

# Laurelville Elementary

16138 Pike Street • Laurelville, OH 43135

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Vicki Scott, Principal

October 2009

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!!

Dear Families of Laurelville Elementary,  
We have received fantastic news regarding our State Report Card and our students' progress toward achievement. We are proud to announce, that once again, Laurelville Elementary has earned a rating of **Excellent and we MET AYP** for the 2008-2009 school year.

This is quite an accomplishment for our families, students and staff. We were able to meet the AYP requirements due to something called Value-Added. Value Added gives schools credit for student progress toward achievement. The best news is Laurelville's students exceeded the growth criteria for the past three school years allowing us to earn the rating of **EXCELLENT!** We are extremely proud of our efforts. Way to go students!!

Certainly our goal is to continue making these great strides toward achievement. With your assistance we can make great things happen for our children. Remember, we all have the same goal; doing what's best for our students. By working together we will be doing what is best for the children of Laurelville.

If you would like a copy of the State Report Card you may pick up a copy from our school office or go to <http://www.ode.state.oh.us> and search local report card.

You have a right to know about the teaching qualifications of your child's classroom teacher in a school receiving Title I funds. The federal *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) Act requires that any local school district receiving Title I funds must notify parents that they may ask about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher. **Each of our teachers is highly qualified** as defined by the *No Child Left Behind Act* of 2001. We will continue to provide the necessary intervention to allow your child to continue their academic growth and will also provide the needed structure to promote the social-emotional / physical growth and confidence that we all need.

## A STANDARDS GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

The Ohio Department of Education has created a booklet titled, "A Standards Guide for Families" that is designed to help you understand the academic content standards. The academic content standards define what your child should know and be able to do at each grade level.

This booklet is available upon written request or may be accessed through the Ohio Department of Education website. Please take a moment to look through the booklet as it will provide you with valuable information regarding what your child will be doing during this school year. There are helpful tips and practice problems included in this booklet.

This booklet does NOT include the entire list of standards. In order to access the complete set of standards please visit the Ohio Department of Education Web-Site at [www.ohioacademicstandards.com](http://www.ohioacademicstandards.com).

It is important for you to feel comfortable communicating and sharing concerns with your child's classroom teacher. Teachers will send classroom newsletters home, notes home with your child, and will invite you to attend numerous events throughout the school year. Please participate in your child's education by sending notes to school, calling, and by being present here at Laurelville. You may visit the Ohio Department of Education Web-Site to look for more ways to become an involved parent.

You may monitor your child's progress by looking for the end of the nine weeks report card and asking your child's teacher for any clarification. We are here because of your child and any questions or concerns you have definitely will be addressed. Many teachers will send home progress notes periodically. Take a moment to review the progress with your child. And again, ask us any question you may have.



**A** is for ATTENDANCE.

Attendance is a critical factor in any child's school success. Children should attend school every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. It is impossible to replace the learning that happens on any school day with make-up work. Regular attendance and promptness are good habits that are expected and appreciated at all levels of schooling and in the workplace. This year, make school a priority in your household. Commit to excellence in attendance. Your child's future depends on it!

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**B** is for BEDTIME.

*Awwwww, Mom! Already?*  
Sound familiar? On average, children need 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night. Sleep is important for many reasons. Lack of sleep can cause kids to be hypersensitive, impatient, or cranky. It is more difficult for children to concentrate and learn when they are tired. (Some doctors even believe that during sleep the brain "files away" what is learned during the day.) Encouraging quiet activities -- such as reading -- just prior to bedtime offers a transition that helps children relax. *Sweet dreams!*

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## READING IS CRUCIAL!

Below is a list of ideas to foster reading:

- Sing to your children.
- Repeat nursery rhymes.
- Visit the library. Ask about story times. Borrow books to share with your child at home.
- Choose books that your child is interested in.
- Read with expression--or just tell the story in your own words.
- Hold the book so your child can see the pictures clearly.
- Encourage your child to point out objects, repeat words, and talk about the story.
- Reread your child's favorite books over and over again.
- Instead of reading the story straight through, ask the child open-ended questions about the story: "Why do you think Goldilocks ate Baby Bear's porridge?" "What do you think will happen next?"
- Help your child develop **phonological awareness** --the understanding that words are made up of smaller sounds--by playing games with the sounds of words and repeating rhymes.
- Tell stories about your family and your culture.
- Encourage older children to read to their younger brothers and sisters.
- Be an example to your children; let them see you read books too.

### More tips for book sharing

- Set aside a special time each day, such as nap time, bedtime, or after meals.
- Share books when you and your child are both in a relaxed mood.
- Take advantage of "waiting" times to share books--on trips, at the doctor's office, in line at the grocery store.
- Reading even 5 or 10 minutes a day to young children helps them get ready to read on their own.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Early Childhood Fair!

Do you have a child 3 to 5 years old? Come to Laurelville School on October 9th for our early childhood fair. We will have free developmental screenings, crafts, fun activities and lots of giveaways. **Call 474-7529** to schedule a time.

Please inform your child's teacher of planned absences at least 2 days before your child's last day of school. It is extremely difficult for teachers to prepare assignments to be sent home; at least two days notice on planned absences is needed.

PLEASE HELP! Some students are arriving at school too early. Please know there is no supervision for students before 8:40 a.m. Students who walk to school or are driven to school by family should not arrive at school before 8:40. Please help us keep our children safe.

Reminder: Please check in at the office if your child is arriving after 8:45 or leaving before 3:15. This is school policy for the safety of all students. When arriving and leaving at the scheduled time, please observe the designated pick up and drop off locations. All visitors and volunteers must pick up a pass at the office before entering a school building. We want all of our students to be safe and we want our buildings to be safe.

## LAURELVILLE NEWS

- Many of our teachers and staff members attended a fundraiser held by the VFW Post 4044 in Columbus. We raised money that will go toward our students and families. We wish to share our gratitude to the VFW POST 4044
- NEED CLOTHES OR SHOES?? The VFW POST 4044 have donated clothes, shoes, and school supplies. Please come and help yourself to these items on **October 1, 2009 from 8:15-8:45 or after school at 3:30 (please do not come before 3:30 as students will be in the gym)**
- **2<sup>ND</sup> GRADERS** are working on and modeling what successful school citizens look and act like. Mrs. Clouse, Mrs. Herrel, and Mrs. Sturgell are extremely proud of all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.
- **Congratulations to Mariah Morrison** who received a 4<sup>th</sup> place ribbon at the Church of God Horse Show on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Way to go Mariah!
- Parent – Teacher Conferences are October 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:00-7:30. Please communicate with your child's teacher about arranging a time to meet and discuss your child's progress.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will be taking the Fall Ohio Achievement Assessment on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Please make sure your 3<sup>rd</sup> grader arrives to school on time and well rested.
- There will be a one-hour delayed start on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- The PTO will kick-off the fall fundraiser on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Please look for material coming home.
- No school on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, or 23<sup>rd</sup>. Happy Pumpkin Show!