

# THE Gator Gazette

A CENTRAL COLLEGE MAGNET SCHOOL PUBLICATION



## CENTRAL COLLEGE MAGNET SCHOOL

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## Issue 20 Update

Central College Families,

You should have received the brochure, Information About Issue 20, in your child's backpack. Please be aware that should Issue 20 fail, the following cuts are part of the Westerville City Schools plan to reduce expenditures beginning in the 2012-2013 school year.

- All magnet schools including Central College Magnet School will be eliminated.
- All elementary and middle school physical education and art instructors will be eliminated.
- No transportation for students within 2 miles of school.
- No transportation for any high school students.
- All sports and extra-curricular activities hosted by the school, or that use Westerville school facilities, will be eliminated.
- Music class offerings will be reduced.
- Class sizes will increase.
- Buildings will only be cleaned every other day instead of daily because janitorial staff will be reduced.
- Media Specialists and Guidance Counselors will be reduced.



Parents, please be advised that these are just some of the many cuts that will be made should Issue 20 fail. More information is available at [www.wcsoh.org/levy](http://www.wcsoh.org/levy).

Makayla Sampson

Parent Council Rep – Central College Magnet School

## Adventures in Nature

The Nature Club got off to a great start this year. Our first meeting was on the first day of fall, and 28 students took advantage of opportunities to get more in touch with nature! We learned about squirrels and tried to be like them by hiding acorns and going back later to find them. We found all kinds of neat things on our own playground during a scavenger hunt and shared our finds with the group. Another day, we explored the Chipmunk Chatter Trail and learned from the M.A.D. Scientist all about the plants and trees that line the trail. One week, a Metro Parks naturalist taught us about safety and survival. We even built survival shelters in the woods! During our final class of the session, we walked to Inniswood Metro Gardens, where an educator taught us all kinds of interesting things about plants and animals in the gardens. We saw the white squirrel there and learned how to mimic the call of the barred owl.

Look for information to come home in backpacks about the next session of the Nature Club. The club is for students who are genuinely interested in and excited about the natural world surrounding us and who also want to listen, learn, and take part in group activities.

## BOXTOPS/CAMPBELLS/TYSON CONTEST!!!!

The deadline for the fall contest is coming quickly - please send in what you have, LABELLED W/ YOUR CHILD'S NAME & GRADE, by Wednesday, Oct. 26th.

We have not received a lot of submissions so far - so please check your packages at home, look for them as you shop, and ask your family & friends!! EACH child who participates (even if it's only 1 item!) will get a small treat, and the class with the most points earns a pizza party! Please forward any questions to Elizabeth Kirk at pekirk6@columbus.rr.com.



## Globetrotter Gives CCMS Students an Assist!

Central College Math/Science School recently hosted "Buckets" Blakes,, who is currently in his tenth year as a Harlem Globetrotter. Buckets shared his enthusiasm for goal setting and good character ... as well as basketball. Through his character education message entitled C.H.E.E.R., Buckets focused on the importance of cooperation, having a healthy mind and body, effort, enthusiasm, and responsibility. This program was designed with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Education and is an interactive program that focuses on character traits students (ages 6-12) can use in their everyday lives at home and in school.



## From the Treasurer

### Top expenses from the past month

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| \$203.42 | Donation to School - Marker Board for Music & Art Teachers |
| \$230.87 | Back to School Picnic                                      |
| \$307.50 | Swim Party in January                                      |
| \$130.00 | 4th Grade Field Trip                                       |
| \$468.00 | Ohio PTA Dues  |
| \$337.75 | Accountant Fee - Taxes                                     |

### Top deposits from the past month

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| \$128.00  | PTA Memberships  |
| \$370.00  | Nature Club  |
| \$450.00  | Sponsored Donations - Kemba & Nationwide Children's Hospital |
| \$93.67   | City BBQ Fundraiser  |
| \$55.39   | Market Day   |
| \$2549.00 | Walk-a-thon  |

### PTA Membership Contest Wraps Up

The first and second grade classes tied as the classes with the most PTA memberships. As a result, they will each be awarded a Popcorn in Your Pajamas Party!

#### THE RESULTS

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| 1st Grade: | 27 |
| 2nd Grade: | 27 |
| 3rd Grade: | 24 |
| 4th Grade: | 22 |
| 5th Grade: | 20 |

The date and time of the parties will be announced at a later date. Thank you to all of the parents who participated in raising money for our PTA.

## BECOME A CCMS GATOR BY CHAIRING A PTA EVENT FOR THE 2011/2012 SCHOOL YEAR!

SEVERAL OPENINGS ARE AVAILABLE. Our volunteers are a big part of what makes our school great. We need help from working parents, stay-at-home parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents or older siblings.

**Chess Club Volunteers:** Individuals are needed to help the chess club coordinator with snacks, guide students as they play matches and help students find partners to play with. Chess club volunteers DO NOT need to know how to play chess.

**Spring Talent Show:** We need an individual or two to help organize our annual talent show at Westerville South High School. The kids design their own events. The coordinator(s) plans the show logistics.

**Field Day in the Spring:** We would like to have two people work together to coordinate field day on the last day of school. The coordinators will be responsible for organizing games, lunch, snacks, etc.

**End of Year Party:** We desire two individuals to coordinate and organize this spring event which can be planned at the school or at a place such as supergames.

**Summer Reading Program:** PTA puts on a summer reading program for our students. We would like someone to coordinate and organize crafts, prizes, reading check-ins and possibly a visit from an author.

**Summer Social:** This person organizes and coordinates a summer activity for all students and their families, such as a pool party, skating party, etc.

**Library Volunteers:** This person would help out in the library at our school

Please write your name, e-mail address, and position you are interested in on a piece of paper and turn it in to Denise Mark, Volunteer Coordinator or return in your child's take home folder. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by e-mail: [cdmark@wowway.com](mailto:cdmark@wowway.com) or at 614-794-3904. GO GATORS!!!

## Intra-District Open Enrollment Application Deadlines Moved Up

The deadline for submitting an Intra-District Open Enrollment application in the Westerville City School District is earlier than in past years. The deadline for Intra-District Open Enrollment applications for middle and high schools is March 15, 2012. For elementary schools, the cut off date is May 1, 2012. The program is coordinated through the Department of Administrative Services for families who are enrolled in the Westerville City School District.

Parents or guardians wishing to have their children attend a different school from their home school of attendance must complete and submit an Intra-District open Enrollment application. Application forms are available at each school building; at the Westerville City Schools Enrollment Center (300 Polaris Parkway, Suite 3200); at the Early Learning Center (936 Eastwind Drive, Suite 200); or at [www.wcsoh.org](http://www.wcsoh.org), where general guidelines can be found. Applications are accepted beginning on the first day of school for the next school year. Parents or guardians will be notified of the decision in writing.

## Kroger Cares Program



If you register your Kroger Plus card for our school, we get a portion of the proceeds every time you shop. Last year our school made an amazing \$2700 from the Kroger Cares program!! It is the easiest way you can help the school-just by doing your normal grocery shopping with Kroger. See below for a few Simple Steps to register.

1. If you are a new online customer, click 'Create an Account'. If you already have an online account, proceed to step 4.
2. To sign up for a Kroger Rewards online Account you will be asked to enter the following information: your email address / creation of a password, zip code, your favorite store, your plus card number, selection of emails you would like to receive from Kroger. You will be asked to confirm your selections and agree to the terms and conditions.
3. You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.
4. Click on 'My Account' and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
5. Click on 'Edit Community Rewards Program Information' and input your Kroger Plus card number.
6. Update or confirm your information.
7. Enter our NPO number (81297) or name of organization (Central College Magnet PTA), select organization from list and click 'Save Changes'.
8. To verify you are enrolled correctly, on the My Account Page, the Community Rewards Information you entered is now populated.

If you have any questions, please contact Patty Blanchong at 614-895-1402 or [pblancho@columbus.rr.com](mailto:pblancho@columbus.rr.com). Your support is greatly appreciated.

# Downtown Field Trip

By Jordan Threlfall, Grace Blanchong, Autumn Tapper

On September 20, 2011 our 4th and 5th graders went to S.W.A.C.O. Landfill, the Grange Insurance Audubon Center, and Kurtz Brothers Composting Facility. At the Landfill, we learned how important it is to recycle so that there is less trash in the landfill. We enjoyed eating our lunches and playing at the park next to the Audubon Center-what a view of Downtown! With our tour of the Audubon Center, we saw many types of wildlife and learned how important it is to preserve nature. We were surprised that our yardwaste is turned into mulch right here in Westerville at Kurtz Brothers. All in all, we had a great day and we thank our parent chaperones and our wonderful CCMS PTA for sponsoring our field trip.



## Choose a name, win a prize!!

The former walking club at CCMS has a new face but needs a name. The focus of the new group has expanded school wide to encourage healthful lifestyles including fitness, nutrition, education and more. We have new ideas and a new focus but need help coming up with a new name.

Entry forms should be coming home soon or e-mail ideas to [Melissa.wilgus@gmail.com](mailto:Melissa.wilgus@gmail.com). A family friendly prize will be awarded to the winner. Teachers, if you would like to submit ideas as a class the class will win a prize. Ideas are needed by Monday, 10/31/2011. There is no limit to the number of entries so put on your creative caps and get moving!



*Congratulations to the Star of the Month,*  
**Mike Raubenolt!**

*Our community is a better place because of  
volunteers like you!*

### **Specials**

**A - Art**

**B - Music**

**C - PE**

**D - Art**

**E - Music**

**F - No Special**

# From the School Nurse...

# CDRS

Communicable Disease Reporting System

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE FACT SHEET

## PERTUSSIS

Pertussis, also known as Whooping Cough, is a highly contagious respiratory infection caused by the bacteria *Bordatella pertussis*.

### Symptoms

- Begins as a mild upper respiratory infection. Early symptoms resemble those of the common cold, including sneezing, runny nose, low-grade fever, and mild cough.
- Progresses within two weeks to a more severe cough. Symptoms now include episodes of numerous rapid coughs followed by a high-pitched "whoop." These episodes may recur for one to two months and are more frequent at night.
- Some people including young infants, immunized school children, adolescents, and adults, may not have these typical coughing spells.
- Symptoms usually appear 7-10 days after exposure to the bacteria.

### Transmission

- Pertussis is primarily spread by direct contact with the discharges from the nose and throat of infected individuals. This includes respiratory, oral, or nasal secretions.
- Respiratory droplets that can spread the illness are released when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.
- The greatest risk for spread is during the early stages of illness when symptoms resemble the common cold.
- A person can transmit pertussis from the time they begin to show symptoms until three weeks after coughing begins. This time can be reduced to five days after appropriate antibiotic therapy begins.
- A person diagnosed with pertussis must be excluded from school and/or child care center while they can still transmit pertussis.

### Treatment

- A person infected with pertussis should receive an appropriate antibiotic to reduce their ability to spread the illness. Azithromycin, erythromycin, and clarithromycin are the preferred antimicrobials for treatment of pertussis, although your physician may prescribe another antibiotic if you cannot take one of these medications.
- Household members and close contacts of a person diagnosed with pertussis will also need to take antibiotics to prevent them from getting pertussis. A close contact is anyone who has had face-to-face contact or shared a confined space for a prolonged period of time with a symptomatic person. Close contacts also include persons who have direct contact with respiratory, oral, or nasal secretions from a symptomatic person.
- In addition to antimicrobials, household and close contacts who have had at least four doses of pertussis vaccine should receive a booster dose (DTaP) unless a dose has been given within the past three years. Ask your physician about what vaccines are available to you.

### Additional Information

- Young infants are at the greatest risk for complications, which include mild complications like ear infections, loss of appetite, and dehydration, or serious complications like pneumonia, seizures, brain disorders, and death.
- The most effective control measure for preventing the spread of pertussis is maintaining the highest possible level of immunization in the community.

**All information is general in nature and is not intended to be used as a substitute for appropriate professional advice.**

Franklin County



Board of Health

Report Disease With Ease - 24 hours a day

[www.cdrsinfo.com](http://www.cdrsinfo.com)

Columbus and Franklin County Communicable Disease Reporting System

c/o The Franklin County Board of Health, 280 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

(614) 719-8888 ♦ (614) 719-8890 fax ♦ [cdrs@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:cdrs@franklincountyohio.gov) - email



# THE SCHOOL LIBRARY LINK

A newsletter for parents about what school library programs have to offer.

[www.theschoollibrarylink.com](http://www.theschoollibrarylink.com)



## The School Library Link to Creating Independent Readers

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The beginning of the school year is a great time to reassess how well we are doing at encouraging independence in our young readers. Being an "independent reader" is a two-fold process:

- 1) Our children must become *proficient* readers (with their skills in decoding and understanding words) and
- 2) They must become *enthusiastic* readers (voluntarily seeking out new and interesting forms of reading).

If children aren't proficient, they won't become confident readers. It is very easy to discourage if the act of reading is too difficult. Proficiency only happens with practice, practice, practice. However, if children aren't *enthusiastic* readers, their motivation to read on their own just isn't there. Without enthusiasm, practice doesn't happen. Where classroom and reading teachers teach children *how* to read, school librarians teach children *why* to read; enthusiasm for reading then supports proficiency, and that's where the school library comes in.

A school library is truly a wonderful place to foster enthusiasm for reading in children. It is



unlike a bookstore and unlike the public library in that regard. Each school library collection is developed especially for that school's population in mind. School librarians spend many hours collecting professional reviews, reading books, analyzing their student population, and especially listening to their students to find and purchase the books that will foster enthusiastic reading in their students. In that sense, no two school libraries are alike. School library collections are created and changed to fit each student population. We want students to go to their school library and say, "Hey, that's *just* what I was looking for!"

### Supporting Proficiency in Children

There are many ways that parents can support their child's reading proficiency.

- 1) Read aloud to your children often. Reading aloud should begin in the toddler years, so that children hear more words, see pages turning, and notice that a story accompanies those words. Older children benefit from being read to as well. Children can learn new

*Continued on page 2*

The School Library Link is a monthly newsletter about school library programs for parents of elementary and middle-school students. It is available free to school library media specialists for local distribution to their students. For more information, visit [www.theschoollibrarylink.com](http://www.theschoollibrarylink.com). Creative Commons Copyright.

vocabulary, listen to how parents use inflection to tell a story, and most importantly, witness reading being modeled by their most important adult.

- 2) Help your child find books they can read easily without getting frustrated. Following the "Five Finger Rule" is a good practice. If your child reads a page in a book and than five words on the page are difficult, then that book is probably too hard for them to read comfortably.



### Fostering Reading Enthusiasm

Parents also play a big role in giving children freedom to get excited about books.

- 1) Encourage children to read whatever *they like*. Pleasure reading should be just that: pleasurable. If your child begins a book and doesn't like it, give him or her the permission to put it down and find one they do.
- 2) Withhold judgment about books you may not care for, but that your child is really excited about. Humorous fiction, graphic

novels, and nonfiction are three genres that often get reluctant readers excited about reading. They also seem to attract the statement "That's not real reading." Anything your child reads enthusiastically will help them read more, and then read for life.

- 3) Let your child attempt something "too hard" every once in a while. Many times carrying home that Harry Potter novel just feels good, even though it may be violating the "five finger rule." Experimentation in reading choices is part of the process, and it helps your child begin to figure out what they like to read, what they can read, and how to work up to that big book that all the other kids are reading.

## Web Sites to Help Parents Raise Independent Readers!

"Helping your Child Become a Reader," a booklet by the U.S. Department of Education  
<http://1.usa.gov/bw9cwI>

Scott Foresman Family Times Reading Booklets,  
<http://bit.ly/pELuC9>

Links to Reading and Literacy Skills,  
<http://1.usa.gov/b9oZn7>

Breaking the Sound-It-Out Barrier,  
<http://bit.ly/pqiCre>

Succeed to Read,  
<http://www.succeedtoread.com/>



**Watch for the next issue: *The School Library Link to Picture Books for All Ages***

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## Building a Sense of Work Ethic in Your Child

By Dr. Scott Ebbrecht & Dr. Todd Ebbrecht

In education, there has been a real push called 21st Century Learning. This initiative encompasses a wide variety of items which essentially provide students with the opportunity to be productive now and in the future. Where does work ethic come into this? As parents, teachers, community members, employers, we all want to work and collaborate with individuals who can provide ideas and work competencies that get the job done. We call this industriousness. So how can we get our children to become more industrious? Below are several points to help our children become better students, and ultimately, better workers.

- **Develop Effective Work Habits.** Having a good work ethic means the individual probably has identifiable habits that are part of the person's DNA which are done automatically. In other words, a person with an effective work ethic manages their time wisely, develops a plan on how to accomplish specific tasks, and follows through on the plan rather than procrastinates.
- **Identify Those Things that Your Child Enjoys.** Studies indicate that individuals tend to naturally perform better when people are engaged in activities that match their skill set and/or interest. Explore and identify how your child is successful in their activity of interest, and then talk about how these success points can transfer to areas that are more of a struggle.
- **Develop Focus.** Some individuals have an innate ability to focus. Others can focus only when they are doing something they truly enjoy. While others struggle to keep focus in whatever he/she is doing. Developing focus is like running a marathon. It takes training to go from being able to run one mile to running 25 miles. This is done by increasing the numbers of miles the marathoner runs by increasing the miles daily, weekly, or monthly. The same methodology can be used to increase one's focus and time on task. Track the duration, location, and time of day as it relates to time on task when your child is performing tasks or even studying.
- **Establish a "Do It Now and Do It Right Mentality."** Adults feel a sense of pride when a job, easy or hard, is completed with outstanding results. Do you remember the feeling you got when you finally painted that 'room' and it turned out exactly how you had envisioned? We need to provide our children with the ability to identify what needs to be done, while also doing the job right. Instilling a sense of pride develops one's sense of self-worth and can provide a lifetime of celebratory moments and achievements.

## Reflections Deadline Coming Soon!

Parents, please remember that all Reflections entries are due by the end of the school day on October 31. Entries may be placed in the box marked Reflections which is located across from the school office. Please note the new labeling format which is included in your information packets. If you have any questions, please email them to makaylasampson@yahoo.com.

## Mark Your Calendars!

### OCTOBER

- 20 Early Release
- 21 No School
- 26 Boxtops Due
- 27-28 No School
- 31 Reflections Entries Due  
Walking Club Names Due

### NOVEMBER

- 3 Coffee & Conversation 7p  
*Giammarco's Pizza and Pasta*
- 4 Market Day Orders Due
- 8 No School - ELECTION DAY
- 14 PTA Meeting (NEW DATE!) 7p  
*Central College Cafeteria - childcare provided*  
Market Day Order Pickup 5:15-6:15p  
*Longfellow Magnet School*
- 15 1st-3rd Grade Music Program 7p
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

### DECEMBER

- 5 NASA Night 6:30-7:15p  
*WCHS Auditorium - Topic: Space Exploration*

### JANUARY

- 10 PTA Meeting 7p  
*Central College Cafeteria - childcare provided*
- 18 Grade 5 Strings Performance 7:30p  
*WCHS Gymnasium*

### FEBRUARY

- 21 PTA Meeting 7p  
*Central College Cafeteria - childcare provided*

### MARCH

- 20 NASA Night 6:30-7:15p  
*WCHS Auditorium - Topic: Going to Mars*

### APRIL

- 3 PTA Meeting 7p  
*Central College Cafeteria - childcare provided*