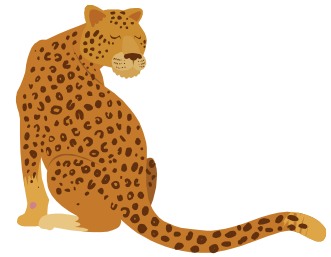




# Jefferson Journal



March 2010

## PTO Meeting

12:00—1:00 March 10th

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. Talent show applications will be going home with your child.

## **Wrestling will begin in March**

Here are the dates: (practices are from 3:20 -4:45)

Practice: March 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 12th

Triangulars & Tournaments: March 4th, 11th, 15th



## *Principal's Corner*

**TRAFFIC** - Thank you parents! Safety is important to all of us. The morning and afternoon drop off and pick up in the circular drive is working. Thank you for being patient with us as we “work the bugs” out of the process. It is very much appreciated that cars are not left unattended in the circular between the times of 8:15 to 8:30 and 3:15 to 3:30. This allows for many more vehicles to pick up and drop off their children in an effective manner. Also, thank you for not parking in the north parking lot as it is for buses and employee parking only. This is due to **SAFETY**. It is not safe for children to walk between the buses to get to vehicles.

**PRIZES** - Mrs. Kruiter has been awarding prizes for bringing in pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Keep collecting pop tabs. Continue to bring in Land O'Lakes milk caps, General Mills box tops, Tyson Labels, Campbells products UPC labels, empty ink cartridges and old cell phones. This helps raise money for “extra” items in your child's classrooms.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY JAGUARS!



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## Special points of interest:

- ☺ March 1st - 5th grade swimming begins
- ☺ March 1st - 6th gr. information night at WMS. 6 pm
- ☺ March 4th - Color Day
- ☺ March 5th - No School
- ☺ March 8th - School Board meeting @ 7 pm
- ☺ March 8th - Middle School comes to Jefferson visit with our 6th graders about next year
- ☺ March 9th - Student Council Meeting
- ☺ March 10th - PTO meeting 12:00 - 1:00
- ☺ March 15th - City wrestling tournament
- ☺ March 17th - 12:30 early dismissal
- ☺ March 18th & 19th - Spring Break
- ☺ March 23rd - 3rd quarter end
- ☺ March 24th - 12:30 early dismissal
- ☺ March 25th and 30th - CONFERENCES
- ☺ April 2nd - Good Friday - No School
- ☺ **APRIL 5th - SCHOOL DAY** snow make-up

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**STUDENT COUNCIL** - The student council has been working hard this year. They are working on the school newspaper which they have named the “Jefferson Jungle”. The publication will be out soon.

\*\*The student council is also very excited about the Talent Show that they have been working on. Our PTO has been helping fund this activity. Thank you PTO!

\*\*They also have chosen "Color Day" to be March 4th. Each grade level will wear a certain color. The grade with the most participation will get 15 minutes of extra recess with Mrs. Morrow. K - solid colors of the rainbow, 1st - red, 2nd - yellow, 3rd - green, 4th - blue, 5th - purple, 6th - black, staff - pink

**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.**

**ATTENDANCE** - Thank you parents for making school a top priority in your child's life. By building the habit of daily attendance, you will help your child see that school is important. Learning builds day by day. A child who misses a day of school also misses a day of learning.

### **Identifying Your Child's Gifts and Talents**

*Step 3: Note only the positive about your child.*

Assessing a child's weaknesses and areas of trouble is a valid and important activity for educational purposes. However, in this realm, it is suggested that you look only at the positive. Sure, this can be hard to do, especially for a child who has a knack for "pressing your buttons," or who displays a significant number of negative traits in his/her behavioral repertoire. But once you start the process, it becomes easier and easier, followed by noteworthy benefits. The following questions may help you get started. When looking for areas of strength, you might ask yourself:

Does my child make friends easily?

Does my child seem interested in the larger social world, rather than just the immediate surroundings?

Does my child have stick-to-it-iveness when it comes to projects?

Is my child well-organized?

Does my child have a passion for music or art?

Is my child good at solving problems that he/she encounters?

Does my child have an unusually kind heart?

Does my child seem to especially enjoy physical activities?

Does my child feel comfortable talking in front of groups?

Do peers tend to follow my child's lead?

Does my child love to build things?

Does my child seem most happy being outside?

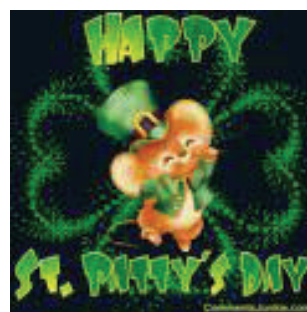
Does my child think math is "fun"?

Does my child love to write?

To get an accurate portrait of your child, devise a schedule that is convenient for you to make your observations. It is recommended that you observe your child at different times throughout the day; as well as in different settings and situations. After you begin to feel comfortable with a procedure of this type, it can become part of the way in which you parent – your "parenting" style, so to speak.

Source: How to Develop Your Child's Gifts and Talents During the Elementary Years,

RaeLynne P. Rein, Ph.D., and Rachel Rein, 1994



As children start kindergarten, parents are quite involved with their education. We attend conferences, cheer on our children at school concerts and events, and hang up schoolwork in the family art gallery: the refrigerator. But sometimes we distance ourselves from school as our children grow older. They're supposed to learn to be independent. Right?

Kids are more likely to grow up healthy when parents stay actively involved in their education. When Watertown High School Students took the Search Survey in the fall of 2008, 30% reported that they have parental involvement in their schooling.

Parents can stay involved in small ways that will make a big difference. For example:

Maintain ongoing communication with your child's teacher(s). Call to check every other month-before trouble appears. E-mail is a wonderful communication tool!

Join the PTO. If you can't volunteer a lot of time, say so. Being involved helps everyone feel more connected to the school!

Volunteer to help in small ways. Check with your child's teacher or school's administrative assistant for opportunities.

Volunteer to speak on career day.

Attend all conferences. If you can't make it on the designated date, arrange to meet at another time.

Remember, your children are proud of you and love having the chance to show you off to their teachers and principal. You make a difference by staying involved!

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## ACCELERATED READING

December 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 <sup>nd</sup> JENSEN	2 <sup>nd</sup> LEININGER	2 <sup>nd</sup> STEMWEDEL			
Danika Schoenefeld	Emma Polchow	Katie Buechler	5 <sup>th</sup> CHILSON	5 <sup>th</sup> ROOK	5 <sup>th</sup> ZINK
Jared Slobotski	Mason German	MasonStoik	Alex Gauer	Sawyer Voge	Anna Broesder
			Chance Odegaard	Grant Carlson	Justine Dabek
3 <sup>rd</sup> DESPIEGLER	3 <sup>rd</sup> HAUGER	3 <sup>rd</sup> McLAUGHLIN			
Kobe Engels	Max Rieffenberger	Madyson Molengraaf	6 <sup>th</sup> FEININGER	6 <sup>th</sup> HARPER	6 <sup>th</sup> SANDEN
Quinn Merriam	RJ Achterberg	Nicholas Hartman	Mitch Seurer	Madison Fox	Brittany Dougherty
			Ross Hurlbert	Tanner Steffen	Joshua Duklet
4 <sup>th</sup> HURLBERT	4 <sup>th</sup> MAAG	4 <sup>th</sup> STRUWE			
Izzy Stroup	Jaxon Yackley	Chet Togel			
Kasidy Tvedt	Jenna Jorgenson	Rumley DeVine			



**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.

6th grade ancient Greeks





## Over \$7,000 Awarded for 3 Jefferson Grants!

Teachers' and students' faces lit with excitement as the Prize Patrol visited Jefferson Elementary. Eight Innovative Education grants were awarded for \$15,000 and the Bunde Elementary Education Grant was awarded for an additional \$5000.

### Congratulations, Jefferson Students!

**\*\*Nooks for Kids** for Jefferson 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students by Jalyynn Feininger for \$1350.00

Mrs. Feininger, through her grant **Nooks for Kids**, will be introducing Nooks - electronic readers - and electronic books to her 6<sup>th</sup> graders as learning tools. Nooks can hold over 1000 books, magazines and newspapers. Readers can highlight, take notes in the "book", listen to the book being read, look words up in the Nook dictionary and more.

**\*\*Up with Learning – thru collaboration and technology** for Jefferson 1<sup>st</sup> Grade students by Heidi Stoick and Denise Lightfield for \$800.00

**Up with Learning-through collaboration and technology** will soon be infiltrating Jefferson first grades. With a mimio bar, a computer and an LCD projector, Mrs. Stoick and Mrs. Lightfield, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers at Jefferson, will be able to convert a stationary white board into an interactive experience for their students to accommodate their diverse learning styles and unique needs. These enhanced experiences should strongly impact student motivation and understanding.

The **Bunde Elementary Education Grant** is a new grant award area. Last year the grant sponsored author and advocate Trudy Ludwig who presented Tools for Addressing Emotional Bullying to all the WSD elementary students. This year's award is:

**Meet the Real D.W.** (from the Arthur series) for All Elementary students by Kathy DeJong, Lincoln 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and Keri Tisher, Jefferson 1<sup>st</sup> grade, for \$5000.00

"**The real D.W.**", a character from the Arthur books series, will be making presentations to all the WSD elementary students next fall. The Real D.W. will talk about how her brother Marc Brown writes and illustrates his books. Mrs. DeJong and Mrs. Tisher met The Real D.W. and they promise this will be a great learning experience and lots of fun.

The other Innovative Education Grant Awards are:

**\*\*John Adams Unbound** for WHS and WMS English and History students by Denise Ottenbacher,-WMS, Jean Moulton,-WHS, and Raynette Schulte, Watertown Regional Library for \$1570.00

**\*\*Nooks for Books** for WMS Blizzard Team students by the Blizzard Team staff for \$1660.00

**\*\*Fundamentals of Physical Science Field Trip to Valleyfair** for WHS FPS Class by George Seilor for \$320.00

**\*\*SMART Response Systems** for WHS Math students by Stephanie Cole, Susan Fairchild and the Math Dept for \$2800.00

**\*\*21<sup>st</sup> Century Microscopes** for WHS Science students by Chris Swiden and Chris Reidburn for \$3000.00

**\*\*Stand Up for Learning** for McKinley 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students by Ron Bergan and Elisa Beutler for \$3000.00

## THANKS

**Thank; for the excellent community support and participation at the PIZZA BASH**, an annual fundraiser, held prior to the Arrows vs. Pierre boys' basketball game! The event brought in over \$2500!

Our generous sponsors for this event were **Godfather's, Pizza, Hy-Vee, and Coca-Cola**. Those providing prizes were: Charley's Restaurant, Lunker's Restaurant, Minerva's, Pizza Hut, Watertown Radio, Roy's Sport Shop and Sioux Valley Co-op Cenex.

Arrow Education Foundation Office at Garfield School [www.arrowfoundation.org](http://www.arrowfoundation.org) [Waneen.Polly@k12.sd.us](mailto:Waneen.Polly@k12.sd.us) (605) 882-6399 or (605) 520-4432



6th grade ancient Greeks!