



A Message from the Principal

While December is one of the shortest months, in terms of days at school, it certainly is one of the busiest. This year we've packed a ton of exciting and meaningful events into the school calendar. We hope your family has a terrific holiday season!

Our annual Family Literacy Night has been rescheduled for [January 19 from 6-8 pm](#) (originally scheduled for December 7). We will send out more information about the event in the next newsletter. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

We earned our first Box Top incentive last month. Please keep clipping and sending in Box Tops all throughout the year!

Interested in volunteering at the school? We are looking for dependable volunteers to help run a one-to-one reading program with a few of our students. Time commitment is as little as 30 minutes per week. Please contact Mr. Novar at 740-380-6881 for more details.

Connecting with Families

I would like to thank the many UF families that filled out a survey at open house. The survey was designed to give us a better understanding of the barriers that prevent parent involvement with the school, and also offered an insight into how we can strengthen our relationship with the families that we serve. The response was tremendous and the information will be utilized in planning for future events.

The school's webpage is now updated. From the district webpage (loganhocking.k12.oh.us) look under "Schools" to find Union Furnace Elem. Some features include an archive of past newsletters, links to the school calendar, the school report card, our Facebook page, plus much more.

I would also like to encourage that all family members consider getting set up with an account to Infinite Campus. This is very easy to do. From the district home page (listed above) click where it says, "Parents" and from that page, click "Campus Portal". Once in there, just follow the links to either sign in or request access (for first time users). Once you are set up with an account, you can adjust your settings to allow for notifications when grades are entered, track attendance, and much more. If you have an Android or ios smart phone, there is even an app to make access quick and easy.

Special Parking Arrangements

Book Fair Is Coming!

Our Winter Book Fair will be taking place at the school the week of [November 29 - December 2](#). This year there is a pirate theme. Your child will preview the books on Tuesday and create a wish list. They will be allowed to shop during the rest of the week. **Please note, we will not allow parents to shop book fair with their child during the school day under most normal circumstances.**

This year, we have added some other great events during Book Fair for our students and their families to enjoy together:

Grandparents Lunch: Any grandparents who would like to come into the school and have lunch with their grandchildren may do so on [Thursday, December 1](#). Grandparents should plan to bring their own lunch, and may bring outside food for their grandchildren if they choose. Please consider shopping at Book Fair after lunch. Lunch times are below:

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| 11:30-12 | Kindergarten / 1 st Grade |
| 12-12:30 | Preschool / 2 nd Grade |
| 12:30-1 | 3 rd Grade / 4 th Grade |

Muffins with Mom: Come enjoy a special breakfast with your child on [Friday, December 2](#). Invitations should have come home last week. **Parents will need to RSVP with a count of how many people plan to attend by Nov. 29.** Breakfast will be open from 8-9 am. Please consider shopping at Book Fair following breakfast.

Student of the Month & PTO: The PTO will hold their monthly meeting on [Thursday, December 1](#) following the Student of the Month award ceremony, approximately 6:30pm. Book Fair will be open to shop from 5-6 pm and 6:30-7:30 pm for any adult who wishes to shop with their children.

If you are attending the **Muffins with Mom** or the **Grandparents Lunch** events, please plan to park on our recess parking lot.

On [December 2](#) we will ask all parents who drop off their children in the morning to do so at the bus doors on the recess parking lot.

We will have signs at the school entrance on these days.

Believe Kids Fundraiser Orders

The fundraiser orders from Believe Kids are scheduled to arrive on [Tuesday, November 29](#) and the cookie dough will arrive on [Thursday, December 1](#). All orders that can be taken home by students will be sent home those afternoons. Parents will need to come to the school to pick up larger orders. Remember, we will be at the school until at least 7:30 pm on [Thursday, December 1](#).

On behalf of the staff and students of Union Furnace, I would like to thank everyone who participated in this fundraiser- we truly appreciate your support!

Our students met their goal of 500 items sold. As their reward, they will have two inflatable bounce houses and an inflatable obstacle course set up in the gym on [Monday, December 19](#) as one of the stations with the Santa's Workshop Day we hold annually. If there are any parents who do not want their children to participate on the inflatables, please contact Mr. Novar.

Claus for Paws

Educator Spotlight- Meet our New Staff

My name is Mallory Troiano and I am the 2nd-4th grade teacher for the LHSD STARS Program. This will be my third year teaching in the district. I am also a co-advisor for UF Student Council this year. I attended Ohio University from 2007 to 2013 where I received my Bachelor's and Master's degree. I have a step-son in kindergarten at Union Furnace and a new bundle of joy making his arrival in March! I enjoy working with everyone at this school and have formed amazing friendships, especially with the members of our STARS team. I look forward to another great year here at UF!

Trip to Movies 10

On [Wednesday, December 14](#) all UF students will be taking a field trip to the Movies 10 to see the new "Trolls" Movie (rated PG). This trip will primarily be funded by our PTO. It is our way of saying "Thank You" to our wonderful UF students for all of their hard work.

We will require two things from our students. To help offset the cost of the trip, we are asking that each student who can please pay \$1. Payment may be given to your child's teacher anytime leading up to the trip. We are also asking that each student express their gratitude to someone else in their life- a family member, teacher, or someone else- during this holiday season.

We will not do a permission slip for this trip. If you do not want your child to attend, please contact Mr. Novar at the school.

We will only provide chicken nuggets as a lunch option at the school this day. You may choose that or you may bring a lunch from home.

During the holiday season, the staff and students of Union Furnace Elementary pull together to try to look for ways to give back to the community. This year, the Student Council will be holding a Winter Fur-Raiser: Claus for Paws! Students will be encouraged to donate items for the Hocking County Dog Pound.

Items requested include: dog food (any brand), dog treats and small fleece blankets that can be purchased at any local store.

The homeroom that donates the most dog food/dog treats, measured in pounds, will be awarded a winter-themed prize. The fur-raiser will begin on November 29th and end on December 20th.

Holiday Parties

Please look for information from your child's teacher about what you can expect for our annual Holiday Parties. All parties will take place on [Wednesday, December 21](#). Please remember to park in a marked space, and not in any area marked off with cones. Please sign your child out if they are leaving with you. Remember we will dismiss from school two hours early this day. Thank you!