

The Walnut Street School Newsletter

March

March 2, 2010

Dear Parents,

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

Interim Reports

Interim reports for the third marking period will be distributed to our students on **Wednesday, March 3rd**. Please **do not hesitate to call or email your child's teacher** if you have a question or a concern regarding his/her interim report. Our teachers want to see your children achieve their very best. They are eager to work with you to ensure that this happens. The interim report that your child brings home is **yours to keep**.

Schools Closed – Our schools will be closed on **March 12th** for a faculty in-service.

Choral News – **Best wishes** to **Amelia Cherubini** who will be performing in the **All South Jersey Elementary Choral Festival** on Saturday, March 6th, at Lindenwold High School!

Spelling Bee News

Congratulations to **Sarah Adams** and **Paige Edge** for competing successfully in the **Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee** on February 17th!

Green and White Week – This year, **Green and White Week** will take place during the **last week of May**. Mr. Bowyer and I attended our schools' last PTO meeting, and we discussed with the parents whether or not our culminating event at the end of Green and White Week should be held in the evening or during school hours. It was decided that it would be best to hold this event during school hours.

Planning for Green and White Week will take place in the next few weeks. Interested parents will be asked to participate in our Green and White Week activities. Our big Green and White Week celebration will take place **in the afternoon on May 28th**. All parents are invited to attend.

We are looking forward to a great time!

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 February was **Citizenship**. The following students were chosen by our faculty for the way that they personified this character education trait:

Grade 6: Michael Scholtz

Grade 7: Kim Baiada

Grade 8: Lucas Wagstaff

The character education word of the month for **March** is **Enthusiasm**.

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 February is Haley Mitchell.**

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 February is Tim Rottinger.

6th Grade Field Trip – **Special thanks** to **Mrs. Seehafer** for taking our 6th grade students on a field trip to the Philadelphia Museum of Art on February 16th. The students had a wonderful time!

Great Job!

Congratulations to our **winter athletes, Ms. McGovern, Mrs. Harper, Ms. Bozarth and Mr. Styles** on an excellent season!

Mini-Orientation @ RHS

On **February 17th** our **8th grade students** travelled to **RHS** for a **mini-orientation**. **Special thanks** to **Mrs. Harper** and **Ms. McGovern** for chaperoning this worthwhile trip!

From the Desk of the School Nurse

The New Jersey Department of Education requires that all students between the ages of 10 – 18 be screened to detect possible scoliosis. There will be a screening program for scoliosis over the next few weeks. Scoliosis is defined as a condition of the spine in which the spine may curve to the right or left. It is most commonly found during the time of rapid growth and may progress if not treated. The purpose of the screening program is to recognize scoliosis in its earliest stages.

A pupil may be exempt from this examination if you request such an exemption in writing. A form will be sent home with each child to allow you to request an exemption. If the form is not returned, the examination will be performed.

Please feel free to contact the school Nurse with any questions.

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**.

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) Our schools will hold a **District-Wide Spelling Bee** on **March 8th** at **10:40 a.m.** at the WSS.
- 2) **Talent Show** – The Talent Show will take place on **March 11th** at **7:00 p.m.** in the WSS auditorium. There will be a dress rehearsal on **March 10th** at **7:00 p.m.** at the WSS.
- 3) **Teen Arts Festival** – Our Concert Band will be attending the Teen Arts Festival on **March 18th**. The event will take place at Pemberton Campus of Burlington County College.
- 4) **Upcoming Dance** – Walnut Street will hold its next dance on **Friday, March 19th**, from 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- 5) **Pi Day** – We will have a Pi Day assembly at the WSS on **March 26th**.
- 6) **Spring Musical** – The Spring Musical is scheduled for **March 31st** in the WSS auditorium.
- 7) The **8th Grade Baltimore Inner Harbor Trip** is scheduled for **June 11th**.
- 8) The **8th Grade Dance** is scheduled for **June 12th**.

PTO Membership

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

The next PTO Meeting will be held on **Monday, March 8th @ 7:30 p.m.** in the Pearson Conference room.

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