

ASHLEY ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



Ashley Schools,
Home of the Ashley Bears!

104 New St., P.O. Box 6
Ashley, MI 48806

Dates On The Calendar

Sat., May 22—Ashley Trading Days Queen/Jr. Miss/Princess pageant—6:00 p.m. (cafeteria)

Tues., May 25—1st Grade Field Trip

Fri., May 28—Elem. & Middle School Field Day

****Mon., May 31**—No School—**Memorial Day****

Tues., June 1—4th Grade Field Trip

Tues., June 1st—Preschool Celebration—6:30

Wed., June 2—3rd Grade Field Trip

Thurs., June 3—Kdg. Celebration—7:00

Tues., June 8—Preschool's Last Day of School

Wed., June 9—Awards Assembly—9:00 (Big Gym)

Wed., June 9—Kdg. Last Day of School

Wed. & Thurs., June 9 & 10—1/2 Days of School (11:30 dismissal)

Thurs., June 10—Last Day of School for Students

Fri., June 11—Potluck Retirement party for Mary Gavenda, Marilyn Gearhart & Janet Cook—12:00, Cafeteria

Fri., June 10—Last Day of School for Teachers

Sat. June 19—Ashley Sports Booster's Annual Golf Outing

HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Quote of the Month:

He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else. *Benjamin Franklin*

Character Counts:

Forgiveness: Understanding that we all make mistakes, and though another may have committed a transgression against you, in turn you have committed transgressions against others. As we seek absolution for our transgressions, we should grant absolution for the transgressions of others. We are only human, and humans make mistakes. We need to learn to overlook our collective differences and errors, and embrace our similarities and triumphs.

Core Democratic Values:

Patriotism – The people or citizens show a love and devotion

for their country and its values. They can show this by words or by actions.

Civilian Control of the Military – The people control the military to preserve democracy.

Person in History:

Daniel Morgan (1735 – July 6, 1802) was an American pioneer, soldier, and United States Representative from Virginia, one of the most gifted battlefield tacticians of the American Revolutionary War. He later commanded the troops that suppressed the Whiskey Rebellion. Commanded a light infantry corps in the backcountry of South Carolina, harassing the troops of the British General Cornwallis during the Revolutionary War. In doing so, Morgan fought the famous Colonel Tarleton and his Cavalry Legion in Cowpens, South Carolina. Morgan's battle

plan took advantage of Tarleton's tendency for quick action and his disdain for the militia, as well as the longer range and accuracy of his Virginia riflemen. The marksmen were positioned to the front, followed by the militia with the regulars at the hilltop. The first two units were to withdraw as soon as they were seriously threatened, but after inflicting damage. This would invite a premature charge. The tactic resulted in a double envelopment. In less than a hour, Tarleton's men were either killed or captured, though Tarleton himself did escape. Morgan's cunning plan at Cowpens is widely considered to be "the" tactical masterpiece of the war, and one of the most successfully executed double envelopments of all of modern military history.

Grandparent/Special Person Day



On Wed., April 18th, the elementary honored some of the special persons in their lives with an assembly which included presentations from each of the classes. Tom Clark, from the Gratiot County Animal Shelter also spoke to the



audience and students about the special things the Gratiot County Animal Shelter does for us and the special animals at their site. The students collected pet supplies for the Animal Shelter's "Make A Difference" annual pet drive, and donated them to the Animal Shelter. Thank you for all of your generous donations. Once again, Ashley Schools had a very impressive amount of supplies that they donated. After the program, the students invited their special persons to their classrooms, and the P.T.O.

furnished cookies and punch. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations.

You Are All Special Persons!!!



First Grade News

The First Graders have been excited about using the new Learning Lab. They have taken Reading and Math Assessment Tests and are now getting some extra practice with Math Skills on Study Island. The students are beginning to use Accelerated Reader. They are able to take comprehension quizzes on books they read from the Library and in the classroom. The students earn points for each quiz they take, motivating them

to read more books and take more quizzes – while improving their Reading Skills. The First Graders teamed up with the Seventh Graders this past month to work on their Reading and Writing skills. They worked together to edit and revise stories about their moms and learn speaking parts for the Mother's Day Tea.

The Mother's Day Tea was on May 7. Students read poems and entertained their mothers

with several songs in the afternoon. They all enjoyed refreshments afterwards.



Mother's Day Tea Party in first grade



Mrs. Bontrager's 2nd/3rd Grade News

Did you know...?

- We have had a very busy year.
- The Second Graders visited the Chippewa Nature Center and Midland Community Center on May 14.
- We enjoy visiting our new Learning Lab at least twice a week.
- Each child received a free book from the Book Fair as a gift from the PTO. Thank you!!
- 100% of our Third Graders earned a 1 or a 2 on the MEAP test. WOW!!
- The Third Graders plan on going to Crossroads Village in June.
- Most of the children are involved in evening/weekend activities, such as baseball, soccer, dance, and softball.
- The students are reading many books and are excited about taking quizzes with Accelerated Reader.
- Ashley Elementary School has AWESOME students!

Fourth Grade News

With thunder cracking, and lightning striking outside our classroom window, the 4th grade students have been learning about the different types of clouds and what type of weather each cloud brings. We have also completed a study on staying safe during tornados, lightning, flash floods, and even hurricanes. Fractions are becoming as easy as eating a piece of

pizza, literally. Students have created pizzas with all sorts of toppings to describe fraction "slices". We are just getting comfortable with fractions. Our next unit will focus on adding and subtracting fractions.

We have written back to our Pen Pals in Corunna for the second time, this time typing our letters in our brand new computer lab. To con-

tinue our study of the world in Social Studies, we have received letters from schools in California, Texas, Florida, South Carolina, Illinois, and Minnesota. We have learned a lot of interesting facts about schools around the United States. Don't forget our field trip is scheduled for June 1st.

Enjoy the rest of May!



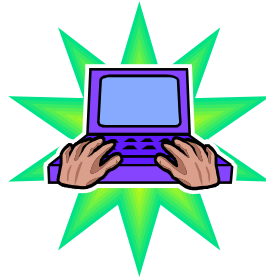
Pen Pals' unite from across the United States

THIRD GRADE NEWS



The third graders are wrapping up their school year by studying pronouns in English and learning "Big Kids" math (2 and 3-digit multiplication.) They are also beginning measurement. They are learning about force and motion in Science and Michigan's history in Social Studies. Third grade has really enjoyed using the new learning lab to review skills in reading and math. Students have also taken off with AR to see how many points they can achieve before the end of the year.

The children are very excited about their end of the year class trip to Crossroads Village where they will be able to take a ride on the Huckleberry Railroad. How time flies when you're having fun in third grade!!



EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

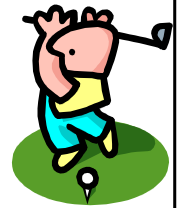
For the past several weeks, the Preschool and Kindergarten classes have had the opportunity to enjoy their new time slot in the elementary computer lab. We are learning mouse control skills, computer navigation and academics while working on the computers. We have several favorite websites the children really enjoy. PBS kids (www.pbskids.org), Storyline Online (www.storylineonline.net), and Starfall Reading (www.starfall.com) are all really great learning website resources for young children.

SPECIAL NEEDS NEWS

We are very busy these last few weeks of the school year. Many of us are in unit tests or taking an end of book test and will be starting a new level book. We have been able to work in the computer lab several times so far this year. We have been able to work at getting more familiar on using the computer. After our work is done, we have been able to get on "Study Island", to help improve our reading or math. We want to again thank the school for this privilege. We also want to thank the para-pros that have helped in our room this year. Also, Thanks to Carl, and Ms. Thompson for the many, many, many hours they have volunteered to help us. With all this help, we will have had a very successful 2009 - 2010 school year.

Sports Booster Fund Raiser

The Ashley Sports Boosters are once again hosting a golf outing on Sat., June 19, at the North Star Golf course. A \$180.00 team fee, which includes dinner, prizes and a golf cart are being sought for their annual fund raiser project. You may also sponsor a hole or share a sponsorship on the course. Donations for prizes are also being collected. Any questions, please contact:
Justin Welch -847-3511, Ron Davis- 763-8571, or Louis & Clara Polash -862-5611.
If interested in helping on this date please contact one of the above mentioned persons.



Are you golfing for Sports Boosters on June 19th ????



Citizen Of the Month



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Mother's Day Tea



1st Grade perform for their mothers at the "Tea Party"

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Fax: 989-847-4204

Web site:
www.ashleyschools.net



Ashley Elementary
Learning is for a Lifetime !



Second Grade News

Our second graders had a great time on their field trip this month. First we went to the Chippewa Nature Center for a step back in time. We pretended to be in a one room schoolhouse in the 1860' s. We had a real live school teacher who taught us lessons from an old reader. We did cursive writing exercises and math story problems. Even the parents pretended to be the "older" students. Then we went swimming in a gigantic indoor pool at the Midland Community Center. Even those who couldn' t swim had lots of fun.

Grandparents Day was a lot of fun too. We had a roomful of special people who walked through our room and enjoyed the sights. We enjoyed their company and we hope they had as much fun as we did.

We' re looking forward to the end of the school year with mixed feelings. We are excited that summer is near but we will miss our classmates too.

We have done lots of new and creative things in second grade this year.

NEW TECHNOLOGY IN ELEMENTARY



Recently, Ashley Elementary has added a new computer "Learning" lab to their building with the aid of a grant we received. The elementary teachers and students are excited to have such technology to work with, and have been using this technology for practice in reading and math skills, and have also utilized it for test taking and writing skills. Superintendent, Mr. Tim Hughes is pictured here, showing off our new technology to Mr. Paul Opsommer, 93rd District State Representative. We would like to thank everyone, including Mr. Frank Tater, our computer tech, who worked furiously to get this lab up and running for us, and for this new technology in our building.

This is just another reason Ashley Elementary is the place to be for a life time of learning!

SCHOOL NEWS

Ashley Schools are accepting new enrollments for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested or know anyone interested in signing up for next fall, Pre-K through 12th grade, please call any of our offices. We are always accepting new enrollments. Won't you consider Ashley Schools for your child's education?
 Superintendent's Office- (989) 847-4000
 High School / Middle School Office—(989) 847-2514
 Elementary Office—(989) 847-2102

RETIREMENTS

We would like to wish a happy retirement to our Elementary Art Teacher, Mrs. Marilyn Gearhart and to our dedicated Middle School / High School Secretary, Mrs. Mary Gavenda. We would also like to mention Mrs. Janet Cook who retired earlier this year. We will miss you all . You have shown great dedication to Ashley Schools and we wish you all the best as you continue on life's venture. Thank you for everything !

We will be having a pot luck luncheon on Friday, June 11th, at 12:00 noon. Meat, drinks and table service will be provided. Please come and help us celebrate these employee's many dedicated years at Ashley Schools.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to everyone for all of your donations throughout the year. It seems with every year we have more and more needs. The staff would like to thank everyone of you for your generosity throughout the year, whether it be in donations of your time, money, or items of various sorts. We appreciate you and want to thank you.

MEDICATIONS

Please remember to pick up your student's medications at the end of the school year !

