



Oakland News

Summer 2011

Oakland Elementary School
Dr. Mary Kay Scharf, Principal
1605 E Oakland Ave
Bloomington IL 61701
Phone: 309-662-4302
Fax: 309-663-4385
www.district87.org/oakland

A Message From the Principal

I found the following articles in Scholastic Instructor magazine and wanted to share them with you. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did. Have a wonderful summer!

You become a better reader by.....reading.

Mary Kay Scharf

5 Ways to Make Time for Reading

Between sports, video games, and playing outside, there's lots of competition for kids' time in the summer. Here are some ideas for ways they can still sneak in their reading.

- 1 Read Over Breakfast.** Encourage kids to take five or ten minutes at the beginning of each day to read, before doing anything else. They can even set a time—chances are they'll want to keep going after it buzzes!
- 2 Match Books to Activities.** Know a child going to soccer camp? Connect him or her with sports stories by authors like Matt Christopher. Have a student who'll be in summer school? *The Summer of May* by Cecilia Galante is a moving novel about a girl coming to terms with her own summer school experience.
- 3 Always Carry a Book.** Encourage children to always carry a book with them. It sounds simple, but kids may be surprised to discover all the time during the day they have for reading—on the bus to camp, in a waiting room, or during commercial breaks.
- 4 Have Family Reading Time.** Just as you set aside time for independent reading during the school year, ask families to devote 20 minutes a day to books. Every family member should read during this time, including parents.
- 5 Set Individual Goals.** Some kids will have no problem reaching a four-book minimum. Others may need specific strategies, such as one book a month. Meet with kids to determine their plans.

4 Facts to Know About Summer Reading

- 1 All It Takes Is Four.** Did you know? By reading four or more books over the summer, kids can avoid the "summer slide," or gap in academic skills, when they return to school in the fall.
- 2 Let Them Choose.** Forget asking kids to read the latest Newbery tearjerker. According to a Scholastic survey, 91 percent of kids are more likely to finish books they choose themselves.
- 3 Top of the Tests.** Kids who read a million words a year score in the top 2 percent on standardized tests. A million words may sound like a lot, but it's only about 25 average-length novels.
- 4 Big Vocabularies.** Kids learn 4,000-12,000 new words every year reading. That means three months without books can make a huge difference in their vocabularies and tests scores.

3 Reasons to Try Audio Books

- 1 They develop comprehension.** A child's reading level isn't the same as her comprehension level. In other words, a third grader who is struggling to read Harry Potter may have no trouble understanding the audiobook in the fall.
- 2 They build confidence.** Kids get a real boost when they listen to and understand stories they know are difficult, which can encourage them to take on more challenges when they do pick up a book.
- 3 They strengthen vocabulary.** By listening to books at a higher reading level, students are exposed to new words and get to hear them pronounced correctly and fluently.

PTO News

The 2011-2012 School Year PTO Board and Committee Chairpersons

Co-Presidents	Dan Bonomo Roy Mason
Vice President	Christine King
Treasurer	Jake Carlson
Secretary	Lori Stickling
Art Discovery	Margaret Cordill
Bergner's Community Days	Stephanie Brown, Lori Stickling
Book Fair	Jane Rupprecht
Dining Out Events	Stephanie Brown, Lori Stickling
Ecology	Ron Frazier
Family Fun Night	Elana Heinonen
Father/Daughter Event	Shara Anderson, Kim Gordon
Fall Fundraiser	unfilled
General Mills Box Tops	Rhonda Lovell
Girl Scouts School Coordinator	Shara Anderson
Health & Safety	Theresa Lawrence, Janine McGill
Hospitality	Betsy Zimmerman
Kindergarten Registration	Jane Rupprecht
Mother/Son Event	Elana Heinonen
Red Ribbon Week	Theresa Lawrence, Janine McGill
Room Parents	Katy Grady, Grace Sorensen
SCRIP	Jillyn Rink, Shara Anderson, Jim Lovell
Spirit Wear	Kandy Goughnour
Spring Carnival	Jane Rupprecht, Jillyn Rink



As you can see, the Fall Fundraiser Chair is unfilled. We are in need a new Fall Fundraiser Chairperson and committee. The funds raised in our Fall Fundraiser are the backbone of the PTO budget. This post would require planning incentives and communication of the sale to children and families, ensuring orders are in on time, organizing delivery of products to families that sold them, and getting incentives to the kids of Oakland School. The work can be made smaller when shared by many hands. Please contact Dan Bonomo or Roy Mason to tell them you want to help.

Did you know? The PTO has been selling tickets to the June 27th Cornbelters game. Our goal of selling 150 tickets is to provide a new location for the Mother/Son Event. **If you all sell 150 tickets or more, we earn the right for our Mothers and Sons to play kickball or baseball on the Cornbelters' field next fall.** How AWESOME would that be? Gather your friends and neighbors for Ladies' Night and ½ price concessions at the Corn Crib, June 27th. Purchase your tickets today and support the Mother/Son Event. Contact Elana Heinonen at 661-8509 or erheinonen@gmail.com for tickets.

We would like to extend A HUGE THANK YOU to all of you who volunteered with the Spring Carnival. We had a blast!

What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Be sure to hang on to the attached Scrip flyer. The Scrip program raised over \$2,500.00 this year for Oakland's PTO. Thank you to everyone for your support.

More Facebook Awareness

Consumer Reports Survey 5/10/2011

Of the 20 million minors who actively used Facebook in the past year, 7.5 million of them were younger than 13, according to projections from Consumer Reports' latest State of the Net survey. Facebook's terms of service require users to be at least 13 years old.

Also among this group of minors using Facebook, more than 5 million were 10 and under. Consumer Reports survey found that their accounts were largely unsupervised by their parents, exposing them to malware or serious threats such as predators or bullies. The report on Internet security, which includes the full survey results and advice for parents of Facebook users, is featured in the June issue of Consumer Reports and on www.ConsumerReports.org.

"Despite Facebook's age requirements, many kids are using the site who shouldn't be," says Jeff Fox, Technology Editor for Consumer Reports. "What's even more troubling was the finding from our survey that indicated that a majority of parents of kids 10 and under seemed largely unconcerned by their children's use of the site."

Using Facebook presents children and their friends and family with safety, security and privacy risks. In the past year, the use of Facebook has exposed more than five million online U.S. households to some type of abuse including virus infections, identity theft, and—for a million children—bullying, the survey shows.

Social media is just one of the many ways consumers expose themselves and make themselves vulnerable to becoming a victim of identity theft or having to replace their computer. Earlier this year, Consumer Reports surveyed 2,089 online households nationwide and found that one-third had experienced a malicious software infection in the previous year. Consumer Reports estimates that malware cost consumers \$2.3 billion last year and forced them to replace 1.3 million PCs.

Being Social but Safe

- **Monitor a child's account.** Parents should join their children's circle of friends on Facebook. If that's not feasible with an older teenager, keep tabs on them through their friends or siblings, as did 18 percent of parents surveyed who had 13- to 17-year olds on Facebook. Parents should delete a pre-teen's account or ask Facebook to do so by using its "report an underage child" form.
- **Utilize privacy controls.** Roughly one in five active adult Facebook users said they hadn't utilized Facebook's privacy controls, making them more vulnerable to threats. Facebook's privacy controls may not prevent every breach but they help. Users should set everything they can to be accessible only to those on their friends list. Enabling a public search allows users' profile picture, friends list, activities and more to be visible online outside of Facebook.
- **Turn off Instant Personalization.** Facebook has been adding sites to its Instant Personalization feature, which automatically links accounts to user-review sites such as TripAdvisor (travel) and Yelp (local businesses). Users who don't wish to share what cities they have visited with their Facebook friends via TripAdvisor should disable Instant Personalization, which is turned on by default.

Use apps with caution. Even though Facebook says in its privacy policy that it doesn't share identifiable information with advertisers without permission, connecting with an app or website allows access to general information. Users should check the list of apps they are using and define the settings for each one listed. Decide what information the app can access, when possible, or perhaps eliminate the app altogether. Also, users should limit access to their information that is available to apps that friends use.



Bloomington Public Schools, School District 87
School Calendar
2011 - 2012

August 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	*	*	*	(18)	19	20
21					26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	V	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	V	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	+	22
23	24	25	26	27	PTC	29
30	31					

November 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	V	N	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	T	N	N	24
25	N	N	N	N	N	31

January 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	N	N	N	N	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	V	S	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

February 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	PTC	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	V	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	T	T	T	T	T	10
11	T	T	T	T	T	17
18	19	20	21	22	½	24
25	N	N	N	N	N	31

April 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	N	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	T	T	26	27	28
29	S					

May 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	T	E	E	26	
27	V	E	E	E			

June 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Symbol Code

- Institute Days* +
- First Half Day of School (
- Holidays* V
- End of Grading Period =
- Parent Teacher Conference* PTC
- School Improvement Days* S
- Testing T
- 1/2 Day of Attendance ½
- Last Day of School (early dismissal)
- Emergency Days E
- Non Attendance Day * N

* = NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Bloomington Public Schools, School District 87
 300 E. Monroe Street
 Bloomington, IL 61701
 Phone: 309/827-6031 Fax: 309/827-5717
 Website: www.district87.org
 Approved 2-9-2011

Happy summer to all!
Please remember to return
your registration papers by
Friday, July 29th.