

Ohio Elementary School News

January 2009

Dear Parents,

As we move into a new year, many of us join in the tradition of new resolutions for the coming year. As a teacher, I began the New Year, each year, by guiding my students to reflect on their own world and tried to help them to identify personal goals that we could work on together – to help improve their success in this world. Often these goals would include our mutual interest in improving their reading, writing, or math skill.

It is often not hard to identify the goals – the trick is to figure out how to put our resolutions into action so that we can experience success. For reading, the simple goal of deciding to read for 20 minutes each night can have a huge impact on our success. Our students have been focusing on meeting the goals of Strive for 25 this year. Continuing these efforts, perhaps extending the goal if students have met the 25 books already, might be an excellent New Year's Resolution.

In writing, we may want to guide our children and encourage them to write about “small moments” in their life. These small moments are the special memories that we want to share with others and are perfect for children's writing focus.

With math – mastering our math facts can make learning other concepts easier, and thus, we experience greater success again! We also want our students to focus on learning skills of fractions, money and time. Making any of these a goal for a month can be a perfect New Year's Resolution which in turn, supports our children's success in life!

One key piece to these plans that we often overlook is the value of togetherness. As we are looking at resolutions this January, trying to find 15 minutes a day to celebrate what our children are doing - every day might be a great choice!

To all, I wish health, happiness, and success for everyone in 2009!

Sincerely,
Karen Cuddy-Miller
Principal

Calendar at a glance:



January 2009!!

- 1st New Year's Day – No school
2nd Winter recess – No school
7th O.H.I.O. meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- 13th New York State ELA Assessments
Grades 3 & 5
- 14th New York State ELA Assessments
Grades 3, 4, 5
- 15th New York State ELA Assessments
Grade 4
- 16th New York State ELA Assessments
Grade 4
- 19th Martin Luther King Day – No School
20th – 23rd New York State ELA Assessments
Make-up dates Gr. 3, 4, 5
- 21st New York State ELA Assessments
Grade 6
- 22nd New York State ELA Assessments
Grade 6
- 23rd New York State ELA Assessments
Grade 6
- 26th – 30th New York State ELA Assessments
Make-up dates Grade 6



February 2009

- 4th O.H.I.O. meeting – 6:30 p.m.
6th O.H.I.O. Family Dance 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
14th Valentine's Day – Saturday, No School
16th – 20th February Recess – No School
25th Staff Development Day – No School

Building our future together, one student at a time...

Pennies for Patients...

Throughout the month of January, our students will be participating in the Pennies for Patients drive. It's not too late for the students to start saving their pennies and/or any loose coins they may have. A reminder will be sent home regarding this drive. All money raised is donated to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. These funds help support lifesaving research and services for patients.

We will have containers for children to deposit their money. This is strictly done on a voluntary basis. We thank you for any help you may give for this drive.

Thank you for supporting this worthy cause!



The Giving Tree (continued...)



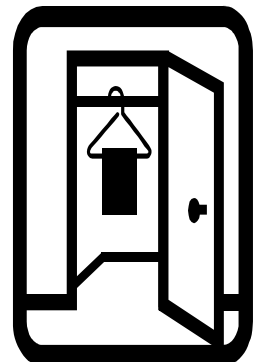
The foyer of Ohio has been filled with a winter-like scene to host the presence of the Giving Tree. Ohio continues to be sponsoring a "Giving Tree" to benefit children within our community through January. Your gift of a **warm hat or a pair of mittens** will be used to warm a child's winter. These items will be donated to a local charity. Any donations that your child/family may want to contribute will be warmly accepted!

The Ohio Clothing Closet!

During the month of January, Ohio Elementary School will be *opening* a Community Clothing Closet. In order to "stock" this closet, we will be warmly accepting any gently used clothing – shirts, sweaters, pants, coats, boots, etc. that families may have outgrown. **All sizes are welcome!!**

As our clothing closet is filled, we would like to make these clothing items available to any family in need. If you or your family is in need of any item, we are happy to provide these to you!

Donations may be dropped off to the main office. Any requests for clothing may be made by using the Clothing Closet Request Form that will be published in our February Newsletter!



Building our future together, one student at a time...

Strive for 25

Experience the Magic of Reading



Ohio School has been working hard to meet the goal of reading 25 books. Look for these new names to be seen in the courtyard as well as on our Santa knight's scroll. The teachers would like to applaud their lords and ladies for all of their hard work and dedication to reading. Keep up the hard work!!!!

Grade 1:

Connor Gardiner, Evan Davis, Patrick Rodgers, Kira Dewey, Devin Moretto, Paul Leroux, Elizabeth Hallen, Madison Heim, Kirsten Ferree, Corey Westfall, Tyler MacNeil

Grade 2:

Richard Kramer, Josephine Wetzel, Gregory Hastings, Bridget Wilson, Conner DeVantier, Jacob Sommer, Donald LaVerdi, Dylan Strowger

Grade 3:

Autumn Allcorn, Natalie Ambrusko

Grade 4:

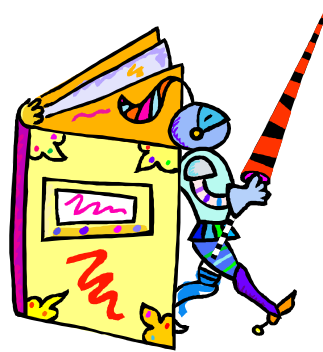
Brandon Casterline, Daniel Piazza

Grade 5:

Jamie Truskowski, Erik Vickerd, Abigail Chilton

Grade 6:

Aubrey Bolam



EXTRA!! EXTRA!!

OHIO ELEMENTARY TRYING TO SAVE TREES AND RESOURCES –

In the near future, Ohio Elementary will be moving toward reducing our paper use with the monthly publications of the Ohio Newsletters. Many families have multiple siblings who attend our school. Through our efforts, we will be working to send home just one copy of our newsletter per family.

You can help with these efforts as well! If you would like to receive your newsletter via e-mail rather than a hard copy print, please fill out and return the bottom portion of this slip:

E-mail address to which you would like the newsletter sent: _____

Names of your children attending Ohio Elementary:	Grade Level	Classroom Teacher
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Building our future together, one student at a time...

Attention Parents: Notes to Note

Let's Keep Safety On Our Minds....

We all know that following afternoon dismissal, we are excited and distracted. Students want to get home, parents have things to do! We are all busy and want to get to the next place we need to be. We would ask, however, that you keep safety on the top of your "To Do" list. With added mounds of snow and winter clothing, many of our students are more distracted than usual. Our Crossing Guards are charged with the most precious responsibility – keeping our students safe. As you are picking up your children or traveling by our schools, please be certain to take the time to:



- Drive slowly
- Watch for children in the area
- Honor the responsibilities of the crossing guards – and follow his/her directions
 - Please do NOT creep into the intersection when the guard is guiding children to cross
 - Please remind your children to travel directly home – discourage them from stopping to play in the snow or snow hills – as this only adds to potential safety concerns

Thank you for working together with us to keep our children safe!

Smarter Adults – Safer Kids District Training Dates:

<u>Date - Time</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Location</u>
<i>January 15 - 2:00 pm</i>	<i>Gilmore</i>	<i>Social Work Office</i>
<i>February 10 - 2:00 pm</i>	<i>Spruce</i>	<i>Auditorium</i>
<i>March 12 - 7:00 pm</i>	<i>Meadow</i>	<i>Conference Room</i>
<i>April 21 - 9:30 am</i>	<i>Middle School</i>	<i>Room 163</i>

NYS ASSESSMENT in January

Please note:

Grade 3: January 13 & 14

Grade 4: January 14, 15, & 16

Grade 5: January 13 & 14

Grade 6: January 21, 22, & 23

Please remember, the best way to prepare our students for the New York State Assessments is to make certain our students get a **good night's sleep**, in order to be well rested, and with a **good breakfast** on the morning of the testing.

Thank you for your efforts to support our Ohio students in these ways!

Building our future together, one student at a time...

Substitute Support Staff – North Tonawanda is always looking for interested people!

The North Tonawanda City School District always accepts applications for the following substitute support staff positions:



Teacher Aides (\$8.90 per hour)
Typist (\$8.90 per hour)
School Monitor (\$8.25 per hour)
Child Care Worker/BASE (\$8.25 per hour)
School Bus Attendant (\$8.25 per hour)
Nurse (\$15.15 per hour)

Applications are available at the Administration Building, between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 175 Humphrey Street, N. Tonawanda.

Central Registration

As of July 1, 2008, all new students to the North Tonawanda City School District must register at the Administration Building at 175 Humphrey Street. Additionally, all address changes must be completed and approved. The district requires certain documentation in order to register your child and/or make an address change. These forms can be obtained at the 175 Humphrey Street Building or by calling to make an appointment at 807-3535.

SEX OFFENDER NOTIFICATION

The North Tonawanda Police Department has informed the school district that we will no longer be receiving written notification of level 2 and 3 sex offenders through the mail as we have in the past. The Niagara County Sheriff's Department created a web site listing all the level 2 and 3 sex offenders in their jurisdiction and the NT Police Department has teamed up with them. Level 2 and 3 sex offenders residing in North Tonawanda are now on that web site.

Additionally, the web site will allow users to sign up for a notification service that will automatically notify you via e-mail every time a level 2 or 3 sex offender moves into or from place to place within Niagara County.

The Niagara County Sheriff's Department web site is www.ncsd.com/SOR/. Please also remember that the New York State web site is www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us/sor/. The state web site allows you to search by name, county, or zip code throughout New York. The state's toll free number is 1-800-262-3257.

The District will continue with notifications using the District newsletter and District web site www.ntcityschools.wnyric.org.

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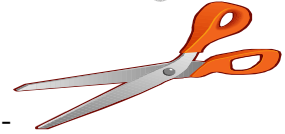
Global Connect Program

The North Tonawanda City School District has recently implemented the Global Connect program within our district. This program is designed to enable us to complete “mass” phone calling under emergency conditions or to share district-wide information with parents. Many of us should have received on during December’s recent closing due to inclement weather.

In order for this program to work most effectively, we ask you to maintain current contact information with us. If any of your contact information changes, please fill out the form below and submit this to Ohio’s main office. We will then forward the information to our district offices so that the Global Connect system can be well maintained.

Thank you for your support!

Attention Families: Has your contact information changed?



Emergency Contact Information

Attention Ohio Elementary School - Please note these changes in our contact information:

Student Name(s) and Grade levels _____

- Our new home phone number _____
- Our new cell number: _____
- Our new address: _____
- Additional persons with permission to pick my child(ren) up from school:

- Other contact information changes: (i.e.: Grandparent phone number changes if they are listed as emergency contacts)

Parent Signature

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