

The Walnut Street School Newsletter

February

February 4, 2010

Dear Parents,

Below please find a summary of recent highlights along with important information for the month of February.

Report Cards

The second quarter has come to a close. Report cards will be distributed to our students on **February 9th**. Please **do not hesitate to call or email your child's teacher** if you have a question or a concern regarding his/her report card. Our teachers want to see your children achieve their very best. They are eager to work with you to ensure that this happens. The report card that your child brings home is **yours to keep**.

Schools Closed – Our schools will be closed on **February 15th** in honor of **Presidents' Day**.

State Testing

Every year the state tests our students in the content areas of Reading, Writing, and Math. In 8th grade, our students are also tested in Science.

This year, all of our students will be tested from **April 27th – April 30th**. It is very important that our students are in school for this assessment.

Students of the Month

As you know, this year we are emphasizing our character education program in a number of ways. Every month there is a character education trait of the month and our teachers make it a priority to weave this word into their lessons. Additionally, every month at least one student is rewarded for the fine job he/she has done in bringing the word of the month to life. We are doing this because we believe that we need to provide our students with more than academic knowledge in order for them to learn and grow as people.

The character education word of the month for **January** was **Self-Discipline**. The following students were chosen by our faculty for the way that they personified this character education trait:

Grade 6: Unnati Soni

Grade 7: Nick Hubler

Grade 8: Paige Edge

The character education word of the month for **February** is **Citizenship**.

Giraffe of the Month

This year we decided to recognize one student a month who not only represents the character education trait of the month, but who also goes out of his/her way to "stick their neck out" and help others (whether these people be students, teachers, parents, administrators, or other members of our school community). The student selected as the **Giraffe of the Month for January is Allie Jenkins**.

Safety Patrol

We are very fortunate to have a group of dedicated students who volunteer their time to work outside in the cold to make sure that our school is safe. **Mrs. Stuck** works as the Advisor to the Safety Patrol and she does an excellent job teaching and working with these students.

The **Safety Patrol Officer of the Month for January is Leanne Lieberum**.

Collection for the Victims in Haiti

The people of Haiti have been suffering the effects of one of the worst natural disasters of our time. One of our students, Christina Sweet, suggested that we collect and donate much needed supplies to Haiti. Medical and baby supplies were collected at both of our district's schools during the week of January 18th. The Sweets then delivered

the supplies to The Haiti Foundation in Willingboro, New Jersey. Thank you for your donations. Special thanks to **Christina Sweet** and the **Sweet family** for their wonderful suggestion, and for delivering the needed supplies to The Haiti Foundation.

The Walnut Street Student Council raised money for the victims of Haiti during the last two weeks of January. **Lucas Wagstaff** should be commended for coming up with this idea and for leading our students in this initiative.

The money that the Student Council collected will be donated to UNICEF.

Study Island

- All parents should be receiving an emailed report from *Study Island* on a weekly basis. Please email me at jcogan@delanco.com if this is not happening.
- Students can access *Study Island* from home @ <http://www.studyisland.com>.
- Students have been signing up for after school opportunities to increase their quiz scores on topics linked to important skills. The scores that our students earn during these sessions can **replace** the scores that they've earned in class. Any student who'd like to take a *Study Island* reassessment can do so after school on **Tuesday or Friday**. Interested students should **sign-up** in the **main office**.

Officer Phil Assembly

Officer Phil visited our 6th grade students on **Friday, January 29th** @ 10:15 a.m. to help to educate our students on the topics of safety, crime prevention, and responsibility. The presentation was very well done!

Yearbook News

Mrs. Hammell has been doing a great job with the yearbook this year. She would like all parents to know the following:

- The yearbook will cost \$18 this year (only cash will be accepted).
- Yearbook money is due by March 13, 2009.
- If we do not sell at least 100 copies of the yearbook, it will be cancelled and money will be refunded to those who purchased it.

Upcoming Events

- 1) **H1N1 Clinic** on **Friday, February 5th** @ the Pearson School from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- 2) **PTO Meeting** – **Monday, February 8th** @ 7:30 p.m. in the Pearson Conference room.
- 3) On **Wednesday, February 10th**, the **Walnut Street Jazz Band** will attend a **Jazz Festival** at **Rowan University**.
- 4) On **Tuesday, February 16th**, there will be a **6th grade field trip** to the **Philadelphia Art Museum**.
- 5) On **Wednesday, February 17th**, our **8th grade students** will travel to **RHS** for a **mini-orientation**.
- 6) **Valentine Dance** – Walnut Street will hold its annual Valentine Dance on **Friday, February 19th**, from 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- 7) **Meeting for Parents – 8th Grade Dance** – The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 24th** @ Walnut Street at 7:00 p.m.

8) **Talent Show – March 11th @ Walnut Street @ 7:00 p.m.**

9) Our **Concert Band** will be attending the **Teen Arts Festival** on **March 18th**.

PTO Membership

Dues are only \$3.00 to join the PTO. This year, our goal is to have 100% participation for parents and teachers. If you would be interested in joining the PTO, please call Colleen Truncer at 856-764-7476.

Upcoming PTO Events:

- The next PTO Meeting will be **Monday, February 8th** at 7:30 p.m. in the Pearson Conference room.
- Our next Chick-Fil-A spirit night will be **Thursday, April 15th** @ the Delran Chick-Fil-A from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Chick-Fil-A will donate 20% of the sales with a coupon back to the Delanco Schools.

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to call on me at any time with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

John Cogan
Director of Curriculum/Building Administrator
Delanco Township Public Schools