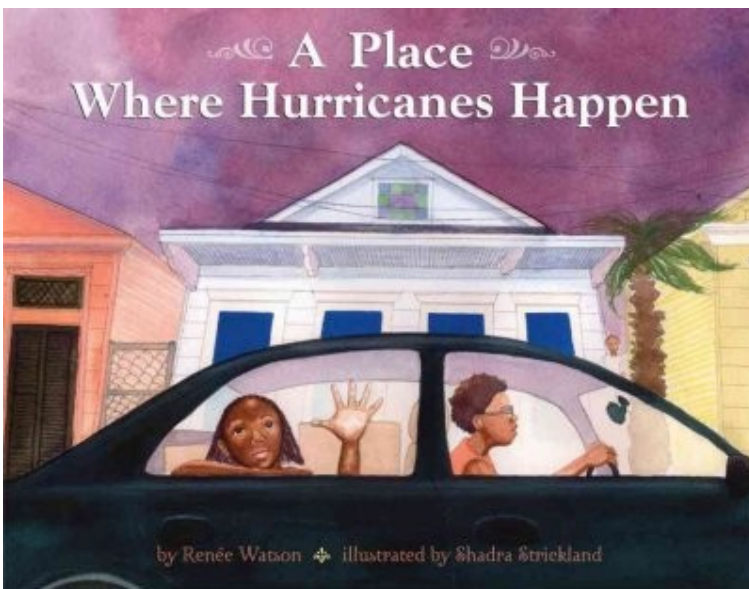
is a cooperative project of the Clarendon Hills, Downers Grove, Hinsdale, Indian Prairie, La Grange, La Grange Park, Lisle, Thomas Ford, Westmont, and Woodridge public libraries that seeks to connect communities through literature. **The Big Read** encourages patrons at all libraries to read the same book with the goal of promoting reading, sparking discussion, and building community. This project is in its 7th year and the book for this year is Zeitoun by Dave Eggers. Visit www.thebigread.org for more information.



Parents and Kids...

Reading Together!!!

The Kids Read Too!



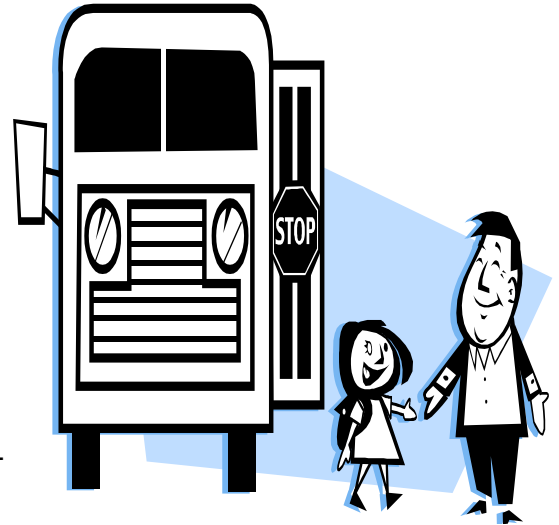
Just as the adults will read *Zeitoun*, children are invited to read *A Place where Hurricanes Happen* by Renee Watson. To help bring this

book to life, libraries listed above are offering an assortment of fun and enriching events. Visit www.thebigread.org for more information on dates and times of events.

Tate Woods Buses

Dear Families,

As the year progresses, the number of difficulties on our buses increase. In light of the increase in concern regarding bus behavior, we have spent time this week with our Tate Woods students taking the following actions in an effort to work with our students to make better choices on our buses. Actions we have taken include:



- Beginning of year trainings with students in August 2010 (provided specific instruction in riding the bus)
- Training for our bus drivers conducted by Tate Woods staff on how to handle student behaviors
- Teachers have reviewed bus rules with students during class meetings and other opportunities in the classroom
- Lessons taught by the Principal which highlight appropriate bus rules, reminders on how to treat our bus drivers (what is respectful) and in general a review of expectations for bus behavior/safety
- Reminding students of the clear expectations for their bus behavior (stay in seat, use Volume 2, keep hands and feet to self, no throwing things, no eating, and say kind things or nothing at all)
- Setting clear expectations for consequences for negative bus behavior. The Principal has explained to students that students who receive referrals from our bus drivers will receive consequences. These consequences will range from loss of privileges in school (loss of recess) to loss of bus privileges for 1 or more days depending on offense
- Provided a bus monitor to ride when necessary to assign seats and intervene in any problem behaviors.

This letter serves as communication to all parents/guardians regarding our efforts in teaching pro-social skills that should be used on the bus. We are confident that we have offered students the clear expectations and instruction they need to make good choices on the bus. We know they are able to do these things because they are respectful, kind and follow instructions in our classrooms and in school. We have offered support as appropriate for our young grade levels and now it is necessary to follow through with additional consequences as appropriate.

Please talk with your child(ren) about appropriate bus behavior. Our bus drivers are here to make sure your children arrive at home and at school safely. We ask for your support as we help our young learners follow the rules on our buses. Thank you for your collaboration in this effort.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Gosselink, Principal

Tate Woods Elementary

1736 Middleton Ave
Lisle, IL 60532

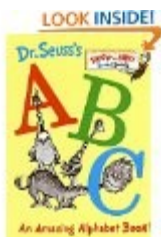
Phone: 630-493-8050
Fax: 630-971-4069
www.lisle202.org

Food Reminder

Please remember that any food brought to Tate Woods for children **must be** store bought and accompanied by nutrition labels.

With so many students with food allergies, we must **ALL** be vigilant in keeping students safe. Please keep this gentle reminder in mind if you are bringing food to Tate Woods for tasteful literature or another reason.

Our Students Thank You! For Keeping Their Health in Mind!!



March's
Featured Author

Dr. Seuss

Look for these great books and others from our March featured author.



Important Dates in March

March 3rd	2nd Trimester Report Cards
March 7th	No School
March 9th	LEHSO Mtg at SES @ 9:15am
March 12th	LEHSO Spring Clothing Sale
March 17th	1st and 2nd grade go to Kiss Me Kate at Lisle High School
March 21st	7:30pm Board of Ed Meeting at CO
March 28-April 1	Spring Break
April 12th	Learning Fair for Grade 1—7pm
April 14th	Learning Fair for Grade 2—7pm

Emergency Drills

Annually, we conduct safety drills related to fire, lockdown and severe weather. We recently completed a severe weather drill at Tate Woods. This is a drill where our students and staff take a safety position in preparation for severe weather. I wish to congratulate our students for their cooperation and behavior during this drill. They did a wonderful job and are well prepared in the event of an emergency.

We have fire drills and lockdown drills throughout the school year.

Growing Together...to do GREAT things

Student Absences

When your child is absent from school, please phone the school's attendance line at 630-493-8099. This is available 24 hours a day. Please report the absence and the reason for the absence. Thank you for your help!

