

Lakewood  
nurtures  
leaders.

# West Ottawa Public Schools

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# Lakewood

March 5, 2010

## Important Dates:



### MARCH is Reading Month

#### Wed, March 10

Bill Harley presentations for  
2nd & 3rd, 4th & 5th grades

#### Thursday, March 11

Science Night at Lakewood  
6:30-8:00 pm

#### Monday, March 15

Assembly: The NED Show  
9:30 am

#### March 19

Goodies Factory fundraiser  
Inflatable Party for ALL students

#### March 25

PTA Meeting at 6:30  
Lakewood Library  
Important Vote!

#### April 2-9

Spring Break

#### April 12

School Resumes

#### April 17

Craft Show

Dear Lakewood Community,

Have your students shown you their passports yet? Our March is Reading month incentive has students traveling through continents and collecting stickers for their passports as they **“Read Around the World”**. Beginning this week, pledges will be sought, and independent reading will be recorded as students travel across the globe. They will have until March 20 to read their selections of books, travel across six continents and fill their passports with stamps representing each continent. Prizes with an international flair will be awarded to the readers who attain their goals. Thanks to the reading committee for their work in this annual event.

The 2010 census is fast approaching and the U.S Census Bureau is asking our help to ensure all of our community members are counted. You may not be aware, but participation in the census is vital. Census data directly affect how more than \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local, and tribal governments. This equates to \$10,000 for each person counted. Census data are critical in determining improvements to schools, school funding, locations for new hospitals, building new roads, expanding public transportation options and creating new maps for emergency responders. Additionally, online resources are available for you to access information at <http://www.census.gov>. Please respond when you receive your mailing later this month.

Thank you for your participation at parent/teacher conferences this past week. What thoughtful parents you are to provide us with such wonderful “treats” too.

Have a wonderful weekend. Thank you for the opportunity to share in your child’s educational journey.

Jackie DelRaso  
Principal

*Thank you, Parents,  
for taking the time to  
come to your child’s  
conference. We  
appreciate your support.  
Thank you also to all who  
brought in goodies for the  
staff during conference  
days. You are the best!*

## NEWS FROM THE GYM by Mrs. Scholten

### Balance Skills Part 2

#### What can be done to improve balance skills in your child?

Improve attention to task and alertness levels in readiness to respond quickly when they lose their balance

Strengthen the 'core' (namely the central muscles) of the body to provide greater body (especially trunk) stability

Simplify tasks to concentrate on only one movement at a time, until the child is ready to integrate several at once

Tighten 'floppy' muscles or loosen the 'tight' muscles to allow better muscle control

Gradually increase duration and intensity of activity to increase endurance



#### Activities which can improve balance skills include:

Walking over unstable surfaces (e.g. pillows, bean bags or blankets on the floor)

Unstable swings and moving games, including suspended climbing ladders and jungle gyms

Swings that move in unexpected ways forcing the trunk to do more work

Wheelbarrow walking

Swimming

Kneeling with no hands touching the floor to tap a balloon back to another person your hand

Hopscotch

Stepping stone games with big jumps



Check out <http://www.timeforfitness.com/coordination/> for balance and coordination equipment you can purchase for at-home use.

### Library/Computer With Mrs. Whitbeck

March is Reading Month

- 1st graders continue to work on their counting books.
- 2nd-5th graders are completing their projects inspired by a Bill Harley story or song. Parents are welcome to attend either performance next Wednesday in the library, at 10 or 12:30. He'll also be at Herrick (downtown) Tuesday and Wednesday evening, 7-8.



#### Bill Harley

A two-time Grammy award-winning artist and recipient of the Magic Penny Award from the Children's Music Network, Bill uses song and story to paint a vibrant and hilarious picture of growing up, schooling and family life. His work spans the generation gap, reminds us of our common humanity and challenges us to be our very best selves. A prolific author and recording artist, Bill is also a regular commentator for NPR's "All Things Considered" and featured on PBS. He joined the National Storytelling Network's Circle of Excellence in 2001 and tours nationwide as an author, performing artist and keynote speaker. Visit [www.billharley.com](http://www.billharley.com) to learn more.

### IMPORTANT NEWS FROM PTA

The following candidates are running for PTA Executive Board open positions for the 2010-2011 school year.

The candidates and the positions they are running for are:

Julie Riordan - Assistant Treasurer

Heidi VanSlooten - Assistant Treasurer

Denise Radakovitz - 2nd Vice President - Communications

Nicki Pearson - 2nd Vice President - Communications

Please join us at our PTA meeting on Thursday, March 25th at 6:30 pm where we will be voting on the candidates for these positions. We will also be discussing fundraising ideas and T-shirt design and colors for the 2010-2011 school year at this meeting. FYI - you must be a registered PTA member in order to vote on any of these issues.

### Holland Area Newcomers

59th Annual

## Dutch Costume Resale



MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010  
12:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Costume **DROP-OFF**

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010  
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Costume **RESALE**

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2010  
11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Check/Unsold Costume **PICK-UP**

All events are at the HOLLAND CIVIC CENTER located at 150 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Holland. Costumes should be freshly laundered and on a wire hanger. Handling fee is \$5.00 per costume. Costumes and checks not picked up on Thursday will be donated.

For more information go to our website at [www.hollandnewcomers.com](http://www.hollandnewcomers.com)

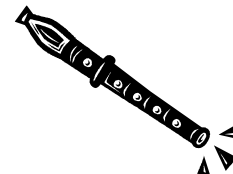
## MUSIC NOTES

Dear Students and Parents,

Fourth grade Recorder Karate is in full swing! We continue to work toward our goals during the month of March culminating with a concert for the parents and students. We will perform the pieces that have earned them belts. Before we close our karate unit, it is my hope to have covered the following pages: #7...gold, #8...dark blue, #9...lavender, #10...white, #11...pink, #12...aqua, #15...dark pink, #16...raspberry, #17...lime green, and #21...fuchsia. At present, most classes have completed practice on #7-10 with a few students earning white belts.

In order for students to succeed, it is necessary for them to practice at home, bring their books and recorders to class, and do their written homework when required. We go over new pieces in class, practice them as a group, then divide into small groups for the last fifteen minutes where I assess them for the belts. In order to earn a belt, I use the following rubric:

- 5-Plays with very few mistakes and good tone and rhythm.
- 4-Plays with few mistakes in pitches or rhythm.
- 3-Plays with several mistakes in pitches or rhythm
- 2-Plays with many mistakes in pitches, rhythm, or in fingering a particular note.
- 1- Plays with many mistakes in pitches and rhythm, poor tone, many starts and stops, and/or seems very unsure of fingerings.



If students get a 5 or 4 they earn a belt. If not, they need to try again on another day. If a student is not ready to test for a particular song when I call their name, they may say "pass".

They may only pass two times, however, and then on the next time, they must play for me. Students must earn every belt in succession. I do require all students to test through #15...dark pink.

Here are some ideas for successful practice at home:

1. Clap and count the rhythm using numbers.
2. Clap and speak the letter names in rhythm.
3. Finger the notes and speak or sing the letter names in rhythm.
4. Play the notes in rhythm. Start slow and increase in speed later.

Students may earn belts in regularly scheduled music classes or come before school to play for me. I am available for fourth grade students at 8:25 – 9:00 AM on their music day during the month of March on a first come, first serve basis.

Mrs. Van Allsburg ...Mondays

Mrs. Havarinen...Thursdays

Mr. Arthurs and Mrs. Jawahir on Fridays

Please call me at Lakewood 786-1395 questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ritsema

## Spanish News

**Kindergarteners** continue to learn the vocabulary for clothing, *La Ropa*. The class wrote the words on jumbo size clothing pieces made out of construction paper.

**1<sup>st</sup> graders** continue to work on learning the vocabulary for woods (*el bosque*). Students created an art piece depicting what they see in the woods.

**2<sup>nd</sup> graders** reviewed the vocabulary for family and rooms in a house. They played a game with a partner that consisted of finding a family member in a house.

**3<sup>rd</sup> graders** reviewed community places and community workers. They played a board game with a partner. In the game, students had to count in Spanish and say the name of the worker and place that they landed at.

**4<sup>th</sup> graders** reviewed classroom object and needs. Students worked in pairs to figure out which classroom objects were missing.

**5<sup>th</sup> Graders** continued writing their skits with their groups. Some groups began translating their material and others worked on making their props.





Note: Square 1 Art - We will be taking late orders for Square 1 Art.  
Please turn in your order form and payment by Friday, March 19.  
Call Mary @ 786-0923 with questions."

# Women's Expo



Ladies' Day Out Spring Shopping Expo

Saturday, March 13, 2010 from 9:00am-3:00pm

West Ottawa High School South Building

3600 152<sup>nd</sup> Ave

Support Jungle 2010-the substance abuse-free-all-night graduation party!!

\*\*\*\*Featured Vendors\*\*\*\*

Pampered Chef  
PartyLite Candles  
Tina Klein Photography  
BeautiControl Cosmetics  
Tupperware  
Mary Kay  
Silpada  
It Works  
Posies, Plans & Pics + Pastries  
LaBarge Interiors

Pre-Paid Legal Services /  
Identity Theft Shield  
Wildtree Natural Foods  
Appreciation Marketing  
Massage Therapy  
Chiropractic Health and Wellness  
YTB Internet Travel  
Shaklee Nutrition and Green Clean  
Miche Handbags  
Mia Bella Gourmet Candles

AND MANY MORE.....

\*\*\*\*Discounts and deals at participating booths\*\*\*\*

Dear Parent:

Our "Miles of Smiles" (MOS) mobile dental unit is scheduled to be in your school district this spring. The mobile dental unit provides **free dental services** for financially-qualifying children. Unfortunately, budget constraints restrict site visits to schools where over 25% of the student population is at or below 185% of the federal poverty level. Your school did not meet that criteria. However, we want parents to know that they can schedule their child to be seen on our mobile unit when we locate at a nearby school within your district.

Please contact our office at 1-800-467-5905 to schedule a dental appointment for your child (ren) at a nearby school. Consent forms for our dental services are available on our website:

**[www.miottawa.org/health](http://www.miottawa.org/health), Dental Services (Servicios Dentales), Miles of Smiles Application (Spanish).** A consent form can also be requested by calling 1-800-467-5905.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR CHILD(REN) ON "MILES OF SMILES"!

Sincerely,

Lois Havermans RDH, CHES  
"Miles of Smiles"  
Oral Health Team Supervisor

