

# FREMONT

CITY SCHOOLS

## OTIS ELEMENTARY



### Important Dates

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| January 3     | School Resumes  |
| January 9     | 6 <sup>th</sup> Graders to FMS  |
| January 11    | PTO 6:00 p.m.   |
| January 13    | End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks                                       |
| January 13    | Farewell to 6 <sup>th</sup> Graders                                     |
| January 13    | Spirit Wear Day<br><u>(wear Otis or Ross shirts with uniform pants)</u> |
| January 16-18 | No School for Students  |
| January 20    | Grade Cards Go Home   |



Otis T-Shirts and Sweatshirts  
\$9.00 & \$14.00  
On sale in the school office!

1. INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
2. CLOSE SOCIO-ECONOMIC, ETHNIC AND DISABILITY GAPS IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
3. BUILD HOPE, TRUST AND RESPECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

[WWW.FREMONTSCHOOLS.NET](http://WWW.FREMONTSCHOOLS.NET)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of a new year. January 1<sup>st</sup> always brings a fresh sense of hope and optimism for good things to come, and we are looking forward to the many wonderful things 2012 will bring here at Otis School. Again, I'd like to take this chilly opportunity to remind you of how important it is that children wear hats, gloves, scarves and a heavy winter coat to school each day. We will go outside for recess when both the temperature and wind chill are above 19 degrees. Additionally, doors to the building will not open before 8:45 a.m., so students may be waiting out in the cold if they arrive before that time.

One of our continued goals at Otis is to increase student achievement. We have taken many steps to work toward this end, and I'd like to share couple with you. We believe in intervention as an effective strategy. Therefore, we have "pooled our resources" and are providing a lot of support to our primary grades in the area of Reading. Our Intervention Specialists and Focused Intervention Tutor along with Mrs. Ziemke, our Title I Reading Teacher, go into classrooms and help conduct small groups to support the regular classroom teacher. This enables us to work with smaller numbers of students at a given time and better target the skills students need.

In grades 3-6, our Focused Intervention Tutor, Mrs. Britani Wojdyla works with students who need support in both Reading and Math. Mrs. Wojdyla started back in October and will continue through the end of the school year. She works with small groups of students at a time, targeting the essential skills students need to master at their particular grade level. She is also incorporating high-yield instructional strategies (such as cooperative group work and repeated readings) which research supports as producing positive results. We are looking forward to increased student learning as well as a spike in Otis's Spring OAA test scores due to the focused efforts of our tutoring program this year.

With Children at Heart,

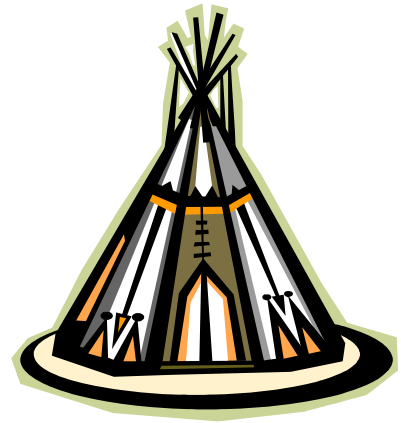
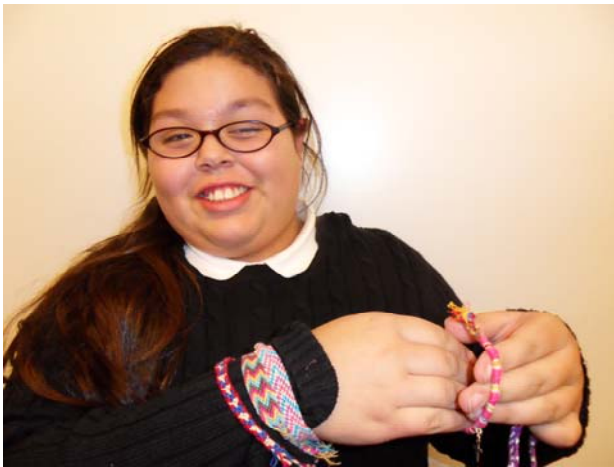
Mrs. Laura F. Bryant

STRONG ACADEMICS + STRONG CHARACTER = STRONG COMMUNITY

OTIS ELEMENTARY

Fifth grade happenings in social studies

We have recently completed a major project in social studies. We became Native Americans for our Day in the Life project. Each student researched a native tribe and became a member for a day. They needed to find out about their shelters, clothing, foods, tools, and other daily life customs and traditions. The students also created a timeline and presented the whole project in an oral report to the class. Some students thought the props they used and made were the best part of the project. Berlin Swaisgood and Barbara Weichman made clothing to share. Lourdes Sanchez and Matthew Shondell made shelters of their tribes. Some students made tools and others even brought in homemade foods to eat and share. Anahi Torres is pictured holding her bracelets that she made to trade with other tribes.



**What is The 300 Club?**

The 300 Club honors students who have demonstrated outstanding behavior and are good citizens of their school community. Each month only 2 students from each class are inducted into the 300 Club, so it is quite an honor to be chosen! Their name goes up on our 300 Club bulletin board and, when an entire column fills up with names, those students will get to do a special activity with Mrs. Bryant.

300 Club Names for November/December

Taeva Hampton  
Blaze Martin  
Cayden Wood  
Travis Lotycz  
Grant Carnicom  
McKela Elder  
Casandra Robles  
Lane Plant  
Alyssa Garcia  
Jenny Ou  
Tyrese Taylor  
Lily LeJeune

Derek Dickman  
Lily Boonie  
Maddie Dickman  
Matthew Moorfoot  
Ronaldo Hernandez  
Macy Benton  
Garrett Schneider  
Graciella Lopez  
Annora Balduff  
Kyle Foos  
Gage Byington-Martin  
Alex Lippert

Virginia Dabrunz  
Tierney Cohen  
Julian Chavez  
Noemi Sanchez  
Marizela Cortez  
Lupita Perez  
Kiarra Clay  
Shyann Lutman  
Hunter Tolman  
Deandra Davis  
Gage Koenig  
Caden Cox

The Character Word of the Month for January is SELF-CONTROL. This is a great trait to practice as we begin a new year. Self-Control is the ability to be in control of one's actions and make positive choices! Students will hear about ways to practice self-control on the morning announcements, and here are some ways to continue to building character at home:

Have your child use a technique, such as deep breathes or counting backwards, to calm down when upset, rather than acting impulsively.

Encourage your child to wait patiently when 2 people are talking and say 'Excuse me,' when interrupting.

Use this phrase with your child "You are in control of your body, your words and your actions."

**January**

Happy New Year! Many people make New Year's Resolutions or set goals for themselves to start the new year. Use the secret message below to remind your student to work hard each day to learn and do the very best he/she can! **\*There are prizes for the first 5 students to bring a completed message to Mrs. Hatfield.**

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| 25 | 15 | 21 | 18 | 6  | 21 | 20 | 21 | 18 | 5 |    |
| 19 | 20 | 1  | 18 | 20 | 19 | 20 | 15 | 4  | 1 | 25 |

|     |      |      |      |
|-----|------|------|------|
| A-1 | H-8  | O-15 | V-22 |
| B-2 | I-9  | P-16 | W-23 |
| C-3 | J-10 | Q-17 | X-24 |
| D-4 | K-11 | R-18 | Y-25 |
| E-5 | L-12 | S-19 | Z-26 |
| F-6 | M-13 | T-20 |      |
| G-7 | N-14 | U-21 |      |

**Fremont Students *Believe* in Giving Back**

For the second year in a row, several classes from Hayes, Lutz, and Otis Elementary Schools participated in the Macy's Believe Program. Students wrote Dear Santa Letters raising \$1 per letter for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This organization is known nationwide for granting wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. Fremont students beat last year's \$400 total by raising over \$700 this year with their letters. Macy's will donate up to 1 million dollars to help grant wishes to these children.

Students can earn “Pizza with the Principal” coupons as one of the incentives we’re using this year to encourage and recognize responsible behavior at Otis School. Students can earn a coupon for anything their teacher would like to reward them for. At the end of each month one coupon is randomly chosen from each class’s pizza box for the opportunity to enjoy a pizza lunch from Papa Murphy’s with Mrs. Bryant. Congratulations to the Pizza with the Principal winners for the month of December. Keep up the great work!

|                 |                |                  |                  |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Lily Burmeister | Jayden Evans   | Will Stotz       | Tyrese Taylor    |
| Jacob Keim      | Kayden Perkins | Tremaine Sims    | Elizabeth Biller |
| Calvin Brooks   | Elijah Buswell | Guadalupe Garcia | Caden Good       |
| Alison Rupp     | Hunter Tolman  | Sam Garcia       | Ben Phillips     |
| Lizzy Haynes    |                |                  |                  |



*Winter Safety Tips for Parents*

- *When using space heaters, ensure at least 3 feet of space between the heater and any furniture, curtains, blankets, pets and people.*
- *Never use an oven or range to heat your home.*
- *Fireplaces and wood burning stoves should be inspected by a professional each year, as well as the chimney for cracks, blockages and leaks. Make sure any build-up in the chimney is cleaned out that could start a fire.*
- *In case of a snow emergency, stock up on canned foods, a manual can opener, a battery-operated radio, bottled water, flashlights, batteries and blankets.*
- *Install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home and inside or near sleeping areas.*
- *Install at least one Carbon Monoxide alarm near sleeping areas.*
- *Teach your children to stay off the ice in any ponds, creek, or on the river.*
- *If the temperature outside is below freezing and your home has no heat, run water at a trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing and bursting.*
- *Store food outside in the snow if the power goes out.*
- *Use a flashlight instead of candles to avoid fire hazards.*
- *Limit the amount of time spent playing outdoors, bring children in periodically to warm up. Dress in layers and remove wet clothing immediately.*
- *Make sure to cover your child’s head, ears and hands in the cold temperatures.*
- *Do not permit children to dig snow tunnels or forts as they could collapse and bury them.*

Birchard Public Library  
Pizza & Pages Club  
 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
 4:00-4:45 p.m.  
 Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>  
War Horse, by Michael Morpurgo  
 To Register  
 Call 419-334-7101 ext. 209  
 Or  
[www.birchard.lib.oh.us](http://www.birchard.lib.oh.us)

Birchard Public Library  
 Dinosaurs Are Coming!  
 January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 2:00 p.m.  
 Dig for dinosaur bones, make fossils, make cave drawings and create your own dinosaur!  
 Special presentation by  
 The Sandusky County Park District  
 Call 419-332-7101 Ext. 209 to register