

Laurelville Elementary

16138 Pike Street • Laurelville, OH 43135

(740) 332-2021

Vicki Scott, Principal

December 2009

Winter Safety Tips

For the Home

Protect ing Your Home

Every home should have a disaster supplies kit: a

battery-operated radio, flashlight, matches, extra batteries and an extra set of house and car keys.

In case your power and water supplies are interrupted, have a secondary source of heating, such as an ample supply of wood for the fireplace. Also, have plenty of nonperishable foods and bottled water and juices on hand

Other items to consider including in the kit are extra prescription medication and items for babies or family members with special needs. Consider storing an ample supply of necessary items to sustain every member in the home for at least three days, in case you're snowed or iced in and cannot leave the home.

Remove dead tree branches. Ice and snow, combined with winter winds, can cause limbs to snap and break and could do damage to your home.



Clean gutters. Snow and ice can build up quickly, especially if your gutters are clogged with debris. When thawing begins, water from melting ice has nowhere to drain and can back up under your roof and eaves, causing water damage to walls and ceilings. Consider buying screens to keep your gutters debris-free.

Check your homeowner's insurance policy to make sure coverage is adequate for the type of winter weather in your area. Learn what is excluded from the policy.

Make sure auxiliary heaters and fireplaces are adequately maintained and serviced. Many fires related to auxiliary heating sources are preventable through simple maintenance. Before installing a wood-burning stove, check with local fire officials as to codes and proper installation techniques. Do not store kerosene in a non-approved container or in your home and be sure to keep alternative heat sources from flammable materials (walls, curtains, etc.).

During the winter, drain pipes if your power goes off or if you plan an extended stay away from home. To drain, turn off the water heater and main water supply, open all faucets in the house and drain the system by keeping the valves open. Drain all toilets by holding the lever down until the tank empties.

If well water is used, the pump's electric switch should be shut off and the pressure tank and system should be drained.

LAURELVILLE ELEMENTARY NEWS

Enhancing Growth Through Education

- Our third grade students traveled to a skating rink to reinforce a lesson on simple machines. Students were active participants in simple machines, and then were able to enjoy skating before returning to school.
- All of Laurelville's students participated in Mix-it-up Day during lunch. Students were encouraged to sit with students who they usually do not sit with and ask questions. Slips of paper with questions were provided to encourage positive conversation: questions like "Do you have a pet?" "What is your favorite sport?" It was encouraging to see so many students engaged in positive, active conversation.
- We are proud to announce our 2009 Laurelville Spelling Bee winners. In **4th grade, Bailey Whittington and Caleb Woods; in 5th grade, Austin Dingess and Andrew McJunkin; and in 6th grade.** These students will participate in the District spelling bee on December 15th with the winner moving on to the county spelling bee in January. Congratulations and best of luck!!

- ✓ **There will be a delayed start on Wednesday, December 2**
- ✓ **Holiday Program on December 10th at 2:00 matinee and at 7:00 p.m.**
- ✓ **PTO is sponsoring our 2nd annual Holiday Shop beginning the week of December 7th**
- ✓ **Board of Education meeting on December 14th at 7:00 p.m. at McDowell**

- ✓ Families, please do not allow students to bring balls or other sport equipment to school. Students are given balls to play with at recess. Thank you.
- ✓ **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE:** Laurelville students and staff are working on a project to support our troops who are currently serving our country far from home. We are preparing care packages to send to active military members. We are collecting items like: lip balm, hand sanitizer, foot powder, eye drops, mouth wash, sun block, deodorant, powered drink mixes, sunflower seeds, crackers, beef jerky, granola bars, crossword puzzles, word search books, stationery / envelopes, socks, and pens/pencils. We hope to send our care packages in time for Christmas. Thank you for joining us in honoring our men and women who serve our country.
- ✓ **IMPORTANT!!!!** We are receiving too many phone calls asking us to put your child on a different bus or with alternative plans for your child to get home. Phone calls should be emergency cases only. Our District dismissal policy states "**if you wish to have your child ride a different bus, please WRITE a note detailing the reason and the intended destination, including the bus number or bus driver's name.**" It is very important for the safety of your child for such information to be written.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- Congratulations to **Jacob Shaw** who won an art contest sponsored by the Ohio University Bobcats. He was 1 of 19 out of 1500 students. He won 4 tickets to a basketball game and received an award at half time.
- All of Laurelville's students participated in Mix-it-up Day during lunch. Students were encouraged to sit with students who they usually do not sit with and ask questions. Slips of paper with questions were provided to encourage positive conversation: questions like "Do you have a pet?" "What is your favorite sport?" It was encouraging to see so many students engaged in positive, active conversation.
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- Don't forget, our **Holiday Program** is on December 10th at 7:00 p.m. and a matinee at 2:00 p.m. Students in grades 1-3 will perform some holiday favorites with a special presentation of 6th grade chimes and 5th and 6th grade bands.

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