

ELEMENTARY OFFICE  
419-937-2804

IMPORTANT  
REMINDERS

- School starts at 8:00 a.m.
- Students can enter the building for breakfast at 7:40 a.m.
- Students not eating breakfast should not arrive early as they cannot enter classrooms until 7:50 a.m.

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# Smoke Signals



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 1, 2011

## From the Desk of Mrs. Losey, Principal



Even though this is the December Smoke Signals, I believe it is imperative that I begin with a few words for which I am thankful. While I have a wonderful and supportive family at home, I believe it is important to give thanks for my extended family—that being my Hopewell-Loudon Family!

I am very fortunate to have 474 students and 38 staff members. I am also extremely thankful

for every child's support system at home. I know, as a mother of two young girls, life can be rather hectic at times, but I greatly appreciate all the families who have made a commitment to help their child achieve to their fullest potential.

May everyone have a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season!



Hopewell-Loudon  
Elementary Students & Staff are  
**TOADaily**  
Out of This  
World!

### Striving for Excellence

Your comments or concerns are important to me. Please feel free to email me at [jlosey@hlschool.org](mailto:jlosey@hlschool.org) or contact the elementary office 419-937-2804.

**NOTE:**  
**January's Smoke Signals will not go home until January 5th.**

## 3rd Grade OAA Parent Meeting

-OR-

MONDAY DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30-6:15 P.M.  
IN THE DLL

This is an **informational meeting** for parents to learn more about the Ohio Achievement Assessment and to get their child's results from the fall administration of the test. In an effort to best meet families needs, there are **two** meeting time options:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>  
8:00-8:45 A.M.  
IN THE DLL

As this is an informational meeting, it would be best for parents to attend without children (however, if lack of child care arrangements will prohibit you from coming then please bring them).



Veteran's Day  
Supply Drive  
A HUGE SUCCESS!!!!

Special thanks to our families and community members who helped by sending in donations or making financial contributions to make this collection possible.



We would also like to thank the American Legion Post 733 for their donation of a new American flag which we are flying proudly in honor of all Americans on a daily basis!

# Feature Teachers: Burns, Sayre, & Steyer



## Mrs. Johnson's Top Library Picks

- K: *A Wish to Be a Christmas Tree*  
By Colleen Monroe
- 1st: *The Very Snowy Christmas*  
By Diana Hendry
- 2nd: *Are You Grumpy Santa?*  
By Greg & Evan Spiridellis
- 3rd: *It's A Wonderful Life*  
By Jimmy Hawkins
- 4th: *Max & Maggie*  
By Ellen Miles
- 5th: *The Return of Light: A Christmas Tale*  
By Dia. Colhoun
- 6th: *Searching for David's Heart: A Christmas Story*  
By Cherie Bennett

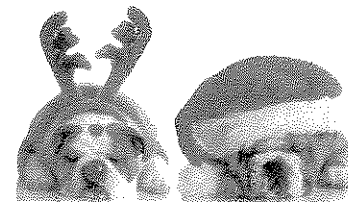
The Second Grade has been very busy so far this school year and December will continue to be this way. We are working very hard on our reading and are studying about Route 66 and the different kinds of landforms seen on that journey. In December we will be discussing the different customs around the world at Christmas time. One activity that the students are working on with the

help of their families is collecting money to give families meals at Christmas. All of us in the Second Grade would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season.



## Student Council News

Once again, the Elementary Student Council will be adopting area families in need this Christmas. Several grade levels have been collecting monetary donations to do some shopping for the children in these families. If you would like to make a monetary donation, put it in an envelope marked "adopted families" and your child's teacher will get it to Mrs. Gelinias. Every penny helps! *As always your support is greatly needed and very much appreciated.*



### Meeting Dates:

- December 6-Regular Meeting
- December 14-Teacher Helper Meeting



### Spirit Days

- December 7-Pearl Harbor Day  
Wear Red White & Blue
- December 22-"Holly-Day"  
Wear Red & Green and Wear Your Favorite Holiday Hat



### Take Note:

Our Elementary Program Dates are:

- K-April 17 7:00 p.m.
  - 1 & 2-March 22 7:00 p.m.
  - 3 & 4-March 8 7:00 p.m.
  - 5 & 6-December 19 7:00 p.m.
- Exact start time for each group to be determined...general start time shared.



### Avoiding

### Lost &

### Found

Helpful Hint: It would be **EX-TREMELY** beneficial for you to write your child's name inside their clothing or boots/shoes so they can be returned.

Due to space issues & an abundance of items ...after one month of items not being claimed they may be donated to a clothing drive.



## Delay Reminders

It is that time of year when weather situations can cause us to delay school as we want to ensure safety for students and staff.

In the event we have a 2 hour delay keep in mind school starts at 10:00 with only a cold breakfast available for students.

In the event of a 3 hour delay School starts at 11:00 and we do not dismiss until 4:00 p.m. with no breakfast being served.

# Reading Connections by Mrs. Walker



## Parents are Teachers... Make literacy part of your family time!

Literacy is at the root of a person's ability to succeed and the family is at the heart. -Lind, 1999

Learning to read begins at home! You are your child's first and most important teacher! Studies show that it's vitally important for children to have a good start in reading. Here are some simple and fun ways families can help children improve reading!

- Talk, sing, & read with your child!
- Play board games.
- Choose books over TV.
- Write the grocery list together.
- Read the ingredients & directions on a recipe & make something yummy to eat together!
- Create a comfy spot to read at home.
- Visit the local library and check out books (perhaps even try some audio books).
- Read bedtime stories to your child or have them read a story to you.
- Make a map of your yard or neighborhood and label the pictures.

## How to Read with a Beginning Reader

- Echo read with your child. You read one sentence and then they repeat the sentence. This helps build fluency.
- Have your child follow along with the text using their pointer finger
- Talk about the text! Make comments or ask questions.
- Re-read the same books. It helps again with building your child's fluency.

## What to do When Your Child Gets Stuck:

Be patient. Don't just tell your child a word if he/she doesn't know the word. Instead remind your child to:

- "Use your eagle eye!" Which means look at the pictures for a clue.
- "Let's try Lips the Fish." Which means get your lips ready for that first sound. Don't forget the last sound, too!
- "Try Chunky Monkey." Which means look for familiar chunks to help figure out the word.
- "How about Flippy the Dolphin?" Which means can we flip that vowel sound? For example change from the short a sound to the long a sound.
- If else fails and they have tried all these strategies then it is time to give them the word.

## Questions You Can Ask...

### Before Reading

- What do you think this story will be about? Why?
- What do you already know about this topic?

### During Reading

- What do you think will happen next/
- What is the problem in the story?
- How do you think the character feels?

### After Reading

- What was this story mostly about?
- What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
- If you could change the end, how would it end?

Tip: Follow the 20 minute rule! A beginning reader should spend at least 20 minutes a day reading to or with someone.

## PTO News (Next meeting December 12th 6:30 p.m. room 111)



One thing our PTO was extremely thankful for this year—your support with our

PIE sales! Thanks to everyone who placed an order or encouraged others to purchase some yummy treats our Market Day profits were \$911.70. Our top winning class was

Mrs. Coppus' class who has won a "pizza-pie party". Our top selling students in each class will receive a rent one get one free movie rental from Family Video.

## PTO Calendar of Events...Please Join us & Consider Volunteering!

### December

- 7-9th Santa Shop
- 12, 6:30 PTO Mtg
- 13, 3:00-4:30 Market Day Pickup



### January

- 9, 6:30 PTO Mtg
- 21, Saturday Family Movie Night
- 24, 3:00-4:30 Market Day Pickup



### February

- 13th 6:30 PTO Mtg
- 21st 3:00-4:30 Market Day Pickup
- 27th 6:30 Bingo Planning Meeting



**Eascom WSOS**

**Preschool**

**is still accepting children for 2011-2012**

**Please call Alice Link at 419-937-2988**



**Respectful Students of the Month**



Not Available for Photo:  
Marissa Cline  
Jagger Endicott



# Mr. Wilhelm's Wisdom

## RESPECT

I have thought and thought and thought about a definition of Respect. I have listened to R-E-S-P-E-C-T ... and read numerous articles on the topic and have yet to uncover a simple definition or explanation of the concept. That leaves me to make my observations.

Respect is not an all or nothing concept. It is more like an onion; it has many layers. On the outside respect is how we relate with the world around us. Do we take care of the environment and those far away people in a way that demonstrates our value of them? Move inward: How do we treat people we pass on the street, a stray cat, or community property?

Further inward: How do we interact with people we see on a regular basis

such as classmates, co-workers, as well as their property and space? At the deepest personal level: How do we relate to people and places that we call friends, family, or home?

Given-vs.-earned-vs.-position  
Given is a level of respect to all. This respect is that which is afforded to any person for simply being human. It is those polite actions which we do on daily, even moment by moment basis. Opening a door for someone, saying hello, empathizing with success and tragedy of strangers and acquaintances alike are examples of given. Earned respect is that which must be proven. It is reserved for those who demonstrate worthiness in thoughts and actions.

Respecting a position means that one

recognizes the worthiness of a position, say team captain, because that position carries responsibility beyond others.

Conclusion  
With all this, what do we tell our children that respect means? It means simply to take care of people and stuff. We pick-up a crayon from the floor, not because we are asked to do it or because we want a prize, but because it is the right thing to do. We say, "Thank you" and "Excuse me" because that is part of who we have become. We open doors for others and help carry another's burden. We give what we can to anyone in need without regard for our own desires. We celebrate what we give and receive as well as the recipient or giver of the gift.

*Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!*

## Recognizing



Daily we encourage and monitor positive character traits. This month's students have consistently demonstrated a respectful nature in a variety of ways such as being a good listener, helping others, responding to requests the first time, saying please and thank you, cleaning up after themselves or others. Congratulations to our **RESPECTFUL** students of the month!

### Kindergarten

- Mrs. Steinhauer T/Th & W/F
- Caine McDonald
  - Marissa Cline
- Mr. Wilhelm
- Alayanna Jones

### First

- Mrs. Bloom
- Angelica Molotola
- Mrs. Lucius
- Jagger Endicott
- Mrs. Wise
- Daniel Faber

### Second

- Mrs. Burns
- Ryan Cook
- Mrs. Sayre
- Jolene Cook
- Mrs. Steyer
- Brodie Vitt

### Third

- Mrs. Coppus
- Cole McDonald
- Mrs. Feindel
- Noah Miller
- Mrs. Puffenberger
- Terri Greene

### Fourth

- Mrs. Jordan
- Jordan Foster
- Miss. Rumschlag
- Corrin Hoover
- Mr. Smith
- Elly Falter

### Fifth

- Mrs. Frank
- Paige Beidelschies
- Mrs. Gelinias
- Baileea Coss
- Mr. Snyder
- Bailey Breidenbach

### Sixth

- Mrs. Snyder
- Alec Bower
- Mr. Swanagan
- Brooklynn Steinhauer
- Mrs. Weaver
- Alec Hoover

## Mark Your Calendar

**December 2**

### **Midterms Go Home**

Monitor your child's academic progress by reviewing the midterm. Don't forget you can check progress book daily also.

**December 7-9**

### **Santa Shop**

Students have a scheduled time where they can shop for their families. Students are only able to shop for 6 people max.

**December 12**

**6:30 p.m.**

### **PTO Meeting, Room 111**

This is a monthly meeting for parents and staff to discuss and plan upcoming events to benefit the elementary.

**December 13**

**3:00 –4:30 p.m.**

### **Market Day Pick Up, Cafeteria**

Anyone who placed an order needs to pick up their items at this time.

**December 14**

**5:30 p.m.**

### **New Building Project Update, DLL**

This is a monthly meeting where the architects and administration share the progress on the new building project.

**December 14**

**6:30 p.m.**

### **Board of Education Meeting, DLL**

This is a monthly meeting where administrative requests are reviewed and acted upon in an effort to address the staff and students' needs.

**December 19** 7:00 p.m.

### **5th/6th Grade Music Program**

This is an opportunity for our students to showcase their musical talents for their guests.

**December 22**

### **Last Day of School for 2011**

Students and families can enjoy some family time over the holidays as there is no school from December 23-January 2.

**January 3**

### **1st Day Back to School**

**January 5**

**Smoke Signals will go Home for January**



# A NOTE TO SCHOOL

To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent's signature)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_  
(student's name)

(Check Applicable)

is late due to \_\_\_\_\_

will be picked up by \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM.

will be going home with \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_

is returning to school after an absence of \_\_\_\_\_  
days due to \_\_\_\_\_

(other) \_\_\_\_\_



## **Elks Free Throw Competition**

**December 3, 2011 @ 11:00 a.m.**

**Columbian High School-Tiffin, Ohio**



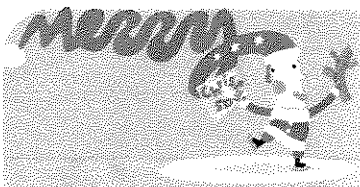
### **Congratulations to our District Winners!**

12-13 Year Olds: Zach Kreais & Kyleigh Krupp

10-11 Year Olds: Derek Feindel & Alex Endicott

8-9 Year Olds: Kyle Rumschlag & Abigail Yarris

By Elementary Interventionist Specialists: Mrs. Arbogast, Mrs. Hoover, & Mrs. Schumn



## Santa Shop Schedule

Weds 12/7

- 8:10-8:50 Steinhauer
- 8:50-9:20 Wise
- 9:20-9:50 Bloom
- 9:50-10:20 Swanagan
- 10:20-10:50 Lucius
- 10:50-11:20 Coppus
- 11:20-11:50 Weaver
- 11:50-12:20 Rumschlag
- 1:20-1:50 Jordan
- 1:50-2:20 Sayre
- 2:20-2:50 J. Snyder

Thurs 12/8

- 8:10-8:50 Steinhauer
- 8:50-9:30 Wilhelm
- 9:30-10:00 Burns
- 10:00-10:30 Smith
- 10:30-11:00 Steyer
- 11:00-11:30 Feindel
- 11:30-12:00 Puffenberger
- 1:30-2:00 Gelinas
- 2:00-2:30 B. Snyder
- 2:30-3:00 Frank

Fri 12/9

- 8:05-8:45 Absent Shoppers
- 8:45-11:45 Extra Shopping as Available by Grade

### Helpful Homework Hints for the Harried Household



**Problem:** Homework time at home resembles something you might see on a battlefield.

**Answer:**

- Pick a time that is manageable for your family to work on homework, be consistent.
- Expect your child to complete their homework in a reasonable time frame, set a timer.
- Allow short breaks, not all children can hop right into homework as soon as they get home from school.
- Cease the arguing; an Academic Alert isn't the end of the world!

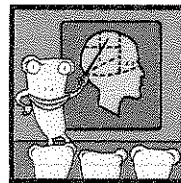
Eventually homework can become a peaceful activity if you set limits and stick to them!



**Problem:** Most nights I feel like a prisoner in my own home.

**Answer:**

- Find an activity that is in close proximity to your child so they can ask questions, but do not remain chained to their side.
- Organize homework so that your child can get feedback after they complete a pre-established amount of work.
- Reward your child's growing independence with praise!

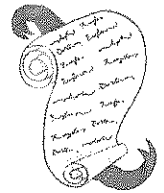


**Problem:** I swear my child has developed a severe case of senility.

**Answer:**

- Always check your child's student planner and sign nightly.
- Limit the returns trips to school to retrieve missing items.

Learning "THE HARD WAY" sends a clear message, and saves on gas!



## Wish List Ideas

Sometimes in preparation for the holidays families sometimes wonder what the staff might use or appreciate. The answer is-a kind word or note is greatly appreciated. However, in the event you wish to give them more they have some ideas listed on the Christmas tree hanging by the office or you can contact the office for a list. Some general ideas that almost all of them would appreciate:

- Gift cards for supplies
- Kleenex
- Wipes
- Stickers
- Dry erase markers
- Pencils
- Fruit snacks or other healthy snacks
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Paper towels
- Erasers
- Quick play board or card games

