

Cedarwood Elementary

775 Bartfield Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43207

Dear Parents and Guardians,

February is a busy month at Cedarwood. It is also prime time for learning during the school year. At Cedarwood, we are focused on increasing student's vocabulary and writing skills. We are targeting math and reading skills based on MAP and iReady assessment results. Please ask your child to tell you about what they are learning, and talk with them about setting goals.

We are learning and growing every day! Thank you for your continued support!

Principal Leigh

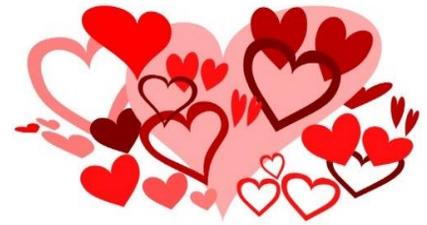
Parent Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, February 5th and Tuesday, February 11th from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. Parents of all children should arrange for a conference.

Your child will be leading the upcoming February conference.

What are the benefits of Student Led Conferences?

- Accountability for their learning
- Ownership for progress in learning
- Increased interaction between child and parents
- Active participation in your child's learning
- Better understanding of their learning



Upcoming Dates

*Parent Teacher Conferences Feb 5 & 11

*February 10-14
Friendship Week &
Kindness Corner

*Wednesday, February 12
Early Release @ 2:00 pm

*Monday, February 17
No School (President's Day)

*Tuesday, March 5 Family Literacy Night 5:00-7:00pm

*Wednesday, March 11
Early Release @ 2:00 pm

*Monday, March 25, 2019
No School (Records Day)



SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, April 4th is Cedarwood Family Day at Spruce Run! There will be bus transportation to and from Cedarwood for our families. Join us!

Research shows that parents who remain involved in their child's education will do better academically throughout their school year. Plan to join us for conference night!

Attendance is important to your child's learning!

Help your child get to school on time, every day. House Bill 410 has put school attendance policies into Ohio law. Absences are calculated by the number of minutes a child is absent from school. If your child is late to school each day, those minutes add up and count toward the number of days absent in a year. Please visit our website under Families for additional information on the attendance laws in Ohio.



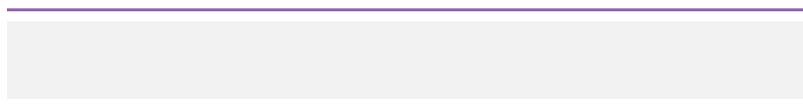
Our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) team has begun a new attendance incentive. Each classroom is striving for the highest percentage of attendance each week. The classes are 'racing to success' by encouraging each other to be in school on time each day. If your child is ill or seeing a doctor, please send in a doctor's excuse or written parent note.



Cedarwood will be celebrating Black History Month in February with a variety of events and activities! Look for information on special performances, classroom presentations and biographies connected to our theme, *Appreciating African American Artists*.

Bundle Up for Winter Weather!

Remember to bundle up your children! Many students in need have received gloves, hats, scarves from our wonderful donors to the Mitten Tree. THANK YOU! Please let the office know if a student needs a coat - we have many items from our partners to help our families!



Our Anti-Bullying Programs

At Cedarwood, we use **restorative approaches** and the **Second Step** curriculum to address social-emotional issues, including bullying. Restorative practices include steps taken to resolve conflict and prevent harm. These practices enable those who have been harmed to convey the impact of the harm to those responsible, and for those responsible to acknowledge this impact and take steps to put it right. The staff at Cedarwood have been trained on restorative practices and implement strategies such as morning meetings and circle time, restorative conferences between individuals, and mindfulness techniques to create safe and peaceful spaces in the classroom and throughout our building.



Second Step is a curriculum every teacher uses in their classroom on a weekly basis. Topics include skills for learning empathy, emotion management and problem solving. The curriculum focuses on how to get along with others. You can learn more by visiting SecondStep.org.

Please contact your child's teacher or our school counselor with questions about these or other programs. We teach our students, if you SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING! It takes all of us working together to create a safe and welcoming school environment for our students.



Family Literacy Night

Cedarwood will host families for Literacy Night on Thursday, March 5th from 5:00-7:00pm. Please join us for exciting activities, food, fun, and a celebration of books!

Drive Safely

Please drive safely and follow our drop-off and pick-up procedures. When in doubt, please park your car and walk your students. There are plenty of parking spaces available. The cones are there to help drivers slow down and follow the traffic pattern. There is no parking in the drop-off lane. Thank you for making sure all our students are safe!



From Mrs. Parks, our School Counselor:

What is self-esteem?

Self-esteem is our beliefs about our self. How capable and loved we feel. It is our shield against life's challenges.

Considering all the things we help our children learn and do, helping them to develop a healthy self-esteem is very important. This is because self-esteem affects all aspects of their lives, how they learn, how they interact with friends, how they treat others, how they problem solve, how they handle adversity, and how willing they are to try new things. Here are some tips to help your child develop healthy self-esteem:

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| <p><u>Praise your child</u> Notice when your child has done something well and tell them! Easy on the criticism. They should hear 5 positives for every 1 negative thing you say</p> | <p><u>Criticize the behavior</u> When your child misbehaves, talk about the behavior, such as, "What you did was hurtful, and I know you are a nice kid. How can you make this better?" Do not label your child "bad."</p> | <p><u>Validate feelings</u> If your child gets a blow to their self-esteem, they need you to allow them to feel sad, hurt, or mad. After, you can boost them up with positives.</p> | <p><u>Give your child chores</u> Children learn how to function in groups by learning how their own family cooperates . Set your child up to be a team player by giving age-appropriate chores at home. Offer praise for their work!</p> | <p><u>Give the gift of time</u> Your children know how busy you are, so when you find 10 minutes to listen about their day or play a game, they will feel worthy and loved. The gift of time spent is worth much more than the gift of money spent.</p> |
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