

Ohio Elementary School News

June 2009

Dear Parents,

Is it possible that we are already reading the June Newsletter?! I cannot believe how quickly this academic year has flown by. As we all know, our summer months will pass faster than we can anticipate. With the warm weather finally in the Western New York area – we can begin to believe that summer is here!

I would encourage everyone to take the time to enjoy a lazier time of the year – as per the calendars for July and August suggest. This creates a wonderful opportunity for our families to “learn together in new ways.” Opportunities to explore the concepts that we may have studied during the school year and bring them to life. For years, whenever my husband and I have taken a family vacation, we always schedule a “field trip” to an interesting location – some of the historical forts along the Eastern United States bring history to new life for our children. Traveling to Canada creates an opportunity to compare money systems and talk about different governments. Even the miles vs. kilometer observations can bring application to our children’s minds.

What ever the age of your children, I would encourage you to talk, think, read, and discuss the world around your with your children. With younger children...count coins and talk time!

With your intermediate children...read, read, read! You may (will) also want to practice math facts – addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division – BUT MAKE IT FUN! Challenge your children to come up with new games to practice these facts. One game is an Egg Carton Toss: use a clean empty egg carton and label the bottom of each space with a number. Then place two (or more pennies) into the carton. Close, shake the carton and open. Have your child add, subtract or multiply all the numbers under the pennies.

If you come up with a clever game – please share this with me...as I would love to read about these and publish for others in the fall.

Our math and reading specialist, as well as our computer technology assistant have also included some summer ideas and websites in this newsletter. (Thank you Mrs. Ferrie, Mrs. Opera, and Ms. Maroney!) Please take some time to look at these ideas & websites. You may want to post these during the summer months for easy reference!

Above all – have a safe, happy summer and thank you for a wonderful first year at Ohio!

Sincerely,
Karen Cuddy-Miller

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

Calendar at a glance:



June 2009

- 2nd Spring Concert: Grade 4th
7: 00 p.m. @ Spruce School
- 3rd O.H.I.O. meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- 10th Spring Concert: Grade 6 @ 7:00 p.m.
7: 00 p.m. @ Ohio School
- 11th Spring Concert: Grade 5th
7: 00 p.m. @ Spruce School
- 15th Flag Day Celebration
- 16th Sixth Grade Luncheon
- 17th Ohio Field Day – wear sunscreen!
- 19th 1/2 day of school- early dismissal
- 23rd Ohio Field Day – Rain Date
- 24th 1/2 day of school- early dismissal
- 25th 1/2 day of school- early dismissal
STUDENTS’ LAST DAY
- 26th NO SCHOOL for students
- 29th, 30th July 1st Kindergarten Screening,

July & August 2009

- 1st – 31st Play, read, write, measure things, count money, practice math facts.
Read for fun. Read for information.
Write letters to friends and family.
Ride bikes, take walks with family.
Smile. Laugh. Enjoy the warm days.

September

- 3rd Kindergarten Orientation
- 4th – 7th Begin earlier bed time practice...
- 8th First day of school!!!

Please note changes in the school calendar:

Friday, June 19th & Wednesday, June 24th are now early dismissal days. Students will only have a half day of school.

The calendar has also been corrected to include Thursday, June 25th is also the students’ last day of school. This is also a half day of school.

From the Music Department...

June is a very busy month for our talented students. We hope that you have a chance to join us and enjoy the programs the children have worked so diligently on preparing.

- June 2nd** 7:00 p.m. at Spruce School Grade 4 presents "Clowns"
June 4th 2:00 p.m. at Ohio School Grade 4 will present "Clowns" for our Ohio family
- June 10th** 2:00 p.m. at Ohio School Grade 6 will present "American Pop Forever"
June 10th 7:00 p.m. at Ohio School the Grade 6 Band, the 5th and 6th grade Orchestra
And the 6th grade chorus will present their spring performance.
- June 11th** 7:00 p.m. at Spruce School the 5th grade band and chorus will present their
Spring program, "Annie"
- June 12th** 2:00 p.m. at Ohio School our 5th graders will present their program for our
Ohio family

Thank you for all of your help and your continued support of your children and our programs. We hope the summer brings you many peaceful days filled with music.

Mrs. Strong and Mrs. Wright



About Field Days...

We are so excited about the second annual Ohio Field Day event that has been planned for Wednesday, June 17th, 2009. (We have a rain date of Tuesday, June 23rd!) Please mark these dates on your calendar and be certain to send your children to school with the appropriate clothing - sneakers and sport wear appropriate for a day of outdoor games. You will also want to be certain that you have properly applied sunscreen before sending your children to school.

Students will participate in a variety of events throughout the day! Our O.H.I.O. community will also be providing a hot dog or hamburger lunch for all students and staff on this day. (Please look for upcoming lunch order slips.)

We have a number of parent volunteers who will be joining us for this day. Please remember that our volunteers need to have completed the Smarter Adults, Safer Children workshop before participating in our school events.

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

From the Sixth Grade...

The 6th grade students at Ohio school have been very busy! The students have been receiving many letters from the authors that they wrote to as part of their Author Study. Authors such as Meg Cabot, Christopher Paolini, and Beverly Cleary have been giving insight into their careers and advice on becoming authors. The students will then present a PowerPoint project about their author at our "Book Talk".

The students have also been exploring ancient civilizations, such as Egypt, China, and Greece. They created pyramids and restored Greek pottery. Students have been immersed in ancient history role-playing. They experienced the class systems of ancient Egypt and China, and life as an Athenian or Spartan. They also had many opportunities to be archaeologists by creating and restoring artifacts.

June is going to continue to be a very busy and exciting time! The students will be virtually "attending" the Scheffield Museum to explore the Middle Ages. They will also be going to LaFarge Quarry in Lockport where they will tour the facility and study the geological features of this area.

We are very proud that about 90% of our students earned their "Strive for 25" and will be attending the special activity on June 4th. The O.H.I.O. group is graciously sponsoring a luncheon at Niko's restaurant to celebrate the 6th grade students' years at Ohio School. We are looking forward to these activities.

Extra!! Extra!! Ohio students continue to show progress in all that we do!

Congratulations to all of the students and teachers at Ohio Elementary School! During the 2007-2008 school year, Ohio School moved forward 32 places in our Business First Western New York School Rankings, as published in the fall of 2008; jumping from a school ranking of 102 up to 70!

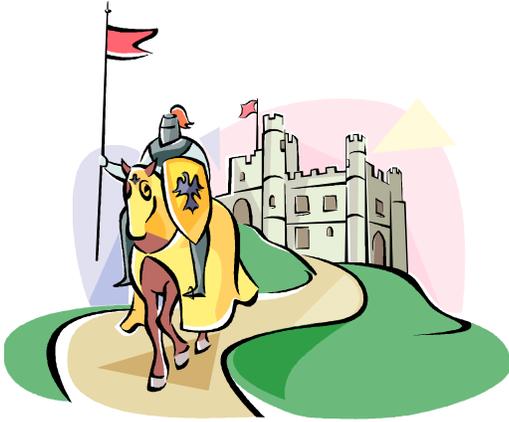
During recent weeks, the results of our New York State English Language Arts Assessments were released. Our student scores showed continued growth with double digit increases across several grades!

Students at the 4th grade level showed a 12.7% (as recently published in the Buffalo News) increase in number of students passing the ELA from 2008 to 2009. Other results are as follows:

ELA Assessments	2007-2008	2008-2009
All Grades	76%	83%
Grade 3	61%	75%
Grade 4	75%	87%
Grade 5	87%	86%
Grade 6	79%	87%

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

Strive for 25 Experience the Magic of Reading



Each lord and Lady around Ohio School is working hard to meet the goal of reading 25 books by June 4th. All children who reach this goal will get to go on a bonus school wide fieldtrip to a secret location! Keep reading Everyone!

Kindergarten:

Nehemias Delles, Brenden Sorden, Brandon Pelczynski, Jack Stynes, Joshua Brumley

Grade 1:

Lillian Corgliano, Aidenn Maedl, Elijah VanVolkenburg, Cahlab Gregory, Robert Witherow, Christian Thompson

Grade 2:

Karl Shiesley

Grade 3:

Emily Schmitt, Cody Ovitt, David Powell, Cameron Gampp, Paige Kerr, Sara Dolan, Karma Regling, Matthew Grigg, Nicholas Przybylski, Hallie Daigler, Emmas Voros, Kyle Higgins, Spencer Hutchinson, Julia Miskines, Julia Rozicki, Noah Senft, Joshua Schrecongost, Sam Greene, Michael Bogdan, Joseph Hoffman, James Fox, Angel Neale

Grade 4:

Deja Smith, Nicholas Rosky, Tyler Cosentino, Craig Long, Andrei Kozak, Ashlea Senft, Alexander Morgan, Maxwell Harack, Kylie Kowalik-Printup, Rion DeBellaistre, Matthew Wantz, Kyle Getty

Grade 5:

Michael O'Connor, Ninette Needler, David White, Vincent Piazza, Sean Dolan, Austin Ludlow, Samantha Grawe, Mike Russell, David White, Michael Schettig, Alexandria Osetkowski, Aveonna Southern, Elsie Cracknell

Grade 6:

Jada Wetzell, Chrissa Dimmick, Natalie Wellenc, Thomas Swart, Jacqueline Bors, Brian Kowalik, Adam Krull, Cody Grant, Sean Taylor, Courtney Beach, Reanna Bradt, Tami Decker, Alexis Wilhelm, Zachary Wolf, Nicholas Harris, Anya Fike, Kayla Higgins, Alexandra Kalita, Elizabeth Trudeau, Joshua Manganello, Ryan McDonough

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



Art News...

Things have not slowed down in the Art room yet! The perspective drawings of grades 3-6 have been on display in the hallways. Bravo to all students for their efforts and success in using rulers to create 3-D work, creating towns, hotel areas, houses and even multicultural cities. Please look for these pieces of art when the portfolios come home. Speaking of Portfolios...It's time to ask you child where this wonderful collection of artwork from the entire year is!

Please take time to review the efforts and art techniques that they have learned this year. Please note that on the back of each work is a description sheet to help you understand the artwork itself.

Grades K-2 will be bringing home Art drawing folders that will have plenty of open space so art can continue at home on a rainy or sunny day. Portraits, landscapes, and pattern designing were the focus of these folders.

On June 6 & t, there will be art work on display at the Buffalo Central Terminal Art Show. Congratulations to Devin Donahue, Jacob Hewett and Christa Sukennik for having their work accepted to the show. The doors will be open to the public from noon – 5:00 p.m. Student artwork from several districts in Western New York will be exhibiting.

During the summer months, BJ's on Young Street has allowed us to display the bright beautiful flowers made by the 2nd graders. Daisies, Black-eyed Susans, and "designer flowers" will sparkle the display board as you exit the store. When you see it, smile and think of "Ohio Elementary Artists." Thank you BJ's!

The District Art Show is over, however, due to technical computer difficulty, not all students were listed in the May issue of the newsletter. We would like to congratulate all students once again for making Ohio proud!

<i>Jenna Barns</i>	<i>Reanna Bradt</i>	<i>Emily Caple</i>	<i>Serena Dill</i>
<i>Sara Dolan</i>	<i>Sean Dolan</i>	<i>Devin Donohue</i>	<i>Anya Fike</i>
<i>Brooke Galas</i>	<i>Mitchell Garner</i>	<i>Alexandra Kalita</i>	<i>Bethany Halferty</i>
<i>Samuel Lewis</i>	<i>Jazlyn Ludlow</i>	<i>Amanda Klamut</i>	<i>Taylor Kneitingner</i>
<i>Angel Neale</i>	<i>Amelia Oviatt</i>	<i>Brooke Normandin</i>	<i>Lindsey Piazza</i>
<i>Krista Seilberg</i>	<i>Jaclyn Wakeley</i>	<i>Mitchell Sulkowski</i>	<i>Clarice Scarpace</i>
<i>Natalie Wallence</i>		<i>Alexandria Osetkowski</i>	

Many thanks to the 'Remember Ryan Foundation' grant which helped supply a few new display board and to Donna Woodruff from BJ's for the donation of treats on Opening night!

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



Computer Lab News

Summer Fun Addition

Early Learning: (Activities for K- 2)
<http://www.ntschoools.org>
Click Departments Tab-Then Computer Skills

From The Computer Skills Department
Here are some educational and fun internet sites to explore over the summer with your children.
Enjoy!

Visit the
Public
Library



Reading/Writing:
<http://www.kidsreads.com> (book reviews)
<http://www.gigglepoetry.com> (all about poetry)
<http://plcmc.org/bookhive> (finding good literature for kids)

Keyboarding:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/>
<http://www.freetypinggame.net/play.asp>



Social Studies:
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

Both great sites for
Social Studies and

Math:
<http://multiplication.com/>
<http://www.arcademicskillbuilders.com/>
<http://www.mathplayground.com/>



Science:
<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forkids/kidsclub/flash/index.html>
<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/index.html>

Fun For All:
<http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>
<http://www.funbrain.com/>
<http://www.funschool.kaboose.com/>



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

From The Library...

It was a good year...

All Ohio students have become more independent library users, and have taken one more step towards the lifelong pursuit of independent learning!! We have read, discussed, listened, written, created, sang, performed, researched, organized and used information both print and online, enjoyed the book fair, and "Strived For Twenty-Five!"



Summer Reading...Summer Fun!

Please enjoy reading through the attached pamphlet entitled "Summer Reading Adventure" published by Reading Is Fundamental. It points out the importance of making sure that your child continues to learn and read over the summer. Children who read throughout the summer will gain skills. It also lists many fun family activities that promote literacy.

Our North Tonawanda Public Library is sponsoring a wonderful reading program this summer, "Rhythm, Rhyme, and Read - The 2009 Summer Reading Club. The summer celebration of creativity will begin on June 22, and run through August 16. It is for any child preschool through grade 9. The public librarians are also looking for volunteers for their Junior Friend program - for students entering grades 6 to 12. Volunteers may read to younger children, or sign-up for a weekly shift in the Children's department to assist with the Summer Reading Club. ***There will be a mandatory informational meeting on Thursday, June 4 at 3:45.***

Enjoy looking at our photo display of Ohio School's staff reading some of their favorite books! The display will be in the front foyer. Everyone is looking forward to some summer reading fun! We are hoping to inspire our students as well!

Attention!!! Check out our Newsletter "To Do" List below~

Newsletter TO DO List

- Complete and Return the Customer Opinion Survey – a survey regarding your impressions of the cafeteria services and food provided by Sodexo!
- Check out the "Are You Smarter than a Fourth Grader" Crossword Puzzle. This puzzle challenges your knowledge (the answer key is included at the end of the newsletter).

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

School Health Services – Have a Healthy Summer

Summer Sun

Here are some tips for managing the summer sun:

- UV Rays are strongest in the middle of the day. Plan indoor activities at that time or look for shade to prevent sunburn.
- Cover the skin with a shirt AND sunscreen to avoid sunburn!
- Wear a hat – preferably one that covers the neck and ears. When wearing a baseball style hat, remember to apply sunscreen to the neck and ears.
- Sunglasses protect eyes from UV rays. Look for sunglasses that wrap around and block nearly 100% of UV rays.
- Use sunscreen! Use a sunscreen with at least a SPF of 15 and UVA/UVB protection.
- *This information and more is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/skin/chooseyourcover/guide.htm>.*

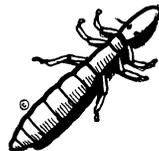
Vaccine Information

Summer is a good time to be sure that your student's immunizations are up to date! Students entering Kindergarten – Grade 12 in New York State require the following vaccinations:

DTaP	3 doses (4 doses for NYC students)	
Polio (IPV or OPV)	3 doses	
MMR	2 doses of measles, 1 dose mumps, rubella	
Hepatitis B	3 doses	
Varicella	1 dose if born on or after 1/1/98 or born on or after 1/1/94 and entering 6 th grade	
Tdap	1 dose if born on or after 1/1/94 and entering 6 th grade	



Head Lice Alert



Head lice reach a peak time for infestation during the summer because of overnight camps, slumber parties and vacations.

Consider checking your child's head for the presence of lice regularly during the summer and several times the week before school reopens. Information about identifying lice can be found at:

<http://healthgate.partners.org/browsing/LearningCenter.asp?fileName=11818.xml&title=Head%20Lice>

From the School Nurse...

Physical, immunization and sports forms will be sent home with your child this month for fall 2009. Please read the forms carefully and return them completed to the Health Office.

Beth Galas RN
Ohio School Nurse

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

Attention Parents: Notes to Note

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.

Please also remember



*****Please also remember** that as our weather becomes warmer, our students should continue to wear shoes or sneakers that are **safe and secure on their feet.** Flip-flops or sandals are not acceptable to wear to school during the school day.



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

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

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.

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. Everyone should have received a Global Connect Call during this year's school 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!

Answer Key to: *"Are You Smarter than a Fourth"* Grader Crossword Puzzle

Across:

2. food web
6. rotation
9. consumer
10. kilogram
11. Celsius
13. particle

Down:

1. condensation
3. revolution
4. food chain
5. producer
7. decomposer
8. gram
12. germination
14. cycle

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