



# Service Learning News

## 9.14.09

by Amanda Kuhen

Dear Parents,

Organic Gardening seems to be the unofficial theme this month for our **middle school** service initiatives!



First, our **middle school** service elective students have been taking inventory of the organic herbs growing in the Old Trail School organic garden, located at the far end of the middle school parking lot. These six students, **Nanak S., Lauren K., Lauren J., Matt R., Tyler W., and Conor B.**, have also been researching how to preserve herbs, how to pot herbs for the winter and how to grow winter herbs outside. Students interviewed Chef Audra and will continue to help provide her with fresh herbs to use in cooking lunches.

And, nearly half of our **middle school** students have already worked in the organic fields at the Crown Point Ecology Center's 130-acre farmland by hand-weeding, harvesting, hoeing, as well various other tasks that are needed on the farm. This is an outstanding opportunity for our students to learn about the workings of an organic farm and to provide a service to an organization that donates 20,000 pounds of fresh vegetables to the Akron/Canton Regional Foodbank each year. The Akron/Canton Foodbank supplies the **Williard Food Pantry**. This is also a wonderful service connection with our **first and eighth grade students** who volunteer and collect supplies for the Williard Food Pantry. To learn more about Crown Point click here: <http://www.crownpt.org/>



Please stay tuned for information about our upcoming fall school-wide service project, which will again benefit the **Leukemia and Lymphoma Society**. Last year we had Old Trail School **Light the Night**, this year Old Trail School will be "**Seeing Red.**"



Again, please email, call, or find me if you have any service learning related thoughts, ideas, or suggestions. My classroom can be found in the Middle School, in Noble Hall, room 706.

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Serving together,

*Mandy*

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