

Around the Schools

... a publication for and about Westlake City Schools employees

Study in Southern Africa

The University of Toledo, with funding from the U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Program, is sponsoring a seminar in the southern African countries of South Africa and Lesotho, June 22 – Aug. 2, 2011. Especially designed for teachers of social studies and art, the focus of the seminar is on the integration of art and social studies with an emphasis on Sesotho art.

Participants will meet with African professors, artists, politicians, civil servants and community activists and work with southern African students and teachers. The seminar includes over five weeks in southern Africa and two weekend sessions in Toledo.

Accepted seminar members will pay \$895 of the \$8,000 program cost per person, plus personal expenses.

Information and applications (due Jan. 1, 2011) are available at www.utoledo.edu/as/ids/global/Africaindex.html or contact Professor Mark Denham, University of Toledo, (419) 530-4062, Mark.Denham@utoledo.edu

State math winners

LBMS received a Superior rating for students who participated in the 26th Annual American Mathematics Competition 8. Eighth grader Kartik Dhinakaran won the State award for the second consecutive year after posting a perfect score in the mathematics contest.

Two other students - Ashwin Bikkani and Cal Craven, 8th graders, finished in the top 1% of the state. In addition, three students - Ammesh Shah, 8th grade, Calvin Pozderac, 8th grade, and Alex Lathem, 7th grade - finished in the top 5% of the state. Another 26 students were named to the Merit Roll.

About 4,700 students from 71 Ohio schools participated in the contest.

Climate survey

The Westlake City School District's 2010-2013 Continuous Improvement Plan sets our standard of excellence at maintaining an all-inclusive environment where we engage all students in learning in an environment that is safe and respectful for all.

We are asking all staff members to fill out a brief survey to measure how you feel about your school. Please take the time to fill out the survey by Jan. 3, 2011. Your answers will help us in providing a safe and productive environment for our students and staff.

WHS survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/StaffWHS

LBMS survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/StaffLBMS

Parkside survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/StaffParkside

Elementary survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/StaffElementary

Alumni Swim Meet

More than 40 WHS Swimming and Diving alumni returned to the pool the day after Thanksgiving. As part of the current high school team's pre-season time trials, an Alumni Meet was held at the Westlake Recreation Center. The alumni meet was organized by Emily Stephenson, girl's captain from the class of 2008 and Head Coach Jessica Dye. The highlight of the meet was a surprise 50-yard backstroke by former WHS head Coach Don Cisar. The alumni meet is being planned as an annual event. (See photo back page).

New web filter

In response to staff requests for less restrictive online access for educational purposes, the WCSD Technology Department implemented a new web filter.

You are asked before break to

- Check pages you plan to use for lessons and notify the Technology Department if you can no longer access those sites.
- Submit site review requests for sites you'd like to have access to for educational purposes;
- Monitor student use of the Internet.
- Complete the Public School Works module once it is up and running.



WHS Swimming/ Diving alumni renewed old friendships at an Alumni Meet during the current team's pre-season time trials.

Around the Schools is published weekly online by the Westlake City Schools communications department. Please forward information for publication to Communications Coordinator Kim Bonvissuto at the Administration Building, or call (440) 250-1258 or email bonvissuto@wlake.org

Deadline for submitting materials is Wednesday at Noon.

The Westlake City School District is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action agency and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, political affiliation or disability.

Stork Report . . .

Sixth-grade teacher Jeff Short and his wife, Julie, welcomed Jason Verba Short on Oct. 15. Jason weighed 8 lbs, 12 oz. and measured 21.5 inches. Congratulations to the Parkside and Short families on this latest addition.

Give the most unusual Christmas gift ever and support the Westlake Class of 2011 After Prom Committee.

Win a Rain Barrel (retail value \$155 courtesy of Rain Barrels N More at theGreenGarageStore.com.)

Tickets are 6 for \$5, 12 for \$10, 30 for \$20.

Connect the Rain Barrel to your downspout and let the savings begin! Save money on your water bill by: watering plants, your lawn and garden with nutrient rich, naturally clean rainwater

collected in your rain barrel. Even wash the family dog with it!

If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, please contact Mary Beth McIntyre at 440-808-1736 or Laurie Bowles at 440-835-2376.

Quotes of the Week

"The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook."

—William James

"I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is to try to please everyone."

—Bill Cosby

"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today."

—Malcolm X

***Best wishes from the
WCSD Communications
Office for a happy, healthy,
restful and safe holiday
break.***

See you in 2011!