

2008-2009 Margareta Elementary Highlights

During a recent unit on geography, Miss Snyder's 2nd grade Social Studies classes constructed 3D landform projects to demonstrate their understanding of 10 different water and landforms. They all did a great job!



5th and 6th grade students have been participating in academic and physical challenges for the past 6 weeks to help get them ready for the OATs. Each week, students competed in an academic challenge for Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies. The tribes with the most points then participated in a physical challenge on Friday. The students had a lot of fun getting ready for the Ohio Achievement Tests!



For the past 6 years, first grade students and teachers have donated enough money to *Back-to-the-Wild* that they have been able to continue the "adoption" of a bald eagle.

From December 2008 through April 20, 2009, Mrs. Steager-Burkett's 1st grade homeroom class has completed and passed 500 *Accelerated Reader* tests. The class goal is to complete and pass 600 tests by the end of the school year. So far the comprehension average is 88%. The class has set their sights on having at least 90% for comprehension by the end of the year.

Mrs. Wobser's first grade science classes wrote letters to the Erie County Commissioners expressing their concerns about the possibility of closing some area recycling sites. First grader Shelby Gibson promoted recycling in her home after studying the subject at school. Her mother, Mrs. Dawn Gibson, wrote a piece for the Sandusky Register Reader's Forum and suggested Shelby's classmates take similar action.

This year's 4th, 5th and 6th graders raised over \$800 in donations for the American Heart Associations *Jump Rope for Heart* campaign to fight America's # 1 Killer: Heart Disease and Stroke. That amount brought the 5 year total to over \$5,000 collected by Margareta students, while at same time honing their own jumping skills to develop and train a healthy heart for life!

Elementary students participated in *Operation Paperback*, collecting gently used books in cooperation with the Volunteer Center of Erie County. Our students collected over 400 books that were shipped to American troops deployed overseas.

Students from 5th and 6th grade participated in the *NorthPoint ESC Academic Challenge* in March. The 5th grade team, Jacob Caponi, Haylee Darr, Kaliegh Holliday-Davis, Gordy Keegan, Kristen Yost, Kennedy Arndt, Gabby Fish and Nicole Savastuk, placed second in their competition.

Thanks to our community clipping coupons from General Mills products, *Box Tops for Education* has produced \$1,061.41 in support for our school. From March 2008-February 2009, Margareta students have collected 10,321 Box Tops.

6th grade students are taking part in an 8 week program sponsored by Bayshore Counseling Services of Sandusky. Topics of discussion include problem solving, bullying and decision making. Students are learning coping skills that will help them with these everyday problems and situations.

While attending the *Mohican Outdoor School* in February, 6th graders broke a previous record set in 1995 of 0 pounds food wasted during the 11 meals. The students met the challenge, broke the record and wasted not a crumb or a drop of water!

Margareta teachers Chris Smith and Kathy Day have been accepted to participate in the *Advancing Ohio's Physical Science Proficiency* during the summer. The goal of this program is to help pre-kindergarten through high school teachers empower their students to succeed in science and gain an edge in meeting new state requirements for science proficiency.

The Margareta 6th grade students participated in their March Volunteer Project. The students listened to Jen and Angel from Erie County Job and Family Services (adoption and foster care division). Students were informed of how families can make a difference in a child's life by becoming a foster family. Letters to the Sandusky Register were written to persuade families to look into this opportunity due to the high number of children needing to be placed into foster care in Erie County. A "flowerpot" of children will be placed in a community business to visualize this need for foster families in our county.

