



Crossgates Courier

3901 Shadylawn Drive Toledo, Ohio 43614

Office Phone – 419-385-4571 Attendance Line – 419-385-0388 Fax Line – 419-385-3689

March 2008

Volume XLI No.7

Students of the Month

As a way to encourage positive student behavior, we have a "Student of the Month" program. One student per class, and in rare case, two, are selected by their teacher using the following criteria: **1) Student cannot be tardy nor have an unexcused absence during the previous month. 2) Student must be current with all assignments given by his/her teacher. 3) Student must respect the rights of others. (Treats others nicely.) 4) Student must show good manners. 5) Student cannot have visited the office for misbehavior during the previous month. 6) Student cannot have any detentions during the previous month. 7) Student cannot have any uniform violations during the previous month. 8) Student cannot be chosen more than once a year.**

Students selected for this award will be invited to a breakfast and have their picture and a short "bio" displayed at school. The following students are the March recipients of this award. Mrs. Lardinai's Kindergarten- **Lance Haupricht and Maranda Heffelbower**, Mrs. Haas' Kindergarten- **Logan Baumgartner**, Mrs. Eding's 1st Grade- **James Metzger**, Mrs. Smitley's 1st Grade- **Abigail Scicere**, Mrs. Hanf's 2nd Grade- **Taylor Viers**, Mrs. Ocker's 2nd Grade- **Evan Savage**, Ms. Tisdale's 3rd Grade- **Holly Cray and Vanessa Skouroukos**, Ms. Ganun's 3rd Grade- **Shane Klempner**, Mrs. Lefevre's 4th Grade- **Maria Aguado**, Mrs. Packo's 4th Grade- **Abby Peters**, Mrs. Kaper's 5th Grade- **Stephanie Neyhart**, Mrs. Pertcheck's 5th Grade- **Zhada Fields**, Mrs. Dendinger's 6th Grade- **Simone Dixon**, Mrs. Sweeney's 6th Grade- **Angel Hendricks**, Mrs. Schroeder's 4th, 5th, 6th Grade- **Tino Alonzo**.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE STUDENTS!

Attendance Concerns

I think that all of us would agree that good attendance is important. It is important for us at our jobs and it is important for our children at school. We realize that children become ill periodically and must miss school. Attendance becomes a concern when days missed go beyond acceptable levels. We have more than a few students at Crossgates who have missed fifteen (15) or more days of school already this year.

Absence days are broken down into two separate categories. There are excused absences and unexcused absences. For an absence to be considered excused it must be for one of the reasons listed in the information that follows this article. In addition, besides calling our Attendance Line at 419-385-0388 when a child is going to be absent, **we also require parents to send a written excuse to school with their child when they return. Unless we receive this written excuse, and the absence is for one of the valid reasons, the absence will be considered unexcused.**

Another related area of concern involves being late for school, or tardiness. Once again, we realize that there may be times when a child may be tardy because of car trouble, etc. Tardiness becomes a concern when they reach excessive levels. I think many of you would be surprised to know how many times students are tardy at Crossgates. Tardies and absences are listed in the "Courier" each month.

Crossgates has a policy in place which involves sending letters to parents concerning attendance when absences or tardies reach certain levels. A change in secretarial help at our school has put us behind in keeping up with this process, but just recently a group of letters were mailed to homes. The information below will outline our attendance policies.

VALID EXCUSES FOR ABSENCE:

- Personal Illness.
- Illness in the family.
- Quarantine of the home.
- Death of a relative.
- Working at home due to absence of parents or guardians.
- Observance of religious holidays.

ATTENDANCE LETTERS:

An initial letter expressing our concern with absences will be sent when a student has five (5) days of unexcused absences or ten (10) days of excused absences. A letter concerning excessive tardiness will be sent after five (5) tardies. A second letter, along with a referral to "Parents Helping Parents", will be sent after ten (10) days of unexcused absences, or twelve (12) days of excused absences. A second tardy letter will be sent after ten (10) days of tardiness. Continued problems with attendance may result in a hearing scheduled at the Toledo Public Schools South Toledo Pupil Personnel Center. If you have any questions or need clarification on school attendance, please contact the school office.

SPRING MUSICAL

The 2008 Crossgates Spring Musical, featuring the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at 7:00 PM in the auditorium at Crossgates School. The dress rehearsal for the program will take place on Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at approximately 9:20 AM. A notice about arrival time and other details will be sent home with each student in grades 3, 4 & 5.

February Attendance Report

Number of Student Absence Days- **351**
Number of Student Tardy Days & Early Dismissals- **162**

TESTING REMINDERS

During the month of March, students at Crossgates in grades 1 and 2 will begin taking the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT). Students will follow a SAT testing schedule set by their classroom teacher. Teachers in these grades have sent home information with their students informing parents of test days.

Ohio Achievement Tests, which will be taken by grades 3, 4, 5 and 6, and in the past were also given in March, will not begin until April 21, 2008. These tests are given on specific dates established by the State of Ohio. Please watch for the specific schedule in the April "Courier".

The last day of the 3rd quarter is Thursday, March 20, 2008. Third quarter report cards will be sent home with students during the week of March 31-April 4, 2008.

"Caught Being Good"

"Caught Being Good" is a school-wide incentive program developed through our School Improvement Plan. Various times throughout the day we must correct students for misbehavior in school. We felt it was also important to recognize students for good behavior. Here is how the program works. Any school staff member who observes a student "being good" can give them a "Caught Being Good" award. Students write their name on this award and deposit it in a box in the office. Every Thursday or Friday morning twenty-five names are drawn from the box. Five of the students receive a "Pizza Coupon" which is good for one piece of pizza on our Monday "Pizza Day", five students receive a "Dress Down Day Pass" and another fifteen students receive a "Caught Being Good" pencil. We are proud to say that many weeks the box is stuffed full of entries.

School Zone Traffic Safety



The north side of Shadylawn Drive (the side opposite the school) is posted as NO PARKING during school hours. The reason for this is two-fold. One, so that busses can travel down the street to reach the school and more importantly, so that students do not have to cross the street to reach their parent's car. We have had a couple of close calls when some of our younger students have darted between parked cars to reach a car parked on the wrong side of the street. Students who do need to cross Shadylawn should use the crosswalk near Chadwick and Shadylawn. **For the safety of our students, your children, please help us by refraining from parking on the north side of Shadylawn to drop students off or pick them up.**

THANK YOU!

South End Schools Blood Drive Monday, March 10, 2008

It's the 3rd Annual Southend Schools Pint Size Hero Blood Drive at Byrnedale. People can schedule their appointment by going to www.givelife.org and using sponsor code BYRNEDALEJRHI or by submitting their appt card through their student. You can also call Bonnie Herrmann at 419-381-1042.

Spirit Week

March 10-14, 2008

Monday through Friday, March 10-14, 2008, will be "Spirit Week" at Crossgates. This is a fun week where students have the opportunity to dress a little differently each day during this week.

Monday-"CRAZY HAIR DAY". Students should come up with a new "hairdo" for this day. Use your imagination.

Tuesday- "MISMATCH DAY". Stripes and plaids, mismatched color combinations, etc. You may look like you got dressed in the dark.

Wednesday- "HAT DAY". Wear your favorite or craziest hat.

Thursday- "SILLY SOCKS DAY". Colorful or bright, stripes or patterns. Brighten up your feet this day with different socks or tights.

Friday- "DRESS DOWN DAY". Everyone knows what this is, so enjoy.

NOTE: The only complete 'Dress Down' days during this week are Tuesday and Friday. The other days students are still expected to wear their uniforms except for the "exceptions" listed above.

Scouts

Cub Scout News

Community Service

Cub Scout Pack 203 is participating in the community service project, "Wrappings of Warmth". They are collecting gently used blankets to donate to the Cherry Street Mission. If you have any blankets you no longer need, please send them to school on March 10th or 11th and place them in the box in the lobby. Thank you for your support.

Interested in Scouting?

Parents, if you have a boy, first grade and up, who is interested in scouting, you should contact Angie Huss at karlhuss@sbcglobal.net.

Issue 7 – Not a New Tax

Toledo Public Schools will appear on the March 4th ballot - Issue 7 is a renewal of a current 5-year operating levy. Issue 7 is not a new tax - it will generate nearly \$16 million a year toward school operations. Passage of Issue 7 ensures that TPS will continue promoting student learning and academic achievement in a supportive environment. Issue 7 also allows TPS to maintain smaller class sizes, update textbooks, continue programs that directly impact student learning and enhance technology and district-wide safety plans. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, March 4th.

Thank You Mr. Rowe

The news media reported the other day that February, 2008, was one of the snowiest Februarys ever in Toledo. By now most of you are probably pretty tired of shoveling the walks at home. Well, if you happen to bring your child to school or pick him or her up you may have noticed how well the walks around Crossgates School are kept clear of snow. This is because of the great work by Mr. Bob Rowe, our Building Operator. He is usually here well before sun-up on snowy mornings to make sure our students have a cleared sidewalk to walk on. THANK YOU MR. BOB!

Parents' Club News

Box Top News

We have earned \$647.64!! Thanks to the students and parents for their hard work in collecting Box Tops! Keep them coming!

-CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have earned a Dress Down Pay by sending in 100 Box Tops at one time: Mikah Andaverde, Emily Brightman, Carina Fischer, Lance Haupricht, Sophie Huss, Katelyn Kramer, Roxanne Marlow, Amanda Nagy, Abby Peters, Makayla Price, Emily Rugg, Aaron Stark, Madison Theis and Tanner Wahlquist!

-CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who won the February drawing for bringing in 30 Box Tops at one time: Chad Adkins, Logan Baumgartner, Jacques Harris, Alanna Markovich and Donald Nalls!

Box Tops should be sent by 100 or 30 in an envelope or ziploc bag with your full name (first & last) and room number. Please DO NOT send in expired Box Tops. Dress down day passes will be handed out around the 27th of each month.

Lena Arnott Box Top Coordinator
marnott73@hotmail.com
419-870-0739

You made a difference this past month at our school....

Jennifer Adkins, Celia Apodaca, Magdalena Arnott, Angie Baumgartner, Lina Berchali, Liz Boyles, Sabrina Brown, Amy Carr, Melanie Christiansen, Nicole Coffman, Thelma Drane, Carol Dunning, Beth Fields, Lisa Fischer, Wendy Garczynski, Tina Gazwi, Michelle Goeder, Jamie Hansen, Kendra Haupricht, Shannon Haupricht, Dana Heffelbower, Nora Jaegly, Melanie Johnson, Tina Canary, Karen Liegel, Julie Lievens, Cindy Markovich, Loletta Marshall, Tracie Martinez, Sara Metzger, Nicole Moser, Scott Pittock, Sarah Preston, Sue Sharp, LaTonya Smith, Judy Snyder, Patty Viers, Diann Welch, Cindy White and Tonia Willis
THANK YOU!

Yearbook production will be starting very soon and we are in need of pictures. If you have pictures or a disc with pictures on it of this school year and would like us to possibly use them in the yearbook please send them in ASAP. I will get them back to you as soon as we are done. Please send them in labeled with your child's name and label them yearbook pictures.

Thanks

PARENTS' CLUB MEETING

The next parents club meeting is scheduled at 9:15 AM on Thursday, March 6th. Contact the vice president at lanieleec@yahoo.com with any items that you would like added to the agenda. Please plan to keep each item to less than 10 minutes of discussion.

Students in the News

We would like to congratulate former Crossgates students, who are current Byrnedale Middle School students, as they continue doing well in their educational careers. The following are some of their accomplishments.

- **Shawn Giffin** was one of five Byrnedale band students who participated in the OMEA District I Concert. Shawn plays the tenor sax. Shawn was also the Intermediate Band Student of the Month for January, 2008.
- **Jasmine Easler** was one of five Byrnedale choir students who participated in the OMEA District I Concert.
- **Kaitlin Kurtz** was the Advanced Orchestra Student of the Month for January, 2008.

The following ex-Crossgates students were recognized for outstanding academic work at Byrnedale

8th Grade Principal's List

Joshua Atkins, Erica Duarte, Katie Garczynski, Andrew Grigsby, Danielle Johnston, Kevin Kuhl, Maria Meiring and Alyssa Swan.

8th Grade Honor Roll

Alice Burnett, Jasmine Easler, Angela Mock, Breanna Pratt, Logan Stahl.

7th Grade Principal's List

Jac Caldwell, Corbin Funka, Shawn Giffin, Evan Greer, Kaitlin Kurtz, Devon Palm, Corrie Peters.

7th Grade Honor Roll

Jennifer Majchrowski.

SPIRIT WEAR DAYS

Many of you purchased Crossgates Spirit Wear recently, or you may have Spirit Wear from a previous year's sales. In either case, please read on.

The following dates are the designated "Spirit Wear Days" for the remainder of this school year. **(Except for March and June, all are on Fridays.) March 20, 2008, April 25, 2008, May 30, 2008, June 2, 2008.**

NOTE: Obviously, students are not required to wear Spirit Wear on these days, it is only an option. Regular uniform dress is acceptable.

On a "Spirit Wear Day" students may wear any **CROSSGATES Spirit Wear** they may have purchased this year or in past years. The Spirit Wear must have the Crossgates logo or school name on the shirt. It cannot be just any Royal Blue or white shirt, or any other school or athletic team shirt. **IT MUST BE CROSSGATES SPIRIT WEAR!**

In addition, students must conform to the remainder of the Uniform Dress Code. This means uniform pants/skirts, shoes, etc. must still be worn. Jeans, etc., are not allowed on "Spirit Wear Days".

Crossgates School Delayed Start Policy

Toledo Public Schools has a **School Delay** policy they use when the weather is severe. This policy will allow Toledo Schools to delay two hours instead of closing right away to see if the weather will improve enough for students to come to school. On days when a delay is called, school will begin at Crossgates at 11:00 AM and end at the regular time, 3:15 PM. Busses will run on a two hour delayed schedule in the morning on these days. Regularly scheduled before school programs such as before school tutoring, and school breakfast, **WILL NOT BE HELD ON THESE DAYS**. When school begins after a two-hour delay, we will continue on a regular school schedule from 11:00 AM. This means lunches will still be held at 11:20-11:50, 12:00-12:30 and 12:40-1:10. Special classes such as Music, Art, etc. will be held at the regularly scheduled times.

Whenever school is delayed or closed because of inclement weather, we find out the same way that you do, by listening to the radio or watching television. We will not be in the office to answer the phone on days when school is closed, or during the time it is delayed. If you feel we may not have school on a bad weather day, please listen to a local radio station or watch a local television channel to see if school is delayed or closed.

SPECIAL NOTE: On days when school is delayed, please continue to listen to the radio or television. Sometimes delays turn into closings if the weather does not improve.