

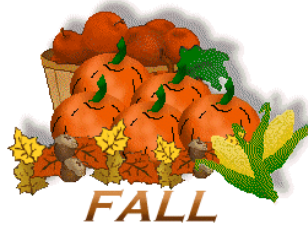


Dogwood Dolphin Echo

OCTOBER 2010

From the Administration . . .

This year RTI, Response to Intervention, Math is being implemented in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. The RTI model introduced for Reading three years ago is the same model used for mathematics. The Math block is sixty minutes with a portion devoted to stations. The same on going, frequent assessment is required. Compass is the technology component utilized to address students performing in Tier 2 and Tier 3.



Core Principals of RTI Math Instruction

Conceptual understanding, computational and procedural fluency, and

problem-solving skills are equally important and mutually reinforce each other.

Students must develop immediate recall of arithmetic facts to free the “working memory” for solving more complex problems.

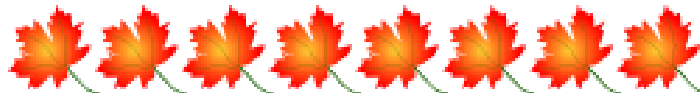
Focus on the process is more important than the arithmetic. Proficiency with whole numbers, fractions, and certain aspects of geometry and measurement are the foundations for algebra.

Knowledge of fractions is the most important foundational skill not developed in elementary schools.

Mrs. Simpson
Ms. Williams
Mrs. Bennett

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Counselor's Corner	2
Reflections Contest	2
Publicity	2
Dogwood Donation Drive	3
Fine Arts	3
Teacher Appreciation	3
Dogwood Book Fair	4
Winterfest	5
Calendar of Events	5
Book Fair Flyer	6
PTA Board Roster	7



From the President . . .

I hope everyone is settled and doing great at Dogwood. It is hard to believe that we have been in school for two months! Please find some way to volunteer at Dogwood. All of our students benefit from the many wonderful volunteers! Our donation drive is about to come to an end. We have not reached our goal of \$37,000. We fell short by \$18,000. Our goal was to purchase 5 Promethean interactive white boards. We are disappointed that we will

now only be able to purchase two. If you have not donated, please take a moment and send in something. We use the money to fund events that improve the educational experience for all the students. The Appropriations Committee will meet again to decide what we will have to cut—if we don't get considerably closer to our goal. We hate to cut anything that we have planned for the students at Dogwood. We cannot achieve our goal without your help!

We continue to communicate through email using Constant Contact. If you do not receive a weekly email please contact me dogwoodelem@yahoo.com or 850-9995.

If you have any suggestions or concerns please let me know. I hope you enjoy your families and the beautiful fall season.

Elaine West
PTA President

*Approved
M.A. Simpson*

Counselor's Corner . . .

Wow, October is shaping up to be a busy month in the counseling department. During this month, Dogwood will celebrate Red Ribbon Week where students are encouraged to live a drug, alcohol, and tobacco free life. In addition, students will participate in our school wide community project with Make A Wish. During the week of Oct. 11th-15th, students will have the opportunity to bring in various items such as activity books, games, small toys etc. to help brighten a another kid's day. Finally, students will have the opportunity to learn about the importance of work during our Career Day. Parent volunteers and community leaders will share exciting career fields with students. Parents, you will receive additional information regarding these events.

Mrs. Fitchpatric
School Counselor



Nabeeha Haider and Sumayha Haider are some of last year's Reflections winners that went on to county, state and national level.



Together We Can . . .

I hope your little artists have unleashed their creativity and started working on their REFLECTIONS entries.

"TOGETHER WE CAN . . ." is our topic this year. You can participate in one or all six divisions: literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts, dance choreography and film/video production. What this means to you is that once you think of something that represents "Together we can . . ." you can either write about it, compose music to express it, take a picture of it, or grab your crayons, markers, pencil, pen, finger paints, or paint brush and get your ideas on paper or grab your dancing shoes and your video cam-

era. Time to show all the things you can accomplish when we do it "TOGETHER!"

Just a little note to parents ...

PTA Reflections contest is a program of recognition and achievement for students. We display all photography and visual arts in our cafeteria and hallway for everyone to enjoy. Dogwood winners go onto Shelby County PTA for the next level of judging and those winners go onto Tennessee State PTA and those winners go onto compete at the National level PTA!

If you have misplaced your Rules and Entry Form, extras are available next

to the front desk in the bin on the wall!! Entries will be accepted Wednesday, October 13th and Thursday, October 14th in the cafeteria first thing in the morning.

If you are wondering how to be involved in Dogwood's fun and exciting year, we are looking for your help! Call or email today to be a part of Cultural Arts at Dogwood. Your kids will love the fact that you are helping with a contest too!!

Lori Brown 457-7633
loribug414@aol.com
Polly Cotten 755-6073
cotten17@aol.com

Publicity note . . .

Every morning during the announcements, Dogwood students are encouraged with the words "Kindness is Courageous". How wonderful it would be if the whole school was intentional about showing kindness in a variety of ways to others! So... we are going to have a special spot in the display case for all those "caught in the act" of showing kindness to others! Staff, Faculty and students, be on the lookout for acts of kindness and let us know about it!! We will be so proud to recognize those who are showing kindness to others!

Email all those "caught in the act" to kckizer@comcast.net

Thanks!!
Kathleen Kizer
Publicity

Family Donation Drive Is Well Under Way!

Thank you to all of the families that have contributed to our donation drive! As of September 23, we have reached almost 48% of our goal! We have collected \$ 17,706, with 38% of our students contributing so far. If you haven't contributed yet, there is still time! Our donation drive officially ends on October 6th, but we will certainly not turn away any donation that comes in after that. Please try to get your donation in by the deadline, so our appropriations committee can meet again and decide how to best allocate the money to benefit our wonderful students, teachers and school. There has been some confusion over the tax deduction. Any amount that you donate is tax deductible, however we only send tax receipts for donations of \$250 or above. If your donation is below that amount, your cancelled check and a copy of

the donation drive letter should be acceptable as your receipt for tax purposes. If you would like a receipt for your donation, attach a note with your donation or e-mail me at dunham.stacie@gmail.com and I would be happy to provide you with one.

Restaurant Night

For the past several years, Dogwood has partnered with local restaurants and establishments to provide a percentage of sales back to the school. Dogwood families enjoyed pizza from Pizza Pro for our first restaurant night, look forward to many more family nights to come. We'll enjoy a night with Russo's Pizzeria Tuesday, October 5th, so mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Support Dogwood

Schnuck's eScrip Customer

Card - The Schnuck's rewards card you use for gasoline can now be used to earn cash rewards for Dogwood. Simply go to escrip.com/schnucks.jsp and register your card. Swipe your card to receive great gas discounts, and Dogwood will receive up to 3% of your purchase amount as cash back.

Target REDcard -Target offers three types of REDcard as part of the Take Charge of Education program. Dogwood receives up to 1% of your purchase amount as cash back. In addition, you earn points toward 10% shopping discounts with each purchase you make. Sign up at Target or visit https://redcard.target.com/redcard/content/rcw_rewards_benefits.

Stacie Dunham
dunham.stacie@gmail.com

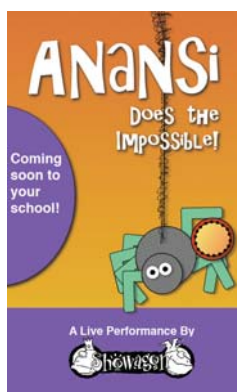
PHOTO ALERT:

The display case will be cleared out and rearranged every 2 months. on September 29th, we will be clearing out the display case and there are lots of great photos of our students! If anyone would like to have these pictures of their kids, please let me know. I will be happy to put your name on them and leave them at the front desk for you! I'm a "pitcher", so I will not be holding on to these very long after they are removed from the case :)

Thanks!!

Kathleen Kizer
kckizer@comcast.net
H759-3382
C409-3382

Fine Arts . . .



September 23rd - Dogwood students were enchanted by the sights, sounds, and stories of Africa when ShoWagon of Theatre Memphis premiered their original production of "Anansi Does the Impossible." The tribal folk tales of Anansi the spider were vividly brought to life on the cafeteria stage. Through colorful sets and masks, charismatic acting, lively song and dance, students were held captive during this culturally enriching performance. For more information about ShoWagon, please visit www.showagon@theatrememphis.org or call 901-682-5261. (Sponsored by PTA/Fine Arts Committee)

If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call!

Diana
598-0737



Teacher Appreciation

Our committee provided the teachers with dinner on conference night, September 16th. This dinner was donated by ELFO's (the Grisanti family)!! How big can we say THANK YOU!! The teachers and staff were absolutely thrilled and enjoyed it all! To our families at Dogwood – stop by Elfo's soon! Thank you again Elfo's!!

Brandy Blank and Carrie Ditter

Dogwood Book Fair

Dogwood Book Fair is Thursday, November 4 from 4:30-8:30pm at Barnes and Noble at The Avenue Carriage Crossing, 4610 Merchants Park Circle, Suite 52, in Collierville.

OUR ID # is 10286870

The Cheesecake Factory

Parents, it will be here before we know it! Please

come early and plan to stay awhile! Our grade level activities will kick off just after 5:30pm, when Cub Scout Pack #271 will present the colors. Then let the games begin! And wear your pajamas! There will be a grade level attendance competition again this year.

Scheduled events:

K and 1st grade-story time
2nd-3rd grade-savenger hunt
4th -5th grade-Wii competition

There will be a large station with all the teacher wish lists, filled with books, available for purchase. All you have to do is pay for the book, using the ID#10286870 (just tell the cashier you are with Dogwood-they will have our ID # handy). Then either leave your purchased wish lists books at Barnes and Noble with a sticker inside the book that notifies the teacher of your purchase, or take it with you. And for any purchase, (think holidays fast approaching), Junior Girl Scout Troop #10365 will wrap your purchases free of charge!

And everyone simply must stay and plan to eat supper with your family at the Barnes and Noble Cafe, where there will be panini sandwiches, hot pretzels, lots of

sweets, and drinks, including a full Starbuck's espresso bar! Yummy, yummy in our tummies!

And did someone say CHEESE-CAKE??? Be on the look out for the cheesecake flyers that will come home with your children, and be available as an attachment of future constant contact communications. You may pre-order a Cheesecake Factory Cheesecake, and pick it up that night at the Barnes and Noble Cafe, (or any other time convenient for you). They are \$34.10 with a B & N member card, and \$37.89 without one. They are HUGE! There will be several flavors to choose from, and they are frozen, so just in time for the holidays! You pay for them when you pick them up. We have a goal to sell 3 cheesecakes per classroom. Those classrooms who meet this goal will be put into a drawing for a special prize for the winning teacher!

Remember, everything you buy, (including food and drinks, and CHEESECAKES), at Barnes and Noble on the evening of November 4, and through November 8, will count towards Dogwood's financial goals, *except the purchase of gift cards*, some textbooks, B&N memberships, and e-readers and their accessories. However, the redemption of a gift card does count, so bring in all those birthday and holiday gift cards you almost forgot about and use 'em up!

What if you can't get there on the 4th? No worries!! Just call up Barnes and Noble and have your credit card ready, with Dogwood's ID # 10286870. Call 901-853-3264 from anywhere in the

country and place your order with a sales associate during our Book Fair days. They would even be glad to sticker wish list items for you.

(Internet sales do count, however Dogwood gets a far lesser percentage of these sales, so we do not encourage it).

Parents, I hope you will all be as excited as I am, (and my wonderful committee), about our book fair. I know your children will be. For the last 2 years in a row, we have been the #1 Book Fair Barnes and Noble has hosted in all of Shelby County. This is due to all the wonderful Dogwood families who have participated in the past. If you have not participated in the past, *then please come along with us this year, as we strive to remain number 1 in a weak U.S. economy. Every purchase is valuable.*

The book fair directly benefits the Dogwood library and teacher classrooms, (including special classrooms like Art, Music, APEX, etc), and has even paid for author visits to Dogwood in the past. As you can imagine, with county school budget cuts, the money we raise at our book fair directly benefits each and every child that attends Dogwood Elementary as well as its wonderful faculty.

Come join us at the Main Event on Thursday, November 4, from 4:30-8:30pm at Barnes and Noble! The book fair committee members will all be wearing name tags and ready to help you!

Joyce Folsie
Book Fair Chair
False7@aol.com
H 751-6779
C 237-2925



Godiva Chocolate



White Choc. Raspberry



New York Original

Winterfest 2011 is set for January 22

It might be hot outside, but Winterfest 2011 will be here soon!

Planning for Winterfest, which will be held January 22, is underway & we are looking for Dogwood parents to serve on sub-committees. Let Tara Teutsch know if you would be interested in serving on any of the following sub-committees:

Procurement-This committee will gather donations for the silent auction. Responsibilities include requesting donations from businesses, gathering the information for the paperwork on donations, securing those donations & delivering them to the school before the auction. *Time:* mid-October at earliest, but November & December with some in January; to be done on their own

time & will need to have 1-3 meetings to plan.

Paperwork-This committee will take care of all paperwork in relation to the silent auction. Responsibilities include ordering bid sheets, printing off description labels for each auction item, attaching labels to baskets (Friday before auction), & sending out thank you notes to the donors. *Time:* little in December & 1st of January, but busy the week of & after Winterfest; to be done mostly at home with the exception of attaching labels to auction baskets & will need to have 1-2 meetings to plan.

Pretty Committee-This committee dresses & prepares all the auction baskets. Responsibilities include gathering supplies & ordering

new supplies if needed, setting up donation room, scheduling shifts for helpers, wrapping baskets at school, & cleaning the auction room along with putting away the supplies in storage. *Time:* little planning late October/November, but busy in January with much time spent the Wednesday, Thursday & Friday before the auction—will need to have 1-2 meetings to plan.

Auction-This committee will work the silent auction. Responsibilities include helping the Pretty Committee, set up silent auction baskets on Friday after school/early evening, working the auction,











assisting with any questions, closing out the auction, handing out items to winning bidders & helping with organizing pick up of auction baskets the following week. *Time:* January 18 through January 26 - will need 1 meeting to plan.

Prizes-This committee will work in connection with the carnival games. Responsibilities include organizing & ordering prizes for the ticket redemption booth, coordinating volunteer schedules to man the ticket booth (one hour shifts) for Winterfest. *Time:* January—will need 1 meeting to plan.

Malissa Henager
malhenager@yahoo.com

Tara Teutsch
tara.t@comcast.net

Upcoming Events . . .

-  Tuesday, Oct 5th- Russo's Pizzeria Dogwood Night
-  Wednesday, October 6th - Family Donation Drive Ends
-  Friday, October 8th- Last Day of first 9 weeks
-  October 11-15th- Red Ribbon Week
-  Tuesday, October 12th - PTA Board Meeting, 9:15 am cafeteria
-  Wed, Oct 13th- Reflections Due
-  Thurs, Oct 14th - Reflections Due
-  October 18-22 - Fall Break
-  Thursday, October 28th - Pizza Pro Night & Career Day
-  Friday, October 29th- Fall Parties/ 5th Grade Crazy Chemist/3rd Grade Sock Hop 2:45-3:45 pm



Dogwood Elementary School

SAVE
THE DATE

Barnes & Noble Bookfair

Wear your
PJs!!!

Thursday, November 4
4:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Dogwood
ID #
10286870

The Avenue at Carriage Crossing



- Story time (Kindergarten and 1st grade)
- Scavenger Hunt (2nd and 3rd grade)
- Wii Competition (4th and 5th grade)



Enjoy dinner in the café starting at 4:30 p.m. (proceeds go to Dogwood). Options include: Panini sandwiches, specialty snack items, desserts from the Cheesecake factory, and Starbucks coffee bar.

Pre-purchase a CHEESECAKE again this year!
Pick up your order at the book fair.

The
Cheesecake Factory

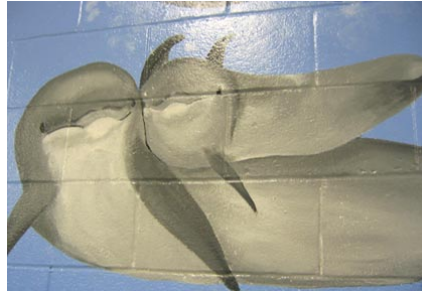


Prizes for the grade that wins the attendance competition!
Cub Scout Pack #271 will present colors! **FREE** gift wrap! Contact Joyce Folsz (folsz7@aol.com) for more information.



A percentage of your purchases will benefit Dogwood Elementary.

Dogwood Dolphin Echo



Dogwood Elementary School
 8945 Dogwood Road
 Germantown, TN 38139
 Phone: 901.756.2310
 Fax: 901.751.7852
 E-mail the Editor: jmcomas@comcast.net



Shelby County Schools offers educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex or disability.



PTA BOARD 2010-2011

President	Elaine West
Vice President.....	Laura Clausen
Secretary.....	Jennifer Murphy
Treasurer.....	Laura Jaggard
Asst. Treas.....	Michelle Turner
Book Fair	Joyce Folse
Cultural Arts.....	Lori Brown
Environmental.....	Kelly McGowan
Field Day	Ann Lowery
Fine Arts	Diana Stumph
Health & Welfare.....	Kim Grant
Hospitality	Ginger Lyons
.....	Jennifer Young
Legislative.....	Michelle Johns
Membership/Directory	Amy Burns
.....	Louise Stewart
Newsletter/Website	Maria Comas
Parliamentarian.....	Lisa Farlow
Publicity.....	Kathleen Kizer
Reading Enrichment.....	Catherine Arick
Room Parents.....	Paula Brown
Science Action.....	Susie Gregory
Teacher Appreciation	Brandy Blank
.....	Carrie Ditter
Ways & Means.....	Stacie Dunham
Winterfest	Malissa Henager
.....	Tara Teutsch
Yearbook	Jennifer Campbell