

Ascension School Family Newsletter

Vol. 10, Issue 28

April 16, 2010

"For God gives those who please Him wisdom, knowledge, and joy."

Ecclesiastes 2:26

www.ascensionkettering.org/ascension-school/ Ph: 254-5411

DIBELS

The teachers and administrators at our school are committed to helping your child become a successful reader. As part of this commitment, our school has chosen to use a test called DIBELS to help us examine how your child is doing in learning important reading skills. DIBELS stands for *Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills*. DIBELS tests five skills that are necessary for learning to read. Children who learn these skills become good readers. The skills are:

- Phonemic Awareness: Hearing and using sounds in spoken words
- Alphabetic Principle: Knowing the sounds of the letters and sounding out written words
- Accurate and Fluent Reading: Reading stories and other materials easily and quickly with few mistakes
- Vocabulary: Understanding and using a variety of words
- Comprehension: Understanding what is spoken or read

DIBELS is made up of seven short individual tests, called subtests. Each DIBELS subtest focuses on a different skill and takes about 1 minute to do. Your child may be given two to five of the DIBELS subtests depending on his or her grade level.

Each DIBELS subtest takes only about one minute to do because they are used as *indicators*. Much like using a thermometer to take a child's temperature is an indicator of overall health, each subtest is an indicator of how well a child is doing in learning a particular early reading skill. DIBELS is used with millions of children throughout the United States. A child's score on a subtest tells us whether the child is likely to be "on track" for learning to read, or whether that child may need some help in learning important reading skills. Your child's teacher will use the information to better help your child. For example, the DIBELS test may tell us that we need to spend more time teaching your child how to "sound out" unknown words.

DIBELS is used to identify children who may need extra help to become good readers and check up on those children while they receive the extra help to make sure they are making progress. DIBELS also may be used by our school to make decisions about how well the school's overall reading program is working for all children. DIBELS should never be used to grade your child, or for decisions about retention.

We are working hard at school to make sure that every child is on target for success, and we thank you for your efforts at home. Together, we will help your child become a successful reader.

Over the next two weeks students in grades K-4 will undergo these short DIBELS assessments. Plans are for adding Gr. 5 next year and Grades 6-8 in the next couple years. This is a form of "universal assessment" that is a keystone to our RTI (Response to Instruction) efforts here at Ascension. If you have any questions about DIBELS or RTI you may call Mrs. Teleha, Ms. Wheeler, Mr. Devitt or any of the classroom teachers.

Secretary/Assistants Day - April 21

We will take some time in April to recognize our Secretary/ Administrative Assistants Connie Wahle & Sr. Maureen Heavey for their tireless efforts to keep us organized, facilitate communication and to assist all our students and families in our educational mission at Ascension School. Thank you Connie and Sr. Maureen.



Skill of The Week

Here is a skill that is extremely important over the next month and a half as we have a number of special events going on in the school: **Cooperating During Special Events such as Assemblies & Educational Outings**

1. Listen, use self control and follow directions.
2. Follow all school rules.
3. Represent the school well with your behavior and how you wear your uniform.
4. Be polite with all people that are part of the special event: guests, chaperones, bus drivers, other students from other schools.

Father Daughter Dance

Remember When... Everything was black and white? The 2010 Father Daughter Dance is tonight Fri. April 16! Dance Pictures Are \$1 Each.

- Time: 7pm To 9pm
- Clothes: Dress In Black And White!!
- Admission: Dads \$3 Girls \$2
- Please Bring A Peanut Free Snack.

Jump Rope & Hoops For Heart Results

We received a thank you from the American Heart Assoc. for participating in the JRFH and HFH programs. Ascension raised over \$1800 to help fight heart disease and stroke. Ascension will receive a \$100. gift card for PE equipment and the top 5 fundraisers receive a free ticket to a Cleveland Cavs game. They are: Abby Gunderson \$200. - Katlyn Alba \$170 - Connor Blatt \$150 - Morgan McDaniel \$125 - John Gaeke \$110.

Summer Opportunities

Dayton Summer Arts at Stivers 2010 are camps offered from June 21 to July 2 in various Art Disciplines: Orchestra; Piano; Creative Writing; Painting & Drawing; Ceramics; Photography; Video Production; Recording Engineering & Music Production; Dance and Musical Theater. If interested, brochures are available in our school office.

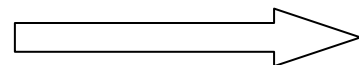
RecKids Camp

The UD Recreation Center is offering recreation Programs for youth in the community this summer in a program they call RECKIDS CAMP Campers who are ages 6-12 by the start of camp or entering grades 1-8 starting the fall of 2010 are eligible to attend RecKids Camp. Some of the weekly themes include "Fitness Frenzy", "Reach for the Stars", "Super Soakin", "Heritage at Home", "Abracadabra, Hocus Pocus", "I'm on a Boat", "Local Incredibles", "Rec Kids Got Talent". **For more information** go to www.udayton.edu/~recsport/

Summer 2010 Group Swim Lessons

6/7/10-6/17/10	Monday - Thursday	3:00-3:20pm
6/21/10-7/1/10	Monday - Thursday	3:00-3:20pm
7/12/10-7/22/10	Monday - Thursday	3:00-3:20pm

Over please....



School Spirit

About half of the Yard Signs have been returned and some families wish to keep them through the spring to the end of the school year. Those families getting a green flyer in their packet today may come and pick up a sign from school to display.

Any families who wish to have additional cling on window decals for their cars may get additional ones by just sending a note in the family envelope.

Fr. Witzman & Ascension PTO Scholarships Awarded

The Fr. Witzman Scholarship and Ascension School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) scholarships for 2010 have been announced. The Witzman Scholarship is available annually to any student from Ascension Parish planning to attend a Gr. 9-12 Catholic High School next school year. Three scholarships were awarded for \$600 apiece. The winners are Sarah Barbaro (Ascension, 8th Grader), Nick Clarkson (Ascension, 8th Grader) and Anna Schlegel (Ascension, 8th Grader) all planning to attend Carroll High School.

The Ascension PTO scholarship is awarded annually to three 8th graders of PTO member families planning to enroll in Gr. 9 at an area Catholic High School. The winners of the PTO Scholarships are Morgan Nash, Tony Quatman and Stephanie Townsend who plan to attend Carroll High School. These three students will receive \$400 towards Catholic high school tuition.

Selection of the scholarship winners was based upon the students' academic effort, extra-curricular involvement, financial need, and essays on the topic of people in their lives who have been an inspiration.

The Fr. Witzman Scholarship was founded in 1986 with the estate of founding Pastor Arnold Witzman. In addition to the winners of the high school scholarships 46 children of 32 Ascension families have received elementary school and religious education tuition assistance for the 2009-10 school year through the Fr. Witzman and Education Ascension Funds.

Soccer and Golf Sign-Ups

If you were unable to make it to sign-ups, all RE and Ascension school kids may sign-up for soccer grades 1-8 & golf grades 6-8 by way of printing the sign-up forms from the Ascension's website:

<http://www.ascensionkettering.org/athletics/>

and turn the form in anytime before April 23 to the school. The early bird fee to play soccer is \$30 and \$25 to play golf. After the April 23 there is an additional \$20 handling fee per family.

Food Pantry Collection Next Weekend

Although Spring has arrived, hunger has not departed. Please help us support your neighbors in need by contributing nonperishable food items to our monthly Food Pantry collection next weekend, April 17 & 18. Special needs this month include jelly, spaghetti sauce, and canned goods, especially tuna, beans, and pork & beans. Items such as bath soap bars, pudding & Jell-O mixes, and brown paper grocery bags are always helpful, too. If you miss this month's collection, there are always marked boxes for the Food Pantry in the Brides' Room, located just off the Narthex.

Carroll Gift Card Fundraiser

Carroll High School band is currently selling \$20 gift cards to Knollwood Garden center. They have no expiration date. So when you are thinking of your spring planting please consider getting gift cards so that the Carroll Band can benefit. They make great mother's day gifts or can be used to buy mother's day gifts. If you are interested please call Christie Collins at 256-6537. Thanks for your support.

BINGO Volunteers

We thank our volunteers over the past couple weeks: Lisa Eckley, Melissa Cormier, Ann McManus, Kathy West. Volunteer for Thurs, April 22 is Debbie Clary. Karen Walker is our school coordinator for BINGO volunteers.



Please call her at 293-3976 to make plans for the one night of BINGO service that all parents of school families have been encouraged and challenged to pledge.

Fr. Rudy Award

Nominations for the Fr. Rudy Award are now being accepted. The nominee must be an eighth grade student attending Ascension School or enrolled in the Religious Education Program. Recipients of this award should exemplify the aspects of the Ascension athletic philosophy. To nominate an 8th grader, please submit the answers to the 4 questions found in the Ascension Athletic Handbook (p 19 – available online as well.) Nominations may be turned in to any Athletic Board member or turned in to the school office. Nominations must be received by May 1.

Calendar Update

April	17	SA	Gr. 4 Fitness Challenge
	17-18	S-SU	Ascension Food Drive, All Masses
	18	SU	Confirmation Afternoon of Reflection, 1:30-5:30
	19	M	Grandparents Day Practice, 9:30
	20	TU	St. Remy Class/cohort Day
	21	W	Gr. 7 Ed Outing to Columbus IAT Mtg, Rm106, 3-4pm Staff Mtg, Principal, POB4, 3:30-5pm
	22	TH	Gr. 8 Ed Outing to Cincinnati Child Protection Class, WC, 5:30-6:30pm PTO Exec. Comm. Mtg, Rm 202, 7-9pm
	23	F	Mass, 9am Gr. 2 Jesus Day, WC114 & 118, 10am-2:15pm 1 st Eucharist Practice Families, Church, 6:30pm
	24	SA	First Communion option, 5pm Confirmation Practice, 6:30-8pm
	25	SU	First Communion options, 9am, 12pm
	27	TU	Faculty Mtg, Rm202, 2:45-4pm, Goals Confirmation Mass, 7pm
	28	W	Grandparents Day Practice, PAC 1pm IAT Mtg., Rm106, 3-4pm Parish Council, WC114, 7:30-9pm
	30	F	Mass, 9am

Enclosures

Gr. 5 Growth & Development Permission
Carroll Drama Camp (Gr. 5-8)
Carroll Basketball Camp (Gr. 3-9)
School Spirit Flyer (for 25 families)
Mother Daughter Banquet flyer
School Lunch Flyer

Return Date

Mon. April 19
See details
See details
None
None
None

Quotation

"Everything that seems empty is full of the Angels of God"
St. Hilary