

BROOK BEAT

DAISY BROOK ELEMENTARY
Volume 2, Issue 4

BOB CASSIDAY, PRINCIPAL
231-924-8361
231-924-9117 FAX

MR. CASSIDAY'S CORNER

Wishin' I Was Fishin'

Bright orange as it climbs through shadowy treetops, burning off wispy white tendrils of mist rising slowly above the blue-black mirrored surface of the water, the sun raises the dark velvet shade shrouding my mind.

Passing rhythmically through metal, skin, and time, broad silver ripples gently rock away all thoughts beyond the immediate.

Wings flutter breathlessly, cattails and grasses rustle softly, their smooth backbeat a soundtrack echoing into my future.

Some days just being on the water is its own tranquil reward. Other days it's the camaraderie of sharing the experience with a friend or spouse. Even more frequent is the pleasure of outwitting that wiggling bundle of fins and scales then holding it up for a few brief moments to revel in the triumph before releasing it back into the depths.

Bait. Cast. Retrieve. Bait the hook. Cast the bait. Retrieve the fish. Repeat.

With Zen-like simplicity fishing is timeless and ageless in its appeal. From kids drowning worms for the first time to veteran championship competitors, fishing is probably the all-time greatest participation sport. Anyone of any age and ability can do it with a minimum of effort and investment. Whether you fish for dinner or trophy mounts there are attractive elements of the sport for everyone. Not the least of which is the incredible challenge of getting something you can't see to believe that lunch is what you're dangling within its reach.

Some days the fish wins. Some days it doesn't. Either way, you win. You win by stretching your limbs and muscles; by expanding your mind and lungs; and most of all by just being outside. Outside where you can experience the caress of the breeze on your skin. Where you can hear bird calls and tree branches sway. Where the sunlight opens your eyes to the vast splendor of creation and all of the tremendous possibilities that entails.

Bait. Cast. Retrieve. Bait the hook. Cast the bait. Retrieve the fish. Repeat. Repeat as often as necessary.

And take along a friend. Pleasures like fishing are best experienced in the company of friends and children.

Earth Day Awareness Event: Friday, April 19, Walk or Ride Your Bike to school or work! (Sponsored by Girl Scout Kera Howell, 11th grade, Fremont High School)



Please save the list of events on Page 2 so you'll know what's happening at DB for the rest of the year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Underlined items are new additions to the schedule.



MARK THESE FUTURE EVENTS ON YOUR CALENDAR-YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS ANY OF THE ACTIVITIES!

Remember to contact the Daisy Brook office at 924-4380 if any of your contact information changes, i.e., your home phone number, your cell phone number or your address. A reminder too, that if you designate someone to pick up your child, you also need to add that person to your student's emergency list.

Please make the office your first stop when you visit Daisy Brook. Doing so helps us in our mission to make Daisy Brook safe and secure for everyone.

Daisy Brook is a special learning place and we protect that environment as well. If you wish to meet with a teacher, please call or email ahead of time to make an appointment.

Many winter items are still on the LOST AND FOUND table. If you happen to visit Daisy Brook, please take a moment to check the table—some of the "treasure" may be yours.

APRIL 11: 5TH GRADE AND CHOIR SPRING CONCERT: 1:15 & 7 PM AT DB
APRIL 15: VISION SCREENING 5TH GR., SE STUDENTS AND REFERRALS
APRIL 16: VISION SCREENING 5TH GRADE, SE STUDENTS AND REFERRALS
 APRIL 17: REPORT CARDS SENT HOME
APRIL 22: LAST BIBLE RELEASE CLASS 12:15 IN THE GYM
 APRIL 30: LANSING TRIP-MATTHEWS' CLASS 8:25-4:30
 MAY 2: LANSING TRIP-WRIGHT'S CLASS 9:00-5:30
MAY 3: ELEMENTARY PTO FUN RUN-details will be coming
 MAY 7: LINK-UP CONCERT-4TH GRADE-8:15 until lunch time
 MAY 9: LANSING TRIP-KALLENBACH'S CLASS 8:15-4:15
May 14: LANSING TRIP-LLEWELLYN'S CLASS 8:30-5
 MAY 15: LANSING TRIP-HOUSTON'S CLASS 8:30-5
MAY 16: 12:45-3:00 PM-5TH GR.-MS VISIT AND MS MUSIC PREVIEW
 MAY 24: HEFT & #1 OVERFLOW GROUP BOAT TRIP-8:30-3:45
 MAY 27: MEMORIAL DAY-NO SCHOOL
 MAY 28: HUISSEN & CASSIDAY BOAT TRIP-8:30-3:45
 MAY 29: ROSS & HANNA BOAT TRIP-8:30-3:45
 MAY 30: STROVEN & #2 OVERFLOW GROUP BOAT TRIP 8:30-3:45
 MAY 31: GAMES DAY AT DAISY BROOK
JUNE 4: MOBILE DENTIST
 JUNE 6: HALF DAY-11:05 DISMISS
 JUNE 7: HALF DAY, LAST DAY-11:05 DISMISS; REPORT CARDS SENT HOME
 **First day of school for 2013-14 school year: Tuesday, September 3, 2013



March is Reading Month. All of Daisy Brook enjoyed reading The World According to Humphrey. Congratulations to Griffin Giberson, Joe Kortge and Tony Dronchi, winners of the morning trivia question from Mrs. Houston's room.

DAISY BROOK Fourth Grade will be going to LinkUP on May 7, 2013 & SEATS ARE FOR SALE!

If you would like to attend the concert, tickets are available directly from West Michigan Symphony. To purchase a ticket, please call: Rita Smith, Ticket Manager at 231-726-3231 ext. 23, and ask for a ticket to the 9:30 concert on 5/7. Tickets are \$5, general admission/upper balcony. Parents purchasing a ticket will sit in the upper balcony, not with the students. This special occasion has an 8:15 departure and noon return.

Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

Daisy Brook Elementary School
Mr Bob Cassiday, Principal

Book Picks

Read-aloud favorites

The Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System

Ms. Frizzle blasts her class into the solar system for some out-of-this-world science lessons. One of the Magic School Bus series by Joanna Cole. (Also available in Spanish.)



Doctor De Soto Goes to Africa

In this tale by William Steig, the famous mouse dentist travels to Africa. But before he can repair the tooth of Mudambo the elephant, an unhappy monkey kidnaps him!



The Whingdingdilly

Scamp is bored with his life as a dog. Then Zildy the witch changes him into a Whingdingdilly. Life is anything but boring now—but is Scamp happy? Read this story by Bill Peet to find out.

Babushka's Doll

"It wasn't that Natasha was a truly naughty child." So begins the story of a little girl who needs some practice learning patience. The lesson begins when Natasha picks up her grandmother's doll. A magical story by Patricia Polacco.



Story time

Want to spend time with your youngster, build her reading skills, and help her learn to love books? You can do all three when you read aloud to her. Here are some suggestions.

Read regularly. Try to read to your child every day. You might aim for 10–15 minutes of bedtime reading for a peaceful end to the day. Tuck read-alouds into the time when dinner is in the oven. Or curl up together with a book when you get home from work.

Take turns choosing books. Your youngster may want to hear old favorites again and again. Use your turn for new titles and variety (nonfiction, poetry).

Let her participate. Ask your child to turn the pages while you read. Also, she can finish sentences that rhyme or fill in words she knows. Go slowly so she has



time to understand the story and look at the illustrations. She'll enjoy read-aloud time more if she plays an active role.

Be playful. You can use different voices for different characters (a high, squeaky voice for a chicken or a deep, booming voice for a horse). Substitute your youngster's name for the main character's name, and use family members' names for other characters. *Note:* You don't have to be an expert reader—your child will love it when you read aloud because it's you. ♥

A language-rich home

Good news: Strong language skills can make your youngster a better reader, writer, and all-around student. Great news: You can build those skills just by talking to your child. Try these ideas:

- Narrate everyday activities like driving or cooking. Hearing unfamiliar words in conversation will help your youngster understand words in books ("Please hand me the *colander* so I can drain the spaghetti"). *Tip:* If he doesn't know the word, explain: "This is a colander. Water drains through the holes."
- Encourage your child to join family conversations. Ask him questions to help him expand on his answers. ("Why do you think so?" "What else happened?") He will learn to talk about events and give his opinions. ♥



Reading Connection Beginning Edition

Use what you know

Reading new words

Your child probably can't read a word like "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." But he can use words he already knows to read new words. Here's how:

- Start with your youngster's name. Troy, for example, might have an easier time learning "tr" words such as "train." You can use the "tr" consonant blend at the beginning of his name to teach



him other blends as well, such as "cr," "pl," and "st."

- Point out patterns in sight words your child recognizes. Example: If your youngster knows "they," he can learn "then," "this," and "that." "Could," "would," and "should" are three common sight words that also share a pattern.

- Break down syllables in a longer word, such as "yesterday." Cover the entire word with a small slip of paper. Then, slowly slide the paper to the right to show each syllable one at a time (yes-ter-day). This works especially well for words with several syllables, such as "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious"!♥

Fun with Words

Newspaper learning

With thousands of words in every issue, newspapers are a great way to build your youngster's skills. Grab a paper, and try these activities.

Matching game

Have your child cut out several photographs and their captions separately. Mix them up. Matching the captions and the photos will improve her reading comprehension.



Scavenger hunt

List items in the newspaper (car ad, crossword puzzle, weather forecast), and ask your youngster to find and circle each one. She'll build research skills as she looks through the pages.

ABC order

Together, find the names of 5–10 countries, states, and cities in headlines or stories. Let your child copy each one onto an index card and arrange the cards in alphabetical order. This will help her practice spelling and learn about geography.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

Resources for Educators,
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128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
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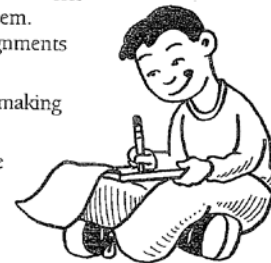
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Q&A Real writing

Q My son doesn't enjoy writing. He will write a few words, such as his spelling lists. But when it's time to write a paragraph or a story, he complains. Any ideas?

A Have your son try a few "real" writing tasks. It's often easier for kids to write about things that have meaning for them. Encourage your child to give those longer writing assignments a try with ideas like these:

- Have him write what he remembers about the day (making a new friend, playing kickball, having pizza for lunch).
- Let him choose a cherished toy or animal and write a few sentences describing it. Example: "The bunny is soft. He hops fast."
- Ask him to write lists of favorite songs, favorite characters in a movie, or ideas for his birthday.♥



Parent to Parent Simple reading practice

I've found a way to give my children reading practice—and improve their behavior at the same time. I write short notes to my kids and leave them around the house.

Sometimes I'll mention my youngsters' good behavior ("Thanks for helping with the dishes!") or write reminders ("Please hang me up. Signed, Your towel"). Sometimes the notes are about

not-so-good behavior ("I was disappointed when you yelled at me. Can we talk about it?") I make sure to leave notes for treats, too ("Let's go fly your kite this afternoon!").

I look for unique places to put the notes, such as on their pillows, in front of the dog's water bowl, or pinned to the shower curtain. The kids enjoy discovering the notes and reading them aloud.♥



IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS
UP TO ME.



**Daisy Brook Elementary
School**
502 N. Division
Fremont, MI 49412
Phone: 231-924-4380
FAX 231-924-9117

WE LIKE TO LEARN
AND IT SHOWS!

We are on the Web!
<http://www.fremont.net>

BUILDING BRIDGES PRESCHOOL
Free GSRP Preschool in
Fremont, Grant, Hesperia,
Newaygo, and White Cloud
Enrollment based on qualifying
risk factors
Now enrolling for the 2012-2013
school year
Call 231-652-3683

Reminders from the office:

*If your child is absent for any reason, please notify the Daisy Brook office. If you are reporting an illness, please give the name of the illness; when leaving a message for us, please include the date that you are calling.

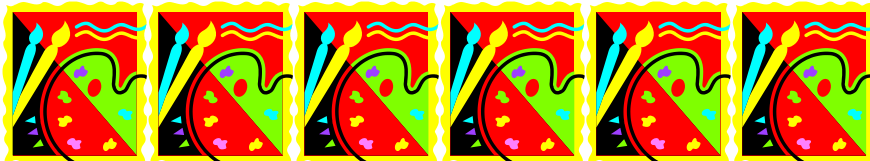
*A new truancy policy is in effect this year. If your child leaves school for any kind of medical appointment, please ask for a paper excuse when you leave the medical office.

As you sort through your child's clothes this spring, please consider donating a couple of the outgrown items to Daisy Brook for our spare clothing boxes. Pants and shirts in 10 and 12 or M/L are needed for both boys and girls.

MR. WOJCICKI'S NEWS:

It's never too early to inquire about summer camp opportunities for your child. The Fremont Area Foundation offers support for families that qualify for free and or reduced lunch to receive "camperships" to help reduce the cost of camp. Call Mr. Wojcicki if you are interested in finding out more: 924-7224.

Mr. Wojcicki has quite a collection of Love and Logic parenting materials available for sign out.



Daisy Brook Art Students and Parents:

Thank you for helping to make my transition back into Art a great success. I truly enjoy working with all of you and the first four months have been great.

If you've had a chance to walk through the halls at Daisy Brook then you've had the opportunity to view some wonderful projects. If you haven't stopped to view some of the artwork, taking a quick walk through the halls is highly recommended!

We have some outstanding artists in fourth and fifth grade. We recently showed our appreciation for music with our colorful piano keyboards and uniquely designed guitars. Our fourth graders had a great time creating their "Goofy Birds" with paints and pastels.

Our fifth graders are currently working on "Illuminated Letters". This project will definitely showcase their artistic abilities.

The year is going by quickly but there's still time for much more fun "creating" in art!

Miss Kralej, Daisy Brook and Pathfinder Art Teacher



The students in Mrs. Houston's 4th grade class proudly display the 40 FREE BOOKS they received from Scholastic Book Club. In order to receive such a wonderful selection of fiction and non-fiction books, the students had to collect Sunny D labels. Every 20 labels = 20 books! Our class actually collected 40 labels. Thank you to all the parents who collected the labels to help make this possible.

MRA CONFERENCE 2013 by Ms. Bachleda

Ten Daisy Brook staff members had the opportunity to attend the Michigan Reading Association conference in Grand Rapids on March 9th-11th. The teachers were able to learn, and take away, many wonderful reading and writing strategies. Not only were they able to acquire new ideas for their classrooms, but they were also able to meet authors like Mark Crilley and Bryan Chick, and hear key note speakers such as Kelly Gallagher.

This was a great time to attend the conference as March is Reading Month at Daisy Brook. Daisy Brook has been participating in an all school reading of *The World According to Humphrey*. Humphrey made many appearances at the conference (his favorite was the author of the Ellie McDoodle books, Ruth McNally Barshaw ☺).

With such a large number of teachers able to attend the conference, many sessions were made available to learn about digital literacy and reading strategies that can be used in line with the Common Core State Standards. These sessions demonstrated how to enhance students' ability to connect through literacy and technology using resources such as Biblionasium and epals.

The teachers were able to attend this conference through a Title I grant. What a wonderful opportunity to grow and learn as educators and to gain insight into accommodating the future needs of our students!



Pictured on far left: Humphrey with his favorite character, Ellie McDoodle (by Ruth McNally Barshaw)

Pictured on left: Ruth McNally Barshaw with Humphrey

Daisy Brook's Family Math Night: Math + Families = FUN!!

by Mrs. Matthews

On March 19th, over 160 students, parents, and staff gathered for a Title I Family Math Night at Daisy Brook. The evening began with a pizza dinner in the cafeteria. Next, students proceeded to the gym where they participated in learning and playing multiplication and division math games. While students were in the gym, parents rotated between two classrooms where they practiced multiplication and division algorithms with classroom teachers. The evening ended with all students receiving a math trade book and a packet including all the games and materials needed to play the math games at home. The evening was both educational and enjoyable.



The 25th Daisy Brook Science Fair

by Mrs. Leiter

The Daisy Brook Science Fair was once again very successful. 109 students participated and enjoyed this exciting time. Everyone should be commended for the effort put into the projects. While the science fair is fun, much work and learning go into having a successful display. Participants are given the criteria for earning a blue ribbon when they turn in their registration form, with the criteria varying somewhat for each category. For experiments, use of the scientific method is strongly emphasized. The scientific method involves several specific steps and guides the student from hypothesis to conclusion. For a demonstration or project, research and a report are required.

Daisy Brook provided three workshops funded by Title I prior to the science fair. Parents and students were encouraged to attend to explore project ideas and to use the supplies provided to create their displays. The space provided in the cafeteria made construction of project displays much easier and staff was on hand to assist as needed. Computers were available allowing students to look up ideas and print information too; die cuts were available to help make neat displays. All who participated worked hard and had a good time.

For 25 years, Daisy Brook has been committed to providing the science fair as a unique learning experience for our students. Many staff members are involved in putting on the science fair. The office staff gets all the information ready and to the students, organizes placement of projects and the preparation of the gym and cafeteria, and too many other things to mention. Several of our teachers are the judges for this event. Some retired teachers also volunteer to judge. The Title I teacher assistants work the workshop evenings to assist parents and students. Parents also volunteer in many different ways. The science fair requires many helping hands!

We are already discussing plans for next year's fair and anticipate an even more successful event!



Please join the Fremont Police for PITCH, HIT AND RUN--the official skills competition of Major League Baseball--on April 27th at 10:00 AM at Fremont Middle School. This event is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to compete, free of charge, in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball/softball skills.

Boys and Girls are divided into four age divisions (7 years of age to 14 years of age) and have the chance to advance through four levels of competition, including Team Championships at Major League ballparks and the National Finals at the 2013 MLB All-Star Game. Details and pre-registering information are available at the Fremont Police Department.

From Mr. Somers:

Come run the 2013 Dirty Dozen and see if you can Beat Tyler. The event is a 12.5 mile run and will be held on Saturday morning, May 25th. The race starts at the home of Andy Fias on Pat Street (subdivision off Stone north of Fremont). You can earn a T-shirt by completing the full run or by beating Tyler as part of a 3 person relay team. Tyler will be running the full distance. Can you do it? The event is open to all Fremont Public Schools students and staff, and there is no cost. The starting time and more details will be coming as the date approaches.



Building Bridges Preschool



Programs

No Fee – State Funded

Classrooms located in Fremont, Grant, Hesperia, Newaygo, and White Cloud

GSRP – Great Start Readiness Program
State funded program which requires that a child be 4 years old by November 1 of the year they begin school, live within the School District providing services, and that a family meet two or more factors to be eligible.

Children must have at least two eligibility factors that are required by the State. Factors which can qualify a child for the program include things such as child’s development or challenging behavior, certain family circumstances (including age of parent at child’s birth, single parent, unemployed parent, school achievement of family member, loss of family member, etc.), housing status, family health factors, prior eligibility for Early On©, etc. Income can also be a qualifying factor. Screening is provided free by the Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency Early Childhood Staff. (All qualifying factors will be explored at screening appointments.)

Parent Paid Tuition

Classrooms located in Fremont and Grant and Newaygo

Our tuition based program offers the same services as GSRP for those students who do not qualify as at risk. Parents are offered a low cost tuition based preschool experience for their 3 or 4 year old child.

Sessions are scheduled depending on the over-all needs of the preschool population each year.

The Learning Environment

In all of our programs the learning environment and curriculum is presented to help children achieve their individual Preschool Learning Outcomes through active play-based learning. These outcomes cover the areas of Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Social Skills, and Technology, which are aligned with state and national standards. No child will be discriminated against because of race, national origin, sex, age (within program guidelines) or handicap.



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6th ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

FRIDAY, APRIL 26th

for KING & COUNTRY

FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL

5421 S. Warner Ave.
Fremont, MI 49412

DOORS OPEN: 6:30pm
CONCERT: 7pm

EXCLUSIVE MEET & GREET
6:00pm - 6:30pm**

In case you missed it - check out for KING & COUNTRY's performance of "The Proof Of Your Love" on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno! Jay stated, "They performed a song from their debut record, *Crave*, which was it's breakthrough album of 2012!"

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TICKETS

**Exclusive Meet & Greet Tickets \$15 (through iTickets only)
\$5 Student Tickets (sold at Fremont & Grant Schools), or \$10 at the door
iTicket Pre-Sale Tickets \$8 (15 tickets or more \$7/each) www.iTickets.com | 800-965-9324
Questions? Contact Julie Gardenour at 924-7374 (w) or Brenda Woods 924-9826 (h)