



THE BLACKBIRD BUGLER

MR. THOMAS B. REARDON, PRINCIPAL

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 7

MARCH 2011



VES MARCHES ON!!!



Welcome to March! Hopefully, the change in month will also provide us with some signs of spring emerging. Until then, keep your shovels handy (which I'm sure are readily available since last week)!

Each month and issue of the Blackbird Bugler brings more and more happenings to VES. From the hands-on, interactive work occurring in our classrooms each day, to the plethora of activities occurring in our building seven days a week, I continue to marvel at how well-rounded our students truly are; possessing both academic, physical, and social rigor. Our fifth graders are busily rehearsing *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, spending both after school and weekends preparing for its early April debut. Our intramural programs (currently Volleyball and Snowshoeing) continue to run at capacity. March also serves as the culmination of our *Odyssey of the Mind* teams, which are busily

preparing for their competitions.

I have been especially proud of the extensive participation in our *Go Beyond* programming series, which has already drawn close to 100 students in a variety of programs. Having recently offered two craft programs sponsored by the Blackbird Paradise Garden Committee and one in Yoga, we are preparing to offer a session *Introduction to Arabic* in mid-March. Our program participation and course offerings continue to thrive, as a result of your volunteerism and generosity. Please consider sharing your talent or interest with our students, as they certainly are welcomed and appreciated!

I want to thank you for your support as we continuously attempt to improve the instructional and social programming for your children. Your feedback regarding your home use of Renzulli and our ability to maintain communication is so helpful in our continuous commitment to doing what is best for our

students. In an effort to save paper, we will also be putting this newsletter online each month, and eliminating paper copies unless specifically requested. If you would like to receive a paper copy, simply drop an email to Michelle Moss at moss@vcsdk12.org, and she will ensure you get a copy. This will greatly assist us in saving paper in tight budgeting times. I thank you once again for your support and confidence. As always, please know that your advice, suggestions, or any other means of involvement at VES is always relished. I am proud to serve you, and look forward to experiencing a wonderful spring with such a great community!

Have a great weekend!

Mr. Thomas B. Reardon
Principal
Voorheesville Elementary
School 518-765-2382



Students enjoying a virtual field trip to the Buffalo Zoo.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

- March 4th - Activity Night for 4th and 5th Graders
- March 7th - Special Budget Meeting 7:30 HS LGI
- March 12th - Fun Fest 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- March 14th - Board of Education meeting 7:30 pm
- March 17th - Kindergarten Parent meeting 7:00 pm
- March 24th - Site Based 6:00 pm and PTA 7:00 pm
- March 28th - Special Budget Meeting 7:30 pm HS LGI

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Please use the following directory for your convenience:

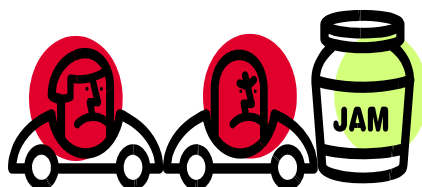
Voorheesville Elementary School	765-2382
Thomas B. Reardon, Principal	
School Nurse:	
Colleen Brackett	765-2382 Ext. 506
Attendance Office:	
Deann DellaPenta	765-2382 Ext. 514
Kid's Club Program (afterschool)	765-2043
Cindy Abelseth, Director	
Transportation Department:	
Mike Goyer	765-2382 Ext. 508
Priscilla Clark	765-2382 Ext. 521

Remember: Starting in April, the Blackbird Bugler will only be available online (unless a paper copy is specifically requested). It will be sent via SNN right to your email (if you're signed up). If you would like to continue to receive one, simply email Michelle Moss at mmoss@vcsdk12.org.

REMINDERS

Reminder to All Parents: Please be sure to go over your family's plans in the event of an early dismissal. It is very important that your child know what they should do if the school has an early dismissal. This will prevent pick-up and drop-off confusion and make such days less stressful upon your children.

Please help us prevent parking lot back-ups by dropping off students without getting out of your vehicle. If you need to assist your child further, we do ask that you park your car so that others can continue to drop off and exit. Thank you for your cooperation!



VCSF Spring Gala on April 9, 2011

Join your neighbors and friends for an evening of fun, entertainment, and music while supporting our community. The Voorheesville Community and School Foundation will hold its annual Spring Gala Dinner Dance and Auction on Saturday, April 9, 2011 at the Albany Country Club. All proceeds from this event will fund grants for community and school related projects and programs. All members of the community are invited to attend. For more information, or to RSVP for the event, please visit www.vcsfoundation.com.

Remember to sign-up for SNN! This will allow immediate email updates about events and procedures at V.E.S. Please visit <http://snn.neric.org/vcsd/> for further information.

VOORHEESVILLE ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Parents are asked to call Mrs. DellaPenta at the Voorheesville Elementary School (765-2382 ext 514) or e-mail at ddella@vcsdk12.org if you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten in September of 2011.

Children must be five years of age on or before December 1, 2011 to register.

There will be an information meeting on **March 17th, 2011 at 7:00 pm. (Parents only).**

Kindergarten registration and screening process will be explained. At this time you will schedule a time to have your child screened on April 26th or 27th.



Voorheesville Dollars for Scholars

First Annual

C INS F R C LLEGE



March 21st thru March 25th

Throughout the week, students will be able to donate coins and cash to their grade's collection jar, located just outside of the Main Office. At the end of the week, all the money collected will be totaled, and the grade that collected the most will be announced.

All money collected during the Coins for College campaign each year will become college scholarship(s) for the current 5th Grade class.

This year's money collected will go to Voorheesville's Graduating Class of 2018.

Voorheesville Dollars for Scholars

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Investing in the Future of Our Students

Have you and your child visited the Renzulli Learning differentiated search engine, used by students in their classroom? Renzulli is a safe information search engine that allows students to find information and activities that are tailored to their learning style and interest. For more information, please visit www.renzullilearning.com. Log-on information was sent home in December. If you need further assistance, simply contact Mary Anne Milano at Milano@vcsdk12.org.



Renzulli Learning
Proven differentiation™

A University of Connecticut Research & Development Corporation Company

Did you know . . .

that you can plant early spring vegetables as soon as the soil is workable? Soil is ready for gardening once it is free of ice crystals and crumbles easily. Soil that is too wet is easily compacted, reducing beneficial soil aeration. Common early spring crops are peas, spinach, lettuces and leeks.

Look for our upcoming Go Beyond: Sugar Snap Pea Planting

For more information on Blackbird Paradise and the Garden Project, contact:
vvillegarden@gmail.com