



Jefferson Journal

April 5th is a school day. This was a school make-up day.



March 2010

PTO Meeting

12:00—1:00 APRIL 12th (Monday)

All are welcome to attend. This will be held in the Jefferson conference room.

Mark your calendars! April 19th, at the Expo Building, there will be Pizza and talents. 6:00 we will eat and 7:00 will be the talent show. Come and enjoy the Jaguar talent. Photo booth for pictures will be available too. There are many great talents that will be viewed! All students that attend have an opportunity to win a girls or boys bike. One girl and one boy bike will be given away as DOOR PRIZES! Come join the fun.

Principal's Corner

Box Tops! - Mrs. Kruiter received a cash award for the school of \$1,194.80. Thanks to all! What a Jaguar effort! Continue to save.

During the month of April, the classroom teachers and I will begin placing student into next year's classrooms. We look at many different factors when placing a student in a classroom. To create balanced classrooms, we take into account a child's academic ability and learning style, gender, and personality characteristics. We strive to balance each classroom with the right learning chemistry based on all curricular schedules.

As in the past, we have accepted parent requests for a classroom teacher for their child. If a request is made, please send it through Mrs. Morrow in **writing with an explanation for the request**. This can be in the form of a note or an email. The requests can be made until April 15th. The goal is to finalize classroom lists so as to distribute on your child's report card by the end of May. Thank you for your cooperation.

Special points of interest:

- ☺ April 1st - Pajama and crazy hair day
- ☺ April 2nd - Good Friday - No School
- ☺ April 3rd - Watertown Regional Library presents Storytime Books from 10 - 11:00 am to support the Month of the Military Child
- ☺ **APRIL 5th - SCHOOL DAY** snow make-up day
- ☺ April 12th - PTO meeting 12-1:00
- ☺ April 13th - Student Council meeting @ 11:30
- ☺ April 14th, 15th, & 16th Kindergarten screening
- ☺ April 15th - 3rd gr. Concert @ 7pm in the gym
- ☺ April 19th - Talent Show @ Expo Building
- ☺ April 20th - 6th grade full band practice @ MS band room 3:30 - 4:30
- ☺ April 20th - Band Extravaganza @ 7:30 grades 5th -12th in the auditorium
- ☺ April 21st - 12:30 Early Dismissal (AM kindergarten only)
- ☺ April 22nd- 1st gr. Concert @ 7pm in the gym
- ☺ April 27th - 6th grade band practice @ MS band room 3:30 - 4:30
- ☺ April 29th - 6th grade band practice @ arena 4:30 - 6:00
- ☺ April 29th - Physicals for 6th graders in the AM
- ☺ April 29th - 6th grade Middle School tours
- ☺ April 30th - NO SCHOOL (Friday)
- ☺ May 3rd - 5th & 6th Band Concert 7pm @ High School Arena
- ☺ May 4th - 1st Grade Dairy Farm Trip
- ☺ May 4th - 6th grade Healthy Choices speaker

The Watertown Complete Count Committee for the 2010 Census would like to encourage each household to complete the questionnaire that they receive during the month of March, 2010. The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States. Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. Those funds are used for community services such as school lunch programs and senior citizen centers, and new construction, such as highways and hospitals. Census data is also used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing developments and other community facilities. Census data helps to determine the boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts. Census Day is April 1, 2010. For more information about the 2010 Census, please visit www.2010census.gov

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING - The Watertown School District will register and screen prospective kindergarteners on April 14th, 15th, and 16th at Garfield School. All children who live in the Watertown School District and who will be 5 years of age on or before September 1st, 2010, and who will be attending the public school should register for a screening time. **Please call Garfield @ 882-6399 to set up your child's appointment.**

Registration and screening will take approximately one hour to complete. The children will need to wear tennis shoes for the motor skills portion of the screening. Parents are asked to remain in attendance until registration and screening of their child is complete.

In order to complete registration, parents must bring a certified birth certificate (not hospital certificate) with them when they register. Parents must also present a record of immunizations. Children may not start school without a completed up-to-date immunization record. Remember that the Chicken Pox vaccines need to be given months apart. Please start early completing your child's last required shots.

PRESCHOOL SCREENING - Preschool screening will be held at McKinley School on Friday, May 7th, and Friday, May 14th from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. It is for children who will be 4 years of age on or before September 1st, 2010. Please bring a certified birth certificate (not hospital certificate) and immunization records. **Please call McKinley School @ 882-6350 to set up your child's appointment.**

Social Work Corner

Parenting Tip

Six-year-old Tommy Tighe had a dream: He wanted to create world peace. "Ever since I was four, I had a vision that I could cause peace in the world," he said. "I wanted to make a bumper sticker that says, 'PEACE, PLEASE! DO IT FOR US KIDS, signed Tommy.'"

So he developed his plan with all of the steps from finding out costs and getting a loan, to advertising the bumper stickers and contacting world leaders. Once he decided the plan was a good one, he acted on it. He received responses from many world leaders including Mikhail Gorbachev saying, "Go for peace, Tommy."

He has since sold more than 2,500 bumper stickers and repaid his \$454 loan. He appeared on *The Joan Rivers Show* and when asked if his bumper stickers really made a difference, he replied, "So far I've had it out two years and got the Berlin Wall down. I'm doing pretty good, don't you think?"

Tommy's achievement of his goal demonstrates how children can be successful when they know how to plan ahead and make choices. When Watertown High School students completed the Search Survey in the fall of 2008, 31% indicated that they feel they have planning and decision making skills.

Here are some tips for parents to help strengthen your child's planning and decision making skills:

When your child receives a long-term assignment, offer to help plan in order to finish on time.

When making family decisions, make a list of pros and cons with your child.

Give your teenager full responsibility for cooking a family meal once a month. Give younger children specific tasks in meal preparation.

Encourage a daily to-do. Checking off items can be satisfying.

Allow room for mistakes, but don't rescue your child from the consequences.

Help your child set realistic goals and make a plan to reach them.

Remember that when children know how to plan, they're more likely to make their dreams come true!

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Camp F.A.N. (Fix Asthma Now), formerly called Asthma Camp, will be held June 20-26, 2010 for kids ages 8 to 14 who are on daily asthma medication. Children come from all over South Dakota, northwest Iowa, and south-west Minnesota to attend camp and learn more about how to better manage their lung disease. Daily asthma education sessions are included and a medical support staff is on hand 24/7 to monitor children.

The camp is held at Camp Foster, Spirit Lake, Iowa - just 90 miles east of Sioux Falls.

If you are interested in more information, stop in to your school's office and pick up a brochure. No child will be turned away due to financial reasons.

5TH and 6TH GRADE BAND CONCERT

5th and 6th Band Concert will be Monday, May 3rd at 7pm in the high school arena. The 5th GRADE BAND will have the following additional rehearsals prior to the concert.

****FLUTES, CLARINETS, and SAXOPHONES** will rehearse at the middle school band room on MONDAY, APRIL 12th and THURSDAY, APRIL 22nd from 3:35-4:45.

****TRUMPETS, FRENCH HORNS, TROMBONES, BARITONES and TUBAS** will rehearse at the middle school band room on TUESDAY, APRIL 6th and THURSDAY, APRIL 15th from 3:35-4:45.

****PERCUSSION** will rehearse at the middle school band room on TUESDAY, APRIL 13th from 3:35-4:45.

Students may ride the bus to the middle school and enter the east door of the middle school. Rehearsals will be in the band room. Please make arrangements to pick up your child at 4:45 at the east side of the building.

Rehearsals for ALL 5th graders will be on THURSDAY, APRIL 29th and MONDAY, MAY 3rd from 3:30-5:00 at the HIGH SCHOOL ARENA. These times are the only time they will play together with all the 5th graders. Please make every effort to attend these rehearsals.

Thank you for marking these important dates on your calendar.

Robyn Magstadt

ACCELERATED READING

February AR student winners! These students were selected by their teachers as the next top 2 students in each class. These winners all received a pizza party with Mrs. Morrow and Mrs. Zemlicka.

2 nd JENSEN	2 nd LEININGER	2 nd STEMWEDEL	5 th CHILSON	5 th ROOK	5 th ZINK
Raeanna Zink	Emma Polchow	Jenny Jongbloed	Shad Hemmer	Chantel Grimes	Madison Noeldner
Sidney Weber	Mason German	Allison Endres	Abbie Holter	Kyle Steiner	Trevor Ripplinger
3 rd DESPIEGLER	3 rd HAUGER	3 rd McLAUGHLIN	6 th FEININGER	6 th HARPER	6 th SANDEN
Sarah Christenson	Brenna Bauer	Casper Dabek	Emily Solum	Hailey Hauger	Sidney Braskamp
Parker Rieffenberger	Madisyn Kelly	Jack Bludorn	Amber Ruhr	Sydney Dale	Sawyer Sterud
4 th HURLBERT	4 th MAAG	4 th STRUWE			
Anna Hoffman	Samantha Rasmussen	Owen Rieffenberger			
Kristie Moeller	Hunter Bohls	Ian Carter			



Dakota Step State testing for 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade students will begin on March 29th and continue through April 23rd. Successful testing includes regular school attendance, consistent bedtime, a healthy diet, and exercise.

2009-2010 Elks Coloring Contest

Congratulations Jaguars!

2009 - 2010 Americanism Essay winners

Congratulations 6th graders!

2nd place - Holly Lukonen

4th place - Alayna Walsh

2nd grade - 4th place McKenna Tvedt

3rd grade - 1st place Max Rieffenberger and Jacob Tisher (Tie!)

3rd grade - 2nd place Allison Davis

4th grade - 1st place Jenna Buechler and Cody Block (Tie!)

Enhancing Critical-Thinking Skills in Children: Tips for Parents

Critical thinking is a buzzword among educators, but parents may wonder what it means. Critical thinking has been described as nonlinear, open-ended, and complex thinking; it allows for multiple responses, unspecified answers, various perspectives and interpretations, and recognition of order among chaos. This kind of thinking assists individuals in their quest for greater understanding and responsible, independent inquiry.

Nurturing Critical Thinking at Home

Parents should also foster critical thinking at home. Ask questions that lack a single correct answer, and ask them casually, rather than quizzing your child. If your child is interested in social issues, then engage him or her in thoughtful discussions about them. The personality and interests of children are the keys in interacting with them and addressing critical thinking at home. If interacting aloud is not appealing, take a less direct route by observing your child at play, with others or alone, and determine the level of complexity he or she shows during these activities. Listening to your child and gauging how he or she makes sense of the world will enable you to understand what critical-thinking skills your child uses and whether your intervention is needed at home to extend his or her level of thinking. Parents can demonstrate critical thinking by pondering aloud the most efficient way to do household chores, considering the most economical purchase to make at the grocery store, monitoring your progress toward your personal goals, or approaching social issues in your community. Describing how you think and solve problems is the best way for you to instill similar thinking patterns in your children. The process of thinking, as well as its uniqueness to each individual, should be emphasized through these interactions. The ultimate goal is for youth to employ critical-thinking strategies in everyday life without prompting from parents and teachers. Reasoning at high levels is one of the most valuable skills parents can foster in their children, one that will prepare them for success.—*Elizabeth Shaunessy, PhD*

Paraphrased from: <http://www.dukegiftedletter.com/articles>

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Hot Food...Hot Topics

Thursday, April 8th, County Fair Banquet Hall

6:00p.m. Meal will be provided

6:20p.m. Presentations will begin

Please RSVP the number of family members that will be attending. This evening is geared toward families with 6th – 12 grade youth, but anyone who wants to learn more is welcome to attend.

This FREE community event invites you and your child to come and have supper on us. Presenters for the evening are Detective Sergeant Tim Toomey from the Watertown Police Department and Tim Bjordal, Flight Paramedic for Sanford Intensive Air.

Mr. Bjordal will share with the audience how drunk driving crashes are not accidents. He urges families to talk about these situations early and often to prepare children to make good choices when confronted with alcohol and impaired drivers.

Det. Sgt. Tim Toomey will discuss the legal issues surrounding texting. As a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, Det. Sgt. Toomey has first hand knowledge about the dangers our children are facing in this technological world. Other topics that will be discussed are Online Predators and their tactics to sexually exploit children, Internet Safety, Social Networking sites, Peer to Peer File Sharing, Cyber Bullying, Instant Messaging, Inappropriate texting, Internet Scams and much more. The material is delivered in a manner suitable for all ages.

We know conversations around the dinner table are effective, so we want to provide you with this opportunity! When the evening ends...Your conversation begins. This event is sponsored by the Watertown School District & Watertown Healthy Youth Initiative. **Please RSVP the number of family members attending by Monday, April 5 to Kelli at 884-3518 or kellir@humanserviceagency.org.**



Volunteers Welcome

On the 3rd Tuesday morning of every month, we invite people to join us to help with Foundation projects of all types. Learn more about the Foundation, while taking an active part in "enhancing educational opportunities for students" in the Watertown School District.

Next Volunteer Morning will be April 20, from 9:15 am on, at our office in Garfield School. Please call if you have questions at 882-6399 or e-mail Waneen.polly@k12.sd.us.

Arrow Education Foundation Office at Garfield School www.arrowfoundation.org
(605) 882-6399 or (605) 520-443

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 13 **BISCO BBQ** keynote speaker will be **Don Meyer, "the winningest coach in any division in NCAA men's college basketball history" and winner of the Jimmy V. Perseverance Award at the 2009 ESPN ESPY.** Join us at the Kotadome in the Watertown Event Center with lunch served from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Cost is \$20. Contact the Chamber of Commerce by email coc@watertownsd.com or call (886-5814) for reservations.

October 2 Join us at **Lunkers on the Lake**



Doors of the Future.....

HARVEST

..... help give them the key.



Great Job wrestlers!

