



# GROWLING GAZETTE

Schumaker Elementary Parent-Teacher Club

March  
2009

## Principal's Pen

By Julie Laird, PhD

Dear Families,

As I write this, it feels like it is summer and hard to believe it is actually still winter, and that other parts of the country are covered in snow!. February flew by with love of reading activities and then rodeo, and we are hoping March will slow down a bit. The end of the quarter is just a week away. There is no school on the 13th as it is grading day.

The big event we are all looking forward to is our spring carnival which will take place on March 21st from 3-6. For those who have attended in the past, we have decided to move the carnival to the south side of the playground so we will have more space (we have outgrown the front of the school). Each class is being asked to sponsor a theme basket and the baskets will be auctioned off in our silent auction. There will be other items up for bid as well. If you are able to secure a donation for the silent auction, we would be extremely grateful. Gift certificates or specific items would be greatly appreciated. We hope you will also consider working in the booth that your child's class is sponsoring. Please return the sign up sheet as soon as possible.

The other major event that will begin at the end of the month is AIMS testing for 3rd-5th graders, and the Terra Nova for 2nd Graders. AIMS is the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards and is based specifically on our state curriculum. Students and teachers have been working very hard to be sure they are ready. We will begin testing on March 31, and it will continue through the end of that week. 4th graders will take the AIMS science test on the following Tuesday, April 7. As a school, we have always made Adequate Yearly Progress, (AYP) according to the state. Typically, we have a very high percentage of students tested. Schools who don't have a high percentage of students tested, will likely not make AYP (that is one of the criteria). Our goal is to test every student, so we are asking for your support in making sure your child is at school every day during testing week.

Sadly, our school was vandalized over the weekend. Doors were sealed shut with bondo, profanity was written on windows, a window was broken, and several plants were pulled from our front flower garden. Thank you to Sam Pappas from Pappas photography who was walking his dog, and stopped to help me chisel doors open. As you drive by on weekends or in the evening, please drive slowly, and take notice as to whether you see suspicious activity at the school. If so, please call school safety at 584-7676 or call 911. Schumaker is such a great school, and those doing damage need to know that our community cares about our school. Thanks for being an extra set of eyes.

## Box Top Bonanza 2008-2009

The race is on! Schumaker's Box Top Bonanza is a year long race to see which class can collect the most Box Tops found on Big G products.

The class with the most Box Tops on **May 1, 2009** will win a Pizza party.

Visit us on the web at <http://edweb.tusd.k12.az.us/Schumaker>

## Spirit Day Winners for March

Primary- Finley  
Intermediate-Warburton

### Star Students

Sean Cassidy

Sharon Gutierrez

Jeffrey Payne

Summer Stratton

Camron Thompson

Shelby Lundgren

David Barajas

Antonio Saucedo

Aubrey Roe

Ryan Valenzuela

Sawyer Thompson

Gabriel Briggs

Sam Kalberer

Abel Vargas

### 2008-2009 PTC Officers

#### President

Bobbie Koistinen

#### Vice President

Kelly Leverton

#### Treasurer

Marie Kalberer

#### Secretary

Sandy Herfkens

### Growling Gazette Editor found

Thank you to Mrs. Cheryl Sulger who has volunteered to take over the editing responsibility of this newsletter.

# Schumaker Spring Carnival

Saturday, March 21, 2009  
3-6 p.m.

Silent Auction, Cake Walk, Jumping Castle and other inflatables, Train Ride, Game Booths, , Food, Drinks, Cotton Candy, and loads of fun for the entire family!



## Pre-Carnival Ticket Prices

### 5 for \$1

Ticket price at carnival= 4 for \$1  
Order forms will be sent home soon.



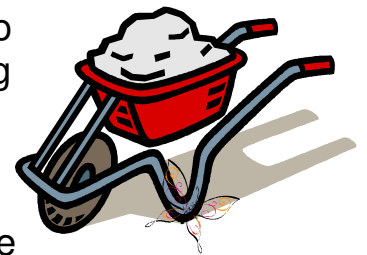
### *Cakes needed for the cake walk*

(Please bring cakes pre-wrapped in plastic and on a non-returnable plate)



## Come One, Come All

Come one, come all, help us clean up the habitat area. Our habitat area on the north side of the school has been neglected, and we want to make it a more usable place where students can take their learning outdoors. Saturday, March 28th 8am until we are done. We will be: moving gravel and bricks, setting up the pond, general clean up and weeding. Bring any tools that would be helpful (shovels and wheelbarrows will be needed). Everyone is welcome. Any time you can offer will be greatly appreciated.



# Counselor's Corner

By Mrs. Debra Daley

## SITE COUNCIL NEWS

The site council is the decision making entity of the school. We meet the first Monday of each month at 3:15 to discuss issues related to student achievement. Site council is responsible for decisions related to staffing and budget. All parents and community members are welcome to join.

## The School Community Partnership Council (SCPC)

The School Community Partnership Council (SCPC) has been an integral part of TUSD for thirty years. It is the official Board-approved instrument for communicating with parents. SCPC was responsible for initiating the creation of the TUSD Parent Access page, and through their organization, they facilitate information from the school sites to the District and from the District to the school sites' parents. The importance of parents and their contributions is immense and immeasurable. We have one representative, and are looking for another. Please contact Dr. Laird right away if you would be interested in being a SCPC representative for Schumaker.

## Student Council News

**Once again our student council did an excellent job hosting the annual rodeo pancake breakfast. Thank you to Mrs. Riveras and her son, Keith for shopping and cooking. The pancakes were yummy!**

**Our Penny War competition to support the Ronald McDonald House starts this month. See flyer soon.**

## **ATTENTION - Attendance - ATTENTION - Attendance ARE YOUR CHILDREN LATE FOR SCHOOL?**

In order to build successful students, we must work together to do all we can to help students attend school regularly. We care about your children and we want to provide a strong education for them. If your child is late to school, they are developing unproductive patterns and they may be getting mixed messages. By being late, your child may feel unsettled, and may believe that school is not important to you (parent/guardian). When children are late, they miss important information, instruction and learning, and this feeling of being unsettled can last through a large part of their day.

Being late for school hurts a child's learning. A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year. Your child can never get back what's most important: the discussion, the questions, explanations by the teacher and the **thinking** that makes learning come alive.

### **Here's How You Can Improve Your Child's School Attendance**

Tell your child school attendance is important

Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours

Support school rules about being on time and being tardy

Share examples of how school helps people succeed

Make sure your child gets plenty of rest and exercise, and eats healthy food.

Parents: Set a good example and get your child to school on time.

**Playground supervision starts at 7:30.**

**Please have your child here no later than 7:55 AM so they can line up with their class and be ON-TIME.**


**If your child plans on eating breakfast at school, PLAN to have them here by no later than 7:45.**




## Track News

**There is a track meet on Saturday, March 7 at Sabino High School beginning at 8:00 am. Volunteers are needed!**

# March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Site council 3:15 pm PTC 6:30PM	3	4	5	6 Sprit day wear your Schumaker shirt or yellow and blue	7 <b>Dual Track Meet @ Sabino HS</b>
8	9	10	11	12	13 No School Grading day	14 Tucson Festival of books at U of A
15 Tucson Festival of books at U of A	16 Penny War competition begins	17 St Patrick's Day Progress Reports go home 	18	19	20 Penny War Ends	21 Spring Carnival 3-6 pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Habitat Area Work Day 8 am
29	30	31 AIMS Testing 3rd-5th				

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			1 AIMS Testing 3rd-5th 2nd grade Terra Nova	2 AIMS Testing 3rd-5th 2nd grade Terra Nova	3 Sprit day wear your Schumaker shirt or yellow and blue AIMS	4
5	6 Site council 3:15 pm PTC 6:30PM	7 AIMS Science 4th grade only	8	9 No School Spring Recess	10 No School Spring Recess Good Friday	11
12 Easter 	13 No School Spring Recess	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# April