

RUSHWOOD ELEMENTARY  
8200 RUSHWOOD LANE  
SAGAMORE HILLS, OH 44067  
330.467.0581

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 2nd—11th, Spring  
Break

April 14th, PTA, 3:30

April 16th, Report Cards  
Sent Home

April 19th OAA, 3rd and  
4th Grade Reading Test

April 20th OAA 3rd and 4th  
Grade Math Test

April 22nd Market Day  
Earth Day

April 29th 2nd Grade Musi-  
cal Performance

May 1st, Fitness Fest

May 2nd—8th, Teacher  
Appreciation Week

May 10th— 4th Grade Parent  
Meeting at Lee Eaton

May 12th, PTA, 3:30

May 17th, 4th Grade Family  
Walk Throughs, Lee Eaton

# Rushwood's Reflections

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

APRIL 2010

## A message from the Principal

Dear Rushwood  
Families:

It's hard to believe that we have completed three quarters of this school year already! It's been a pleasure watching your child grow and mature, learn how to problem solve, and develop skills such as note taking, cooperatively working with others, test taking strategies etc. Our core belief: *Individual Student Learning and Achievement is our Core Business*, is paramount here in Nor-donia. As always, I appreciate all the support you, our families, provide for your children outside of the school day. Communication from home to school is likewise a vital component to the overall success of our children. We know that when parents are involved in their children's education, student achievement

improves.

The Ohio Achieve-ment tests are scheduled for April 19th and 20th for our third and fourth grade students. What does it take for success? Stu-dents need to give their best effort! What does ef-fort look like? Students need to put in sufficient time to get the job done well, focus efficiently with-out distraction, ask for help when needed, use dif-ferent strategies they've been taught, and perse-vere. Inside this issue of ***Rushwood's Reflections***, you will find tips and re-sources for added support you can help your child with over spring break in preparation for these tests.

Spring Break is a wonderful opportunity for quality family time. For me, memories of my times were predominately with

my family at our cabin in the hills of the Allegheny Forest, traipsing through the woods with my twin sister, brother, and cousins, or fishing ex-cursions with my father. I encourage each of you to create a memory this break with your child, be it a back-yard barbecue, bike ride, heading to a museum, hik-ing in the woods, or even sitting down to watch a movie together as a family. Whatever the experience, though simple in nature, I guarantee, will build lasting positive memories in your child's life. I wish you all a pleasant, relaxing, and en-joyable break from school!

Yours for an excellent educa-tion,

*Jacqueline O'Connor*

## ***It's a Musical Rainbow—2nd Graders to Perform***

Our **second grade students** will be presenting their spring show entitled, ***"It's a Musical Rainbow"*** on Thursday evening, April 29 at 7 PM in the Rushwood Gym. Students should report to Cluster B at 6:45 to line up for the show. All students have special parts, so every child is expected to participate. A final dress rehearsal will be held on Wednesday afternoon, April 28 at 1:00 PM. Please let Dr. Lineburgh know if your child will have any difficulty in meeting this commitment. Attire for the evening show is nice school clothes.

## ***Safety Town Registration approaching in May—Space is Limited!!***

Children who will attend Kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year are eligible for Safety Town, however, space is limited. Safety Town registration is May 25th, from 6-8pm at Ledgeview Elementary School. The actual program, which is run by Macedonia Police Department, is scheduled for July 12-21st, at Ledgeview Elementary.

## ***OAA Testing is Rapidly Approaching...***

***April 19th— 3rd and 4th Grade — Reading***

***April 20th— 3rd and 4th Grade — Math***

On Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, Rushwood's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the Ohio Reading and Math Achievement Tests. To help prepare for these upcoming tests, the entire 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade took a practice test that was given in 2005. Each class has spent time going over the test questions and answers so your child could see the questions they answered correctly and incorrectly. As we were reviewing the test, we discussed strategies that we have learned to help us figure out the correct answer to multiple choice questions. We discussed how to form an appropriate, detailed response to the short answer and extended response questions. We discussed the importance of going back into the reading selection to reread and prove answers.

Please review the practice test with your child so you can see how they did on their own. The tests in April will have a similar format. There are other tests available online for more practice. There are answer keys to go along with these tests so you can help your child prepare even more. If you are interested in these tests follow the directions below:

1. Go to the Ohio Department of Education website [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us)
2. At the top of the page click on the **Testing** link.
3. On the left menu click on the link for **Practice Tests**.
4. Click on the link that says **Practice Tests for Grades 3-8 Achievement Tests**.
5. Under Grade 3 click on the **Half-Length Practice Test for Reading**.
6. The answers can be found in the **Grade 3 Practice Tests Administration Manual**.
7. This same procedure can be followed for the **Grade 4 Practice Tests**

“Individual  
Student  
Learning and  
Achievement  
is our Core  
Business”

**If you would like to choose from even more tests, follow these directions!**

1. Go to the Ohio Department of Education website [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us)
2. At the top of the page click on the **Testing** link.
3. On the left menu click on the link for **Released Test Materials**.
4. Click on the link that says **Released Test Materials for Ohio's Grade 3-8 Achievement Tests**.
5. Under Grade 3 and Grade 4, you will see a variety of **Partial and Full Tests** that were given in past years. You can also download and print the **Answer Key/Scoring Guide**. This will help you and your child understand how the state grades the multiple choice, short answer, and extended response questions!
6. Your child will also be taking the Ohio Achievement Test for Math on April 20<sup>th</sup>. You can help your child prepare for this by reviewing the **Partial and Full Tests** that are offered on this same page.

Testing week is a very important week. It is imperative that your child is not absent or late to school. Please refrain from making appointments for your child during the school day the week of testing.

**TIPS:** Your child needs to get a good night sleep the night before the test. They should eat a nutritious breakfast that morning with protein. Some suggested breakfast meals are:

- Fortified, whole grain cereal and a piece of fruit
- Whole grain waffles or French toast with fruit topping
- Whole grain toast or bagel with a hard boiled egg and fruit
- Low fat yogurt with fruit and/or nuts
- Peanut butter sandwich
- Breakfast bar

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's homeroom teacher for more information. As always, thank you for your continued support of our curriculum. Rushwood is looking forward to receiving another *Excellent* rating from the state of Ohio this year!

## ***Earth Day: Do Your Part to Protect the Planet***

Earth Day is April 22nd. This is an ideal time to become more earth-friendly and take action to make our planet a cleaner and safer place to live. As an individual, you can start with something as simple as picking up trash on the ground, or turning off the water while you brush your teeth or shave. You can turn off appliances and lights when you leave a room and select energy efficient products for your home.

For help making energy efficient choices, go to <http://www.energystar.gov> and use the Energy Star program. Energy Star is the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency. You can save energy by insulating your water heater and pipes, and having leaky refrigeration systems fixed. In good weather, hang your laundry on the line.

Planting a tree is a favorite way to celebrate Earth Day. You can offer any leftover tree seedlings to your neighbors and friends. Beginning a recycling program is another excellent way to celebrate. Recycle your paper, plastics, glass bottles, cardboard, and aluminum cans. At the same time, you can investigate how to properly dispose of items such as paint, solvents, car batteries, motor oil, and pesticides. As a companion to recycling, you can start a compost pile with leftover food and lawn clippings.

When you go shopping, try to buy products with less packaging, and look for packaging made from recycled materials. When you do your shopping, try walking or riding your bike instead of driving the car—it's good for your health and good for the environment!

## ***Fitness Fest is here, MAY 1, 2010—Let's Get FIT!***

The Knights of Well Being are hosting the Second Annual Fitness Fest May 1st, at Macedonia Recreation Center from 9:00am—12:00. Admission is FREE and a variety of stations with activities and information to help us become more active will be offered. Activities will span for all age groups. LET'S GET FIT!

## Counselor's Corner

By: Mr. Kirk Galbreath

### FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

#### As a Parent, Should I be Concerned with Violence in Video Games and Media?

Research to date suggests that parents should be most concerned about two things: the amount of time that children play, and the content of the games that they play.

Simply put, the amount of time spent playing video games has a negative correlation with academic performance.

Playing violent games has a positive correlation with antisocial and aggressive behavior (most researchers define violence in games as when the player can intentionally harm other characters in the game).

Content analyses show that a majority of games contain some violence.

A majority of 4th to 8th grade children prefer violent games.

Looking across dozens of studies that have now been conducted on violent video games, there appear to be five major effects.

Playing violent games leads to increased physiological arousal  
 increased aggressive thoughts  
 increased aggressive feelings  
 increased aggressive behaviors  
 decreased prosocial helping

These studies include experimental studies (where it can be shown that playing violent games actually causes increases in aggression), correlational studies (where long-term relations between game play and real-world aggression can be shown), and longitudinal studies (where changes in children's aggressive behaviors can be demonstrated). For example, in a study of over 400 3rd--5th graders, those students who played more violent video games early in the school year changed to become more physically aggressive later in the school year.

Apparently practice does make perfect.

The research also seems to show that parents have an important role to play. Children whose parents limited the amount of time they could play and also used the video game ratings to limit the content of the games have children who do better in school and also get into fewer fights. Regarding limiting the amount, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children not spend more than one to two hours per day in front of all electronic screens, including TV, DVDs, videos, video games (handheld, console, or computer), and computers (for non-academic use).

Douglas A. Gentile "[The effects of video games on children: what parents need to know](#)". Pediatrics for Parents. FindArticles.com. 18 Feb, 2010.

“Individual  
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# Field Day Set for June 4th, 2010

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Rushwood Field Day Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2010

9:00-11:15 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>

9:45-11:00 AM Kindergarten

12:45-3:00 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>

1:45-3:00 PM Kindergarten

If you would like to volunteer to help run a station, please fill out and return by May 14<sup>th</sup> or ASAP. Please arrive 15 minutes early to go over field day information. Thank you for your help!!

Mrs. Canitano

Physical Education Teacher

Erika.Canitano@nordoniaschools.org

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Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email or (Phone number if no email) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00-11:00 (3/4) \_\_\_\_\_ 9:45-11:00 (K) \_\_\_\_\_ 12:45-3:00 (1/2) \_\_\_\_\_ 1:45-3:00 (K)

# Fourth Grade Orientation Set for May 10th, 7:00-8:00pm

Dear Fourth Grade Families:

You are cordially invited to the *Lee Eaton Parent Orientation Meeting*. This will be held on **Monday, May 10 at 7:00 – 8:00 PM** in the **Lee Eaton gym**. During this time, a number of our Lee Eaton staff and Mr. Woofter, school principal, will be introducing you to Lee Eaton and the fifth grade program. Topics covered include: the school's mission, the content of instruction in each subject, learning expectations, and more. An optional, but brief guided tour of the building will conclude the meeting. Staff will be on hand to answer general questions and welcome you.

The Parent Orientation Meeting is designed for parents only, so plan to leave your child at home. However, on May 12, 13, and 14, Lee Eaton will be visiting Rushwood for Student Orientation during the school day. An information pack will be sent home with your student after this meeting.

Additionally you and your child are welcome to visit Lee Eaton for the *Fourth Grade Family Walk Through*, **Monday, May 17 from 5-6:30 pm**. Stop by any time during the two hour block to tour Lee Eaton with a representative from their student council.

Mrs. Albanese, the Associate Principal, Mrs. Bonick, school counselor, and Mr. Woofter, will be on hand to greet students. The *Fourth Grade Family Walk Through* is designed for your child to see the building and get acquainted with the school. In August, a few days before the start of school, will be the official Fifth Grade Open House.

# Camp Invention-It's Just Around the Corner!

invent now® kids presents  **Camp invention®**

## UNLEASHING CREATIVE GENIUS... ONE CHILD AT A TIME

This summer, invest in the skills that will help your child achieve his or her full potential throughout the school year. Nonprofit Invent Now Kids' premier program, Camp Invention, is a weeklong adventure in creativity. Led by qualified educators, this exciting program is being hosted by Rushwood Elementary this summer for children **entering grades one through six.**

The Camp Invention program is a unique opportunity for your child to experience hands-on learning through FUN activities that will stay with them for years to come.

Register before March 31, 2010  
to receive \$25 off the base price!  
(PROMO CODE: RERD)

### This year's brand new INNOVATE program features:

#### Power'd™

It's alive! In a secret lab, build your own motorized creature and bring it to life while helping a mysterious scientist harness the power of nature.

#### Hatched™

The *Hatched* online virtual world is disappearing! Help save the avatars by creating, marketing, and selling goods in this extraordinary marketplace.

#### SMArt: Science, Math & Art™

What do soap bubbles, honeycombs, and lightning bolts all have in common? Explore their surprising connections in the Pattern Kingdom.

#### I Can Invent III™

Take apart a broken machine and see what's inside. Then use its gears, guts, and gadgets to invent a machine that's never been seen before.

#### Global Games™

Explore soccer and other sports as they were first played in ancient times. Add your own twist, get out of your seats, and get ready to play!

*"The student engagement was amazing to see. It was so different than what we observe in many of our classrooms..."* - Camp Invention Instructor

#### COMING TO:

RUSHWOOD ELEMENTARY

June 14- 18, 2010

9:00am to 3:30pm

#### DIRECTED BY:

Cheryl Harrell

330.467.0581

Cheryl.Harrell@nordoniaschools.org



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800.968.4332



WWW.CAMPINVENTION.ORG

# Camp Invention Registration Form

800.968.4332



WWW.CAMPINVENTION.ORG

## 2010 CAMP INVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

RUSHWOOD ELEMENTARY (The INNOVATE Program)

Promo Code: RERD

June 14 - 18, 2010 from 9:00am to 3:30pm

Program Code: C-OH01-10034-10

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name	Alumnus?	Gender	Date of Birth	Fall 2010 Grade Level
	Yes / No	M / F		

School Child Attends \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child require an Epi-Pen?  Yes  No

Availability is limited. Program location is subject to change. Each registrant receives a free Camp Invention T-shirt. Base price for the 2010 Camp Invention program is \$210, of which \$50 is nonrefundable. Refunds are available up to three weeks prior to the start date of the program.

Monthly installment payments are available for all registrations received on or prior to March 31, 2010 and are valid only for registrations paid by credit or debit card. Your credit card will be billed a nonrefundable \$50 deposit, and the balance will be split into two subsequent monthly payments. To enroll, simply check the box below.

Yes, please bill my credit or debit card in installments as outlined above.

Promotional registration discounts are not valid with any other discount. Special discounted rates apply only to registrations received and/or postmarked by the applicable date.

Yes, I want to help economically disadvantaged children participate in the Camp Invention experience. Please accept my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_, which I understand is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to Camp Invention; please do not send cash)

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return registration form (one for each attending child) and payment in full to: Camp Invention, 3701 Highland Park NW, North Canton, OH 44720

Register online at [www.campinvention.org](http://www.campinvention.org) or via telephone at 800.968.4332 or fax your registration form to 330.849.8528

FLYER RD1

## Homework Help

Homework is a great chance to work on all kinds of skills. Homework teaches students how to manage time, how to stay with a hard task, how to work as a team on a project, how to learn something new, and sometimes even how to ask for help. No two children are alike, so finding the right way to support your child is a very individual thing. There are many ways you can help your child. Observe how he or she does work best. Most students will need quiet, structure, and a routine, such as always taking a quick break after school and then doing homework from 4 p.m. until dinnertime. One of the most important questions to ask yourself is, am I trying to do something for my child that he or she can (or should) do for himself? If I help now, will he or she learn what he or she needs to know from this assignment? If you are worried about how your own lack of knowledge will hurt your child, schedule a meeting with your child's teacher. Explain your worries and ask for suggestions on either what you can do to learn the material, or what things you can do (like helping with flash cards) without knowing the subject yourself.

—Adapted from Helping Hands

# Please Keep in Mind-Ohio's New Child Seat Law

Have you heard the news, Ohio parents? There is a new child safety seat law in our midst! Governor Ted Strickland signed [Substitute House Bill 320](#) into law on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, which amended Ohio's child safety restraint law. Prior to this amendment, children under 4 years old and under 40 pounds were required to use child restraints when riding in a motor vehicle with older front seat passengers required to use a seat belt. **Law will now require that children ages 4-8 and with heights less than 4 feet 9 inches use a booster seat when riding in a personal motor vehicle. Children ages 8-15 which are not required to be restrained in a child restraint system or booster seat, must be secured in the vehicle with seat belts—whether in a front or rear seat.**

Because booster seats have long been recommended for children between the ages of 4-8, some parents already own and use the seats. However, a close eye during drop off at your child's school will remind you that many do not! **Many parents may be unaware of the adoption of this new law and may be surprised when the enforcement period begins on October 7, 2009!**

*To ease parents into the transition, law enforcement agencies will issue warnings only for the first six months (beginning on October 7, 2009). Full enforcement, with citations, will begin on April 7, 2010. Fines for violating the child restraint laws will range from \$25 to a maximum of \$75 per occurrence.*

While some booster seat brands may be purchased for less than \$15, it is understood that purchasing these seats, especially in multiples for larger families, may be a hardship for some. The passage of this law has allowed Ohio to become eligible for receipt of federal funding to provide education and awareness activities regarding the law changes as well as to distribute free car seats and booster seats to low income families. Help is available from the Ohio Department of Health through the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program to provide child restraints to low income families throughout the state.

## *Fun Fair, Fairs well!*

### **A Special Message From our PTA!**

We are so happy that Fun Fair was such a well-attended event! Everyone seemed to have a great time! We are thankful for those parents who volunteered to help out with the running of the event. It is a massive undertaking and we needed lots of volunteers. This year, the event would not have taken place without the help of our Middle School volunteers. Due to the low number of parent volunteers, we contacted our middle schoolers and they showed up with smiling faces, on time and with a strong work ethic. Several were there from set up to clean up, asking what needed to be done next. We are so proud of them! We would list them all, but several brought a friend so that we would have extra help and we don't want to leave anyone out. Thanks again, Middle Schoolers, for sharing your time with us!

In addition, a special thank you to Mr. Strong and Mr. Banyasz. They were the two parents who showed up to help us set up. As you can imagine, transforming the gym, cafeteria, Cluster A, and the Art Room is a huge job, but these men worked tirelessly. Sorry, Mr. Banyasz for sending you home covered in pink cotton candy! Thank you to Dr. Lineburgh and Mrs. Canitano who also helped set up, especially the Redemption Center... a huge job! Thank you to the other teachers (Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Ramsay, Mrs. Glorioso, Mrs. Bzdafka, Mrs. Soukup and Mrs. Wasco) who stayed to run games. Your time is also appreciated. Thank you to Mrs. McKenzie for all her help in the kitchen. Thank you to the custodial staff for help setting up tables and for the extra clean up. Your cooperation is appreciated more than you know! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

**Debbie Stehlik and Cindy O'Connor**

# *Please consider using our EZPay Program*

## Instructions for EZPay Online Payments

### STEP ONE

Have your student's ID number and your credit or debit card ready to enter into the system.

To start the online payment process for the first time you need to register in the system using your student's ID number. If you have more than one student in the School district, you will be able to register each child at the same time. Note: You will need to reregister a student when they move from building to building.

### STEP TWO

Log on to the Nordonias Hills City Schools home page at <http://www.nordoniaschools.org>.

Click on the Rushwood Elementary school webpage. Then click on the [www.spsezpaynordonia.com](http://www.spsezpaynordonia.com)

### STEP THREE

When you first go to the website you need to register. Here's what you will see when you get there:



You will click on the Register to Use SPS EZPAY

Then read the instructions and click the Next button

This screen is where you will put in your personal information-then click Next

This screen is where you put in your student ID

You can get your student's ID from your lunch account, report card, fee letter or schedule. If you do not have your student's id please contact Andrea Cortez at 330-908-6604 or [Andrea.Cortez@Nordoniaschools.org](mailto:Andrea.Cortez@Nordoniaschools.org)

Make sure you don't add the leading 0's when you put in your student ID and click add student. After this click Finish. Example: 00022110 (do not put the beginning 0's in)

Enter your credit or debit card number. For security purposes, your account number will not be kept on file in the payment system. You will need to enter it each time you make a payment to your student's account.

## *2 Hour Delay Schedule*

I wanted to inform parents of the potential for a 2 hour delayed start. IF a 2 hour delay is called, the school day for students will run from 10:45am-3:15pm. You can expect your son or daughter's bus to pick them up at their regular stop two hours later. For example, if their normal time is 7:45am, expect a bus on this day to arrive at 9:45am. On this particular day, lunch will be PIZZA!