

# The Cottonwood Buzz

Mrs. Rooks, Principal

March 27, 2009



Cottonwood Elementary

1747 N. Andover Rd.

Andover, KS 67002

218-4620

www.usd385.org

Dear Parents of 3rd, 4th & 5th graders:

Thank you for your support during our first round of testing. I truly appreciate the time you spent writing notes of encouragement to your child. Students read their notes before the first day of testing. We all encouraged them to do their best.

Math testing begins April 7th. Please check the schedule below for exact dates & times. We hope to send results home with 4th quarter report cards.

**April 7th, 8th, and 9th—  
Math**

9:00—3rd Grade  
10:30—5th Grade  
1:00—4th Grade

**April 28th and 29th—  
Science**

1:00—4th Grade

Thank you again for your continued support of Cottonwood. It takes all of us to ensure the success of our students.

Mrs. Rooks

## Upcoming Events

**Apr 1:** Math Club @ 3:40

**Apr 6-10:** Book Fair

**Apr 7-9:** 3-5th Math Assessments

**Apr 7:** 4th Gr. Recorder Program during Art Open House

**Apr 7:** Art Open House, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Apr 8:** Student Council @ 3:40

**Apr 10:** 4th Grade Mad Science

**Apr 12:** Easter

**Apr 13:** Site Council @ 4:00, Library

**Apr 13:** Board of Ed. Meeting, 6:00 p.m., District Office

**Apr 15:** Individual and Group **PICTURE DAY**

**Apr 16:** 1st grade music program, AHS @ 7:00 p.m.

**Apr 20-24:** Volunteer Appreciation Week

**Apr 21:** 3rd grade field trip to KS Learning Center

**Apr 22:** Earth Day

**Apr 23:** K-3 to see Doc, Doc, Goose presented by AHS

**Apr 24:** 5th grade field trip

**Apr 27:** Title I Parent Night (location TBD)

**Apr 28-29:** 4th Grade State Science Assessments

**Apr 29:** 3rd Grade COWS

**Apr 29:** PTO meeting @ 4:00 p.m.

**May 1:** 5th Grade GPS Field Trip

**May 1:** PTO Family Fun Night 6-8 p.m.

**May 4-8; 11-14:** Spring DIBELS

**May 4-8:** Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 5-7; 11-13:** MAP Testing

**May 6:** Math Club @ 3:40

**May 6:** School Nurse Day

**May 8:** 2nd grade Eye Dissection

**May 11:** Site Council @ 4:00, Library

**May 11:** Board of Ed. Meeting, 6:00 p.m., District Office

**May 13:** ELP Survivor Games

**May 13:** Student Council @ 3:40

**May 14:** 4th Quarter AR party, grades 2-5

**May 14:** Field day

**May 15:** AR year-end celebration

**May 15:** **ALL LIBRARY BOOKS DUE!**

**May 18:** Faculty BB game 2:00

**May 19:** Variety Show, 9:30 a.m.

**May 20:** 5th grade promotion, 2:00 p.m.

**May 21:** End of year assembly, 9:30 a.m.

**May 21:** Last day of School/Dismiss at 1:35

## Student Picture Day      Wednesday, April 15th

Individual portraits and class pictures will be taken on this day.

- ⇒ The class picture must be prepaid.
- ⇒ The individual student portrait packet will be sent home at a later date for you to preview and you may decide then whether to purchase any or all of the packet.
- ⇒ Please return payment and/or packet to the school promptly after viewing.

## **Volunteer Appreciation Week**

**April 20-24**

*We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee.*

*Marian Wright Edelman*

**Thank you to all of the Cottonwood Elementary parents and patrons who volunteer at our school. We sincerely appreciate everything you do. You are invited to a Thank You coffee in the library from 7:30-9 a.m. on April 22nd. Please stop by so we can thank you!**




## SPRING ART OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

6:00-8:00 PM

The students at Cottonwood Elementary have been busy “going buggy” creating art projects about the season of spring. Come travel the hallways and have a blooming good time celebrating Cottonwood’s tribute to everything springtime.

Each child will have artwork on display for our Art Open House on Tuesday, April 7 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. Please bring your family and friends to this annual, fun filled event!



### Put your outgrown clothes to good use!

The nurses office is requesting donations of the following:

Sweat pants and shirts, especially any size pants

Boys and girls underwear in all sizes

Socks of all sizes

Boys and girls shorts in all sizes

**PTO is looking for officers for the 2009-10 school year. If you're interested in a position, or if you would like to nominate someone, please call Mrs. Rooks at 218-4620 or e-mail [rookss@usd385.org](mailto:rookss@usd385.org).**

**Elections will be held at the April 29th meeting.**



### Scholastic Book Fair

Fund-raiser for the Cottonwood Library

April 6-9 in the Library

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:45 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Tuesday

8:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

The AHS Student Council is holding their Spring **Blood Drive** on Thursday, April 23 from 8:30-2:00. Any individuals who are older than 16 years and meet the American Red Cross minimum health requirements are able to participate.

Remember, every donation helps save the lives of 3 people.

Please contact the AHS Student Council to schedule a time.

Contact Information: Shelly Swayne, Advisor

Phone: 218-4600 x31051

email: [swaynes@usd385.org](mailto:swaynes@usd385.org)

### PTO MOTHER / SON OUTING

at 13th St. Park in Andover

A family baseball game and hot dogs will be shared by all who attend. Cost will be \$5.00 per couple.

More information to follow.



### Cottonwood Fitness Club

The Fitness Club is designed to encourage students and teachers alike to walk, jog or wog (combination of a walk/jog) at recess as a means of fitness. We know that kids are increasingly overweight, have a higher risk of high blood pressure and hypertension and are at an increased risk for juvenile diabetes. The program is designed to walk/jog the fence line of the playground. The activity will be done solely during the school hours. Six laps is equivalent to one mile. The goal is to complete 4 miles. Upon completion of 4 miles, the students will receive a “walking foot” token to attach to their book bag, shoestring or key chain.

**April's theme:** Sincerity-Eagerly doing what is right with transparent motives.

*"What you seem to be, be really."*

*-Benjamin Franklin*

**Thought for the day:** Changing times. Changes can be scary for your child. They need a simple reminder that certain things will never change. They need to know that they have your love and you should always be very reassuring.

**COWS:** April 29, 2009 is the annual COWS-Career Fair for third graders. Please review with your child the importance of having a career. Please discuss your career with your child. Also, discuss their interests with them. It is never too soon to start planning for their career. I would also like to thank the following for sharing their interesting careers with us: Michele Paris, Gregg Marshall, Mark Schneider, Bryan Dotson, Gina Hanneman and Cindy Harmon. We truly appreciate the time that you spend with us.

**Enrollment Fair:** The 5<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment fair for AMS is coming soon. Please be watching for information coming home in Friday folders. This will be a great evening to spend with your child. Please plan on attending. I will also be working with the fifth graders on time management and study skills to start preparing them for middle school. Please let me know if you need any help or information. Mrs. Ingram the counselor from the Middle School came over and talked with the students on March 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss scheduling. Please send back the requested information ASAP or the classes they want will be filled.

**State Assessments:** The third, fourth and fifth graders will continue taking the State Assessments in April. Please make sure they get plenty of rest, a good nights sleep and that they are in attendance. Please call if you have any questions.

### TV Turn Off Week

The **TV Turnoff** network (formerly TV-Free America) is an organization that tries to encourage children and adults to watch less television and so have more time for a healthier life and more community participation. **TV Turn Off Week is April 20th-26th.**

#### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TV

- Number of 30-second commercials seen in a year by an average child: 20,000
- Number of minutes per week that parents spend in meaningful conversation with their children: 38.5
- Number of minutes per week that the average child watches television: 1,680
- Percentage of children ages 6-17 who have TV's in their bedrooms: 50
- Percentage of day care centers that use TV during a typical day: 70
- Hours per year the average American youth spends in school: 900 hours
- Hours per year the average American youth watches television: 1500
- Percentage of Americans that regularly watch television while eating dinner: 66

Turning off the TV is not as hard as it sounds. When you turn off the TV, it gives you an opportunity to discover the wide range of activities that exist besides the television. One day is not enough of a challenge, you really need try and keep it off for the whole week.

If you're up to the challenge, then here are some activities for you and your family:

- Read a book
- Put together a puzzle
- Listen to the radio
- Play board games or cards
- Paint a picture, mural or room
- Do some cooking or baking
- Go sledding or ice skating
- Go shopping
- Go to a museum
- Have a party

There are many more activities you could do but this will hopefully get you brainstorming. Once you get away from your TV for a entire week you might surprise yourself and turn it off more often in the future!