

# The Wildcat Chat

September 2008

*Mrs. Lowe's First Class Story... Written by her students in Grade One.*

## Our Class

We have 24 boys and girls.

We have 13 boys.

We have 11 girls.

Our teacher is Mrs. Lowe.

We are in room 4.

We go to Muraski School.

We are smart!

Words to Live By...

BE RESPECTFUL

BE RESPONSIBLE

BE A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL

## From the desk of Mrs. J. Peters, Principal Muraski Elementary

I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome to Muraski Elementary School. I am very happy to be here and I am looking forward to a great school year. I hope that everyone has had a relaxing, restful summer and are now ready to get back to the books. So far, the students at Muraski Elementary School have been outstanding. Their behavior is respectful, responsible, and all students are working to be a positive role model.

The big event for the month of September will be our sixth graders heading off to Camp Y-Noah, in Clinton, Ohio. They will be leaving on Monday, September 29 at 9:15am and returning to

Muraski Elementary on Wednesday, October 1st at 1:15pm. The outdoor education program will include classes on canoeing, horse-back riding, orienteering, and team building; as well as after dinner activities such as square-dancing, "skit" nights, campfire songs, and a night hike. Please check the weather forecast to prepare for appropriate clothing.

I am working on learning names of students at Muraski Elementary. My goal is to learn 10 names a day! I have been spending time in the cafeteria and playground, getting to know your children. This has been a very positive experience for me. I am looking forward to con-

tinuing my educational career at your school.

The teachers and staff at Muraski have the best intentions for your child's academic career. They continue to work hard to keep our Excellent rating from the Ohio Department of Education. I am very pleased with the lessons that I have seen thus far. If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Please remember that my door is always open. Stop in with any concerns or compliments that you may have. I can assure you that I will do my best to help you in any way that I can.

## Should We Recycle at Muraski Elementary School?

Today, 2 Sixth grade students approached me to discuss recycling. The two boys, Reese (Ms. Brooks class) and Grant (Mr. Mason's class) were honestly concerned about our world. They questioned why we do not recycle in our cafeteria. They informed me that we have so much plastic from our school lunches, that we

should do something. It impresses me that two young leaders of Muraski Elementary would be so concerned about the world in which we live. There is a great deal of recyclables that we just toss in the garbage rather than recycle. I plan on researching the idea of bringing recycling back to Muraski. We will be doing great things for our

future if we recycle just here at school. If you know a company that would be willing to pick up our recyclables or anyone who would volunteer to do it, please contact Mrs. Peters at (440)572-7160.

Congratulations to Reese and Grant for looking beyond the classroom to make our world a better place!

# Love and Logic Offered to Parents



Many parents have found that taking the class " Becoming a Love and Logic Parent " has caused a strengthening in their relationships with their children as well as being able to remain much more calm in dealing with day to day stressors. Over the past six years, Ron Chidsey, with Chidsey Seminars, has had over 700 parents enroll in this class. The evaluations at the end of each class have overall been positive. This fall there will be classes held locally for parents to attend. Recently, I was fortunate to attend a full day professional development opportunity, with Dr. Charles Fay, the author/founder of "Love and Logic". He had great words of wisdom! I truly believe that you must build a relationship with people in order to develop a good working relationship. This philosophy works not only with your children, but with your spouse, co-workers, families, and friends. If you have the opportunity, try and get to one of the offered classes. You won't be disappointed. Mrs. Peters, New Principal, Muraski Elementary

## Brecksville-Broadview Hts. Middle School

6376 Mills Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141  
Tuesdays, October 14, 21, 28, November 4,

## Brecksville-Broadview Hts. Middle School

6376 Mills Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141  
Tuesdays, October 14, 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18,  
2008

### School.

For additional information and to register for these classes, go to [www.chidseyseminars.com](http://www.chidseyseminars.com)

The winter schedule for this class will be posted on the ChidseySeminars website to accept registrations by the end of October. (Strongsville residents can register through the Kinsner PTA.) The classes in January and their start dates are the following:

Kinsner Elementary School  
Strongsville, Ohio  
Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Rocky River Board  
of Education  
Rocky River, Ohio  
Thursday, January 22, 2009

Westlake High School  
Westlake, Ohio  
Wednesday, January 28, 2009

## Counselor's Corner... Mrs. Candow

Mrs. Candow, the school counselor started out the school year by reading a book called "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud to all of the classes. The story talks about how everyone has an invisible bucket that they carry around all day. The bucket has one purpose only and that is to hold your good thoughts and feelings. A "bucket filler" is someone who does something nice for a person or makes them feel special. They fill your bucket up. The opposite of a

"bucket filler" is a "bucket dipper". This is a person who says or does mean things or leaves someone out.

Each classroom was given a bucket and slips of paper. The papers are for anyone, including adults to write down the person's name and what they did to fill their bucket. Mrs. Candow then collects the papers and reads them on the morning announcements. At the end of the month she picks about 6 people to be the "bucket fillers" of the month. Their pictures are taken and

placed on a bulletin board. These students also receive a special prize. There will also be a "bucket fillers" assembly on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> for the whole school.

Mrs. Candow hopes that this year long theme will encourage positive behavior as children see how easy and rewarding it is to express kindness, appreciation, and love on a daily basis. Make sure to ask your child and yourself, "Have you filled a bucket today?"

## Third Grade News

are learning strategies in math using Magic 9 and playing Plus, Minus, Stay the Same game.

Officer Buckle and Gloria gave us a great start to reading. Accelerated Reader tests have been flying out of the printer.

The 3rd graders are now learning how to be great scientists, by using Scientific Notation. We also went on a Gumball Rally using our Social Studies books. We can't wait to see what challenges are next!

Welcome to the Third Grade Hallway, a.k.a. Muraski Speedway! The 3rd graders have been getting in gear and starting their engines. We drove right into starting cur-sive. Look out finish line...we already know how to write the words "it, stir, and wit!" We



Third Graders...Start Your Engines!

# Way to Go Mrs. Allen!!!

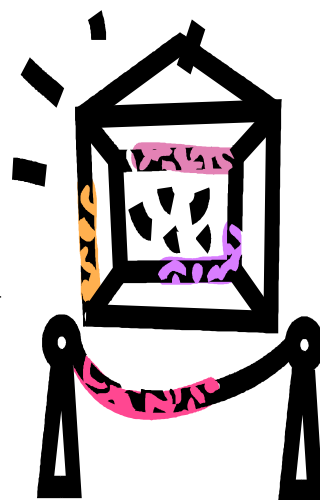
Congratulations to Mrs. Allen and PTA member Mrs. Jane Ludwig! Due to their efforts with the Artsonia Program, Muraski Elementary's online art gallery is ranked 3rd in the state of Ohio and 47th nationwide. Last year we published 2,808 pieces of artwork! Of these pieces of artwork, we have 1,113 active fan club members and 1,138 comments were left for the Artists.

Mrs. Allen has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to Art Education and has been

selected to receive The Artsonia Annual Leadership Award, which is an honor only extended to teachers from 10 schools across the United States. This award goes to teachers who go beyond the classroom walls to encourage families and community involvement in Art Education.

Mrs. Allen received a certificate, recognizing her accomplishments and honoring her as one of Artsonia's outstanding leaders. However, Mrs. Allen believes that two names should

be honored...as Mrs. Jane Ludwig does all the photography and submits every piece. Mrs. Allen teaches all the lessons, but if it wasn't for the dedication of Mrs. Ludwig, the program would not be successful! Thank you to both Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Ludwig for your dedication to our art program at Muraski Elementary. We look forward to more artwork being published this year!



## From the Music Room...Mrs. Zudell

BRAVO to Mrs. Felton's second grade class in Music! They did a terrific job singing and playing a circle game: When the students heard the recorder play a phrase of "Here Comes a Bluebird in Through My Window", they recognized it immediately from last year (!) and moved smoothly into a circle for the game--with no verbal directions, no talking and no confusion. They

were ready within 3 seconds, holding hands and ready to go. Everyone in the class got a turn in record time, and the singing was lovely. There were even a few students who weren't familiar with the song and game from last year, but they were helped by their classmates and caught on very quickly. What a fun and shining moment!

BRAVO to Ms. Brook's sixth grade class for showing support of classmates in Music! In an activity of improvising (playing) Questions and Answers on the xylophones, some students were at first uncertain, but when they caught on, everyone applauded their success. That's real team spirit and showing that "we're all in this together!"

*The theme for the 2008-09 school year at Muraski Elementary is "We're All in This Together!"*



## Fifth Graders are headed to Space!

Our fifth graders are getting ready for Science. Our Science curriculum presents many opportunities for students to use inquiry tools and skills, while following the "Scientific Method."

We are currently studying Earth and Space Sciences in-

cluding: night and day, the seasons, stars including the Sun, and the planets. Science Court will be used to incorporate technology into our program. As a culminating activity, our students will visit the Strongsville High School Planetarium, under the direction of Mr.

Mott. This experience will help bring together and clarify all that students have learned. Planetarium Dates:

Mrs. Fernengel's Class - 10/8

Mrs. Laub's Class - 10/9

Mrs. Consiglio's Class - 10/10



Mrs. Peters, Principal

Muraski Elementary School  
20270 Royalton Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44149

Phone: 44-572-7160  
E-mail: [petersj@strongnet.org](mailto:petersj@strongnet.org)

Be Respectful  
Be Responsible  
Be a Positive Role Model

## After School... Successes of Muraski Students

- Congratulations to Ryan, Justin, and Joshua! This summer they played on the U10 Strongsville Mustangs Travel Baseball Team. In July, their team came in 2nd place at State in the USSSA Ohio State Championships in Columbus, Ohio. Remember these names...They may play for the Cleveland Indians some day! Way to go Ryan, Justin, and Joshua!
- *Please send in your "outside" success stories for our monthly newsletter... You can email Mrs. Peters at [petersj@strongnet.org](mailto:petersj@strongnet.org).*



## Remembering September 11th

The students at Muraski Elementary School took time out of their morning schedule to remember what happened on September 11th, 2001. Mrs. Peters played the song "Proud to be an American" by Lee Greenwood on the morning announcements and then the entire student body met outdoors by the flag. Daniel, Alexandria, and Jack, sixth graders, raised the flag, as we all stood in silence. Once the flag was raised, the sixth graders lead us in the "Pledge of Allegiance". The moment was very heartfelt and very appropriate for the day. Thank you to our students and staff for taking the time to celebrate Patriot Day. It is an important day in history that will always be remembered.

If you see your name in the newsletter...Stop by the office for a special surprise!

## School Community Relations (SCR)

Mrs. Lowe and Mr. Zimmer

It's that time of year for students interested in joining the School, Community Relations Committee (SCR) to fill out the application forms found in the front hall at Muraski Elementary.

Students are selected by the staff based upon their applications and consistent and noteworthy demonstration of responsibility, dependability, respect, and leadership.

SCR is responsible for a variety of school spirit projects as well as community service projects throughout the school year. Some of our activities include holiday displays, man-

agement of school store, food drives, and hosting Muraski Café.

It is a worthwhile experience but it does require a commitment on the part of its members. Students asked to join are encouraged to think about their outside activities before joining SCR. We meet before and after school to plan activities. Students are sometimes asked to do projects at home and sometimes students give up their recess to help with projects run by SCR.

The SCR Committee is committed to service projects and school spirit. This group is comprised of 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. Students are selected based on

interest, citizenship, attitude and character. Students are invited to apply for this group by filling out an application form available in the school office after Labor Day. All applications must be returned to the homeroom teacher by the third week of September. Homeroom teachers will submit top choices to SCR advisors. These nominations are compiled and school staff members will vote to select the SCR members for the current year. Committee membership is limited and small in number in order to provide active participation and worthwhile leadership experience.