

Lowell Whitaker - Principal

## Churchill Elementary

961 Porter Road  
Muskegon, MI 49441

Phone (231) 798-1276  
Fax (231) 798-2012

### All Visitors

Please stop into the office and fill out a visitor pass when visiting the school.

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## Calendar of Events

Sept. 28	2nd Annual Nikolas Big 4 Kick Together
Oct. 2	1st Count Day
Oct. 4	Popcorn Day & Hat Day
Oct. 7	Harvest Sale
Oct. 8-17	MEAP Testing
Oct. 9	Walk To School Day
Oct. 10	PTO Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - Media Center
Oct. 12	Homecoming
Oct. 21-25	Spirit Week
Oct. 31	Halloween Parade - 2:10 p.m. Halloween Parties - 2:30 p.m.
Nov. 1	Popcorn Day & Hat Day
Nov. 7	4th Grade Field Trip - Lansing
Nov. 14	PTO Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - Media Center
Nov. 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
Nov. 21	1/2 Day of School - 11:45 Dismissal Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:30-3:30 p.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Nov. 22	1/2 Day of School - 11:45 Dismissal
Nov. 25	3:30 p.m. Dismissal
Nov. 27	1/2 Day of School - 11:45 Dismissal
Nov. 28	No School - Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 29	No School - Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 2	3:30 p.m. Dismissal
Dec. 6	Popcorn Day & Hat Day
Dec. 9	3:30 p.m. Dismissal
Dec. 12	PTO Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - Media Center
Dec. 16	3:30 p.m. Dismissal
Dec. 20	Holiday Parties - 2:30 p.m.
Dec. 23-31	No School - Holiday Break
Jan. 1-3	No School - Holiday Break
Jan. 9	PTO Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - Media Center
Jan. 10	Popcorn Day & Hat Day
Jan. 20	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

The start of the school year has been great. We have been working hard to establish routines and procedures, which the students have done a "ROCK STAR" job with, this first month. I have been in classrooms daily watching teachers maximize their skills with instruction and students maximize their abilities in many ways. It truly is comforting knowing the effort teachers, students, and parents are putting into education from a social and academic standpoint.

### MEAP TESTING

Churchill third, fourth, and fifth grade students will take the MEAP test during the period of October 8-17. This is when the State Department of Education has designated schools to administer the annual MEAP test (final year). Third grade will be tested in math and reading, fourth grade will be tested in math, reading and writing, and fifth grade will be tested in math, reading, and science. It is important that students are in school these weeks and families avoid doctor/dentist appointments. Please help by ensuring that your child is well rested and eats a healthy diet. Results will be shared with parents once received by the school.

### Parent Portal

You can utilize parent portal to monitor your child's academic progress throughout the year. Please understand that in grades K-3 we assess students based on standards, which at times are at the end of a trimester. Due to this fact there might not be many assessments recorded on the parent portal site. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns on their academic standing. Letters have been sent home for all new students and to the parent of students that have not yet accessed the portal.

Have a great October!

Respectfully,

*Lowell Whitaker*

Mr. Lowell Whitaker  
Principal  
Churchill Elementary  
(231)798-1276, Ext. 8999



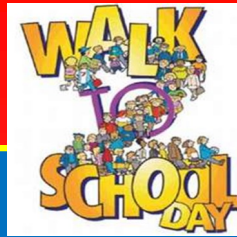
# TRICK OR TREAT



October 31st, 2013

## Halloween Parties and Parade

- 1:20 p.m. - Parents Can Begin Party Set-Up
- 1:50 p.m. - Students Begin Getting Dressed
- 2:10 p.m. - Parade Begins
- 2:30 - Parties Begin



Wednesday, October 9

National walk to school day

Meet at 7:45am at Unity Reformed Church and join us for a fun walk to school to promote a healthy lifestyle and environment.



**MEDICATION**

If your child needs to take medication while in school, please stop in the office with the medicine and fill out a medication form. This applies to both prescription and over the counter medicines.

All medications must be brought in by an adult. Please do not send it with your child.

1,105 Rock Stars for  
2013/2014  
and Counting!

## CHURCHILL ROCKS!

R EALLY  
O UTSTANDING  
C HURCHILL  
K ID



S HOW KINDNESS  
T AKE RESPONSIBILITY  
A CT RESPECTFUL  
R EADY TO LEARN

# News From The PTO

## Harvest Sale

The Annual Churchill Harvest Sale will be held on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>! We will be selling pumpkins, cider and donuts. Look for more information on email and the PTO Facebook page coming shortly!

## National Walk to School Day

On Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, please join us as we walk to school together from Unity Reformed Church (1521 Porter Road). We will meet in the church's front parking lot at 7:45 a.m. for snacks, juice and coffee generously provided for us by the church. Once everyone has gathered, we will begin walking at 7:55 a.m. to Churchill. We hope you are able to participate in this fun walk!

## Box Tops for Education

Please be sure to send in your Box Tops for Education to your child's classroom. This is a monthly competition between classrooms. We are also looking for a Box Tops Coordinator! Linda Welch has graciously donated her time for the last few years and the PTO is grateful for all she has done. If you are interested in taking over this position, please email [ptochurchill@gmail.com](mailto:ptochurchill@gmail.com)



**Popcorn Day is  
Friday, October 4th!**

Contact Tiffany Reed at (231) 798-2629  
if interested in helping.







## *Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser*

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who participated in this year's Walk-A-Thon. It was a huge success raising nearly \$9,000!!!

This money will not only fund expenses such as fieldtrips and special activities, but also will implement some very fun and educational projects:

- 1-2 GaGa Pits will be built on the playground. This will be completed in the very near future.
- MobyMax, an interactive online curriculum to improve individual academic skills for all ages, will be purchased.
- BrainPOP and BrainPOP JR., exciting online teaching tools for all grades, will be purchased.

We would like to say a special thanks to Ryan Meyers. Ryan's construction company, **KMR Contractors, LLC**, will be donating 100% of the labor to construct the Gaga Pit!!! Also, a huge thank you to **Keene Lumber**, who has agreed to donate all material **at COST!!!** Thank you!!!

Thank you to the following businesses for making pledges to make this year's Walk-A-Thon a success:

American Mechanical Services	MSI Construction LLC
Betten Chevrolet Cadillac	Nobleman Concrete
CMF Marketing	Pier Point Mortgage
Crazy, Beautiful Salon	Quality Accounting
D&D Logistics	Robin's Nest
Denise Childcare	Shoreline Family Medicine
Flagship Restoration	Starr Inpatient Medical Supply
Fruitport Auto Supply	Thalman Construction
Housemaster	Vazquez Tires
ING Financial Partners	Wendy's Childcare
Karen Campbell Media, Inc.	

Also, thank you to the following volunteers who helped out during the Walk-A-Thon:

Kristi Brunworth	Kelli Farrington
Brenda Buckner	Lora Gentzkow
Naomi Cardon	Jenny Hylland
Shannan Conrad	Doug & Liz Miller
Jen Cree	Vicki Swanson
Rona Dethloff	Sara Theis



## MEDIA CENTER NEWS

The students are checking out books every week now. We have explained what it means to find "Good Fit" books. Please discuss with your child why it is important to choose a "Good Fit" book. It is especially helpful for their AR (Accelerated Reader) selections. The following is a site you can use to find the AR level of books you have at home:

[www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com)

Another site that the 3rd-5th graders have been introduced to is our Churchill Library Catalogue. Students may use this site here at school or at home to see if we have a specific book that they would like to read.

<http://www.monashores.et/onlinelearning/>

Scroll down to and click on:

**Online Literacy Connections**  
**Destiny Quest**  
**Churchill-Porter**  
**Destiny Quest (left top)**

I hope these sites will assist your family in finding great literature to read together.

### STUDENT DROP-OFF

When dropping off students, whether in the front of the school or at the east entrance, please keep moving while using the curbside lanes. If you would like to walk your child up to the building, please use the spaces for parking. It creates a lot of congestion when the curbside is used for parking.

Thank You!



### Community Services

**Mona Shores Community Services has several activities coming up for elementary students! Be watching your email for registration forms for Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball and Elementary Competitive Dance!**