

DOWDS SCHOOL

April '11' NEWSLETTER



There should be no spring fever around these parts as the cold weather continues to make it's presence known!!! Spring break is right around the corner and I believe things should start to warm up. After spring break we will have one week until our 3rd and 4th graders take the Ohio Achievement Assessment! April and May are going to be two busy months around here as we work to finish the school year out on a positive note!!! Please keep in contact with your child's teacher if you have any questions about any events or field trips.

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 at 2:00 p.m. to cheer on our third and fourth graders for the OAA's with NED. The NED Show promotes academic achievement and character development by teaching three critical skills that will benefit kids for a lifetime:

Never Give Up Encourage Others Do Your Best.

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

SAVE THE DATE:

Dowds Carnival
Family Night!!!
May 6th
4:30-7:00

PTO Meeting
April 12th
6:30

Spring Break
April 18th-22

School Resumes
April 25th

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 has arrived! Please note the dates of the upcoming PTO sponsored activities:

May 6th Family Carnival 4:30-7:00
May 10-12 Book Sale (Buy One/ Get One)
May 25 Fun 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 12th at 6:30 p.m. in the Art/ Music room. Childcare will be available. Please join us if you are able!

Dowds Elementary 2011 Ohio Achievement Testing Schedule

3rd Grade

May 2nd

Reading Achievement Test

May 4th

Math Achievement Test

4th Grade

May 3rd

Reading Achievement Test

May 5th

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, are 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.