

Gift of Literacy

Inspiring Young Readers Through Partnership



Dear Families,

You may have heard your first-grader talking about choosing their Gift of Literacy book earlier this year. **Gift of Literacy** is a program that promotes a love for reading in our youngest students and encourages literacy in our community. Research shows that reading intervention at an early age is directly related to inspiring long-term success in school and in life.

This program is fully funded by community businesses and organizations, including the Springfield Education Foundation and Rotary Clubs, that view literacy as an important part of a healthy community.

First-graders got to read this year's selection of Gift of Literacy books and selected their favorite book. On **Thursday, May 4**, the students will be bused to Lane Community College for the annual Gift of Literacy celebration. At LCC, the students are greeted by popular book characters in costume, then receive a copy of the book of their choosing and have a book read to them by a community volunteer. Students will also receive Springfield Public Library cards, good for one year, if they had previously signed up for them.

Please note that the students get treated to lunch before leaving campus. They can choose a turkey or cheese sandwich, baby carrots, a Rice Krispie treat and can choose between an apple or banana, milk or juice. If your child has severe allergies or dietary restrictions, please coordinate with your child's teacher to bring a special lunch.

Also, please know that media is usually in attendance at the celebration. If you do not wish your child's photograph to appear in any public capacity, please let your child's teacher know before the trip.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

For more information about the Gift of Literacy,
as well as photos from past celebrations,
please visit
www.giftofliteracy.org.

