

# Crestwood "Nature Detectives" Receive National Recognition 

The November issue of the national peer-reviewed magazine, Science and Children, published by the National Science Teachers Association, featured Crestwood's "Nature Detectives" first-grade science program led by Ms. Natalie Harr. The article, co-authored by Harr and Miami University of Ohio Professor Richard E. Lee, Jr., highlights Crestwood's year-long science investigation. It provides a suggested approach to teachers nationwide on how to incorporate science and other standards into an engaging curriculum for elementary students.

The "Nature Detectives" spend the year investigating a natural
 area on school grounds called the bio-swales. This area of the school yard was created when the new elementary school campus was built and meets EPA requirements to control water runoff from the schools rooftops and parking lot areas. This created an ideal setting to study nature.

Students rotate among four groups and are assigned specific tasks throughout the year. There are Plant Detectives, Animal Detectives, Weather Detectives and Soil Detectives. Students then keep an ongoing journal making predictions and recording their observations. Students also post their findings outside their classroom for other students in the building to see. At the end of the year, students collect all the data they have gathered and create a field guide of their own school yard.
"This is an excellent example of connecting school to the community, integrating curriculum, teaching problem solving and building community within the classroom," said Joe lacano, Crestwood Superintendent.
"The students are also highly engaged and are motivated to read and write about their discoveries and observations," said Ms.
 Harr.

Assignments for nature detectives.

| Group | Task | Scientific Tools |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Plant Detectives | Search for changes in colors, shapes, siz- <br> es, and textures of various plants located <br> at your study site. These include grasses, <br> sedges, flowers, shrubs, and trees. | Magnifiers <br> Optional: flower presses, field guides |
| Animal Detectives | Look for evidence of animals in your <br> school yard. These include sightings, <br> tracks, rubbings, fur, feathers, insect <br> galls, etc. | Binoculars <br> Optional: sweep nets, water nets, collec- <br> tion containers, field guides |
| Weather Detectives | Take measurements of current weather <br> conditions in your school yard. | Thermometers <br> Optional: other weather instruments |
| Soil Detectives | Examine soil for changes near the <br> ground at your study site (e.g., leaf litter, <br> mud, snow, ice, burrows, etc.). Measure <br> soil temperature. | Soil thermometer with storage sleeve <br> Optional: Berlese funnel North Carolina <br> State University <br> (www.cals.ncsu.edu/course/ent591k/ <br> berlese.htm/) |

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## Superintendent's Letter <br> Additional Mid-Month Board of Education Meetings Planned from January through April 2011

Special mid-month Board meetings/work-sessions are planned from January to April to discuss the following topics. The first meeting will be held January 24 at 6 p.m. in the high school library.

## Updates and planning related to anticipated reductions in state funds to Ohio school districts

The state has informed school districts that state funding to school districts is likely to be reduced by no less than $5 \%$, and up to as much as $20 \%$, for each of the next two school years. Since Crestwood receives approximately 55\% of its revenue from the State of Ohio, proactive planning about options for spending reductions is needed even though the state legislature will not formally act on


Mr. Joseph lacano Superintendent the budget until July 2011. The level of reductions will also have an impact on if, or when, the district may need to consider increasing revenues through a local ballot issue.

## Facilities Planning

With last year's defeat of a bond issue to build a new high school (at a 50\% state share) we must consider the pros and cons of various alternatives to replace, renovate, or repair CHS and CMS. The state share of replacement has been reduced to $38 \%$ and appears to be trending downward. According to the regulations of the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC), state funds may be used to partially fund renovation (major reconstruction). State funds, however, may not be used for general repairs or additions to current facilities. A key point of these discussions will relate to the educational benefits of new or improved facilities. The district will also have to consider timing for the renewal or replacement of its current "permanent improvement fund." As its name indicates, this fund can only be used for permanent improvements and cannot be used for operating expenses such as salaries, utilities, etc.

The board will also consider the pros and cons of a potential move of the Board of Education offices to unused or under-used space in our current elementary facilities. Movement to the elementary facilities would likely be at little or no cost to the district and some projections indicate that the district would actually save money by moving. Repair or renovation to the current offices would also be considered. Discussion will include considerations related to instruction, security, future enrollment, and handicapped accessibility.

The first mid-month meeting Board meeting is scheduled for

The Crestwood Comments is a non-profit publication serving as the communication medium between the Crestwood School District and the communities it serves.

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- Joe Iacano Monday, January 24, 2011 at 6:00 PM at Crestwood High School Library. Additional meetings will be scheduled later. We encourage interested citizens and employees to attend.



# School News 

# HEALTH NEWS Mobile Dentist Program Returns to Crestwood 

Mrs. Joyce Schroder RN, BSN \& Mrs. Kim Ondash RN,BSN

Sometimes oral hygiene problems and toothaches affect student attendance and the student's ability to participate fully in class. We have again arranged for Smile Care Ohio the mobile dentist, to come to Crestwood Local Schools on February 3 , 2011. The dentist and dental hygienists will set up a mini dental clinic at the Primary building for grades K-5 and at the Middle School for students in grades 6-12. An additional clinic can be set up at the High School if at least 15 students from that building schedule an appointment. The school nurses were delighted at how organized and efficient the dental staff was last year. Students missed very little class time and it did not disrupt the school day.

This service is provided by Ohio dentists and is in compliance with the Center for Disease Control and US Surgeon General Guidelines. Preventive treatment includes a dental screening, cleaning and fluoride treatment. X-rays and sealants to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth can be offered as needed. Smile Care Ohio will bill your insurance provider if you have one. Insurance such as Medicaid and Healthy Start/Healthy Families cover your child 100\%. Smile Care Ohio can provide grants to subsidize fees for those who need financial assistance for all or part of the treatment.

Your child will bring home a permission form for this health service in January. Please complete and return it promptly to your child's school nurse. If you are requesting a grant, the school nurse will send you a brief form that must be completed prior to receiving dental services. It is important to return these forms promptly so that scheduling can be arranged. Every child who participates will receive a shiny smile and a toothbrush and just might miss fewer school days so sign up for this convenient service now.

## Two-Hour Delay Procedures May Be Used

With winter weather arriving Crestwood Schools realizes that decisions about closing
 schools impacts families and employees. Historically, Crestwood has either decided to keep schools open or to close schools for the entire day. Recent changes to state law have forced more districts to consider a two-hour delayed start, as an additional option during bad weather days.

A "two-hour" delay may be used as an alternative to cancelling school if it can be done safely. Safety is our first priority! Two hour delayed start will be considered if weather forecasts and local road departments indicate that roads can be adequately cleared in time for a "late-start" and that safe weather conditions are likely throughout the remainder of the day. We ask you to please make arrangements for your children for the possibility of a two hour delayed start as well as, for full-day school closings.

In Crestwood, under a two-hour delay, each building's schedule will begin two hours later than usual. The day will start with the corresponding class period of the school day unless communicated otherwise by individual building principals. The school day will end at the usual time.

## Transportation changes will be made as follows:

All morning pick-up times for Crestwood public and non-public school students will be two hours later than normal. If your student participates in the CLP, ALS, or Maplewood programs this will also apply.
Afternoon transportation home will be at the regular time.
Transportation will not be provided for the morning pre-school program since it will be cancelled. It will be provided for the afternoon pre-school program at the regular times.

For answers to commonly asked questions, visit our Web site, www.crestwoodschools.org.



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## 2010-2011 Yearbooks

## Parent Pages Fundraiser

It's time again for the Crestwood High School annual Parent Page Fundraiser! We would like all Crestwood Senior parents to consider reserving a space to add a message and pictures to the yearbook for a graduating senior. These ads will be tastefully designed in black and white and due to overwhelming demand, we are accepting NO full page ads-sorry; we want to include as many seniors as possible. The acceptance process will be FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. Your support of the Crestwood Yearbook is MUCH appreciated-thanks. The deadline for order form, payment, and pictures is Wednesday, March 10, 2011.

Yahoo! time to order the 2010-2011 Yearbook.
Yearbook order forms have been sent home and are available at the Yearbook Website: http://crestwood.sparcc.org/olc/class. aspx?id=5051\&s=632. The deadline for order forms is February 22, 2011. This year's book will continue to be sold for $\$ 50.00$ and the sale will be conducted at the high school by Mr. Pavelek. Payments for the 2010-2011 yearbook need to be made by either cash or check, checks should be made payable to CHS and delivered to Mr. Pavelek in room 116.

## Online Yearbook Ordering

Need to pay with a credit or debit card? Walsworth will now take orders online for the Crestwood High School yearbook. Just go to www.yearbookforever.com and search Crestwood High School to purchase a book online.

For any additional information and questions regarding Yearbooks, please contact Mr. Pavelek at the High School in room 116; via phone 330-274-2214 (x 416); e-mail pavelek@crestwood. sparcc.org; or mail Crestwood High School, C/O Andrew Pavelek/ Yearbook, 10919 N. Main Street, Mantua, Ohio 44255. Or see his teacher website, http://crestwood.sparcc.org/olc/class. aspx?id=5051\&s=632.

## Fancy Yourself as the next Oprah or Rachel Ray? Channel 9 is Looking for You.

Do you have an idea for a program you'd like to see on Channel 9? Do you like to cook? Repair Cars? Hunt or Fish? Like the Arts? Health and Fitness? Zumba? Crestwood School's Television has the crew and equipment to make your program a reality! All you have to do is provide the idea, bring in your props and, of course, be willing to host the show. We can shoot your program once every week at the high school and then run it on Channel 9.

Interested? Email Mr. John Marfy at jmarfy@crestwoodschools.org for a Project Proposal form or call (330) 274-2214 ext.426.

Crestwood Schools' Television is now offering DVD Duplication-- family mementos, etc. $\$ 8.00$ per DVD

Contact Mr. Marfy:
jmarfy@crestwood.sparcc.org (330) 274-2214 ext. 426

# Other News 

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CEA Helps Kids Attend Summer Camps Accepting Applications for Summer Camp Scholarships

Again this year, Crestwood Education Association(CEA) is offering Summer Camp scholarships to Crestwood Middle School students. Any student interested in attending a summer camp is encouraged to submit an application for the scholarship. CEA realizes that there are many wonderful opportunities for summer camps available to middle school age students, yet the cost can sometimes make it difficult for families to send their children. CEA wants to help. Through CEA fundraising efforts, three $\$ 100$ scholarships are available to middle school students. Applications for all types of camps will be considered.

To apply, simply fill out the application, which can be found on the middle school Web page of www.crestwoodschools.org. Return the completed application to Mrs. Kim Marfy at Crestwood Middle School in a sealed envelope by May 1, 2011. Applications can also be picked up at the Middle School office.

## Intermediate School Provides for Families in Need



More than 15 families will receive over sixty gifts from the Giving Tree at the Intermediate Building. In addition, new coats that were donated to the Middle School were given to Intermediate and Primary students due to some smaller sizes. The community has really shown the Christmas spirit in supporting our families. The special care in wrapping the donated gifts would bring a tear to your eyes. Four third grade students from Mrs. Zimcosky's class pose with Mr. Maglionico and the Giving Tree.

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## High School. . .

## CHS National Honor Society



Donovan Bissell, Taylor Chiller, Rachel Conard, Lizzie Cymanski, Michelle Dollyhigh, Brian Etling, Zack Fejedelem, Alex Hurd, Austin Jarvi, Breanna Johnson, Brandon Lavelle, Bryan Nero, Kayla Nida, Connor Pearce, Heather Ristau, Tess Sage, Andrew Scott, Jeff Trares, Sammi Vaughn, Erin Tyrrell, Kyle Vertoch, Mike Zeleznik, Lauren Apicella, Erika Atkinson, Andy Auble, Kaile Benner, Katie Bica, Julianne Calapa, Talia Cobb, Nick Fejedelem, John Franks, Cassius Harris, Gretchen Hilty, Samantha Hunt, Allison Hurd, Aaron Jackson, Leah Krause, Rachel Lann, Karlie Lieberth, Jessica Lizkowski, Meighan Little, Nick Onuska, Josh Parr, Jocelyn Pearce, Olivia Phillips, Molly Pochedly, Tom Pochedly, Josh Prokay, Leah Sheaffer, Angela Spencer, Rachel Vaught

## Co-Teaching Benefits Crestwood High School

Over the past couple of years, Crestwood High School has embraced the model of co-teaching. Coteaching is the practice of partnering two or more teachers in a classroom, instructing students who have very diverse learning styles and needs as an inclusive practice of instruction. We currently have eleven pairings of intervention specialists with general education teachers in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science and social studies.

The purpose of these co-teaching teams is to work together to meet the needs of a wide range of learners more effectively. The outcome of this kind of delivery instruction has shown multiple benefits to teachers and students.

One benefit of this model for students is that it diminishes the instructional fragmentation that can happen when students with exceptional needs are served outside the regular classroom. Students are integrated the entire school day with their peers. Students benefit by not having to leave the classroom to receive services they need because they are met within the general education classroom.

For teachers, it has allowed intervention specialists to become more skilled in the content areas while the general education teachers have become more practiced in various learning and instructional delivery styles.

As our school district focuses on meeting the needs of all of our students, we will continue to explore and implement effective instructional strategies. Crestwood High School is determined to move forward with more types of collaborative teaching practices in the future for all of our students.

# Middle School . . . 

## Crestwood Middle School Students Of The Month - November 2010


$6^{\text {th }}$ Grade
Emily Graves, Emma Dockery, Max Weatherbee,
Russell Hilverding, Kylee Myers, Aaron Cox
$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade
Keri Fisher, Logan Collier, Valori Vaught, Anthony Foulkes, Bailey Lamb, Daniel Schmidt

## $8^{\text {th }}$ Grade

Leanna Frances, Raiden Foris, Nicole Nero, Jeremiah Fitzgerald, Madeleine Sorrick, Nathan Nielsen

This is JEOPARDY!


What a SMART way to review before the common assessment! The eighth grade science classes combined for a challenging game of jeopardy. The questions were designed by Ms. Tarase, a Hiram College student, using the SMART board. With Mrs. Duesing and Mr. Kerst facilitating, all students were asked to collaborate by teams. Students displayed their knowledge of lab safety, SI units, tools of measurement, states of matter, changes of state and physical/chemical properties of matter. Also, the responses had to be in the form of a question and written on a whiteboard. Many teams were tied until the last question, which made for an exciting Final Jeopardy question!

## H.S. Planning Night for Eighth Graders Feb. 15

The middle school years are quickly approaching their end for our $8^{\text {th }}$ graders and they will be moving on to new experiences and challenges at Crestwood High School. This year, as part of the high school scheduling process, $8^{\text {th }}$ graders and their parents will be invited and encouraged to attend the $8^{\text {th }}$ Grade High School Planning Night on February 15 from 6:30-8 pm at Crestwood High School. This will be a great opportunity for $8^{\text {th }}$ graders and their parents to learn about making the transition from middle school to high school, as well as the requirements for graduation and how to earn an honors diploma.

In addition, the evening will include a presentation on how to start planning now for college and life after graduation. To help welcome the $8^{\text {th }}$ graders to the Crestwood High School family, CHS students will put on a showcase of all of the courses, clubs, sports, and activities that our high school has to offer and will be available to talk with and answer any questions that parents and $8^{\text {th }}$ graders may have. It is going to be a great evening and we are looking forward to seeing everyone there!


## Intermediate School . . .

History Comes Alive!

Students in Mrs. Cartwright and Mrs. Duvall's fifth grade Social Studies classes learned about the Age of Discovery through a simulation which recreated the experiences of those brave individuals who opened the door to the "new world" in the 1400s.

Students worked together as a crew on an explorer ship using their problem-solving skills to deal with the challenges of sailing from the ports of the "old world" in Europe to the shores of the "new world" in the Americas. The students kept a log of their experiences. Here are some quotes from student logs,
"I have left on the voyage. I am at sea and my crew is in good health with good supplies..."
"We sailed on for weeks, at night it was dark and the sea mist hurt like pins and needles. We all knew that there was a storm close by..."
"...then one of our crew members sighted land! We were so happy I started to cry..."

By taking on the role of a historical explorer, students learned that history is much more than just names, dates, and places, but rather real people who experienced hardships and amazing discoveries.

## Students Learn the Art of Silence to Improve their Writing

The fifth grade students participated in a Young Authors Day Assembly. Young Authors Day is designed to support and enhance the creative writing curriculum. This rewarding day began with an assembly introducing students to the "art of silence" - mime. Toma the Mime discussed the differences between writing for the stage and writing for the page. Toma stressed the importance of structure and told the students where he got his inspiration for his stories.

Following the morning assembly, the students returned to their classrooms to write stories for Toma the Mime. During the writing process, Toma assisted with answering questions relating to the writing procedure.

The day culminated with an afternoon assembly in which the students were recognized for their fine work as selected stories were acted out by Toma. The students really enjoyed watching their stories come to life right in front of their
 eyes.

# Primary School . . . 



Planting fall bulbs, Nicholas Zamora and Austin Rayle

## Second Graders Plant Spring Bulbs and Give Thanks

Fall was a busy time for students in Mrs. Grebb's and Ms. Boyle's second grade classes. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Larry Lang of Lang Landscaping, as well as Mrs. Trivelli's own leftover fall bulbs, students were able to plant tulip bulbs around the trees located in the front of the Primary Building in hopes to enjoy beautiful flowers in the spring.

The second graders also held a "We give thanks for the special people in our lives" program in November. The students sang songs, recited a folk tale, and asked the audience to join them in a yummy dessert that they made themselves, pumpkin mousse! Thank you to all of our parent helpers who helped make these projects possible!

## Kindergartners Plan Winter Celebration

## First Graders Practice Spelling with Interactive Web Game

Mrs. Chesla's first grade class has been hard at work in the computer lab. Every Friday they visit the lab and use it to practice their spelling words. use it to practice their spelling word
Currently, they are using a web site entitled spellingcity.com to help them learn their words. Not only is the computer lab fun, but educational as well!


Mrs. Reese's Kindergarten class worked very hard to present a Winter Program for their parents. They sang songs, recited Nursery Rhymes and read some poems. After the program, the students enjoyed cookies and juice with their families.


Grace Lesnak, Charley Tushar, Evan Howell, Dylan Bliss and Candence Olson loved being reindeer in the winter program.


Joey Martin, Raili Vandercook, Molly Gilles, Luke Wilcox, Cole Dillion, Anthony Kowalski and Kallie Macchi were very busy little elves in the program.

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