

# MONROE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

. . . WHERE ALL PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT!



<http://www.monroelocalschools.com>


Monroe Elementary School  
230 Yankee Road  
Monroe, OH 45050

February 2009


Elementary Office  
539-8101 phone  
539-1511 fax

## THE MES-SENGER

### February Calendar

- 2-5 - Architect's Proposal Presentation 7:00 P.M.
- 5-12 - Home Alone Class
- 6 - January Market Day Pick Up 5-6:00 P.M.  
Elementary Cafeteria
- 9 - Jump Rope For Heart packets and money due
- 9-13 - Valentine Candy Grams sale in the Rotunda  
8:30-8:50 A.M.
- 10 - Band Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser and Concert  
Return of the Glass Slipper parent meeting  
6:30 P.M. Elementary Cafeteria
- 13 - 6th grade Dare Graduation 10:00 A.M.  
Zap-a-Snack Fundraiser begins 
- 14 - Happy Valentine's Day!
- 16 - President's Day Holiday—No School
- 17 - Auditions 4th grade and 6th grade last name A-J  
3:30-5:00 Elementary Cafeteria
- 19 - Auditions 5th grade and 6th grade last name K-Z  
3:30-5:00 Elementary Cafeteria
- 20 - Science Fair
- 23 - Board of Education Mtg. 7:00 P.M.  
Elementary Cafeteria
- 24-26 - Parent Conferences
- 26 - Spring Pictures
- 26 - Market Day Pick up 5:00-6:30 P.M.  
Elementary Cafeteria

### March Calendar

- 12 - PTO Meeting 6:30 P.M. Elementary Cafeteria
- 18 - Spelling Bee 1:30 pm
- 23 - Board of Education Mtg. 7:00 P.M.  
Elementary Cafeteria
- 27 - End of the Third Quarter 
- 30 - April 3 Scholastic Book Fair
- April 2 - Step into Spotlight

### Save the Dates!

Our students will be taking the Ohio Achievement Tests in April. These are very important tests for our students and our district. We are anxious for our students to "show off" how much they've learned this year! Please save the following dates on your April calendar:

**4th and 5th Grade Tests will be April 20-24**  
**3rd and 6th Grade Tests will be April 27-30**

We appreciate your efforts to make sure your child will not be absent for any non-emergency reason on the dates listed above. Please make sure that doctor and dental appointments will not interfere with your child's attendance on those dates.

### Reminder About Wintery Conditions!



Our New School-to-Parent Notification Service will alert you to school delays, closings and early dismissals. The system uses the current phone number on file with the school office. Each family can have up to four telephone numbers and four email addresses. Families who wish to include additional phone numbers or email addresses may do so by calling the PreK-12 Notification Parent Hotline at 1-800-846-4976. For security reasons, you must call from your primary phone number to manage your contact list. Just follow the instructions to log in on the web and change your information.



### Attendance = \$\$\$ :



Please make sure your student is present and on time every day, especially during **Count Week**. This will be **February 2-6** in the state of Ohio. This means that our district will receive funding from the state for each day that your child is actually present at school or submits written documentation of an excused absence immediately upon his/her return to school. Thank you for helping your child arrive at school on time every day, especially during **Count Week!**

### School Absences:



Just a reminder: please call the office at 539-8101 when your child is going to be absent AND, most importantly, —please send an excuse note with your child when they return to school.

### Student Drop Off Reminder :



Our doors open at 8:20 each morning for students being dropped off by parents. Students who eat breakfast at school should be dropped off between 8:20 and 8:25. All other students should arrive at school between 8:25 and 8:30. Please remember that the security doors lock and the tardy bell rings at 8:35. Students arriving after 8:35 must enter through the main doors and be signed in at the office by a parent as the students are considered **tardy after 8:35**. Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to have all students in class promptly so that they do not miss valuable instructional time.



### School Fees:



School fees should be paid by March 27. You can send payment to the office or they can be paid on line. Log on to [monroelocalschools.com](http://monroelocalschools.com), choose Parent Features, then SPS EZpay. If this is your first time on this site, you will need your student's ID number. This is on the report card or you can call the office to get the number.


**From the PTO:**

The next PTO meeting is March 12, at 6:30 PM in the Elementary Cafeteria. **WE NEED YOU!** We are looking for parents to step up and become a vital part of the decision making process for the PTO. Board positions to be filled for next year are: Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Fundraising Co-chairs. If you are interested in serving contact Mrs. Martz at [gmartz@monroelocalschools.com](mailto:gmartz@monroelocalschools.com).

**Spring Fundraiser**


We are participating in Zap-a-Snack fund raiser again this year. The sale begins February 13 and ends March 12.

**Valentine Candy Grams:**

The PTO will be selling Valentine Candy Grams February 9-13 in the rotunda 8:30-8:50A.M. They will be 25 

**Author Karma Wilson will visit the 3rd grade students on March 16.**

Her first book, *Bear Snores On*, was released in 2002. Since then Karma has had more than 30 books accepted for publication. Her books include *Bear Feels Scared*, *Bear Feels Sick*, *Bear's New Friend*, *Bear Snores On*, *Bear Wants More*, *Bear Stays Up for Christmas*, *How to Bake an American Pie*, *Frog in the Bog*, *Whopper Cake*, *Animal Strike at the Zoo*, *It's True!*, and *Moose Tracks*. Students had the opportunity to order books during the first week of January. A limited number of books will also be available for purchase in the media center during the author's visit. Karma Wilson will autograph the books. Any of Karma Wilson's books that were purchased at the book fair may also be brought to school to be autographed.

 **Band Concert and Spaghetti Dinner Fundraising Event Tuesday, February 10**


**Dinner:** Dinner is served from 5:00-7:00P.M. in the High school Cafeteria. The dinner is sponsored by the Monroe Band Boosters and proceeds will go to support the entire band program at Monroe Schools. Our program is in need of instrument repairs or replacements, uniform updates, current music and other supplies that help benefit all of our band students.

Price is \$7 for grades 7 and older. \$6 for grades 6 and below, including senior citizens. Children 2 and under are FREE!

**Concerts:** 6th grade and Sr. High Combined Concert 6-7:00P.M. Students arrive at 5:30. 5th grade and Jr. High Combined Concert 7:30-8:30. Students arrive at 7:00.

**We Need Volunteers!** Your student will bring home a flyer with volunteer opportunities. Please fill out the form and send back in with your student.


**Return of the Glass Slipper**

 Monroe Elementary will be presenting "Return of the Glass Slipper" on Thursday May 14 and Friday May 15, 2009. This is a retelling of the Cinderella story. A mandatory parent meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday February 10 in the Elementary Cafeteria. This meeting is for all students who are interested in any part of the play, that includes backstage, chorus and tech.


**Closed Auditions 3:30-5:00 in the Elementary Cafeteria**

Tuesday Feb 17-4th grade and 6th grade last names A-H  
Thursday Feb 19-5th grade and 6th grade last names K-Z

**Step into the Spotlight**

 Third grade students will be performing and displaying artworks for "Step into the Spotlight" on March 26, 2009. This will be an all school evening of fun including the book fair and many other activities. Please make plans to be part of this exciting evening.

**5th and 6th Grade Choir Concert**

 The Spring Choir Concert will be April 30 at 6:30 P.M. Please mark your calendars for this performance. All students in choir are required to perform.

**Jump Rope for Heart**



Physical Education classes are beginning jump rope instruction. Students will begin taking donations for Jump Rope for Heart to raise money for the American Heart Association and their efforts for heart disease education and research. All packets and money are due by Monday February 9th. The students will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart Activity in class during the week of February 9-13. Students can earn prizes based on the amount of donations raised.

**Help Wanted:**

Monroe Local Schools is looking for members of the Monroe Community who are interested in serving as a Surrogate Parent to assist in making educational decisions for students with disabilities. Surrogate Parents are appointed to act on behalf of students with disabilities that are foster-placed into out community and will represent the student's interest in meetings involving the student's special education program. To become a Surrogate Parent, individuals must successfully complete the Surrogate Parent training and be appointed by the Superintendent of the local school district. Federal and state statutes prohibit employees of a public agency involved in the education or care of the child (e.g. local school district, any county service agency) from serving in the role of Surrogate Parent. Training will be held at the Center for Regional Educational Services in Reading, Ohio on February 28, 2009; you are only required to attend one session. State law prevents us from providing compensation for surrogate parent services, but the district is permitted to reimburse for mileage to and from meetings. To request additional information about becoming a Surrogate Parent, please contact Dr. Deborah Witt, Director of special Program for Monroe Local Schools, at 513-360-0553 or via email at

**Updates:**

We are in the process of updating your student's records. You may get a letter asking for updated

- Proof of Residency: Rent/Lease Agreement
- Copy of Deed
- Purchase Contract
- Copy of Property Tax Statement
- Custody Verification: Copy of the COURT ORDER
- Cannot be a notarized letter

These are things that could have changed since your child enrolled with the school and it is important that we have the most up to date information. Thank you for your cooperation in getting the information back to the office in a timely manor.