

End of Year Happenings

From: Meredith Florkey, Director of Curriculum
& Stacey Yarger, Director of Admissions

It is hard to believe our school year is almost over! It has been a very exciting year at First School and we are looking forward to all of the celebrations planned for May and June. Thank you for your continued support of First School and we wish you the best if you are moving on to Kindergarten or First Grade!

Mother's Day Program



Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th will be the annual Mother's Day program. This is a very special and beloved ceremony here at First School. Children have been preparing a special program in Mom's honor as well as special art projects. *Because of the uniqueness of this program we ask that you find other arrangements for younger siblings.* If you are unable to attend, please send an aunt,

grandmother, or other special friend to share this day. Please look for information from your teacher for the correct time. **Please note: BOTH Mrs. Kershner's 5-day 4-year old class and Mrs. Columbus's Kindergarten class will hold their programs on Thursday, May 5. Mrs. Florkey's Mother's Day will be Monday May 9th.**

FATHER'S SATURDAY

This fun event will occur on SATURDAY, May 21 and it is a definite favorite of both kids and dads. Fathers will be invited to join their children at the school to enjoy different activities around the school. One of these activities is a building station in which fathers are asked to bring a hammer in order to build something with their child. From 8:30–10:00 the Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes and Kindergarten attend. From 10:30–12:00 the Tuesday/Thursday classes and Mrs. Kershner's class attend. If you have siblings that would fall in different times please pick a time that works for you.

LUNCH BUNCH CRUNCH: We will be continuing to work on our Eric Carle author study through May and hopefully get outside to play again once the waters recede!

SUMMER CAMPS

There's still room in all of our camps. We are now also able to accommodate students who are entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2011. Please contact Stacey Yarger at 433-3455 if you would like to register your child.!

GARDEN CORNER

Special thanks to Mrs. Verma for all of her spring gardening help! We have been enjoying the 140 bulbs that were planted last fall – what a way to celebrate 40 years! Please read about the grant Mrs. Merrill secured for our back yard on page 2! We are becoming a little corner of wildlife right here in Centerville!

Dates to Remember:

- MAY 5 & 6: Mother's Day
- May 21: Father's Saturday
- May 22: Dayton Dragons
- May 24: Possum Creek make-up for Merrill and Hackathorne t/th class
- May 30: Memorial Day No School
- June 6 & 7 Field Days
- June 9 & 10 Last Days of School
- June 20–24 EARTH Summer Camp

SPRING CLEANING

We are in need of the following:

- SCRAP WOOD (for Father's Saturday)
- Clean 2 liter bottles
- Buttons, ribbon
- Collections of gently used toy collections (wooden trains, Imaginext toys, etc.) - remember us as your children outgrow them!.

Mrs. Forster's Class "Pet"



Mrs. Forster's Tuesday/Thursday AM 3's class has adopted a polar bear from the Cincinnati Zoo! Each student performed "chores" around their homes to "earn" some money for the adoption and 100% participated! The Cincinnati Zoo sent us an adoption certificate and polar bear picture for each child and Mrs. Forster laminated these and made bagtags with the pictures and attached them to their book bags. They named their bear LARS after the bear in the children's book series, "The Little Polar Bear" by Hans de Beer. They also have a stuffed polar bear named Lars who is a Book Buddy. The children take turns taking him and 2 polar bear books home for a week. The Book Buddies help the children with "caring and sharing" as they take responsibility for caring for the stuffed animals and book and then sharing them with classmates for their turn. The students had tons of fun with this project! Thank you to Mrs. Forster for such a wonderful idea. Look for more class adoptions next year as this project grows.

FIRST SCHOOL AWARDED "WILD SCHOOL-SITE" GRANT FROM OHIO DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES!

Mrs. Merrill has secured a grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to install another garden behind the school around our shed, which will attract flying creatures of all sorts. We hope some of these flying creatures will attract our friends the bats to our bat house, which Mrs. Merrill installed last fall. Mrs. Merrill plans to decorate the shed and install a butterfly garden which will be called "The Butterflies and Blooms Garden". The summer camp kids will help decorate the shed with hand print flowers. We are now a Certified Wildlife Site. Thank you Mrs. Merrill for all of your hard work!

P.S. We are looking for donations of water hoses and a large moveable hose reel to help water this garden. Our only water spigot is on the entirely opposite side of the school.



Noteworthy

Director's Blog:

- Check out this new feature on our website (www.firstschooldayton.com). Meredith Florkey now has a blog about important issues related to Early Childhood Education that affect your child.

Box Tops For Education

- Please keep sending in those Box Tops! We just received a check for \$78.00!
- **Referral Program**
Please look for a new student referral form coming home soon. This is a great way to promote our school and earn tuition credits at the same time!

On Sunday May 22nd about 60 First School family members will meet on the lawn at Fifth Third field to enjoy a Dragon's game against the Lake County Captains. Bring your blanket and gloves — wear Spirit Wear if the weather permits! You should have received a flyer in the mail for tickets — contact Stacey if you need more ASAP. Please note that fans are not permitted to bring standard lawn chairs into the stadium. However, lawn chairs without legs are available for rent in the Fun Zone behind Lawn D for just \$1.00.

