



From

THE TOP

JANUARY 2016

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cms.mntm.org



CMS Hosts Holiday Concerts





**Mr. Robert Tews
Superintendent**

Did You Know...

So often it seems that negative news makes the headlines while positive news is overlooked. At Cedar Mountain, we are working to consciously develop positive behaviors and attitudes in our students. Here are a few examples of some positives from this year. Did You Know . . .

- At our Veteran's Day program, Mr. Cavanaugh along with students (and National Guard members) Josh Lindner and Ricky McMath did the flag raising. I was also very proud of how respectful our students were during Mr. Harmoning's talk.
- Our building dedication program and tours was on September 20. Over 30 staff members were present to help with tours and answer questions.
- On September 14, the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held. 24 Cedar Mountain High School juniors and seniors are currently members of the National Honor Society.
- National Honor Society members Amber Tietz and Natalie Hoffbeck organized Santa Day in Morgan. They received donations from local businesses and organizations. They worked with Cedar Mountain NHS members and high school seniors Megan Hacker, Nereida Villegas, Aaron Walter, Keesha Barnes, Jason Carlson, and Lauren Boyle to give presents to 70 children.
- The 21st Century program for students in grades 6-12 has 55 participants. Family night was held on December 10, with 12 families in attendance.
- Students and staff took part in the "Tackle Cancer" and "Pass, Set, Kill Cancer" fundraisers for football and volleyball.
- Red Ribbon Week, a nationally recognized and celebrated week for the purpose of drug prevention and education as well as teaching students the benefits of living a drug free life, was celebrated at school.
- We had "Blue Shirt Day" on Tuesday, October 6th, as part of World Day of Bullying Prevention.
- 74 elementary students had perfect attendance for the first quarter.
- The Elementary School Library received \$762.87 in proceeds from the Scholastic Book Fair.
- The Elementary purchased a new sound system for the Franklin gym. Thanks to Brian Pederson, who donated his Kiss the Catfish proceeds, and the Franklin Lions for their donation.
- Blue Crue Tue (elementary student council) had Mix-It Up at Lunch on November 24.

Elementary Gets New Sound System

Cedar Mountain Elementary has a new sound system this year thanks to the generous gifts given by Mr. Brian Pederson who won "Kiss the Catfish" at Franklin's Catfish Derby Days celebration. The Franklin Lion's Club also donated additional funds to complete this project. This enhanced system will be used by many different groups and will allow us to hear students perform during concerts and special events. It will also be used during the physical education classes, Coach Freitag will be able to give instructions so all students can hear. Cedar Mountain Elementary is thankful for the

donations given to purchase this sound system. It is working great and was tested out for the first time at the recent Christmas concert.



- What a great turnout for our Elementary Christmas Concert. We need a bigger gym. Thanks to Mrs. Eberhart for giving our students an opportunity to shine.
 - 41 students took part in the play *The Poisoned Apple*, which was presented on November 13-14. Great job!
 - The Cedar Mountain/Comfrey volleyball team was awarded the GOLD Academic Award for having a GPA between 3.75 and 4.00.
 - The Cedar Mountain FFA chapter has 50 members this year.
 - FFA members raised \$2,000 to donate to True Friends camp (formerly called Camp Courage).
 - Two Cedar Mountain FFA members, along with FFA Advisor Hannah Wilts, attended the National FFA Convention.
 - Students in grade 10 attended the SMSU Career Fair on September 29.
 - The Elementary Farmer's Market raised \$3,935 for student field trips.
 - American Education Week was celebrated from November 16-20 with activities planned for students and staff to celebrate education in America.
 - There was great attendance at the Honor Roll Breakfasts for Middle School and High School students. Middle School/High School teachers and staff did the planning, cooking, and clean up. This was one of the best attended Honor Roll breakfasts I can remember.
 - At the November Bloodmobile visit, Cedar Mountain students, staff, and community collected 59 units of blood.
 - Cedar Mountain Preschool is four-star Parent Aware certified. This is the highest rating possible.
 - The Yellow Ribbon group is open to students in grades 9-12. The Yellow Ribbon committee is students committed to raising awareness of suicide and mental health issues.
 - Cedar Mountain Yellow Ribbon students sponsored the Angel Project. The Angel Project provides presents to students of all ages. This year, over 100 gifts were collected.
 - Franklin and Morgan Fire Fighters gave tours of the fire hall to our students in pre-school and Kindergarten during Fire Safety Week.
 - Students have the opportunity to participate in numerous Community Education classes. Classes offered include Youth Football, Cops for Kids, and Dance.
- Behind the scenes on each of these "Did You Knows" are students and staff members who have worked to make the activity a success. On behalf of Cedar Mountain, I want to thank each of you for your support of our school and students.

Study Island



Grades 2-5

Prizes are awarded monthly when students reach 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, and 60 blue ribbons.

Prizes for earning all blue ribbons in:

MATH – will enjoy breakfast with the principal

READING – will enjoy a pizza party with the principal

SCIENCE – will enjoy a snack with a Mad Scientist

TWO SUBJECTS – will go on a bowling trip complete with pizza and treats!

Log into <http://www.studyisland.com> and start reviewing your grade level standards and earn

those blue ribbons! This is a great way to improve grades and prepare for the MCA tests in the spring!



Mrs. P. Machart
Elementary Principal

Elementary News

One of the character skills that we teach the children is organization. A couple of the things we do at our school to help kids keep organized are:

- Every child has a “Friday Folder” – important notes for the week are sent home on Fridays in this colored plastic folder. Parents should look at these notes and sign and return those that are necessary. Friday folders are to be returned every Monday.
- Student work is collected for the week and sent home on Fridays in this same folder. Families should take time during the weekend and look over this work with your child. Have them tell you about what they are learning and which of the papers they enjoyed doing the best. If you see a paper that has several wrong – go over it with them. Conversations like these keep you engaged in your child’s learning.
- Students in grades 3-5 have a daily planner. All assignments for the day and messages from the teacher are in this planner. Planners

should be signed by parents each night. If there is homework for the night – be sure it is completed before you sign the planner. If your child has difficulty with the homework or it takes them a long time to complete – it would be a good idea to write a note to the teacher about this in the planner.

- As your children get older, they will have longer projects to complete. Our teachers plan out the project and have certain parts due on certain days. This is partly to teach your child how to budget their time for longer tasks. Be sure to help them stay on track and complete each portion by its deadline.
- If your child is ever going anywhere different after school – please send us a note that morning. When kids know the routine for the day – they can be better focused and have less worries throughout the day!

Remember – our children are just learning these skills. They will need your guidance and reminders to be successful! Together we can help our kids learn organizational skills – which will help with learning and help with life- long skills that we need as adults!



- We have been working with the Franklin Economic Development Corporation and looking at possible sites and low interest financing.
- We will be looking to hire a Daycare Coordinator, teachers and assistants so that we could accept infants through school age students.
- Our hope is that we could be operating by August – and realize that this is in the hands of inspectors, licensing agents, etc
- We are excited about the chance to provide more services for our families and look forward to our on going planning!

Cedar Mountain Exploring Daycare Center

Cedar Mountain School continues to investigate opening a Daycare Center. We have had several interesting meetings with early childhood staff, School Board members and Franklin Economic Development members. Highlights of the discussions have been:

- We recognize that there is an immediate need for Daycare in the Franklin area and are focusing our attention on filling that void. Our intent is not to be in competition with other Daycares, but rather fill a need that is occurring in the community.
- We have had discussions on long range needs and short term needs. Long term, we would like an Early Childhood Center that could house our pre-school classes and Daycare. Short term, we need to open a Daycare as soon as possible.



Cedar Mountain Elementary celebrated Mix It Up At Lunch Day on Tuesday, November 24th. The theme chosen this year by the Blue Crue Tue was Comic Book Superheroes. Students and staff sat at a different superhero table with other students and staff in hopes they would meet new people and possibly make a new friend. Students and staff were asked to wear any superhero clothes or mix and match their clothes to help celebrate the day. A great time was had by all!



Congratulations



The Cedar Mountain/Comfrey volleyball team was awarded the GOLD Academic Award for having a GPA between 3.75 and 4.00. We are very proud of these ladies...

*Cougar
Pride!*

WE

The Cedar Mountain WE sisters celebrated together before the Christmas break. WE is made up of 8th and 12th grade girls who are paired together for various activities throughout the school year. The goal is to provide friendship, mentoring and socializing between the different age groups.

WOMEN
Empowerment



Cougar Connection



Cougar Connection had a busy December. We had a family night which included the students making a delicious supper for their families, a craft and a presentation by the robotics club showing what they have learned and accomplished this fall. We also went to Vogel Arena in New Ulm where we had pizza and snacks and enjoyed time in the gyms and the pool. We finished off the month with a Christmas party complete with tree decorating and cookie frosting. After a couple of weeks off for Christmas break, we started up again in January with a full schedule. If your child is interested in learning more about Cougar Connection, contact Dawn Tietz at 507-249-5990 or dtietz@cedarnt.org





Mr. J. Schultz
MS/HS Principal

Middle / High School

As the winter sets in, we are getting back to the new normal.

As we look back on the past few months, I am amazed at how well our students and staff have done with the building project completion. With contractors completing their portions of the building, and final finishes being put in place, we welcome a sense of normalcy to our daily educational lives. Throughout the process, we have been able to continually provide high quality learning opportunities for our students and significantly improve our learning environment at Cedar Mountain. Currently as well as in the upcoming months, we will look forward to celebrating the successes of our students in academics and extra-curricular events.

Thank you parents and community for continuing to support the development of our students into extraordinary young men and women, ready to be successful after high school.



Danceline!

The 2015-2016 Winter Danceline Team has been busy learning and perfecting their new routines and preparing for the winter sports season, they will perform at most home basketball games. Come on out and support the CM Danceline!

NHS Hosts COMMUNITY Santa Day



Amber Tietz and Natalie Hoffbeck

Cedar Mountain National Honor Society members Amber Tietz and Natalie Hoffbeck organized Santa Day in children in Morgan. They received donations from local businesses and organizations. They worked with Cedar Mountain NHS members and high school seniors Megan Hacker, Nereida Villegas, Aaron Walter, Keesha Barnes, Jason Carlson, and Lauren Boyle to give presents to 70 children.

CMS Chapter Competes



On Friday, January 8th the Cedar Mountain FFA Chapter competed in the following CDE competitions at the region level: Poultry, Small Animals, and Crops. The Poultry team placed 9th and consisted of seniors Nick Malecek, Logan Miller, Keesha Barnes, and sophomores Branden Jeppesen and Chris Malecek. The Small Animals team placed 15th and consisted of Joci Nestande, Olivia Mathiowetz, Trenna Jeppesen and Torie Lemcke. Sam Sullivan also competed as a junior high member for Small Animals. The crops team participants included: Jason Carlson, Parker Sullivan, Drew Dallenbach, Collin Kerkhoff, Andy Lux, Brooke Hoffbeck and Haley Hacker. We had enough team members for 1.5 teams. The 1st team qualified for the State FFA Convention by placing 2nd overall. Also, Jason Carlson placed 4th and Parker Sullivan placed 9th individually. Good luck to Jason, Parker, Drew, Collin, and Andy at State in April. Great job to everyone that participated and represented the Cedar Mountain FFA chapter.

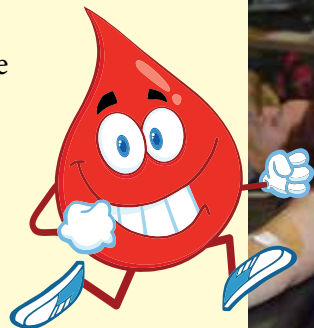
CM Drama – *The Poisoned Apple*

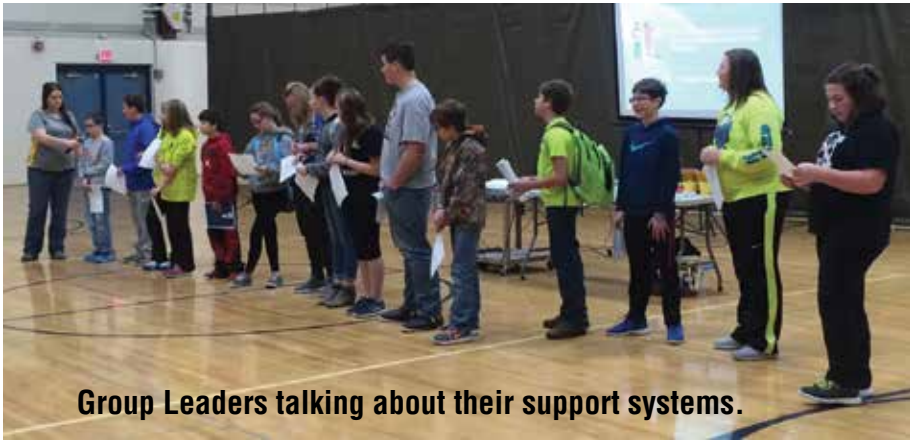
Cedar Mountain Drama Department put on a great production of “The Poisoned Apple” on November 13 and 14. “*The Poisoned Apple*” is a re-telling of the Snow White fairy tale. Almost 40 Cedar Mountain students were involved in the performance. Thank you to everyone who came out to support CM Drama Department!



Blood Drive

The fall bloodmobile was held on November 24 and 53 units of blood were collected which is down considerably, typically we collect approximately 80 units during the fall bloodmobile. The bloodmobile organizers would like to thank everyone who did come out to donate, we understand it takes quite a commitment to do so and we appreciate it. To locate an upcoming bloodmobile near you, go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter your zip code.





Group Leaders talking about their support systems.



Students checking out the Yellow Ribbon booth during lunch time.

Emily Reding from Brown County Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention and Katelyn Thiner from Western Mental Health Center/ TXT4LIFE spoke with students in grades 6-12 as part of Yellow Ribbon Week.



Group with the highest number of support systems.

Pass, Set, Kill Cancer



The Cougar volleyball team's "Pass, Set, Kill Cancer" night was a huge success! Not only did we raise money to benefit those in our community who are fighting cancer, we raise awareness on a very important topic. We want to extend a huge thank you to everyone in our school and community who made it the great night that it was!

Follow these 5 easy steps to help keep your family clear from catchy infections.

STAY HEALTHY THIS WINTER SEASON

1. Get Your Shots

You don't have to get sick. There's a vaccine for many common contagious diseases. Make sure your family is up to date on their vaccinations.

2. Wash Your Hands

The CDC calls hand washing a "do-it-yourself vaccine." It's one of the easiest things you can do to stop germs in their tracks. Follow these steps to make sure:

- Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold).
- Use soap. Rub your hands together for 20 seconds - about as long as it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice.
- Rinse. Dry your hands with a clean towel or let them air dry.

When should you wash your hands?

- Before, during, and after you prepare food
- Before you eat
- Before and after you care for a sick person
- Before and after you treat a cut or wound
- After you use the bathroom or change a child's diaper or clean up after a child who's used the bathroom
- After you blow your nose, cough, or sneeze
- After you touch an animal or its waste
- After you feed your pet
- After you touch garbage

Don't have soap and water? Use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

3. Disinfect High-Touch Areas

- Germs can linger on hard surfaces for hours or days. That's why it's important to keep places like counters, sinks, and faucets clean. You'll also want to wipe down phones, remotes, doorknobs, and light switches often.

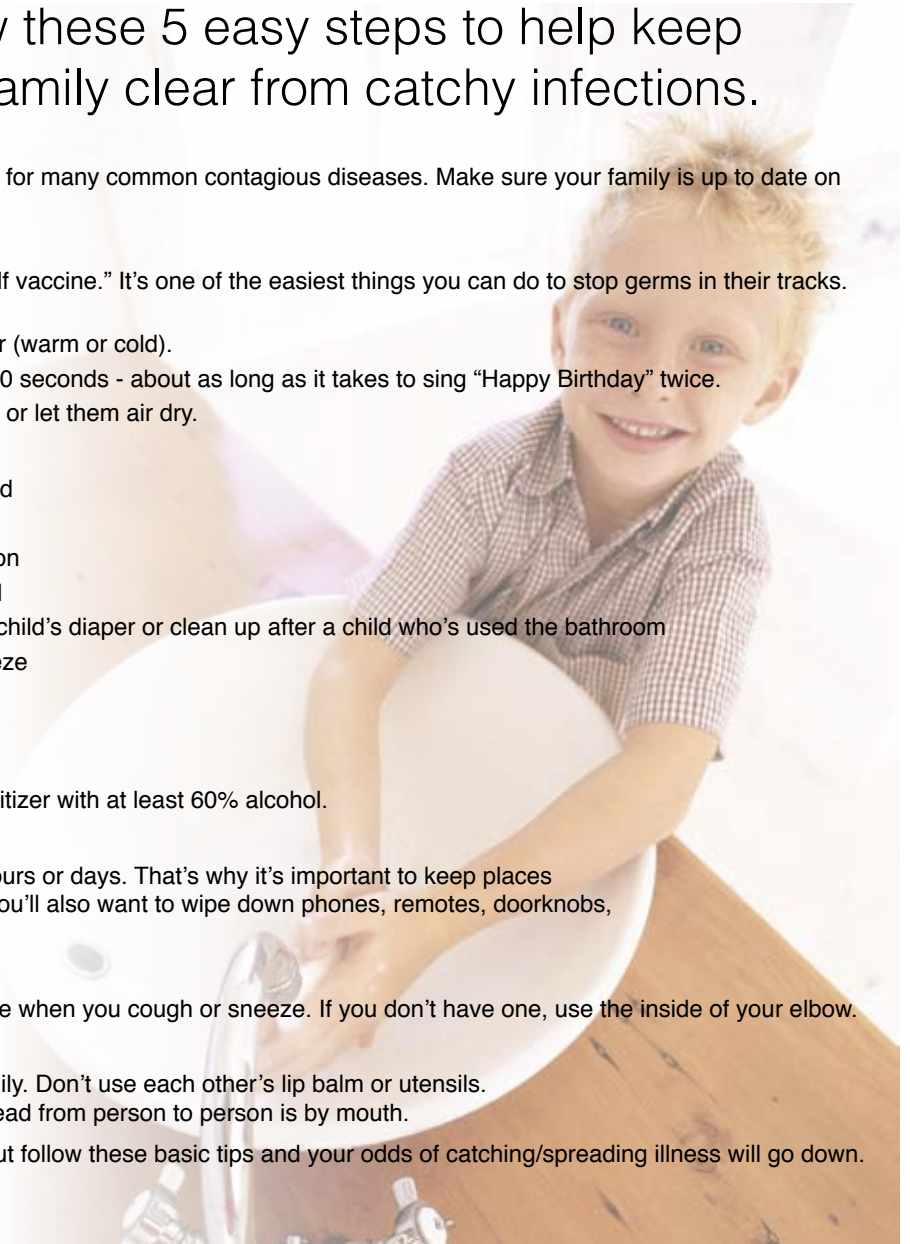
4. Cover Your Mouth

- Keep your germs to yourself. Use a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have one, use the inside of your elbow.

5. Don't Share

- Don't eat or drink after anyone, even family. Don't use each other's lip balm or utensils. One of the fastest ways for germs to spread from person to person is by mouth.
- We can't promise you'll never get sick, but follow these basic tips and your odds of catching/spreading illness will go down.

Adapted from www.webmd.com



Winter Kick-Off

Cedar Mountain ECFE started their winter session with a kickoff in Morgan on Monday, January 18th. Students and their families enjoyed a pizza supper followed by games that were set up for all to enjoy. If anyone is interested in upcoming classes, contact Emily Dahmes at 507-557-2251 or edahmes@cedarmt.org or Dawn Tietz at 507-249-5990 or dtietz@cedarmt.org



Early Childhood Development

Holiday Activity Night



Cedar Mountain ECFE had a super fun Holiday Activity night in December. Many children and their families came and did numerous Christmas crafts, enjoyed cut out cookies and had a special visit from Santa.



Upcoming winter classes for ECFE

Monday's in Franklin:

January 25

February 1, 8, 22

Tuesday's in Morgan:

January 26

February 4 (*changed from the 2nd*)

February 9, & 23

There will also be a joint movie night on February 16th in Morgan. To register, contact Dawn Tietz at 249-5990 or dtietz@cedarmt.org or Emily Dahmes at 557-2251 or edahmes@cedarmt.org

Community Education / Youth Activities

“Understanding Trusts”

Date: Thursday, April 7

Location: MS/HS Media Center in Morgan

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 1

Description: There are so many different types of trusts with so many different names which can make them seem confusing, and down-right intimidating. This course will be a thorough explanation of Trusts including Revocable Living Trusts, Irrevocable Trusts and Testamentary Trusts. We will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using Trusts as a replacement for a Will. This educational course is taught by Hannon T. Ford, a Certified Elder Law Attorney (Certified by the National Elder Law Foundation).

Cost: \$5

CMBA

Cedar Mountain Basketball Association season is well underway. Come out and watch Cedar Mountain's youth basketball players in action, playing in Morgan on the following dates:

January 30 6th grade (4th grade working)

February 6 5th grade (6th grade working)

February 13 4th grade (5th grade working)

For more information contact Jolene Lueck,
CMBA Coordinator @ 507-430-2221



Community Education / Youth Activities

"Super Sitter" Babysitting Clinic

Grades: 5th and Up

Dates: Thursday's: April 14, 21 & 28,
May 5, 12 & 19

Time: 3:20 – 4:30pm

Location: Franklin Elementary Library

Registration Deadline: April 14

Description: Announcing the Super Sitter Babysitting Clinic because...babysitting is not a job to be taken lightly! The clinic will promote safe, sensitive care for children and the best possible babysitting experience for sitters. Through hands-on experiences participants will develop skills for providing care, entertaining children, handling emergencies, and making healthy snacks. We will be using the "I have what it takes to be your babysitter" guide throughout the sessions. A light snack will be provided.

Cost: \$40

Minimum of 6 youth needed to hold sessions.

Maximum of 16 youth.

This clinic is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Extension, Renville County and 4-H. The University of Minnesota Extension Service is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



Junk Drawer Robotics

Grades: 3rd – 5th Grades

Dates: Thursday's, February 25,
March 3, 10, 17 & 31, April 7

Time: 3:20 – 4:30pm

Location: Franklin Elementary Library

Registration Deadline: February 18

Description: Today's challenge: build robots from everyday items.

In Junk Drawer Robotics, we will explore and learn about robot arms, and find out what terms like pneumatics, arm designs, and three-dimensional space all mean! Join us as we learn more about robotics, engineering and design. A light snack will be provided.

Cost: \$40

Minimum of 6 youth needed to hold sessions.

Maximum of 16 youth.

This clinic is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Extension, Renville County and 4-H. The University of Minnesota Extension Service is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

TRAVEL ABROAD!

Dublin, London, Paris and Normandy

Jan Depuy, RVHS Teacher

Travel to Europe with experienced local leaders and teachers, who will provide an experience of a lifetime for people of all ages. We will take care of all the planning. All you have to do is find your passport and pack your bags!



After an overnight flight to Dublin, Ireland, we will dive right in with a tour of the city. The next day, a guided tour will include the Book of Kells at Trinity College and a stop at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Day 4 includes a ferry ride from Dublin to Holyhead, Wales, and a visit to a Welsh castle. Then it's on to London via Stratford, Shakespeare's birthplace. Once in London, our tour includes a guided visit around London, where we will see Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Piccadilly Circus, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Westminster Abbey. Buckingham Palace is also on the list, as is the changing of the guards (depending on their schedule). A fish and chips dinner is scheduled for one night and we can see what London theater offers for our second night in London. Next is a Eurostar train ride under the English Channel and our arrival in Paris. In Paris, we will take a tour around the city and have time to visit the Louvre, home of Mona Lisa, and the famous Notre Dame Cathedral. The next day, we will visit Versailles, the famous castle just outside Paris, and see the amazing Eiffel Tower. Our extension takes us to Normandy and the Caen Museum, where Peace is the focus and the stories of war are told. The D-Day landing beaches are a short drive away the next morning, with visits to Point du Hoc and the American Cemetery. Then we will return to Paris for one more night before flying home.

Approximate cost for this 10-day trip is \$4,200 for students (up to age 20 at the time of the trip) and \$4,600 for adults. This includes bus travel to the MSP airport, round-trip airfare and all on-tour transportation, hotels with private bathrooms, breakfast and supper each day, full time tour director once we arrive in Dublin, and daily entrance fees for the activities mentioned.

Students under age 16 must be accompanied by a family member. Be ready for an exciting, full schedule, complete with visits to some amazing historical sites! This is a great trip if you have never traveled abroad before. The trip is scheduled for June 2017.

Sign up to attend one of the two FREE informational meetings to learn more about the trip:

Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 6-7pm
Redwood Valley High School Board Room

Thursday, February 11, 2016, 6-7pm
Willmar Middle School Room #142

(By attending the informational meetings, there is no obligation to participate in the trip. It is solely to provide more information to interested parties and answer any questions. More details about payment deadlines, schedules, etc. will be provided at the informational meetings.)



**Educational
Tours**

Contact Sarah Sullivan at ssullivan@cedarmt.org or 249-5990 to register or with questions.

POSTAL PATRON

CALENDAR

February 15 No School – President’s Day
February 23 Elementary Conferences
March 11 12:10 Dismissal
March 17 & 22 Kindergarten Connection
March 23 12:10 Dismissal/End of 3rd Quarter
March 24-28 Spring Break
April 8 Grandparent’s Day @ Elementary
April 23 Prom
May 30 No School - Memorial Day
June 2 End of 4th Quarter
June 3 Graduation @ 7:00 pm

Chanhassen Dinner Theater

You Are Invited to Join Cedar Mountain Community Education

Saturday, April 16
Show Time 1:00 p.m.

Call Sarah at 249-5990 or email ssullivan@cedarmt.org with questions or to register.

Bus pick-ups in Morgan & Franklin (possibly other towns also if needed).
Departure times will depend on the # of pick-ups.
More information will be coming.

\$75 per person ~ Due at registration (Includes lunch, show, & coach bus ride)

(Some tickets are “director seats”, you will eat in the dining room and move to theater and sit in comfortable theater chairs!)

Children under 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult.
Register by March 9



Cedar Mountain Community Education

Proudly Presents

CM Cougarettes Dance Recital

Grades PreK - 8

Saturday, February 20th at 1:00 p.m.

CM MS/HS Gymnasium

Everyone is welcome!

\$2.00 – Adults • \$1.00 – Students (K-12)

Under 5 Free

Doors open at 12:30 p.m.



Coming Soon!

Afterschool Lego Club

in Franklin & Morgan! Watch for information coming home in Friday folders soon.

Defensive Driving Classes

Initial 8-hour Class

Monday and Tuesday

March 21 & 22 from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Cost \$25.00

Refresher 4-hour Class

Monday

March 21 from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Cost \$20.00

Please register by sending a copy of your current driver’s license along with what class you are registering for and payment to:

CM Schools

Attn: Community Education

PO Box 188

Morgan, MN 56266



In Franklin