

## *Shimek's Building Blocks for Growth*

*RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, KINDNESS, TRUSTWORTHINESS, PERSEVERANCE*

***"DREAM, DARE, DO (Shimek's School Theme for 2009-10)***

<http://www.iowa-city.k12.ia.us/Schools/Shimek/Shimek.html> (WEB SITE)

Shimek Elementary, 1400 Grissel Place, Iowa City, Iowa 52245 (319) 688-1160

*From the desk of Charles Towers, Principal*

3/10/10

Dear Parents,



We had a tremendous Shimek School Carnival last Saturday, March 6. Thanks to Gara Lockett, Jennifer/Steve Ballard, Amy Gabaldon, Karen Smith, Jen/Karl Lowe & Sublime Catering and to all of the parent and volunteers who made this annual event another success. Also, thanks to the Carnival Booth Chairs and all the parents and teachers who volunteered their time and donations.



Our **silent auction** from last Saturday night had a few left-overs. So here is one last chance to bid on a few items.

1. **Loras Sports Camp**\*\*\$300 Voucher\*\*\*- think of the hours of quiet you'll enjoy while your athlete is away at camp
2. **Two Tracksters**—these are die cast cars (Corvette Z06 and '05 Ford GT) with online racing. Go to [www.tracksters.com](http://www.tracksters.com) for more info. Donated by Hobby Corner at Sycamore Mall.
3. **Rise of Dakrai (Pokemon) DVD**. I cannot confirm, but this critically acclaimed film may have won at Sundance and Cannes.
4. **Omaha's Children's Museum Family Day Pass** (Up to 4 people). Drop your spouse and three kids off, go back to your hotel, and get a good nap and the remote is all yours.
5. **Par-Tee-Zone** 4 passes for mini-golf and 2 passes for the climbing structure. Hours of fun- if you can sneak out and go shopping.
6. **Two tickets to the Des Moines Symphony's Rhapsody and Firebird** Not to be confused with Freebird; you won't be disappointed. March 27 or 28.
7. **Pzazz! Entertainment Center/Fun City** (Burlington). Send the kids back to the hotel room and race on the go-carts. They are super quiet and super fun.
8. **Iowa City Alliance KIXX Soccer Club Spring Registration**- sure you tire of driving to a myriad of kid activities, but few things warm the heart like bragging to a cranky co-worker about your kids' sports abilities.
9. **West Music** - two separate certificates for a free lesson registration. We all love music!
10. **Lauritzen Gardens - Omaha's Botanical Center**. See #4 above- this is for you non-TV watchers.
11. **Eastside Pet Clinic - New Puppy or New Kitten Exam**. Think how guilty you're going to feel for #4 above. You know a new pet is in your future.

E-mail your best bid to [jrmballard@mchsi.com](mailto:jrmballard@mchsi.com) by Friday. I'll let you know if you won. Thanks for all your support in making the silent auction a success!

Jennifer Ballard

## Shimek Help for Haiti

This week (March 8-12), our Shimek Ambassadors are having a coin collection for Haiti Earthquake Relief. If students so choose, please have them bring loose change to school this week to place in their classroom collection container. When these classroom containers are added together, we're hoping to "fill the bucket" in the office to the brim. All the coins collected will be donated to the Red Cross.



Thank you! The Shimek Ambassadors

\*\*\*We will have an assembly in the gym on Tuesday, 3/23 from 2:10-2:25 to present a check from our coin collection to a "Red Cross" representative. Thanks for your donations.

***Thanks to the parents who brought in food and drinks for our teachers during our Parent/Teacher conference day and evenings on Thursday, 2/25/10 and Tuesday, 3/2/10. Thanks to Julie Eisele and Karen Smith who have helped coordinate this over the years. We hope that your parent/teacher conferences were productive and worthwhile.***



### VISITING AUTHOR AT SHIMEK

Our Shimek PTO funded author this year is Mary Amato who will be presenting to all of Shimek students on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.



**Chess Club** will meet one more time on Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> after school in the library. Thanks to James Neal and Max Perkhunkov from the Hawkeye Chess Club for working with our chess students and to Sarah Hansen for making this happen.

### Spring Running Club

We will be offering our spring running club, probably starting sometime in mid-April if our running field is dried out from this winter (look for sign-up sheet in March). Tentatively, we are looking at offering it on Friday afternoons from 3:15-4pm). But our most important necessity is: WE NEED PARENT VOLUNTEERS to help with the kids. If any parent is free to help with our afternoon running club, please contact Tanja Sadecky ([tanja-sadecky@uiowa.edu](mailto:tanja-sadecky@uiowa.edu)) or Scott Hansen ([scott-a-hansen@uiowa.edu](mailto:scott-a-hansen@uiowa.edu)). And please note, no need to be an Olympic Marathon Runner to qualify (b/c we are not!), we mainly just need able bodies to help break the students into smaller manageable groups to do activities. Thank you; I know we are all looking forward to SPRING & WARM WEATHER!



## **KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION on 4/15/10**

*Kindergarten Orientation is Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-3:30. This is a time when we have several speakers talk to parents of kindergartners as our prospective kindergartners spend time with our Kindergarten Teacher and our Teacher Librarian. We will all start at 2:30 in the Kindergarten classroom.*

## **Spring Pictures on Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**



*We are planning to have all students have their picture taken on Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Parents are under no obligation to buy the pictures that will be sent home later. Students can bring a favorite prop with them for this photograph, i.e., band instrument, doll, football, softball glove, etc. If you choose not to have your student(s) photographed, please submit your request to Charlie Towers in writing. Thanks.*

### **Upcoming dates to keep in mind:**

- 1) *Spring Break is March 15-19*
- 2) *Author Mary Amato will be presenting to all of our students on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.*
- 3) *Our last Chess Club is on Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> in the library*
- 4) *Our next P.T.O. meeting is on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.*
- 5) *Opera Iowa will be in the gym Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 a.m.*
- 6) *Spring pictures on Tuesday, 4/13/10 (a.m.)*
- 7) *Kindergarten Orientation on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-3:30*
- 8) *Shimek Talent Show on Thursday, 4/29/10 starting @ 6:30 p.m.*



**We hope that your Spring Break next week is relaxing, fun and safe. School will be back in session on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**