

DOWDS SCHOOL

April '09' NEWSLETTER



Spring is here!!! Can you believe it...Hopefully the break will bring great weather and the kids can have a chance to play outside and release some energy before we come back to school on April 14th. When the students return from break we will have four days before our third and fourth graders start testing on April 20th.

If you get a chance, you are welcome to join us (we might have to squeeze you in) on April 14th. We will be having a whole school pep rally to cheer on our third and fourth graders for the OAT's with Jim Basketball Jones. Basketball Jones overcame a learning disability and graduated in the top of his class in college. He will tell his story to our students using basketball tricks on April 14th. It is a great story and show. He is a motivation to everyone and his motto is "I CAN, I WILL, I WILL NOT QUIT." Check out his website @ <http://www.jimbasketballjones.com/>

This past month the Shelby Board of Education voted to implement all day Kindergarten in the district. This is such an exciting time for our youngest learners as next years class will be the first class ever to go all day in the Shelby City School District.

Finally, this month I would like to remind parents about teacher requests. Classroom placement is a task that we put a lot of thought into and there are many factors that we look at and consider. We would ask that you try to limit your teacher requests and respect our professional opinion about the best placement for your child. If you find it necessary to make a request, you must request a parental request form from the office. **Only requests received on the appropriate form will be accepted.** No requests will be accepted after May 1st. It must be understood there is no guarantee that the request will be made.

Yours in Education,
Mr. Walker

Dowds Elementary 2009 Ohio Achievement Testing Schedule

4th Grade April 20 th	Reading Achievement Test
April 22 nd	Math Achievement Test
April 24 th	Writing Achievement Test
3rd Grade April 27 th	Reading Achievement Test
April 29 th	Math Achievement Test

In order to be successful on the test, it would be to your child's benefit if they limit all extra curricular activities the night before the test, were well rested, and arrive on time each test day. Also, it is going to be important for your child to eat a nutritious breakfast the morning of the test. Therefore, on each test day, all students should eat a *free breakfast* that is provided by Dowds PTO. If your child is not feeling well or there is an emergency please call me by 7:30 at 342-4641.

Kindergarten
Registration
April 20-24th at the
Bell Center on
Gamble Street

Spring Break
April 4th-13th
School Resumes on April 14th

PTO NEWS!!!

Information from Gifted Department

Twice each year the opportunity to test your child for possible identification as gifted is offered. Now is the time for referrals and testing. One or more of these four areas can be assessed:

Superior Cognitive Ability
Specific Academic Ability
Creative Thinking
Visual/Performing Arts

If your child demonstrates advanced learning abilities, you may want to consider referring him/her for testing. If your child was tested within the past year, there is no need to request testing again at this time. We generally offer testing in the fall and spring of each school year. Referral packets are available through your building secretary. Once we receive the referral, you will be notified of the testing procedures.

Call Sheri Mitchell, Supervisor for Gifted, at 419-347-5457 with any questions.

Spring is right around the corner! Please note the dates of the upcoming PTO sponsored activities:

May 1st Family Carnival 5:00-8:00
May 11-15 Book Sale (Buy One/ Get One)
May 27th Field Day

PTO sends its best wishes to the 3rd & 4th graders who will be taking the Ohio Achievement Tests following spring break. We are happy to make breakfast available to all 3rd and 4th graders on testing days as well as providing some additional snacks during testing days for their taxed little brains! This is one of many activities we are able to assist with as a result of you supporting our fundraising activities and special events.

Our next meeting will be April 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Art/ Music room. Childcare will be available. Please join us if you are able!

SAVE THE DATE:

Dowds
Carnival
Family Night!!!
May 1st
5:00-8:00

Future of Shelby
Schools:
Community Meeting
about New School
Facilities
@ 7:00
David A. Jones Little Theater