



Ottawa Elementary

From the desk of Denise Phillips - Principal

March, 2008 Newsletter

**SPRING PICTURE ORDERS/PAYMENT DUE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29. THE ABSOLUTE LAST
DAY WE WILL ACCEPT LATE ORDERS IS
MONDAY, MARCH 3!!!!**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A weather-predicting crystal ball would have been helpful to me this year! We are in “make up” mode. For every day school is cancelled, we have to make it up. This is the calendar as it stands now. We do have school on March 20 (make up day). We do not have school on March 21 (Good Friday) or March 24 (day after Easter). We will be in school on June 2 and 3 to make up days we missed earlier. If there are any changes or corrections to this schedule, I will send a note home with your children or put that information in the April or May newsletter.

We're excited about Family Fun night!! Mark your calendar. I hope to see you there.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT – from Mrs. Knowlton

Mark your calendars! Ottawa Elementary will sponsor our second annual Family Fun Night on Tuesday, March 11, in conjunction with the school art show. This is a great opportunity for parents to come to their child's class and participate in a fun learning activity! There will be 2 sessions; the first from 6:00 – 6:40 and the second from 6:40 to 7:30. We hope you will be able to attend one session and browse around the art show for the other session! Information will be sent home with students.

ART SHOW – from Mrs. Font

The Art Show will be held Tuesday, March 11, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The students have really worked hard to get things done with all the delays and cancellations. I hope you can come and enjoy “the arts” in the gym with the other Family Night activities.

JUMP ROPE/HOOPS FOR HEART UPDATE – from Mrs. Siefker

This is a “hearty” thank you to all who made donations to the American Heart Association for Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart. \$536.75 was collected. I wish to give a big THANK YOU to all who have contributed or participated over the 21 year span at Ottawa Elementary. The children have shown a lot of interest in jumping rope. Jump

rope is a great exercise for your heart. Does your household own a jump rope? They make great, inexpensive gifts! Happy jumping!

FIRST GRADE NEWS – from Mrs. Heringhaus and Mrs. Bice

Mr. Hilty from the Soil and Water Conservation District, will be visiting the first grades and talking to the students about woodland animals, their habitats, and the vital role that earthworms have in nature. His presentation will enhance our reading program and complement our science standards.

CAFETERIA BALANCE LETTERS

Each month, the cafeteria sends an ending balance letter home for all students. We are only able to have one letter in the system, so it appears that we are always asking for more money. That's not the case---we just want you to know your child's balance near the end of each month. The letter will have a **date** on it. The balance listed is as of the end of that day, not necessarily the day that the newsletter is sent home.

END OF THE THIRD NINE WEEKS

The third nine weeks will end on March 20, with grade cards coming home on March 28.

COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR – from Mrs. Kris Stechschulte

Ottawa Elementary held our local Science Fair on Monday, February 4, 2008. All 8th grade students were required to complete a project and present to a pair of judges. Everyone did a wonderful job of presenting their projects. The following students have qualified to compete at the next level. Congratulations to 8th grade students: Abbie Closson, Max Inniger, Michelle Kaufman, Anna Kleman, Emily Leis, Amanda Marable, Ali Nash, Kristine Trampe-Kindt, and Abby Trigg for qualifying to participate in the Putnam County Science Fair. The Putnam County Science Fair will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2008 at Miller City High School starting at 9:00 a.m. Good luck to all the participants!

JEDI – from Mrs. Knowlton

The JEDI officers were recently awarded a \$500 grant from the National Mix It Up Day Southern Poverty Group to promote diversity and understanding of different cultures. JEDI used the money to sponsor their annual DIVERSITY DAY Celebration where local foreign exchange students educated grades 6-8 about their home cultures. JEDI then sponsored a field trip for grades 6 and 8 to the Greater Toledo Islamic School and Mosque in Perrysburg, Ohio. The trip was coordinated with the culmination of the 6th grade social studies unit on world religions and the 8th grade reading unit on literature in different cultures.

In February, the JEDI group also sponsored "Warm Fuzzies." Students in grades 6-8 could purchase a special sucker and write an attached note to send to someone else to make them feel good. The JEDI officers dressed up as a warm fuzzy and delivered suckers to all students in grades K-5. All deliveries were made on Valentine's Day.

LIBRARY NEWS-submitted by Mrs. L. Schroeder

In memory of **Mr. Don Hibbard** the books W is for Waves: an Ocean Alphabet and B is for Big Ben: an England Alphabet was donated by Mr. & Mrs. Whitey Kreinbrink Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Dickman have donated the following books to the library: Three Kids,

A Letter, and Lots of Horsing Around, The Children's Book of Home and Family, The Queen of Attolia, Turnabout, Lost, The Doll People

DC PARENT MEETING

The parent chaperone meeting for the DC trip will be April 3 at 7:30 in the Glandorf cafeteria. If you are a chaperone and will be unable to attend this meeting, please call Mrs. Phillips with the name of the person you are rooming with (be sure they know so they don't sign up for someone else). Health forms for you will be sent home with your child. They need to be returned to school. The Pope is scheduled to be in Washington DC earlier that week, so we may experience more tourists in town than usual.

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

With the change in the school calendar, we are moving kindergarten graduation to Thursday, May 29, at 7 p.m. in the 4th Street Gym.

WINTER COATS

It's often hard to know how to dress in February with 55 degree weather one day and below zero the next. Many of our students are not wearing winter coats on the really cold days. (Many also don't wear hats and gloves.) Mrs. Phillips, the "MOM" stands at the front door in the morning reminding students to please dress for the weather. Students do have to go outside in cold weather for recess, whether or not they have coats, hats, or gloves with them. We have had a lot of illness this winter with flu and upper respiratory illnesses. I want them all healthy and in school! (On a positive note—we have not had any cases of chicken pox yet. The vaccines must be working!!)

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR

Kindergarten registration has been ongoing since November. If you have a child who will be 5 by October 1, please register him/her for kindergarten. We are planning our May parent meeting, and only those with registered students will receive letters of invitation.

TITAN TIKES REGISTRATION – PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Titan Tikes Preschool is having open registration for the 2008-09 school year on Wednesday, April 9 from 7 – 8 p.m. Children must be 3 years old by October 1, 2008 and a resident of Ottawa-Glandorf School District. Enrollment for 3 and 4 year olds who qualify for the state funded grant (based on household income), starts on March 1. Please call the office for details. Open enrollment for non O-G residents will begin after May 1. Please call 419-523-6464 for more information.

Upon request to the principal, reasonable accommodation(s) may be made for a disabled person to participate in the activities described in this newsletter.