



# Crossgates Courier

3901 Shadylawn Drive Toledo, Ohio 43614

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October 2008

Volume XLII No.2

## 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 October, 2008, recipients of this award. Mrs. Lardinai's Kindergarten- **Joseph Hayes**, Mrs. Smitley's Kindergarten- **Shianna Harper**, Ms. Gallagher's Kindergarten- **Brayden Franklin**, Mrs. Eding's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade- **Austin Bernal**, Mrs. Best's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade- **Kayla Geiner**, Mrs. Hanf's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- **Dominic Wrighten**, Mrs. Ocker's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- **Khya Griffith**, Mrs. Metcalf's 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade- **Mark Martinez**, Ms. Tisdale's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade- **Diala Abou-Dahech**, Ms. Ganun's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade- **Evan Savage**, Mrs. Lefevre's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Emma Hansen**, Mrs. Packo's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Holly Cray**, Mrs. Pertcheck's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Sophia Huss**, Mrs. Kaper's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Yi Lu**, Mrs. Dendinger's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Jane Tang**, Mrs. Sweeney's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Tala Abou-Dahech**, Mrs. Sherman's 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- **Dylan Murray** Ms. Forbes' 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade- **John Skouroukos**.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE STUDENTS!**

**First quarter mid-quarter reports will be sent home with students in grades 1-6 during the week of October 6<sup>th</sup> through October 10<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the yellow copy for your records and sign and return the white copy to school as soon as possible. Thank you!**

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

If you did not have a chance to sign-up for a Parent/Teacher Conference time at our Open House on August 26<sup>th</sup>, please call the school office at 419-385-4571 to schedule a time. Conferences will be held on Thursday and Friday, November 13 and 14, 2008.

## EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the rare instance when it is necessary to evacuate Crossgates, we are required to have a destination identified where students and staff can be housed until the building is clear or students are picked-up by parents. This may take place if we have a gas leak at the school, or a power outage during cold weather. If the situation arises, we will have our students and staff walk to Church of St. Andrew, 3620 Heatherdowns Blvd., (this is at the corner of Colony and Heatherdowns). Everyone will remain there until Crossgates is safe, or until they are picked-up. The telephone number at the church is 419-385-6160.

## School Uniform Dress Code

We want to thank all of the parents who have been so diligent in making sure their children are coming to school with the proper school attire. We think the students look great! The following are a few reminders as we enter the second month of school.

- The first involves shoes. Students are allowed to wear gym shoes to school, but please remember they are to be black, gray or white, or any combination of the three colors.
- Shorts, Skirts, Skorts or Dresses must be at least knee length, and either khaki/tan, navy/dark blue or black.
- Tops must have a collar or be a turtleneck and be either white, light blue, dark blue or yellow and be a **solid** color. (Limited piping or trim is acceptable.) **The tops must be long enough so the stomach is not exposed, and must be tucked-in to the pants/skirt.**
- As cooler weather approaches, sweaters will be more common. They must be a cardigan, pullover or vest and be either solid white or navy and should not have a hood.
- Jeans, sweatsuits or warm-ups are not allowed.
- **Belts must be worn if pants have belt loops.**

Scouts may wear scouting uniforms to school if a scout meeting is scheduled for that day.

## Cafeteria Charges

Once in a while a student may forget their lunch, lunch money or milk money. If they do they can charge a lunch, or milk, and bring the money to school the next day to pay for the charge.

## September Attendance Watch

NUMBER OF STUDENT TARDIES- **64**

NUMBER OF STUDENT EARLY DISMISSALS- **115**

NUMBER OF STUDENT ABSENCE DAYS- **174**

## IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT!

We have had quite a few instances recently in which we get phone calls in the office asking us to have students go home a different way than they normally do. Sometimes these calls number in double digits and sometimes as late as 3:15, which is dismissal time. **We understand this may be necessary in rare, emergency situations.** The key words here are **rare** and **emergency**. The school secretary hesitates interrupting a class and taking away learning time to get these messages to teachers. We have had a few instances where children are “lost” for a time because the message we give a young child is misunderstood in the hustle and bustle of dismissal time when 350 students are leaving the building. Because of this we are asking for your help. **PLEASE**, unless it is an emergency, make arrangements for these changes before school begins, **make sure you put it in writing** and instruct your child to give it to his or her teacher. We don't want to send a child home on a bus to an empty house, or have them waiting at school without a ride home.

In a related issue, we ask that parents try not to come to school to pick students up just before dismissal time. Teachers are usually in the process of giving end-of-the day instructions and preparing the entire class for dismissal. Interruptions from the office during this time make this process difficult.

## Wellness Policy

Did you know Toledo Public Schools implemented a Wellness Policy during the 2006-2007 school year? The Federal government required all schools that participate in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program to create a Wellness Policy for their districts. TPS took this as an opportunity to design a policy that promotes and protects the health and well-being of both children and staff. Our policy has five key areas of focus in physical activity and nutrition. The first line of the document states “...children need access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive”. We are proud that TPS has recognized and is committed to providing a healthful school environment for all of our children. Where can you find the policy? Go to <http://www.tps.org>, click on “District Programs”, then click on “Wellness Policy”. Please call your school or the Health Services office (419-671-8310) with any questions.

NOTE: An easy way for you to help with this endeavor is to make sure whenever snacks are sent to school for the class, (such as for birthdays in grades K-2) make sure they are healthy snacks. The policy for birthday treats is published in the Student Handbook and is included below for your perusal.

*Simple birthday treats are welcome in kindergarten and grades one and two to help celebrate a student's birthday. We ask that parents notify teachers in advance when such a gesture is planned. For grades three and above, we will follow the past practice of not encouraging birthday treats in classrooms during the school day. It has been suggested that if a parent wishes to recognize a child's birthday, a book dedicated to the birthday child be donated to the school to be placed in the school library.*

*The classroom teacher must approve any special event taking place in the classroom.*

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

## Folk Dance Night

Some of our families may recall the Folk Dance Nights we held in the past. Students and their parents were invited to these evening events to participate in folk dances students had been doing in music class. Since the past Folk Dance Nights always seem to be enjoyed by all who attended, it was decided we would continue holding them. This event is scheduled for **Thursday, October 16, 2008, from 7:00-8:00 PM** in the auditorium at Crossgates. So please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for this fun-filled family event.

## Testing in October

**Third Grade Students To Take The Ohio Reading Achievement Test on Monday, October 6.**



Students in grade three will be taking the OAT in Reading on Monday, October 6, 2008. This is a very important test and even though we feel it is important that students are in school every day, it is even more important that 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are in attendance on October 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition, students in grade 5 will be taking the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT) beginning on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, and continuing throughout the week using a schedule determined by their teacher.

## Halloween Parade & Parties



We will have our annual Halloween Parade and classroom parties on Friday, October 31, 2008. Please watch for details coming home with your child in a couple of weeks.

## Important Meeting

The Byrnedale PTO is proud to announce that TPS Superintendent, Mr. John Foley will be guest speaking at their PTO meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30pm in the Byrnedale Cafeteria. He will share information about the upcoming levies that will be on the November ballot. Because we know how important this issue is, especially in how it will impact Crossgates, and other schools in the Bowsher area, all parents in our Learning Community are encouraged to attend this meeting.

## Scouting News

On Saturday Sept 13th, 2008, there were 19 Crossgates Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Leaders who participated in the Clean Your Streams effort. This was done in the pouring down rain, mud, and wooded/overgrown area in the Swan Creek watershed area. They removed 6 large trash bags of garbage, 2 car/truck tires, and a shopping cart. The kids worked together to get this trash up and out of a sloped, muddy area. They also gathered data on what they collected. This information is analyzed locally and state-wide, and forwarded on to Washington DC and included in a global report. The Crossgates group was the youngest group there, and most of the others were high school students and businesses. Congratulations to all of the scouts and their leaders for a job well done.

## REMINDERS REPEATED

- Please do not drive into the horseshoe drive to drop students off or pick them up between the hours of 8:30 and 9:30 AM and 2:30 and 3:30 PM. This drive is reserved for our buses and we do not want traffic in the drive when buses are loading or unloading. **In addition, please do not drive into the faculty parking lot in the back of the building to drop students off and pick them up, even if your children are in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, which is housed in the portable trailers.** It is dangerous when students are getting in and out of cars when families add to the traffic in the back parking lot. Each class is assigned a door to enter, usually at the front of the building. Dropping them off in back would necessitate them walking around the school to enter the building. Please stop at the curb on Shadylawn and ask your child to walk on the sidewalk, which borders the horseshoe drive to walk to their assigned entry door. **We have had some students walk between the buses, which is very dangerous for our young students, because they see adults doing it. It is a good idea to use the sidewalk even when you are with them. This will help them get in the habit of using this safe path when you cannot be with them.**
- There are posted NO PARKING signs on Shadylawn on the side of the street across from the school. Please park on the school side of this street. We have had some very close calls when students try to cross Shadylawn to get to their parent's car. We do not want anyone hit by a car.
- If you must drive your child to school, designate a spot where you will meet them each day. This could even be down Shadylawn next to Crossgates Park since there are limited spaces in front of the school.
- During the first week of each month, a Crossgates Courier, like the one you are reading now, will be sent home with your child. Please take time to read it so you can stay informed of activities at school. In addition to the Courier, a monthly lunch menu and school calendar of events will also be sent home.
- For the first few days of school, we welcomed parents to walk their child into school if it helped alleviate fears a child may have had about attending school. Now that school has been in session for about five weeks, we encourage parents to allow their child to begin entering school by themselves. If your child continues to be afraid, do not minimize or dismiss the fear as being silly. Do not belittle them, but talk to them about their feelings and help them work through this fear. The sooner this can be accomplished, the better. If school personnel can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to ask for help in the office.
- For the safety of our students and staff, **we ask that ALL visitors to our building report to the main office before visiting any other area of our building.** (This includes our portable classrooms behind the school, Rooms 3 and 4.) If your child forgets a lunch, gym shoes, etc., please bring the item to the main office and we will make sure your child gets it.
- If you need to speak to a teacher, please call for an appointment. We have had many instances of parents going directly to classrooms before, during and after school when students are present and try to meet with the teacher. If you absolutely must

speaking with them, please come before 8:45 or after 3:15. Check-in at the office and we will call the room to see if the teacher has time to meet.

- If you have visited school at the end of the day I am sure you realize how busy the front of the building can be. I am also sure you have heard school staff ask students to walk, not run, and to stay on the sidewalk. Parents can help us encourage sidewalk use if they too would use the sidewalks when escorting their son or daughter before or after school. The example we set as adults can go a long way in influencing our students' behavior.

## Parents' Club News

### You made a difference this past month

**at our school....** Jennifer Adkins, Molly Andrejan, Celia Apodaca, Christina Arent, Magdalena Arnott, Andrea Arnott, Cheryl Bettinger, Kelly Breniser, Jeff Brucker, Liz Boyles, Amy Carr, Melanie Christiansen, Nicole Coffman, Michelle Goeder, Kalli Griffith, Adam Griffith, Kendra Haupricht, Sue Heaton, Dana Heffelbower, Phil Hufford, Nora Jaegly, Tina Canary, Kristin Kohring, Deb Kowalski, Karen Liegel, Chris Marx, Sara Metzger, Scott Pittock, Sarah Preston, Shari Theis, Patty Viers and Cindy White **THANK YOU!**

### Box Top News

**WE EARNED \$1,236.36 LAST SCHOOL YEAR!  
OUR GOAL THIS SCHOOL YEAR IS \$2,000!**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who have earned a Dress Down Pay by sending in 100 Box Tops at one time: Destiny Breniser, Tanner Carr, Jacob Crosby, Lance Haupricht, Zachary Haupricht, Bailey Kohring, Nate Huffman, Chad Huss, Haily Laurie, Jessica Marlow, Matthew Martin, Maggie Marx, Conner Palm, Makayla Price, Stephanie Neyhart and Kayla Whittecar!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who won the September drawing for sending in 30 Box Tops at one time: Jordan Andrejan, Alicia Arnott, Tyler Doss, Toriano Drane, Allyse Goodwin and Molly McDonagh!

We have exciting news with families or more than one child attending Crossgates Elementary, when 100 Box Tops is turned in we will issue a Dress Down Day Pass to every child in your family! Please make sure you list the names of your children along with room numbers.

Please submit Box Tops in a sealed envelope or Ziploc bag with your child(ren) name and room number. Thank you in advance!

Lena Arnott

Box Top Coordinator

[marnott73@hotmail.com](mailto:marnott73@hotmail.com)

419-870-0739

## Book Fair

The Crossgates Parents' Club is sponsoring a Book Fair during the week of October 13, during regularly scheduled library times. Details will be sent home with students.

## Chuck E. Cheese Night

The Parents' Club is sponsoring a night at Chuck E. Cheese on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00-9:00. Once again, details will be sent home with students.

## EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES

AmericaReads: What Can You Do? [http://www.ed.gov/inits/americanreads/families\\_cando.html](http://www.ed.gov/inits/americanreads/families_cando.html) \* Family Education Network <http://www.fen.com/> \* Fun Brain <http://www.funbrain.com> \* MightyBook [www.mightybook.com](http://www.mightybook.com) \* National Association for the Education of Young Children <http://www.naeyc.org> \* National Geographic <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/> \* National Institute for Literacy Publications <http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/publications.html> \* Ohio Public Library Information Network <http://www.oplin.lib.oh.us> \* PBS Kids <http://pbskids.org/> \* Reading Rockets <http://www.readingrockets.org> \* Sesame Workshop <http://www.sesameworkshop.org> \* U.S. Department of Education Tips for Parents <http://www.ed.gov/index.jhtml> \* You Gotta Love Parents <http://www.yougottaloveparents.org> \* Math Books Website <http://www.eduplace.com/math/mw/> \* Reading Books Website <http://www.harcourtschool.com/>