

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE
ETHRIDGE ELEMENTARY
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Dear Parents,

December 7, 2007

Lots of activity is scheduled for our remaining days before the winter holidays, so, again, remember to leave for school a few minutes early when a special event is scheduled in the morning or if weather is "bad" so your child can arrive on time to class. Traffic always seems to really back up during these difficult weather times, and we want everyone to be safe, dry, and on time daily. Thanks to you who help your child achieve this!

Speaking of TRAFFIC: be reminded that **The Colony Police** have begun *frequently* patrolling our facility and neighborhood. They specifically address traffic safety concerns by writing warnings and **tickets to offenders who speed, jaywalk** (meaning to cross the street anywhere except with the crossing guard), **stop or park vehicles in the fire lane, and who ignore seat belt requirements for our children.** My guess would be that they will be particularly attentive during the busy days to come. THANK YOU for helping keep our children safe!

THANK YOU to Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Belyan, Nurse Patterson, and Ms. Smiley for the festive decorations in our office and front foyer! We are enjoying the holiday spirit "they" provide each day - both the decorations AND the ladies!

CONGRATULATIONS and thank you to **STUDENT COUNCIL members**, their sponsors, and parents for the great "performance" at the **Colony Parade of Lights** last Saturday! Ethridge received the 1st place trophy for Outstanding Marching Group - what an honor! **The Ethridge Eagle** led 16 students who marched in the parade with **Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Echevarria, Mrs. Comstock and Mr. Spence.** Everyone (except our Ethridge Eagle!) was dressed as a lighted present. (**Mr. Comstock** was an exceptional & animated eagle!) We owe **huge thanks to Vinnie and Christy Jacobs for decorating their vehicle** and to **Lindsay Jacobs**, who represented Ethridge at the ceremony & received our trophy. **Additional thanks to Mrs. Hill for pictures we have enjoyed on our daily Ethridge TV reviews!**

Watch for party times/dates in your child's classroom newsletter or flyer sent on Fridays. Specifics may vary with each grade level, but I'm sure your child knows *exactly* when his/hers is scheduled! ☺

The holidays are quickly approaching. In the meantime, upcoming activities include:

- **Chess Tournament**, 8:30 A.M. Saturday, December 8th (**TOMORROW**)
- **Ethridge Geography Bowl**, 5th grade, 8:30, Wednesday, December 11
- **Birthday Celebrations**, Wednesday, December 12
- **Wear Holiday Hats** on Friday, December 14
- **Classroom Parties**, 2:00, on the 20th
- **Early Dismissal – 1:30 on December 21st** (Students return to school on Thursday, January 3).
- **UIL @ Lakeview**, Saturday, January 5th

LOST & FOUND is growing by leaps and bounds since cold weather set in! Please remind your child to check the closet if s(he) has lost an item at school. Those things remaining after the holidays will be donated to CCA for distribution to the needy (we do this at the end of each semester), so. . . if you want to come up and do a "thorough" search yourself, know that you are welcome to do so!

The next 9½ school days will be very busy ones, as you would expect. Please remember to let us know if special needs or concerns arise so we can determine how best to help your child and you.

Please help your child remember to *return his/her* signed *Eagle Folder/planner* on Monday, and have a safe and super family weekend.

Sincerely,

*Linda Humphrey**Leslie Smiley*