



CESA

THE COLT'S TALE

Monthly Newsletter



Mrs. Martin ♣ Principal Grades PK-2 ♣ (330) 302-0103 ~ Mr. Falkenberg ♣ Principal Grades 3-5 ♣ (330) 302-0102

Upcoming Events

- ◆ 10/2—Grades 3-5 Conferences 4:30—8:00
- ◆ 10/7—Grade 3 OAA in Reading
- ◆ 10/16—Red Cross Blood Drive in the gym
- ◆ 10/17—No School NEOEA Day
- ◆ 10/22—Literacy Night 6:30—8:00
- ◆ 10/24—Report cards sent home grades 3-5
- ◆ 10/31—Classroom Halloween parties
- ◆ 11/4—Picture Re-take Day
- ◆ 11/11—Veterans' Day Assembly
- ◆ 11/13—K-5 conferences 8:30—8:00—no school
- ◆ 11/14—Teacher In-service no school

A FEW NOTES FROM OUR PRINCIPALS

Third Grade OAA

On Tuesday, October 7 third grade students at Cloverleaf Elementary School will be taking the fall Ohio Achievement Assessment in reading. We ask that all third grade students be at school, on time that day. As always it will be a real advantage for the students to come in having had a good night of sleep and a healthy breakfast. Results of the assessment are scheduled to be back to the school by early to mid-December.

Team Time

Near the end of almost each school day, teachers from one of the grades First through Fifth gather as a team for something we call Team Time. While the teachers are at Team Time the students of the grade level are meeting together for extra time in computer, art, music, or physical education, in class with the counselors or involved with intervention staff.

During Team Time the homeroom teachers and intervention specialists meet to work together on any of a number of tasks that are better accomplished as a group rather than individually. Some of these tasks include mapping the curriculum (which includes determining the order curriculum is covered and how best to teach it), de-

veloping common learning targets, planning specific lessons, analyzing data, building common assessments and much more. By working together as a team, teachers are able to draw on one another's strength and ideas that will help make instruction more meaningful and effective. With all the recent changes in education, time spent in Team Time as a group has had a positive impact on the education of our students.

Breakfast

This is a reminder that each day breakfast is available in the cafeteria for a small charge of \$1.00. Students who arrive at school early either by car or bus are permitted to enter the building and go directly to the cafeteria at 8:45 AM. They have the choice of either a hot or cold breakfast. (Only students who are attending Latchkey or are getting breakfast may enter the building before 9:00 AM.) Any student arriving in the cafeteria after the 9:00 AM bell will be permitted to purchase "breakfast in a bag" which does not include hot items. The student will take the breakfast to his or her homeroom. Anyone entering before 9:00 and eating in the cafeteria is to finish eating and get to homeroom by the 9:10 AM.

Halloween Parties

Cloverleaf Elementary School's Halloween parties are coming later this month. Most of them will be held on Friday, October 31. Please keep in mind that due to safety and space concerns, siblings of students are not permitted to accompany parents to class parties.

While not all of our students will be dressing up in a costume, many will be. Parents, please help your child adhere to a few simple guidelines as you plan with them what they will wear.

1. Children are to come dressed in their costumes. Please do not send your children to school in costumes that restrict their participation in regular activities of the day (classroom, physical education, lunch, recess, etc.)
2. Costumes should not be of a gruesome or grotesque nature nor should they reflect the dark side of the holiday. Costumes depicting blood, weapons, devils or evil witches will not be acceptable at Cloverleaf Elementary School.

Thank you in advance for your help in making the day a successful one.



MRS. STAFINSKI'S COUNSELOR'S CORNER



WOW, the first month of school has flown by! I have been busy going into the 1st, 3rd and 5th grade classrooms to present Guidance Lessons.

Our 1st graders have been introduced to the word Brave with the book, *My Brave Year of Firsts* by Jamie Lee Curtis ... During this lesson they learn that it takes bravery to try something for the "first" time, especially when it doesn't quite go as you planned. But, there is a great sense of pride that you feel when you finally accomplish your goal! 1st graders are taught that they can take deep breaths, think positive thoughts, or ask someone to help/support them. Keep encouraging your child to try new things...even if it's hard and focus on those small accomplishments!

Our 3rd graders have learned a lot about acceptance when they were introduced to my "Crayon Box That Talked". Through this lesson 3rd graders have learned to appreciate each other's differences. We encourage everyone to give compliments and point out the positives. When we do this, we can all get along.

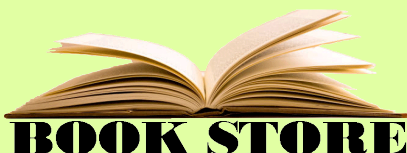
Our 5th graders are learning what it takes to be a leader. Their first lesson is on teamwork. To be a better teammate, 5th graders participated in a variety of team building activities. During these activities they had to practice listening to others ideas, taking turns, encouraging each other, and communicating in a non-defensive way to achieve a common goal. We are very proud of our 5th grade TEAM!

Lunch Bunches are starting up! I will be offering Lunch bunches all throughout the year. I also will be offering some skill specific groups in the areas of Social Skills, Self-Regulation skills and School Success skills. If you would like your child to participate in one of these groups please contact me, Lara.Stafinski@cloverleaflocal.org



The PTO Book Store

The PTO book store will be starting up again on Monday October 6th. It will be located in various hallways each morning from 8:55-9:10am. Mon-Blue Upper, Tues-Red Upper, Wed- Blue Lower, Thurs- Red Lower. Items available will be folders, pencils, highlighters, rulers, erasers, pencil sharpeners, binder dividers, notebooks, composition notebooks, binders, crayons, colored pencils, dry erase markers, and mechanical pencil lead. Prices range from 5 cents to 2 dollars.



BOOK STORE

CESA

Congratulations to the following 5th grade students on being selected as the 2014-2015 Cloverleaf Elementary Student Ambassadors (otherwise known as CESA)...

Arasaylie Byczek, Austin Cummings, Gavin Depew, Grahm Dixon, Jessica Dolowy, Jillian Donnelly, Joe Donnelly, Hannah Eckelberry, Kayleigh Ethington, Nolan Freeland, Cole Gibson, Nicole Goode, Alexis Hankins, Ashley Kizzen, Shelby Knapp, Paige McMaster, Noah Norris, Arabella Polen, Ashley Sigmon, Cassidy Smith, Dana Thur, Kaitlin Timura, Jared Waggaman, Mackenzie Waggaman, Ethan Wangler, and Colton Ziehm

CESA Members are already making a difference here at CES. Here are just a few of the things we are working on...

CESA is sponsoring their first event this Friday, October 3rd...WORLD SMILE DAY! J They will be spreading smiles all over CES! We encourage everyone to wear a yellow or black shirt in honor of the smile face! "A smile can happen in a flash, but the memory of it will last a lifetime!"

Upcoming Events: October 27-31 CES will be recognizing Red Ribbon Week. CESA members will be asking students to take the pledge to stay drug free all that week during lunch. We encourage everyone to WEAR RED on Wednesday, October 29th. Many more details to come...



CESA



Behavior

Expectations

Building positive relationships among our students, staff, parents and community is a priority here at Cloverleaf Elementary School. Our challenge to you is to be a part of the process and involvement as we move forward to educate and enrich

the lives our students. We ask that you take part in our school-wide behavior expectations by promoting them in the home as well as in the school. The four expectations that have been established are:

- I can be **Respectful.**
- I can be **Responsible.**
- I can be a **Problem Solver.**
- I can be **Safe.**

When we work together to embed these expectations in our children's lives, we can create an enjoyable and successful learning environment for all.



MRS. THIRY'S COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Over the years counselors and teachers have had many parents ask how to help their children develop positive personal qualities. We've heard questions such as: "My son is so selfish, how can I teach him to be generous?" "My daughter is always so angry and mean to her friends. What can I do to help her see that she should treat others with kindness and respect?" and "How can I get my child to be more honest?"

When it comes to character development, there is nothing more foolish than the old saying, "Do as I say, not as I do." Your children first need to see **virtue in action** in order to try out their "virtue-wings". Parents, relatives, siblings, and childcare providers give children their first glimpses of courage, honesty, generosity, fairness and respect. It's not enough for your children to see you and other important adults and peers behaving virtuously. They also need encouragement, praise, and character feedback.

Encouragement: You can encourage your children with words or simply by showing faith in their positive potential. For the boy who is acting selfishly, you might say, "I'm going to stop reminding you to share because I know you can do it on your own." You can also actively notice your children's behavior when they do something positive. For example, when you see your daughter share her toys

with another child, you might just say, "Hey, I noticed you let Jude play with your special toy." You don't even need to follow that comment up with praise, because just the fact that you noticed will have an affect. I remember watching my son during a football game reach out his hand and pat other teammates on the back or help them up off the field. He would look over at me to see if I had noticed, and of course I was smiling from ear to ear, and he knew just how proud I was of him. He, in turn, was proud of himself.

Unfortunately, when we repeatedly focus on the negative with our children, they may begin believing us. So, the girl who acts angry begins to define herself as "an angry girl." You can see how important it is to notice when your children behave kindly and to give them a positive character building statement such as, "You're the kind of girl who knows how to be nice to her friends." or "Brock, you are always so caring of your friends' feelings when you ask them what they would like to play instead of demanding to play what you want to play. No wonder you have so many friends!"

Dishonesty: Children are often tempted to lie about their misbehavior. This isn't an easy problem, but one strategy I find that works is to separate the misbehavior from the truth or lie. In other words, when children are honest about the rules they've broken, they can receive "truth bonuses." Or, if they lie about breaking a rule,

then they suffer two separate consequences, one for the misbehavior and one for the lie.

Good works: Character development is enhanced by opportunities to do good in the world. Volunteering to help at food banks, helping coach younger children, giving money to a family-chosen charity, helping your child's classroom teacher, -- all these efforts instill important habits in your children. But don't force them to help at the soup kitchen alone. Join them, and have a talk afterwards. These talks are definitely key. Of course it's hard to find time for such things, hard to interact with people who seem different and tempting to feel judgmental toward people who need help, but the payoffs can be enormous.

Character development begins at home and continues at school. As a parent, consider how you can bring some of your best character-building ideas to school. You can have a voice here at CES in choosing character-building reading materials, activities and speakers. Talk to Mrs. Thiry or Mrs. Stafiniski, your child's counselors, or your child's teachers, coaches, or principal about how you can contribute to the challenge of character development.



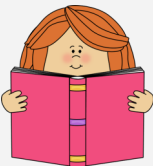
Strategies taken from: schoolcounselor.com and ohio.schoolcounselor.org

PRINCIPAL'S blog

Hey, Cloverleaf Elementary School Families! Check out the new blog by Mr. Falkenberg and Mrs. Martin! It's a great place to find news, photos and videos of all the great happenings at Cloverleaf Elementary School. Just go to www.cloverleaflocal.org and click on the CES. You will find a link on the left side of the page.

SAVE THE DATE: CES Literacy Night,

October 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m.



Peanut butter and Jelly Birthdays and Cake Chocolate and Milk
Literacy and Learning.



The **staff at CES** understands that literacy and learning go hand in hand. Students must decode, comprehend, build vocabulary, write AND communicate to grow knowledge about the world.

THEY MUST READ TO LEARN!

The Staff at CES invites you to **Literacy Night**. Inform yourself about the programs and strategies we use to grow readers. CES staff will answer your questions about AIMSweb, red words, Phonics First, Reading in the Content Areas, Brain Gym, Reading and the Arts, the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, and much more.

Watch for a **RSVP** letter the first full week of October and
SAVE THE DATE: CES Literacy Night, October 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Group Counseling in Grades K, 2, & 4—Mrs. Thiry

As you know, a letter was sent home in September to parents of students in grades K, 2, & 4 regarding group counseling that is available. These support groups offer young people an opportunity to share feelings and concerns openly with peers who often have similar feelings and life experiences. These student groups are led by Mrs. Thiry, the K, 2, & 4th grade School Counselor, and are designed to be preventative, short-term, supportive, and developmental in nature. They run for approximately 4-6 weeks. Students will come to the counselor's office once a week during lunch/recess time. The groups that are available, which were explained on the letter, are "Changing Families", "Friendship", "Self-Esteem", and "Anger Management". If you are interested in having your child join a group, please contact Mrs. Thiry by phone at 330-302-0103 or by email at