

Around the Schools

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

Dates to Celebrate

March 1-31:

- Music in Our Schools Month
- Youth Art Month
- Youth Science Month
- Middle School Month

March 7-11:

- National School Breakfast Week
- Newspaper in Education Week

March 9:

- Ash Wednesday

March 11:

- Johnny Appleseed Day

March 13:

- Daylight Saving Time begins

March 17:

- St. Patrick's Day

March 18-26:

- Passover

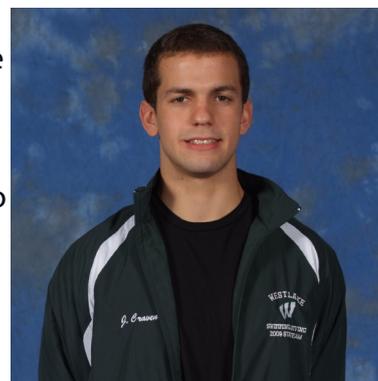
March 20-26:

- National Poison Prevention Week
- National Agriculture Week
- World Folk Tales and Fables Week

State title holder

WHS senior Joe Craven is now in the Westlake record books for earning the state Division I 100 butterfly at the OHSAA Swimming and Diving championships. His time of 49.74 in the finals made him the school's first boy to win a state swimming championship.

It is also the school's first state title since 2006 when Molly Bartkiewicz won the state pole vault title.



Mathematical performers

Four Westlake students scored high enough on the American Mathematics Competitions 2011 AMC 10 and AMC 12 to qualify for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME) on March 17.

WHS junior Kyle Lathem scored a 97.5, seniors Elizabeth Greco and Abhinay Ramachandran scored a 96 and 94.5, respectively, on the AMC 12. LBMS eighth grader Kartik Dhinakaran scored a 123 on the AMC 10. Last year Kartik was the top scorer in Ohio on the AMC 8.

The AMC is a multiple-choice examination sponsored by the University of Nebraska and is designed to promote the development and enhancement of problem solving skills. The Mathematical Association of America uses the exam to increase interest in mathematics and to develop problem solving through a friendly and fun competition.

About xx schools and xx students participate in the AMC. The average top score is 19.62. At LBMS, 271 students took the exam.

Teach in Taiwan

Through the Teaching in Taiwan Program, new and experienced elementary and middle school teachers may apply to teach English while living in Taiwan for the 2011-2012 school year. The application deadline is Friday, April 1. For more information, visit <http://www.education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1701&ContentID=1354> or contact Dwight Groce at dwight.groce@ode.state.oh.us or (614) 387-3200.

Laws of Life essay

The Ohio Partners in Character Education (OPCE) organization is holding a Laws of Life essay contest for Ohio middle and high school students. OPCE will award more than \$5,000 in prizes to winning students and their teachers.

The Laws of Life Essay Contest challenges students to reflect on, and express in their own words, the ideals and principles that guide them. Writing a Laws of Life essay meets state writing standards and can provide practice for standardized-test or college-entrance essays.

The statewide contest is conducted in two divisions: middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12). Each essay may be no more than three pages of double-spaced text. There are submission guidelines indicating the number of essays each school may submit by the May 20 deadline. Finalists and their teachers and parents will be invited to a banquet in fall 2011.

For entry forms and related information for the statewide contest, visit <http://www.charactereducationohio.org/programs/laws-of-life-essay-contest/>.

Questions may be directed to info@charactereducationohio.org.



Cleveland Browns left tackle Joe Thomas visited Hilliard Elementary School in February to discuss nutrition and the importance of taking care of yourself. Thomas' visit was part of a Verizon contest in which 4th grader David Miller's grandmother won a visit to the school. David came to school in a limousine with Thomas to visit with his class.

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.

Transforming classrooms into learning environments

April 5-6 in Columbus, the Partnership for 21st Century Skills and ODE are presenting Summit 2.0, a second annual conference dedicated to transforming classrooms into learning environments that prepare students for the future. This two-day conference will encourage disciplined inquiry, collaboration and creativity.

Participants may register for one, two or all three conference events (a lab, a dinner and a day-long summit).

Payment must be received by March 29. Ashland University is offering a graduate credit option for those who attend all April 6 sessions and complete a research

project by Aug 31.

Questions about Ashland credit may be directed to Russ Harris at RHarris8@ashland.edu or Paula Aveni at PAveni@ashland.edu. For more information, visit <http://21stcenturyskills-ohio.org/>. To register, visit http://21stcenturyskills-ohio.org/?page_id=955

Supreme Court Summer Institute

Street Law, Inc. and the Supreme Court Historical Society will sponsor two sessions of the annual Supreme Court Summer Institute, June 16 to 21 and June 23 to 28. The Institute is open to secondary social studies teachers and supervisors who will spend five days on Capitol Hill and inside the Supreme Court. Participants also will be in the Court to hear the justices announce the final decisions of the term. For full information and to apply online (under the Registration Info tab), go to www.streetlaw.org/scsi_apply. The application deadline is March 14