

Crossgates Courier

3901 Shadylawn Drive Toledo, Ohio 43614

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

November 2008

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Student of the Month

As a way to encourage positive student behavior, we have a program we call the "Student of the Month". One student per class is selected each month 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 behavior 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 November, 2008, recipients of this award. Mrs. Lardinai's Kindergarten- **Kelsi Welch**, Mrs. Smitley's Kindergarten- **Alexander Yarad**, Ms. Gallagher's Kindergarten- **Cha'Nia Williams**, Mrs. Best's 1st Grade- **Alex Hagen**, Mrs. Eding's 1st Grade- **Destiny Breniser**, Mrs. Hanf's 2nd Grade- **Hailie Draper**, Mrs. Ocker's 2nd Grade- **Nazear Jackson**, Ms. Ganun's 3rd Grade- **Chad Huss**, Ms. Tisdale's 3rd Grade- **Sierra Davis**, Mrs. Lefevre's 4th Grade- **Conner Palm**, Mrs. Packo's 4th Grade- **Troy Simpkins**, Mrs. Kaper's 5th Grade- **Maria Aguado**, Mrs. Pertcheck's 5th Grade- **Brandon Yockey**, Mrs. Sweeney's 6th Grade- **Jordan Zaleski**, Mrs. Dendinger's 6th Grade- **Tori Matzinger**, Mrs. Sherman's 4th, 5th, 6th Grade- **Dominique Witcher**, Ms. Forbes' 4th, 5th, 6th Grade- **Madison Lievens**.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE STUDENTS!



UNITED WAY

Outstanding Job!!!

We would like to thank all of our students who donated to this year's United Way Student Drive. A total of \$556.00 was contributed by our students. **As a result of exceeding our school goal, and to thank everyone for their generosity, all students will be allowed to "Dress Down" on Friday, November 7, 2008.** On a special note, I would be remiss if I didn't mention two classes in particular for their efforts

during this year's drive. Ms. Ganun's and Ms. Tisdale's classes competed against each other in a "United Way Penny War". As a result, these two classes alone contributed more than \$300.00 of our \$556.00 total. Great job!

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.

Lost and Found

Have you been looking for a jacket or sweater your child seems to have misplaced? They say they can't remember where they left it. Remind them to look in our Lost & Found box located in the lobby of the school. Parents may also want to check this box periodically when they visit the school. A good time to look is when you come for Parent/Teacher Conferences in November.

NOTE: With the inception of our student uniform dress code, many students have sweaters, etc. that look alike. **Writing your child's name on the collar tag may help your child identify their lost clothing.**



Conference Days November 13th & 14th

Parents, you should have received a Parent/Teacher Conference confirmation notice that was sent home from school with your child recently. This notice will have the date and time when you are scheduled for a conference with your child's teacher. A portion of the pamphlet is to be filled out by you and returned to school with your child confirming your attendance at the conference. Conference days are Thursday and Friday, November 13th and 14th. Because of conferences there is **NO SCHOOL** for students on **Thursday and Friday, November 13 and 14**. If you have any questions, please call the school office at **419-385-4571**.

NOTE: First quarter grade cards will be given to parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences. It is important that parents attend conferences to discuss their child's progress and discuss future plans with the teacher.

Conferences That Count

Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up soon. How can you be ready for the conference? Start by making a list of items you'd like to share with the teacher. *Examples:* Your child's interests, strengths, and work habits; family situations; any major changes in their life; assignments they struggle with. Then, think about what information you need from the teacher. For instance, you may want to find out about school rules or the teacher's expectations. Or, you might need ideas for helping your child with a difficult subject. Finally, ask your child questions about the year so far. *Examples:* What do you like best about school? Least? What's the most interesting thing you've studied? Has anything been tough to learn? What would you like your teacher to know? Having a successful conference will go a long way in ensuring a successful school year.

REMINDERS

School Security

If you visit Crossgates during the school day, you will find our doors locked. You must ring a buzzer at one of two doors. The buzzers are at our main front doors, or our rear door off the parking lot. After ringing the buzzer, if you are recognized on our security monitor, you will be let into the building. If you are not recognized, you may be asked for the reason you are entering the building. Once inside, please report to the main office before visiting any other area of the building.

In addition, if you must return to school after dismissal to retrieve a forgotten book or article of clothing, please do not enter any classroom without a staff member present. We ask that you check in at the office when arriving, even after school hours. If the office staff has left for the day, please locate Mr. Rob Broadway, our night custodian, so he can escort you to the classroom. Thank you!

Hallway Crowding

If you come to school at the end of the day to pick up your child, we ask that you do not go down the hallways near the classrooms to wait for them. This causes added congestion in a already crowded hallway when the classes are dismissing.

Important Reminder

The following information is reprinted from the Student Handbook.

We ask that parents work with schools regarding the use of cell phones and electronic devices in school. **Parents are discouraged from providing cell phones and other electronics for their students to have at school.** As cell phones and other electronic devices become more readily available, they are appearing more often in our schools and they are creating a discipline problem. Many students are text messaging in class, making phone calls during the school day and taking inappropriate photographs at school. Cell phones have also been used to cheat on exams. Electronics are a tempting target for theft and they have caused disputes between students.

The Toledo Public Schools does not allow students to have electronic devices in school. Please discuss this with your children. Because so many students are ignoring this rule, the district has standardized how we will address those students who have electronic devices during the school day. The district will follow the steps listed below if students violate this regulation.

1. Cell phones, pagers and other telecommunication devices are strictly prohibited in Toledo Public Schools. They are not to be visible or in use during the school day for any reason.
2. Violation of this rule may result in, but not be limited to, the confiscation of the device at the school. Following confiscation, a parent or guardian may pick up the items 24 hours later unless other arrangements are made with the administration.
3. A second violation of this rule will result in, but may not be limited to, confiscation of the telecommunications device. The parent or guardian may then pick up the item during business hours on the second or fourth Wednesday of the month. The location for pick up will be determined by the building administration.
4. In the event of an emergency, parents may contact the main office as a means to reach their students.
5. Toledo Public Schools is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen electronic devices.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us to enforce this rule.

Scouting News

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Seth Pittock for earning the rank of Bobcat. This is the first rank a Cub Scout or Webelos Scout must earn. All of the scouts are working very hard to achieve their next rank. Keep up the great work!

Scouting for Food

The Cub Scouts were very busy collecting food in one part of our Crossgates' neighborhood at the end of October. They collected 30 bags of food and donated it to the Aurora Gonzales Community Center on Broadway. This center feeds 1,000 adults and children a month. Thank you to all of our neighbors and scout families that were able to make this possible! Please remember, many small efforts can make a big difference.

Parents' Club News

You made a difference this past month at our school.... Molly Andrejan, Christina Arent, Magdalena Arnott, Andrea Arnott, Jill Bratton, Kelly Breniser, Jeff Brucker, Dirk Boyles, Liz Boyles, Melanie Christiansen, Nicole Coffman, Jennifer Davidson, Thelma Drane, Rachel Ehmann, Lynn Franklin, Michelle Goeder, Kalli Griffith, Adam Griffith, Rosella Hanf, Jamie Hansen, Rhonda Hayes, Dana Heffelbower, Heather Hoffman, Nora Jaegly, Tina Canary, Kristin Kohring, Karen Liegel, Ilyana Martens, Chris Marx, Sara Metzger, Amanda Myers, Carol Nagy, Scott Pittock, Sarah Preston, Stacey Stec, Judy Snyder, Mary Sood, Patty Viers and Cindy White **THANK YOU!**

Box Top News

I AM GETTING READY TO MAIL IN OUR FIRST BATCH FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR AND WE WILL HAVE EARNED \$845.00! HOW AWESOME!!! REMEMBER OUR GOAL IS \$2,000!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have earned a Dress Down Pay by sending in 100 Box Tops at one time: Blake Bettinger, Emily Bettinger, Brooke Bliss, Courtney Coffman, Sabrina Coffman, Aiden Griffith, Khya Griffith, Joseph Hayes, Austin Klempner, Shane Klempner, Hannah Knotts, Nicole Liegel, Rylee Martens, Ben Miering, Matthew Miering, Emily Rugg, Kody Theis, Taylor Viers, Kelsi Welch and Brandon Welch!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who won the October drawing for sending in 30 Box Tops at one time: Morgan Flores, Kayla Garn, Maggie Marx, Molly McDonagh and Troy Simpkins!

Please submit Box Tops in a **sealed envelope or Ziploc bag with your child(ren) name and room number** . I have received a large amount of box tops in unsealed baggies or envelopes with no names. Thank you in advance!

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

Emergency Lockdown Drill

Crossgates School held a mandatory Lockdown Drill on Thursday, October 30, 2008. This is a precautionary measure to prepare staff and students for any hazardous event that may occur. **House Bill 422** now mandates that we have this type of drill and they will become as common as Fire Drills and Tornado Drills. This is just another way to ensure that all students and staff are safe in the event of a crisis situation in the building or surrounding neighborhood. If you happen to be in the building when a LOCKDOWN is called, you will be expected to participate in this drill and report to a secure location such as the main office or a nearby classroom until an ALL CLEAR is given.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office at 419-385-4571.

LOOKING AHEAD

To help our families plan we have listed some events coming up in December and early January. Events for November are listed on the calendar included with this newsletter.

Thursday, DECEMBER 4, 2008- Parents' Club Meeting in library, 9:15 AM.

Tuesday, DECEMBER 9, 2008, 7:00 PM- The evening performance of our Holiday Musical performed by K, 1st and 2nd graders in the auditorium at Crossgates. Dress rehearsal will be at 9:10 AM on Tuesday, December 9.

Friday, DECEMBER 19, 2008- Last day of school before Winter Break.

Monday, JANUARY 5, 2009- First day back to school after Winter Break.

"Caught Being Good"

Some of our students have been receiving "You've Been Caught Being Good" Dress Down Day passes, or a "Caught Being Good" pencil. You should be proud of him/her. "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 Friday morning twenty names are drawn from the box. Five of the students receive a "Dress Down Day" which can be used during the following week to "dress down". Fifteen additional students receive a "Caught Being Good" pencil. We are proud to say that many weeks the box is stuffed full of entries.

October Attendance Watch

Number of Student Tardies-**162**

Number of Student Early Dismissals-**135**

Number of Student Absent Days-**213**

Salvation Army Applications for Christmas Assistance

The Salvation Army will be accepting applications for Christmas assistance, Monday through Friday from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., AND between 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. p.m., beginning October 14 through November 14, 2008, at 752 Main Street (corner of Main & Greenwood in East Toledo). *Prior to coming to The Salvation Army, families need to call the United Way 211 number or 1-800-650-4357 Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

For those families who work, applications will be accepted on **Monday, October 20 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. OR Monday, November 10 between the hours of 4:00 and 6 00 p.m.**

ALL APPLICANTS MUST BRING

- Photo I.D.
- Social Security Cards for all family members
- Current proof of household income
- Proof of Address (i.e., Utility Bill)
- Birth Certificates of children 12 and under
- Custody verification - if child is not your birth child.

For more information, please call 419-241-1138.