

# York School

Luana Coppus, Principal  
February 2012

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to February. We are at the half way point of the school year. It is going very fast, but it's not too late to reflect on our learning. If your child has maintained good grades, encourage him or her to keep up the hard work. If not, resolve to spend some time each night talking with your child about the importance of a good education. Help your child set goals and help him or her keep track of progress toward the goal. Celebrate even the little success. The extra effort will pay off.

Many of our students earned Citizen of the Semester and will be rewarded with a party. Students who earned Citizen of the Quarter both first and second quarter are eligible to attend. We are very proud of these students. They are the role models of York School.

Our Accelerated Reader contest continues. The top two readers in each class are recognized in the Bellevue Gazette and on our website. Our top reader for December had 70 AR points. Many of the students have a goal to exceed that number. Look on the website to see who made the January top readers.



February 24 is mid point for the third 9 weeks. Please take time to look at your child's academic progress. Please contact the school if you would like to meet with the teacher. Your help and input is always appreciated.

As always, you are welcome at our school anytime. The children benefit when we work together to make school a positive experience.

Educationally Yours,  
Luana Coppus



## A LOOK AHEAD

- |          |         |   |
|----------|---------|---|
| February | 03      | Teacher Inservice<br>No School          |
|          | 13      | PTO – 4:00 @ Ridge                      |
|          | 15      | Marco Pizza Night                       |
|          | 16      | Board Meeting                           |
|          | 20      | No School                               |
|          | 24      | Mid Progress                            |
| March    | 16      | End of third 9 weeks<br>Spring Pictures |
|          | 23      | Grade Cards Go Home                     |
| April    | 02 – 08 | Spring Break                            |
|          | 23      | Ohio Achievement Testing<br>Begins      |

# ***NO SCHOOL***

***February 20th***

***In Celebration of President's Day***

## **Third Grade Mrs. Kilgore**

It's hard to believe we are beginning the third nine weeks of school. February will be another busy month in third grade. In Math, we will continue to learn multiplication facts. Memorizing these facts is very important so practice at home is always helpful.

We're also working hard to prepare for the Ohio Reading and Math Achievement Assessments. The students can practice at home using the website [www.studyisland.com](http://www.studyisland.com). This is a fun way to practice.

Many of the kids can't wait for a big snowstorm! Here are some of their reasons why.

Here is how I would spend my snow day. I would have a friend over. They would bring their snowsuit so we could build a snowman. When we were done, we would drink delicious hot chocolate with extra marshmallows. We'd eat double chocolate chip cookies, too! After that, I would ask my mom to take us sledding. When we get back we could draw pictures and have an art show. That night we would have a sleepover. In the middle of the night we would play pranks on my little sister. I love snow days!  
By Taylor Fisher

When we have a snow day, I will play with my brothers. Then my dad will take us ice fishing to catch some big walleye. He will also take us four wheeling. After that, we will make a snowman together. We can use sticks for arms and rocks for the eyes and mouth. Then we go inside to warm up and get some hot cocoa and cookies. We would have a great time together on a snow day.  
By Shane Hemenway

Here's how I would spend my snow day! When I get up, I'll ask my mom if we can play outside, and if she says yes, boy will I be excited! I'll wake my sister up and we'll go outside and have a snowball fight. First, I will build a shield to protect myself. Then I'll be ready to go! When we're done, we'll want a snack so we'll have hot cocoa. I like a lot of whipped cream. The last thing we'd do is watch a good movie. It is fun to sit and relax. That's what I would do on a snowy day.  
By Kaitlyn Cullen

This is what I would do if we have a snow day. My Grandma and I would go sledding. We would also make a snowman. We'd have a snowball fight, too. I would build a fort so nobody could hit me. Last, we would make snow angels. When we're done, we'd go inside and have hot chocolate. I like the kind with marshmallows so tiny you can swallow them in one gulp. We would watch football on the flat screen tv. I wish it would snow everyday.

By Garrett Andrews

This is how my snow day will go. I will have a friend over. We will watch lots of movies and drink hot cocoa. After the movie, we will play out in the snow. We will make a snow angel, have a snowball fight, and make a huge snowman. Then, after my friend leaves, I will play video games. I would play Super Mario Brothers on the Wii. I love to have snow days.

By Hannah Cleveland



## Yearbooks for Sale

Cost: \$13.00

**Must be Paid When Ordered**  
**Information coming home  
with your student soon.**



### **Registration for First Kindergarten Class of New Elementary Building**

Bellevue City Schools will hold kindergarten registration for the 2012-2013 school year on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Bellevue Public Library. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the Bellevue Schools, (419) 484-5000, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. **Please do not call the library.** Enrollment packets will be available on the district website ([www.bellevueschools.org/enroll/kindergarten](http://www.bellevueschools.org/enroll/kindergarten)), or may be picked up at the Board of Education, 125 North Street.

Any child who will be five years old on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> and lives within the Bellevue school district will be eligible for kindergarten next fall and should attend the registration program. Children will have vision and hearing screened while parents attend an orientation meeting. Parents will be given information on obtaining the immunizations their child needs before starting school. Parents will need to bring the child's birth certificate, immunization record, proof of residency, and proof of custody.

## News from the Intervention Specialist

### Co-Teaching

The teachers at York School believe in an importance of Co-teaching. Co-teaching is an approach that involves two professionals teaching the same class together by sharing their expertise with the students. Co-teaching is also being used in schools across the country as a way to meet the diverse needs of students in today's classrooms- from students who may need some extra support to those who may need extra challenge to stay engaged.

Each teacher has different areas of expertise and we all collaborate to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our students. We co-plan together on a regular basis, as well as co-instruct daily in the classroom. Sometimes we are together in the front of the class sharing instruction, while sometimes one will take the lead while the other circulates to help individual students. There may be times when we divide the class into two or more groups, so that students can have greater opportunities for participation and individualization. We will take turns with various roles in the classroom so that students that we are both teachers with equal authority and expertise. We all work together to ensure student achievement. Often in class we're so in sync, we finish each other's sentences... And the students see that! They see us working together and it helps them learn to work together as well.

Miss Davies  
Intervention Specialist

# Ideas to Chase Away the Winter Blues

What a fantastic program, Gotta Be Jazz, the fourth graders provided to a full house on January 16<sup>th</sup>!!! Great soloists, singing and performing! Many thanks to Mrs. Mira on another job well done!

Will the Groundhog see his shadow? Are we ready for six more weeks of winter? Regardless, the days spent inside can be truly enjoyable or down right dreary. Break out of the winter doldrums by finding a hobby you enjoy!

On those long days indoors you could:

- draw/paint a picture and use correct shading
- make a town/farm out of empty food boxes that you've decorated
- create a new song and sing it to someone
- write a play and perform it
- make clay creations using cookie cutters
- create a travel brochure for a vacation you would like to take
- design a menu for dinner and help prepare it
- play school – parents can learn a lot about their child's day
- compose a poem and illustrate it

- organize or rearrange your bedroom
- make a craft(s) to decorate for an upcoming holiday
- curl up with a good book – it can take you anywhere

Brainstorm more fun indoor ideas with an adult and chase the winter blues away!

Mrs. Andrews/Fourth Grade Teacher



Reminder...

No School

Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>

Teacher Professional  
Development Day

## Marco's Pizza Night February 15, 2012



## News from the Band Room

What a year the 5<sup>th</sup> grade band students have had so far! The Christmas Concert in December went extremely well and was attended by many. Students are now working toward their final concert of the year which will take place on Monday, May 14 2012 in the York Gymnasium at 6:30 p.m. Again, students will need to come prepared for the concert with all materials necessary. Students should dress up for this concert as well. Admission will be charged for this concert. The cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students and senior citizens. The money raised from admission is used to help defray the cost of new music, equipment and awards the students may receive throughout the school year.

Students should be practicing each evening. Some instruments are being left in the band room at school during the week. Please make sure that they have a space set aside where they may practice without interruptions. They receive an assignment each week during their lessons. Normally, they will only have about 2 lines to work on during any given week. They can “warm – up” on lines from earlier in their books with which they are more familiar and then move on to the lines they are assigned for the upcoming lesson.

Awards night is also coming up at the end of the year. This takes place in the York Gymnasium and begins at 6:30 p.m. on May 22. Students will all receive at least one award. Most will receive two. We have ribbons of all shapes and sizes, medals, certificates, engraved plaques and wall hangings to award to the students for all of their hard work throughout the year. Music boosters even supply ice cream sundaes for all of those in attendance. More information will come home with your child to get an accurate count for the ice cream.

Finally, in the upcoming months, your child will be registering for classes as they begin the transition to the middle school for their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year. If you wish them to be enrolled in 6<sup>th</sup> grade band, please make sure that they have this option checked when they turn in their registration form. It should be an exciting time for them as they will be the first class to use the new facilities!

I look forward to seeing you at the concert and awards night in May! If you have any questions or concerns about upcoming events or your child's progress, please feel free to contact me at school at 419-484-5050.

Mr. Strayer  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Director



# Title 1 News

## Paulsen's Palace

Intervention groups are doing the following:

Third and fifth grade students continue to work on the Reading program Voyager. We have been focusing our attention on vowel sounds, finding small words in big words, breaking apart words into syllables with the help of a technique called tapping out words. We also have been working on prefixes and suffixes, main idea, reading for details and understanding how to preview a text. Next, Voyager always focuses on fluency, which is the ability to read like you are talking, while making no mistakes and reading with expression. We practice fluency daily. Every Friday, after taking weekly skills and comprehension test, after the read, the student's graph their current read and compare it to the last weeks read.

Fourth grade has been reading a book on Tsunamis, and this also corresponds with the weather unit they have started in Science class. We continue to work on the main idea and details, short and extended answers. We are also review Comparing and Contrasting, Sequencing and daily, continue to practice our test taking skills.

## Pleasnick's Place

Intervention groups are doing the following:

Third grade students continue to work with the program Voyager; we have been focusing on vowel sounds, prefixes and their meanings as well as using time order signal words (first, then, next, before, after) in order to understand information. We continue to practice reading fluently- like we are speaking, pausing at periods and comma as well as reading with expression. The students have started to work on how stressing different words in a sentence can change the meaning of the sentence.

Fourth grade students continue to work on using context clues to figure out the meaning of unknown words as well as starting to use dictionary entry and pronunciation keys. We started to work on summarizing paragraphs and asking questions to better understand what we are reading. We are continuing to analyze story structure to be able to summarize focusing on identifying events at the beginning, middle and end.

Fifth grade students continue to use the Voyager program for Reading focusing on using context clues to find the meaning of unknown words, identifying prefixes and their meaning as well as practicing going back to the text to find answers to questions.

Please encourage all students to continue to read- have them read anything!

## Title 1 Tips

This month's tip is just to talk with your child about books.

Ask your child about the books he/she would like to read

Talk to your child about your favorite books from childhood, read them to your child or even with them

Encourage your child to ask question about the story that you are reading or to make comments about the story

Look at the cover of the book and ask your child what he/she thinks the story is going to be about or pause during the story and ask your child what he/she thinks will happen next

Encourage your child to think critically about the story- do they agree/disagree with the authors? Why?

Think aloud as you read the story- does this make sense?

Wait a couple of days and ask them about the story that you read together.