



# Scioto News

☺ Volume 2

☺ Oct - Nov 2008

## **Excellence- "With Distinction"**

The Ohio Department of Education has rated Scioto Elementary as "Excellent with Distinction." This category was added due to the overall yearly progress of our students. A system referred to as "Value Added" tracks the individual progress each student makes over a year. Scioto students have consistently demonstrated progress that is beyond the expected yearly growth. This specific honor was only achieved by approximately 4% of the school buildings in the state. Thanks to all the teachers, students and parents who helped achieve this remarkable performance.



*Principal Robin Halley is pictured with Steven Adams, Gabrielle Beavers, Heath Brungarth, Brooke Carothers, Ethan Ho, Tate Ikeda, Shaeleigh Payne and Catherine Steck behind a banner honoring the school's achievement.*

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Achievement**

Third grade students across Ohio will be taking the reading achievement test the first week in October. All Teays Valley third graders will take the test on Tuesday, October 7. Please make sure your child gets adequate rest and a healthy breakfast prior to the test. The same test will be administered in the spring of 2009.

## **Grandparents' Week**

November 3 through 7 will be "Grandparents Week" at Scioto. This is a special time where grandparents are invited to have lunch with their grandchildren. Each grade level will have a specific day throughout the week. Schedules and registration will be sent home with students the last week of October.

## **Attendance and Tardiness**

It is important that all students be on time every day. Students are expected to be in their seats ready for class at 9 am. Students who are consistently late or absent generally have academic problems. The school is required by law to report extreme absences and tardiness to the Pickaway County attendance officer. If there are extenuating circumstances for a child being absent, contact the building principal.

## **Artsonia**

Scioto elementary is preparing to start a new and exciting way to display student art through Artsonia.com. Artsonia.com is a place where student art is uploaded and can be viewed by anyone in the world. Items such as mugs and t-shirts can be printed with your child's art with a portion of the proceeds going to the Scioto elementary art program. Look for a permission form coming home to showcase your student's art .

## **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-teacher conferences at the elementary buildings are scheduled for October 30 and November 5. Conferences will begin at 5 pm and end at 8 pm. More information about these conferences will be sent home in early October.

## Important Dates

### October

- 1 Grade 1 Field Trip
- 6-17 PTO Entertainment Book Sale
- 7 Grade 3 Reading OAT
- 8 Just Say No
- 16 End of 1st Grading Period
- 17 No School—COTA Day
- 27 Book Fair Begins & Grade 2 Music Program, 7 pm
- 30 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 5-8 pm
- 31 Harvest Parties

### November

- 3 Grade 4 Music Program, 7 pm
- 3-7 Grandparents' Week
- 5 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 5-8 pm
- 6 Grade 3 Music Program, 7:30 pm
- 7 Book Fair Ends
- 10 PTO Meeting, 7 pm
- 12 Just Say No, 7 pm
- 14 PTO Family Movie Night
- 24 COGAT Testing Grades 2 & 5
- 25 COGAT Testing Grades 2 & 5
- 26-28 No School

### Book Fair

Scioto Elementary Library will be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair from October 27 through November 7. The Book Fair will be open from 9 am until 3:30 pm. The book fair will also be open for your shopping convenience during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, October 30, and Wednesday, November 5, from 5 to 8 pm.

We would like to invite all grandparents to stop by the Book Fair during "Grandparents Week" November 3 through November 7. This is a wonderful opportunity to buy that special grandson or granddaughter a gift for the holiday. Gift certificates will also be available.

If you would like to be a Book Fair volunteer, please contact Pat Perry at (740)983-5064.

### PTO News

The PTO is off to a booming year! We had a great response to the School Supply Box program, fabulous attendance for the first PTO meeting, a huge success with the Mobile Planetarium and we expect a great turnout for the Annual Fall Festival. That is only the beginning.

Oct 6-17—Entertainment Book sale

Nov 10—next PTO meeting

Nov 14—first Scioto Family Night; we want to invite everyone to join us at the school for a free movie and snacks

Week of Dec 8—Secret Santa

Thanks to everyone for your continued support!

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Author Visit

Marlane Kennedy will be a visiting author for the Scioto Elementary fourth grade on October 14. Mrs. Kennedy's first book, Me and the Pumpkin Queen, will be the focal point of her visit. She lived in Circleville during her childhood years and the story is generated from her experiences at the Circleville Pumpkin Show. Mrs. Kennedy will give a PowerPoint presentation on narrative writing and also provide an interactive writing workshop with the students. She will autograph any of her books the students have purchased before this day. Locally, her book may be purchased at Rhoads Farm Market in Circleville. Barnes and Noble bookstores also carry the book or it may be purchased online.

### Scioto Reads

Parent and community volunteers who are interested in volunteering for the SciotoReads program at Scioto Elementary are asked to contact Janice Ramey at (740)983-5000 ext. 4104 or Karen Sowers at (740)983-5000 ext. 4118. We would like the volunteers to make at least a one-hour commitment each week, working with students one-on-one to help improve reading skills. The initial training session will be held at Scioto on Thursday, October 2, at 3:45 pm, in the library.

### Upcoming Music Programs

Mrs. Huff has prepared three upcoming music programs. Second grade students will present a "Cowboy Show" on Monday, October 27. at 7 pm. On Monday, November 3, fourth grade students will present "Scioto's Awesome Blacklight Show" at 7 pm. Third grade students will present a Veterans' Day program on November 6 at 7:30 pm (note this is a different time than the other two programs).