

AT  
ALEXANDER  
ELEMENTARY

# PARENTS

Make A  
Difference!



Vol. 6, No. 1 September 2003

A note from:  
*Mr. Wade*  
Elementary Principal

On behalf of our staff we hope your child's school year has gotten off to a wonderful start.

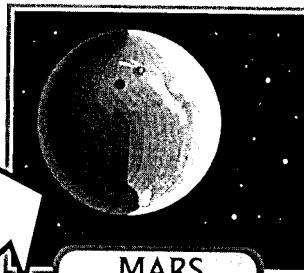
It is our desire that each student has a year filled with rich experiences, loads of achievement and lasting friendships.

We started this year with a circus theme entitled, "Alexander Elementary—the Greatest School on Earth!" Our teachers and staff have worked hard to prepare bulletin boards, displays and lessons emphasizing our theme.

We truly believe Alexander Elementary is the greatest school with the best students, parents and staff around! To keep this tradition strong, we encourage all of our parents to become actively involved in your child's school. An excellent way to do this is through participation in our school's Parent-Faculty Club, Parent-Teacher Conferences, attending special events and volunteering at the school when possible.

If you ever have any questions, suggestions or ideas please do not hesitate to come by my office or call me at 675-4336.

Let's work as a team so that your child can have the best education possible and a future filled with success!



**Mars Closest Approach**  
August 27 marks the closest that Mars and Earth have been since nearly 60,000 years ago! Mars won't be this close again until 2287. Take your children out after dark this weekend and look in the southeastern sky to find Mars. Discuss their future dreams and what life on Earth...or maybe Mars...might be like then!

## What's Up?

**LABOR DAY-** Monday, September 1.  
No School.

**SCHOOL PICTURES-** Friday, September 5

**GRANDPARENTS DAY!-** On Monday, September 8. Grandparents are invited to eat a picnic lunch with their grandchildren. (See more details on reverse side of this newsletter)

**PARENT-FACUTLY CLUB MEETING-** Tuesday, September 9. 6:30 P.M. in the cafeteria.

**PROGRESS REPORTS GO OUT-** Thursday, September 11.

**BUNS (The Rabbit) TRAVELS ACROSS AMERICA ASSEMBLY-** Lower Elementary (Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup>) 1:00 P.M. Upper Elementary (3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>) 2:00 P.M.

**PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES-** Thursday, September 18, 3:30 PM – 6:30 PM  
Friday, September 19, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**PICTURE RETAKES-** Thursday, October 2.

**FALL BREAK-** October 16-17. No School.



# GRANDPARENTS DAY PICNIC

Grandparents Day is officially Sunday, September 7. To celebrate this special holiday and honor our grandparents we are hosting a Grandparent's Day Picnic!

All grandparents that have grandchildren at Alexander Elementary are invited to attend a picnic with their grandchildren on Monday, September 8.

That day the menu includes ¼ lb. hot dogs, chips, carrot sticks, cookie, fruit juicy (Popsicle) and milk. Adult lunches cost \$2.10.

### Lunch Schedules:

Morning Pre-K	10:50 to 11:15
Kindergarten – 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	11:35 to 12:15
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	12:05 to 12:45
4 <sup>th</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12:30 to 1:10

Grandparents are encouraged to bring a picnic blanket and/or chairs. If you would like to attend the Grandparents Day Picnic, please fill out the information below. Once complete, please return the slip below to the school no later than Thursday, September 4.

## SIX REASONS WHY PARENTS NEED TO BE INVOLVED WITH THEIR CHILD'S EDUCATION:

1. When parents are involved, students achieve more, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial background, or the parents' education level.
2. The more extensive the parent involvement, the higher the student achievement.
3. When parents are involved, students exhibit more positive attitudes and behavior.
4. Children from diverse cultural backgrounds tend to do better when parents and professionals collaborate to bridge the gap between the culture at home and the learning institution.
5. Secondary students whose parents remain involved make better transitions, maintain the quality of their work, and develop realistic plans for their future. Students whose parents are not involved are more likely to drop out.
6. The most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which that student's family is able to:
  - a) create a home environment that encourages learning.
  - b) communicate high, yet reasonable expectations for their children's achievement and future careers
  - c) become involved in their children's education at school and in the community.



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## RESERVATIONS FOR GRANDPARENTS DAY PICNIC CELEBRATION

Monday, September 8, 2003

Student's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Grandparent's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Grandparents Eating \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay for meals (\$2.10 each) on Monday, September 8.

**Remember: Please return this completed form to the school to make reservations for lunch no later than Thursday, September 4.**

**"WE APPRECIATE ALL OF OUR GRANDPARENTS!"**