FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of three recent staff changes: 1) Mrs. Janet McClain is on maternity leave the remainder of this year. Mrs. Marilyn Teig has replaced Mrs. McClain in the primary reading position. 2) Mrs. Diane Regan has been hired as a teacher aide for Unit VI. Mrs. Regan replaces Ms. Karen McAlpin. 3) Miss Martha Schellhorn has been hired as a teacher aide under the Comprehensive Employee Training Act, and is assigned primarily to Units II and III.

Elementary classes will not meet on Friday, April 21. This is the date of the Annual Beginning Reading Conference which is sponsored by the Department of Teaching. Nearly every teacher is involved in this conference, and those few not directly involved gain in-service through attendance at the meeting. Major speakers at this year’s conference are Charlotte Huck, noted authority in children’s literature from Ohio State University and Virginia Ritter from the UNI department of Early Childhood Education.

The first phase of the Program Needs Assessment in the Laboratory School has nearly been completed. You will soon receive another request for your reactions to specific statements about our program which were compiled as a result of the first survey. We sincerely hope you will take time to complete this opinionnaire and return it to school. We apologize for the short deadline on the first questionnaire, which resulted from a hold-up in printing.

NURSERY-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Nursery-Kindergarten registration will be held on Friday, May 5. Any child who is 4-years-old by September 15, 1978, is eligible to enroll as a nursery student for the fall semester. Students who are 5-years-old by September 15 may enroll as a kindergartener. ALL PARENTS WHO HAVE CHILDREN ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL THIS FALL ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THE ELEMENTARY OFFICE TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE AN APPLICATION FOR YOUR CHILD ON FILE. Your cooperation in sharing this information with neighbors in the attendance area who do not have older children enrolled in the Laboratory School will be appreciated.

SUMMER SCHOOL – 1978

Price Laboratory School will again make available a summer school program for elementary age students. The program will run six weeks, from June 12 - July 21. Classes will be in session from 8:30 -12:00 daily except July 3 and 4. Registration fees for the summer will total $62. A more comprehensive brochure explaining the summer program is currently being developed and will be sent home in the next few weeks. We expect to begin accepting registrations early in May.
UNIT I

Our study of pets is going well. So far, because of your cooperation, bringing pets on a schedule has prevented any animal fights in the classroom. The veterinarian, Dr. Jim Taylor, brought out the need for carefully choosing a pet that would be suitable to your family; feeding and caring for the pet; and that the responsibility of caring for the pet continues after the newness wears off.

After Easter, we will become explorers! Our exploration unit will take us around our school, into the neighborhood, and vicariously and through imagination to the ocean and into space.

Jeanne Hunthausen is a student teacher assigned to our unit this nine weeks.

We are looking forward to seeing you at conferences.

ART

Art activities during the past nine weeks for the first grade children included problems in paper manipulation, designed egg, clay objects, wood prints and decorated newspaper “pillow” animals as well as picture making projects.

The second graders created three dimensional animals, clay objects of their own choice, valentines, mobiles using many materials, crepe paper prints and pictures using colored papers.

The current nine weeks third graders will be working with weaving as their main emphasis.

The fourth graders concentrated on a choice of puppets or marionettes using the sewing machine for the first time. They also tried styrofoam printing, treasure maps, and “expanded” designs.

Fifth graders will work with string art, design using tissue paper, and problems with transparent watercolors.

Mrs. Hornby’s sixth grade did a great job on the potter’s wheel last nine weeks. All were very good at glaze application. They also have experimented very successfully with watercolors and are starting on figure and facial proportions. Mr. Yoder’s class will follow these same activities during the current nine weeks.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Many persons who visit the Price Laboratory School for the first time are amazed when they see what is happening in the elementary industrial technology laboratory. The use of hands-on instructional activities has its conceptual roots in the “activity-centered curriculum” which was pioneered by Pestalozzi and others as early as the 18th century. At Price Lab we define hands-on constructional activities as the process of building, forming, or fashioning a three-dimensional product or series of products. Programs built around this concept in the past have been referred to as “handcrafts,” “arts and crafts,” “creative arts” or “Industrial Arts.”

The program at Price Lab uses the term Industrial Technology as a descriptor because man’s technology is now being viewed as a standardized curricular area for study in the schools. The elementary program focuses on an organized study of the tools, materials, processes, products, and occupations that exist in our industrial technical society. The basic elements and concepts of industry and technology are brought to the student through the use of planning, problem solving, and hands-on activities which in most instances yield a three-dimensional product. This is the product the student brings home.

UNIT II

We welcome Charlesetta Dawson, Debra Oleson, and Sandra Octtaviani as student teachers in Unit II this nine weeks.

Spring will bring cultural awareness experiences to the first graders in Unit II. Continuing to broaden our Social Studies scope, we move from the students knowledge about himself to knowledge about children of other cultures.

We will study the Anglo, Chicano, and Indian cultures of the southwest. The class will look at and make artifacts such as pottery and rugs, taste native foods of the area and discover how other children live and grow.

Our unit will be a splendid glimpse into the southwest. Come and visit!
UNIT III

The new student teachers are: Donna Howard, Bonnie Cummings, Karen Miller, Linda Rathe, and Sally Pfizenmaier. During this nine weeks, Unit III children will be involved in a unit on pioneer life. Their experiences will include interviews of senior citizens, field trips to local historic points of interest, as well as studies in transportation, food, clothing, and farming methods of the pioneers.

A metric field day planned for the end of the year will cap off this year's metric studies. Several outdoor activities will be included to practice and reinforce metric measurement skills. We are looking forward to an exciting end of the school year.

UNIT IV

On April 18, Unit IV students will be going to a special afternoon performance of the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Symphony. This program is produced especially for intermediate grade students and will be attended by many of the students in the Cedar Falls area.

The fifth graders are looking forward to a field trip to Des Moines in conjunction with their study of Iowa history. They will visit the Living History Farms, the Museum of Iowa History and the state capitol. Hopefully they will be greeted by Governor Ray and have an opportunity to view the Iowa Legislature.

New student teachers in Unit IV include Renee Park, Diane Howard, Sheri Nicol, and Dawn Williams.

UNI CHILDREN'S THEATRE

A special production of "Tales of Hans Christian Andersen" will be presented to elementary students in the Laboratory School on Tuesday, April 18th. The UNI theatre group is under the direction of F. Scott Regan. Separate performances have been scheduled for primary and intermediate students so the production can be given in the classroom areas rather than the auditorium. We hope students will find this performance entertaining as well as educational.

PRIMARV MUSIC

During the last 4-6 weeks the general music classes (grades 1-3) have completed several activities to increase their understanding of musical concepts. Activities included singing and listening to many songs, including a unit on the songs of the cowboy and sailor. Playing instruments also received a strong emphasis. In the 1st grade, students used the bells to accompany songs and to learn upward-downward concepts. In the 2nd grade, students learned (by rote and music reading) to play "Do-Re-Mi" from The Sound of Music on the bells. The 3rd graders learned to play several selections on the flutophone or song flute.

During the remainder of the school year all classes will be studying Music Around the World and Music Drama.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Several months ago I received a phone call from a parent who said that her children were constantly arguing, and asked if there was anything that I could do to help them work out conflicts. I decided to give it a try, realizing that although I was often helping one or the other of the siblings develop conflict resolution strategies, it would be better if all siblings were involved.

The first group consisted of six children--three pairs. Each pair was given a card and the children were asked to keep track of how well they got along during the following week. This card then served as a basis for discussion during the next session, with the group suggesting appropriate alternatives to each pair which might be tried in order to reduce conflicts.

Parents were kept informed so that they could support alternatives worked out in the group.

There are now two groups--twelve children, with several other siblings waiting to join. Thus far parents and children seem to feel that consciously "working" on methods to reduce fighting has helped.
Mr. Clausen's class is enjoying the spring weather and looking forward to their camping trip in May. We have been working on a Home and Family Life unit and will be starting the human sexuality and developmental growth components soon. Many of the students in our room are becoming teenagers and we are talking about what that means. Parents of our students will help teach this unit. Ms. Chris Coleman is student teaching with us this nine weeks.

Mrs. Jorgensen's class is reading "The Jim Forest" books and has made a large map of the area in which the stories take place. As events occur in the stories, they note them on the map. They are also learning to keep score in bowling in preparation for a bowling trip.

Ms. Kathy Etchingham is student teaching in Mrs. William's class this nine weeks.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES DAY

Students from the UNI elementary methods block will conduct a special field day for Laboratory School students on Thursday, April 13th. Using the general theme of "Pioneer Experience" and the setting of the UNI Prairie Preserve, elementary students will experience a variety of activities which combine science and social studies learnings. Sixteen small group centers will be set up, with each student having an opportunity to participate in half of the centers. Some of the activities planned include panning for gold, cabin building, study of insect coloration, and even a few stations where there will be edibles. We look forward to working with UNI instructors Greg Stefanich and Jan Anderson in this exciting outdoor learning experience.

Marsha Gookin and Mark Santostefano are currently assigned as student teachers in Unit V.

UNIT V

Comments such as "oh," "ah," "here is the aorta," and "this must be a valve" were typical of the sixth graders as they dissected pig hearts on March 3rd. The dissection activity was the climactic experience of the Berkeley Health Unit on the Heart and Circulatory System.

Throughout the study of the circulatory system, the students were enriched by real-life activities. Mrs. Bailey, lab technician from Allen Hospital, spent one morning explaining blood typing and grouping. During her visit many sixth graders had their fingers pricked and blood typed. Everyone was given an opportunity to see a real human heart when Dr. Miller from the UNI Health Center visited. He discussed the structure and function of the heart as well as the blood vessels. Each film, filmstrip, worksheet, and resource activity provided students with factual information to help them take care of the marvelous little pump, the human heart.

Marsha Gookin and Mark Santostefano are currently assigned as student teachers in Unit V.

SEE YOU AT CONFERENCES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 31 ........................ NO SCHOOL; Parent-Teacher Conferences
April 14 ........................ NO ELEMENTARY CLASSES; Parent-Teacher Conferences
April 14 and 15 .................... NUHS production "A Man for All Seasons"
April 18 ........................ Parents and Teachers in Partnership (PTP) meeting
April 21 ........................ NO ELEMENTARY CLASSES; Beginning Reading Conference
April 27 ........................ Band Night (Elem., J.H., S.H.)
May 4 ............................. Orchestra Night (Elem., J.H., S.H.)
May 5 ............................. Nursery-Kindergarten Registration (1978-1979)
May 11 ............................. Choral Night (Elem., J.H., S.H.)
May 26 ............................. Last day of classes