

Stevenson Star

The Adventure Begins

February 2012

Dear Families,

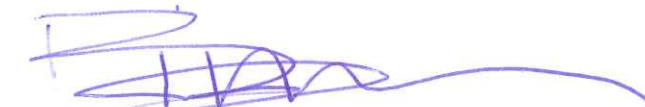
It is hard to believe that January has come and gone and the school year is more than half complete. As a matter of fact, we have already celebrated our 100th Day in school! The second half of the school year promises to be as busy and rewarding as the first and I'm hoping for those sunny Central Ohio days to return very soon. As the weather remains unpredictable, however, please make sure your children are prepared for outdoor play. We go outside any time the temperature, inclusive of wind chill, is 20 degrees or above.

The next several months are important as we reach the height of our instructional time. Standardized testing for grades 1-3 will occur during the week of March 5. While these opportunities provide one snapshot into the overall achievement of our students, I ask for your cooperation in avoiding doctor's appointments and any other activity which may prohibit your child from being in school and on time during those days.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Joanne Taylor and the K-3 PTO. The staff and I truly appreciate the support our PTO affords our students and our community and each contribution you make in creating the warm and supportive environment at Stevenson. You can always find the latest PTO happenings on the web at www.grandviewpto.net.

The spirit and joy of your children are the pinnacle of this great learning environment. As February brings us St. Valentine's Day and the opportunity to show others just how much we care, be sure to create opportunities to show your loved ones just how much you care for them—most importantly, your children.

Sincerely,



Brian R. Bowser
Principal

Edward J. O'Reilly,
Superintendent
Brian R. Bowser, Principal

Board of Education Members

Grant Douglass, President
1115 Urlin Ave.
487-9139 (home)
grant.douglass@ghcsd.org

Katie Clifford, Vice-President
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Deborah (Debbie) Brannan,
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Adam Miller, Member
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adam.miller@ghcsd.org

The board meetings have been moved to the Third Tuesday of every month @ 7:00 p.m. in the Brotherhood of the Rooks Media Center located in the high school.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In case of severe weather or other emergency situations which would cause the cancellation of school, the following procedures are followed:



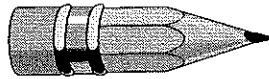
-The superintendent consults with the appropriate authorities to determine the conditions of local sidewalks and streets as well as roads in Franklin County since staff members live throughout central Ohio.

-The weather forecast for the day is reviewed. A decision is reached in regard to the safety of our children and staff traveling to and from school.

-If a decision is made to close schools, it will be made by 6:00 a.m. - if possible - and will be made for one day at a time. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL** or radio and TV stations. The announcement will be made on all of the major television and radio stations. The school will attempt to notify families by phone through **an automated phone/email system** also, but our website will have the most up-to-date information.

(www.grandviewschools.org)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
WITH THE FOLLOWING
DATES:**



FEBRUARY 7TH

**LATE START
10:10 A.M.**

FEBRUARY 8TH AND 9TH

Darby Creek to visit 2nd graders

FEBRUARY 14TH

Valentine's Day Parties - P.M.

FEBRUARY 20th:

**NO SCHOOL
PRESIDENTS' DAY**

MARCH 5TH

Officer Phil visits RLS

MARCH 6-7-8:

Testing Grades 1, 2 and 3

MARCH 16TH

End of 3rd Nine Weeks

MARCH 23RD

Report Cards Go Home

APRIL 2ND - 9TH

SPRING BREAK No School

APRIL 10TH

School resumes

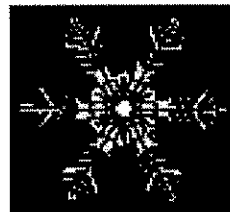
APRIL 17TH

Group Pictures



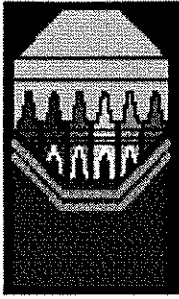
Registration for the 2012 summer and 2012-2013 Kids' Club program will open on February 1st. On the evening of January 30th the registration form will be available for download at the Kids' Club website (see link below). Answers to frequently asked questions as well as information about tuition and rates is available on the site now. As always, space is limited and the summer program can fill up quickly. Registrations are accepted on a first come, first placed basis. In order to reserve a space for your child you must turn in the **both** the registration form and the registration fee. Feel free to contact the Kids' Club office at 485-4040, or stop by, if you have any questions.

**THE WEATHER
OUTSIDE...**



Our students go outside if the temperature is 20 degrees or above, inclusive of wind chill. Please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather, including boots, hats, scarves and gloves. We try to go out as much as possible.

**Please label all of your
child's clothing!**



Kindergarten Registration for 2012-2013

Each family needs to pick-up a registration packet at the Board of Education Office located at 1587 West Third Avenue (inside the High School). Children who turn 5 years old on or before September 30 are eligible for kindergarten. Registration materials will be available to residents starting Monday Feb. 6th @ 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday (BOE office)

All materials with required paperwork should be returned to the Board of Education office no later than Friday March 9th.

There will be one evening set-aside for evening pick up-- Tuesday February 21st from 6-8 p.m. (BOE office)

Once a completed packet has been received, you will receive an appointment time for Kindergarten Welcome Day that will be scheduled in April. No appointment will be made until you have submitted your complete packet.

For more information, contact Teresa Rill at 485-4016 or check the district's website at www.grandviewschool.org and click on the 'registration' tab.



GOOD BYE TREES

Many of you have noticed that the two cottonwood trees on First Ave. have been cut down. While we were sad to see them go, they had been analyzed by more than one arborist and their removal was necessary to promote a safe pedestrian area.



Physical Education Notes from Mr. Gilbert

January was jump rope month in physical education class. All grades have worked on short and long rope jumping skills. Kindergarten and first grades worked on the basic jump while trying to turn their own rope. Second and third grade students worked on some fancy footwork skills while jumping their own rope and also tried some partner jumping tricks as well. All students wrapped up jump rope with some long rope jumping skills and tricks. Jumping rope is a great heart healthy exercise and the second and third graders will finish their jump rope unit by participating in "Jump Rope for Heart" sponsored by the American Heart Association.

Mr. Gilbert

Counselor's Corner

Dear Families,

Well we've officially made it over the halfway mark of the school year, and the countdown to 100 day has begun! I hope everyone was able to enjoy the holidays with family and friends and finally relax.

Things here at Stevenson have been busy as usual as we get back into the routine of a five-day week. I have continued to be in all of the classrooms this past month. This month in third grade we have built upon our topic of empathy and basic kindness and we are now discussing teasing and what are some ways to handle teasing. We read the book Simon's Hook that discusses a hook is similar to teasing and it's up to us if we take a bite or not. The classes came up with many alternatives to do instead of "biting". Some of those solutions were: Ask them to stop, ignore it, go play with someone else, walk away, and stay away from people that you know don't make you feel good about yourself.

For second grade we have continued to focus on cooperation. We know cooperation means working together. We have been working on this through cooperative games with mixed groups.

First grade has been focusing on impulsivity. We read My Mouth is a Volcano. This book explains a strategy of thinking what we have to say breathing it out through your nose and when it's your turn to talk breathe it back in. Often times, when a child has a habit such as shouting out, we want to teach them a replacement strategy. This is an easy visual for them to practice if they are having a difficult time with interrupting.

Kindergarten has been focusing on dealing with frustration. We read When Sophie Gets Angry, and everyone chose a strategy they use to calm their bodies down. When children get angry, our first response is to calm our bodies down so we can choose an appropriate solution. This week we reviewed the book again, and then discussed "okay" and "not okay" solutions to problems. If you see that your child is not making an appropriate choice for handling anger, help him or her to brainstorm a better way. If you notice your child making a great solution, be sure to reinforce with positive praise.

Thank you for your continued support at home. As always, if there is anything I can do to help please feel free to let me know.

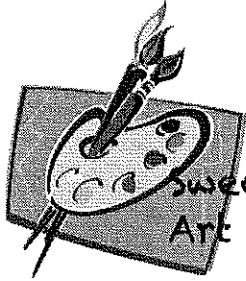
Stephanie Doran
stephanie.doran@ghcsd.org
485-4204

Music



NOTES

Kindergarten	1st/2nd Grade	3rd Grade
<p>We are pushing on with our knowledge of melody glissandi and contour by preparing to be presented the formal usage and understanding of "high" and "low". This is treacherously tough for a 5 year old, as they live in a world of misnomers and conflicting language. For example, if the stereo is too loud, we turn it down... This inevitably distorts a child's understanding of pitch (high's and low's) to become muddled with volume (loud's and soft's). Clarifying this confusion is a big moment for your Kindergartener, so I encourage you to reinforce this by consistent use of appropriate musical language - we don't turn the volume "up" or "down", but rather we make it <i>louder</i> or <i>softer</i>. In our exploration of "high" and "low", ask your son or daughter about Mouton the Sheep, Paying Rent, and Handy Dandy - maybe you'll learn a little something about pitch (if not history ;) in the process!</p>	<p>We have had a great month learning to become adept at using our 5-line staff! We know that if "so" is on a line, then "mi" will always be on the line below, or, if "so" is on a space, then "mi" will always be on the space below; So and mi are best friends, and where you find one, you'll be sure to find the other! Additionally, we are finding that although short-shorts are friends too, friends don't have to be together <i>everywhere</i> and <i>everytime</i> - they are allowed to still be paired even though one might be on one pitch and the other on another. Regarding pitch, we have begun discovering that many of our songs also have a new 3rd pitch within - higher, even, than so! We are calling this "high" until we can learn more about it... Most importantly since break, however, is the fact that all of our music has been affected by the last big wind storm. Be sure to ask your child what the big deal was with this storm, Mr. Petit, and music class!!!!</p>	<p>The third grade too has been learning adeptness with the 5-line staff. We are realizing that "do" and "mi" are great friends with similar taste (if one is on a line/space, then so is the other), while "re" is the odd "third wheel" stuck between "do" and "mi"... Additionally, we have discovered that much of our music is chocked full of higher pitches too - specifically, one that we are always identifying and dubbing "high". As the year progresses, and your child masters current pitches/intervals, new ones will be coming - so hold on tight! Furthermore, like our 1st and 2nd grade comrades, we too have experienced the ill-effects of a major wind storm; ask your child what the storm did to some of our rhythms! Moving into February, we are combining many of these new concepts into a new song that utilizes the Autoharp - a pre-tuned and auto-fretting string instrument that every 3rd grader will get opportunities to play!</p>



Sweet 'n' Sauer
Art Room News!

chris.sauer@ghcsd.org

It has been a busy time here lately in the art room. Lots of quality, lots of quantity. In addition to all the projects we have worked on, every student made their own little contribution to a larger grade-level piece, which in turn, was donated to the Grandview Gala. Hopefully these pieces inspired some lucky families to contribute to a great cause and walk away with a keepsake for the household for years to come! Here's what your children have been doing since we last talked...

Kindergarten – Wow, it's been a while since we've updated! We have been busy with the following; "**L is for Landscape**", "**M is for Mondrian**", "**N is for Night**", and "**O is for Olivia**". Sprinkling a little art history in the mix, the kids learned about some very fun and funky painting styles of **Piet Mondrian** and **Jackson Pollock**.

First Grade – Our *balance* unit concluded with each class looking at symmetrical and asymmetrical balance by painting a few butterflies (symmetrical) and arranging them together in an unbalanced (asymmetrical) way. Last week, we began our look at *emphasis* as an art term.

Second Grade – Looking to Europe for the first time, and realizing that it is hard to pin down an artistic style that could be called uniquely European, we have instead begun to look at individual artists. We began this journey by looking at and designing collage jungles based on the works of French post-impressionist artist **Henri Rousseau**.

Third Grade – Finishing our Egyptian clay pieces, we explored some color theory to make some watercolor painted paper "tiles" to create our own version of a Byzantine mosaic. These are nearing completion, and we are ready to rocket back up the time line!

*****EXCITING NEWS!!!*****

All the children are going to be working on an art project that will be used as a fundraiser for PTO. The exciting part is that all their works will be photographed and printed on various goods available for purchase by you, the proud parent! Following, is a link to the website for *Art to Remember*, the group doing the photographing and printing. <http://www.arttoremember.com/keepsake-products>

Mr. Sauer



The BOBCAT AWARD

Recognizing Outstanding
Employees and Community
Members of the
Grandview Heights City
School District
*Sponsored By
Tri-Village Rotary Club*

The Grandview Heights City School District is synonymous with excellence. The district's faculty, staff, and community members have earned the district this reputation. Each employee and countless community members contribute to the overall success of the district each and every day.

To recognize the outstanding contributions of the many people who make the district successful, the *Tri-Village Rotary Club* has established, and is the sole sponsor of, *The Bobcat Award*.

This quarterly award will be presented at a meeting of the Grandview Heights Board of Education to an individual, or individuals, who has made a noteworthy contribution to the district. The criteria for this award shall be as follows:

- All employees and community members of the Grandview Heights City School District are eligible to receive a *Bobcat Award*.
- The Bobcat Award Committee will review written nominations. The committee will select each quarter's winner or winners.
- Employees, parents, students and friends of Grandview Heights City Schools can make nominations.
- Nominations will be accepted during the school year.
- Winners will be honored at a Tri-Village Rotary Club breakfast at the end of the school year.
- The award schedule for the 2011-2012 school year is:

<i>Nomination form due to the superintendent</i>	<i>Award presentation at the Board of Education meeting</i>
October 31, 2011	November 8, 2011
January 31, 2012	February 14, 2012
March 30, 2012	April 10, 2012
May 29, 2012	June 12, 2012



Tri-Village Rotary Club
BOBCAT AWARD
Nomination Form

Date: _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Nominee's position or relationship to the school district:

The purpose of The Bobcat Award is to recognize an outstanding contribution of time, talent or effort to the Grandview Heights City Schools by an employee or community member. Please explain in detail why your nominee is deserving of this award. (Please print in ink or type your nomination. You may attach an additional sheet if necessary.)

Name(s) of Nominator: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Are you a...(please check one)

student

district employee

school volunteer

parent/guardian

other

Please return this form to:

Edward J. O'Reilly, Superintendent
Grandview Heights City Schools
1587 W. Third Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43212

FEBRUARY 2012

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
			1	2	3	4
MCCANN PLEDGE			SUMMER K-CLUB REGISTRATION OPENS		KID'S NIGHT OUT 6-9 P.M. YEARBOOK SALES END SPIRIT DAY	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
OSWALD PLEDGE	KINDERGARTEN PACKETS CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE BOARD OFFICE STARTING TODAY 8:30 - 3:30	LATE START 10:10 A.M.	DARBY CREEK TO VISIT 2ND GRADE	DARBY CREEK TO VISIT 2ND GRADE		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
TEACH PLEDGE		VALENTINE'S DAY celebrations in the afternoon			SPIRIT DAY	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	NO SCHOOL PRESIDENT'S DAY	BOARD OF EDUCATION 7:00 P.M.				
26	27	28	29	March 1, 2012	2	3