

FREMONT

CITY SCHOOLS



March 2010

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DATES:

**March 5: Scoliosis Screening
for 5th & 6th grades**

March 8: Spring Pictures

**March 8-19: Pennies for
Patients**

**March 15 & 16: OSS Solid
Waste presentations**

**March 26: End of the 3rd nine
weeks**

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

Parents and Guardians,

A strange thing happens as the season of Spring approaches. Grass grows, birds sing, and elementary-age kids tend to come down with a very noticeable ailment. It's called Spring Fever.

Spring Fever tends to have the following symptoms: day dreaming intensely for the better part of the six-and-a-half-hour school day, see classmates in the opposite gender in a "different way" (this is usually a dramatic symptom in grades 5 and 6), and the undying, bouncing desire to be outside, even at the expense of their beloved homework. Difficult to believe, but true! These symptoms, coupled with longer sunshine, the smell of Summer around the corner (it has not been scientifically proven, but I believe kids can actually smell Summer), and the sound of lawn mowing machinery make for a difficult time to be between the ages of 5 and 12, or 43 for that matter.

Here are a few ways that you as a concerned parent can combat the dreaded symptoms of the terrible illness known as Spring Fever.

*Lay homework out and have your child tell you how much time (or for younger children, you determine) it will take to complete the work. Allow your child outside for a designated period of time (45-60 minutes) and then come in to eat dinner and complete ALL of the assigned homework. This may need to be modified if time limits are increased or decreased to complete homework.

* Have your child show you all of her/his homework assignments for the evening. As your child completes the

assignments, you initial or sign them. When all homework is completed, every signature allows the child outside for a specific amount of time. This will keep the child's focus on finishing the homework. A parent will definitely want to check for accurate completion of homework for the speed demons (you know if you have one of these).

*For parents who may see homework at a later time due to an evening work assignment, use a homework communication or student assignment book to have a teacher put a check for every assignment your child completed from the night before or have your child earn time outside for the next day (using step two).

Parents will always be the key when homework is the issue. Simple communication of your expectations for homework completion will help your child enjoy the beautiful sunlit Spring evenings. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. The question is not whether or not your child will catch a case of Spring Fever, the question is, "How severe a case of Spring Fever will my child catch?!" Have a great Spring.

Mr. Arnold

STRONG ACADEMICS + STRONG CHARACTER = STRONG COMMUNITY

Work Ethic

The word of the month for March is WORK ETHIC. Work ethic is related to work, such as having initiative and being self-motivated and self-disciplined. A person with a good work ethic believes one should be honest, committed, and reliable at the job. In school, a student with a strong work ethic contributes his or her ideas and makes improvements in group projects. Students persevere when learning new material. A positive work ethic begins with good habits. It means learning how to do small things well and moving on to tougher tasks. It is the ability to work with a happy heart.

Work Ethic Ideas for Parents

Suggestions to parents on how to develop a work ethic in children.....

*Parents need to understand that good work ethic doesn't come naturally, so it's up to us to develop it in our kids. We have to take the time and put forth the effort to help them. At times, it won't be easy, but it will be worth it.

*Start early - the earlier the better. Children as

young as four can do little things around the house that help. They can put away books, dust furniture, feed the dog, and many other chores. It will get them in the habit of pitching in.

*Encourage volunteering at church and school. This is a great way to develop a work ethic in children. There are other ways to get them involved as well, such as pitching in to clean up the neighborhood and helping elderly people with chores like cutting grass or taking out the trash.

*Establish a pattern of delayed gratification. To do this, you ask them to do something; and AFTER they're finished, they can have the reward.

*Be a role model and show them good work ethic by example. They are watching you; and if your work ethic is bad, theirs will be, too. Make sure you do everything you are teaching them to do or else they may say to you one day, "But mom, you don't do it."

*The ability to work hard, take responsibility, and tolerate frustration doesn't come easy or natural. It's learned and they need to learn it at home.

Bill Brown
Elementary Counselor

F.U.N. Trainings

(Families Understanding Needs)

These trainings are presented by Sandy Brickner of the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities and sponsored by the Sandusky County Parent Mentor Program of the North Central Ohio Educational Service Center. All workshops will be held at the North Central Ohio Educational Service Center - Fremont Campus, 500 West State Street from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be refreshments and a door prize for all trainings. Limited Seating.

Thursday, March 18, 2010
"Individual Development"

Will build awareness of how a child's temperament and developmental stages affect the parent/child relationship, brain development, and recognizing the characteristics of different growth stages.

All parents and professionals are invited. No charge for meetings, but you MUST register. If you need further information or would like to register, please call Kay Konwiczka at 419/332-8214.

Lunches

If you would like to apply money to your child(ren)'s lunch account, the NEW WEBSITE to do that is "sendmoneytoschool.com."

If your child(ren) qualify for **free lunch**, it does **NOT** include free milk to go with a packed lunch. The cost of the milk is \$.35.

It's Saturday

Kindergarten – 4th Grade
10:00 – 10:45
On the 2nd Saturday of the month come to Birchard Public Library for a morning of good times and good books.

Saturday, March 13th: The Little Folk

Fairies, elves, pixies...are sometimes what they're called. They may be little, but you'll get a BIG kick out of hearing these tales.

Please call 419-334-7101 ext. 209 to register or Register online at: www.birchard.lib.oh.us

BOE Student of the Month

Congratulations to Alyssa Fuller in Mrs. Traczek's 4th grade class. She was selected as the Learning and Liberty Foundation's Student of the Month for February. Alyssa is the daughter of Joey and Cindy Fuller. She was recognized at the last Board Meeting.

Tardies

A student is counted as tardy if he/she arrives at school late, but before 10:00 a.m. A student arriving after 10 a.m. will be considered a half-day absent. If a student leaves school before 2:30 p.m., he/she will be considered a half-day absent. Students will have a mid-day leave if they leave school after 2:30 p.m. All of these situations will count against their perfect attendance.

Campus Wear

On February 22, 2010, the Fremont City Schools Board of Education approved a dress code policy for students in grades K-12 to be effective at the beginning of the 2010-11 school year. The guidelines are also available in all buildings and on the district's website: www.fremontschools.net.

Bus Notes

If your child is going to a different address at the end of the school day, please make sure the note you send gets taken to the school office. (You may write 2 notes if you wish – one for the bus driver and one for the school office.) A bus pass will then be issued to your child for the bus driver.

Student Pick-up

Parents, please do **NOT** park in the playground area to pick up your children after school. You are not to drive past the Annex Building. You may park **BEHIND** it, however.

Doctor's Notes

PLEASE remember: We MUST have a note from the doctor or dentist whenever you take your child in for an appointment. These notes excuse your child's absence so that it will not count against them. Our desire is to have your child in school as much

as possible, but we understand that sickness does happen. Please call in as soon as you can and let the office know if your child is ill. And, if you do need to take them to the doctor, remember to send the note with them when they come back. Or, you can have the doctor's office FAX the excuse directly to Washington School at 419/665-2241.

Delays and Closings

Please listen to the local radio or TV stations for weather advisories. They will also have the delays and closings scrolling across the bottom of the screen. If you returned your Alert Now form, you will also be notified via the phone and/or text messaging.

Attendance %

January's attendance was at 96.98%, but in February we had a bit more sickness, according to our stats. Our % was down to 96.15% - not much of a drop, though. Hopefully, with Spring just around the corner, our % will increase and our students will be healthier and in school – where we want them ☺

The Fremont City School District will not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities for any reason, including on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, military status, sexual orientation or ancestry. Additionally, it will not discriminate in its employment policies nor practices.

The mission of Fremont City Schools is to develop well-educated life-long learners prepared to be responsible, productive and respectful members of their communities.

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS

Tips for Families

- Ask your Internet provider about features that allow parents to block their children's access to adult-oriented sites, "chat rooms," and bulletin boards. A variety of programs are available.
- Setup guidelines that deal specifically with meeting people on the Internet. Talk to your children about what to do if their new Internet friend asks to see them in person or wants your child to send a picture of him or herself.
- Let your children know that they can come to you if they are receiving messages that make them feel uncomfortable.
- Establish rules to follow when using the Internet.
- Keep the computer in a high traffic part of the house. You can monitor your children's activities without appearing to be watching over their shoulders.
- Spend time on the Internet with your children. Give them a chance to show you what they have learned or the things they like.
- Find websites you think your children will enjoy and "bookmark" them. This will help you direct your children away from using search engines, where they might find inappropriate sites.
- Teach your children about "netiquette" (etiquette on the Internet), so they will know how to behave appropriately on the Internet and will be able to recognize inappropriate behavior on the part of others.
- Family-Friendly Internet Sites

The Internet can be a wonderful learning and entertainment tool for you and your family. Here are a few sites you and your family might enjoy and find educational:

Kids' Sites

Children's Television Workshop	www.ctw.org
Cyberkids	www.cyberkids.com
Walt Disney	www.family.com
Kidlink	www.kidlink.org
KidsCom	www.kidscom.com
Web Wise Kids	www.webwisekids.com

Teen Sites

Do Something	www.dosomething.org
Mighty Media	www.mightymedia.com
Resources for Youth	www.preventviolence.org
Youth as Resources	www.yar.org

Parents' Sites

Baby Center	www.babycenter.com
Parent Time	www.parenttime.com
Parent Soup	www.parentsoup.com
Kids Health	www.kidshealth.org
Parent Partners	www.parentpartners.com