

### *A March Note from the Principal*

The month of February went by quickly due to the week off and the winter weather that caused a few school delays. It sounds like more winter weather is on its way. In any case, there were a few notable events that took place in February.

We continued to participate in the Read for the Ronald McDonald House program through the first half of February. Thanks to the generosity and support of our school community we will be making a fine donation to the house. Late in the month, we had our PARP (pick a reading partner) Kick-off evening. There were about 50 students along with their parents that attended and helped celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. Mr. Kardash, Mrs. Multer, Ms. Balfourt, Mrs. Crouch, and I were guest readers and the boys and girls seemed to really enjoy the evening. Information about the PARP program was sent home. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions.

March is always a very busy month here at school. I have outlined some of our upcoming events and important dates below.

#### **Important Upcoming Dates and Events for March**

- March 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>** PARP Spirit Week
- Monday – Wear your favorite hat
  - Tuesday – Wear mismatched or crazy socks
  - Wednesday – Wear wacky mismatched or backwards clothing
  - Thursday – Wear a college jersey or shirt
  - Friday – Pick a friend and be a twin for the day (Wear Green)
- March 8<sup>th</sup>** Character Education Assemblies – *Responsibility (Wear Green)*
- PK-2: 9:45-10:30 (Blake/Belvedere, Parella-Forrest, Dehmel)
  - Gr. 3-6: 1:15-2:00 (Gumbs/B. Endres, Clum/K. Alonzo)
- March 9<sup>th</sup>** Odyssey of the Mind Competition at Cocksackie-Athens School
- March 13<sup>th</sup>** VR Spring Concert – 8:30 a.m., 9:15 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Week of March 18<sup>th</sup>** Prekindergarten Program Registrations (by appointment only)
- March 20<sup>th</sup>** PTA Meeting in the Elementary Library - 5:45 p.m.

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Early Dismissal - The students will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m.  
The afternoon will be used for scheduled parent/teacher conferences.

**Week of March 25<sup>th</sup>** Kindergarten Registrations and Screenings (by appointment only)

Please be aware that the NYS ELA Assessment will be administered to students in grades 3-6 in April. Letters with additional information regarding the assessments will be sent home later this month. Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Jeffrey M. Palmer  
Principal

*VR's Vision: Our school is a safe and caring community where students learn to think critically, grow socially, and develop a love of learning that will last a lifetime. We will be polite, work hard, and have fun as we SHOW PRIDE at Van Rensselaer Elementary School.*