

# The Walnut Street School Newsletter

## November

November 3, 2009

Dear Parents,

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

### Report Cards

**Report cards will be distributed on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.** You will receive a telephone message on the 19<sup>th</sup> as a reminder. The report card that your child brings home is **yours to keep**. Please do not hesitate to contact the school (or your child's teacher) with any questions or concerns.

### Early Dismissal/School Closing Information

11/5 & 11/6	NJEA Convention	School Closed
*11/20, 11/23, & 11/24	Parent/Teacher Conferences	12:40 Dismissal
*11/25	Thanksgiving Recess Begins	12:40 Dismissal
11/26 & 27	Thanksgiving Break	School Closed
12/4	Staff In-Service	School Closed

\*The Student Council will be selling **pretzels** and **water** on these half days.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences this year will be held from **1:10 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** on the days noted above. We look forward to seeing you!

### H1N1 Vaccination Clinic

On **November 20<sup>th</sup>**, from **1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** the Burlington County Health Department will be holding an H1N1 vaccination clinic for school age children in the Pearson cafeteria. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

### Student Council

Congratulations to **Tim Hansen** who is a newly elected homeroom representative for 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year. Tim's name was unintentionally left off of our October newsletter, and we wanted to thank him for his service and praise him for this achievement.

### Students of the Month

As you know, this year we are emphasizing our character education program in a number of ways. We have a new character education trait to celebrate every 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 October was **Respect**. The following students were chosen by our faculty for the way that they personified this character education trait:

*Grade 6: Samantha Jalkowski*

*Grade 7: PJ Szudera*

*Grade 8: Evan Radcliffe*

These students will be formally recognized at our next Board of Education meeting on November 11<sup>th</sup>. If you happen to run into one of them, please congratulate him or her on a job well done!

The character education word of the month for November is **Helpfulness**.

### 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 October is **Alexis Johnson**.

### Safety Patrol

We are very fortunate to have a group of dedicated students who volunteer their time 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 the month of October is **Sarah Adams**.

### Congratulations, Mock Election Winners!

Below is a list of this year's 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mock Election winners:

*Mayor: Connor Truncer*

*Deputy Mayor: Jonathon Jennings*

*Township Committee: Allie Jenkins, Sasha Chang, and Tim Hansen*

These students will be attending and participating in a **Township Committee Meeting** at Delanco's **municipal building** at **7:30 p.m.** on **November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Special thanks to **Mr. Shields** and everyone at the municipal building.

### Breakfast Reminder

Breakfast is available for our students this year. Students that qualify for our free and reduced program are entitled to either a free breakfast or a breakfast at the reduced price of \$.30. Full price for breakfast is \$1.00.

### Picture Day

Students who were absent or would like to retake their pictures will be able to do so on **November 19<sup>th</sup>**.

### Yearbook

**Mrs. Hammell** is working hard on the yearbook. She's asking that all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students bring in a **baby picture** by **December 22<sup>nd</sup>**. She'll only keep the pictures for a few days so that she can scan them into the computer.

### Canned Food Drive

The Walnut Street School Student Council will sponsor its annual canned goods drive in cooperation with the Knights of Columbus. During these hard times, hundreds of needy families will be helped at holiday time. Your generous cooperation will be sincerely appreciated. The drive runs the first two weeks of December. We will be collecting all canned food donations at school.

### Study Island

- All parents should be receiving an emailed report from *Study Island* on a weekly basis. Please email me at [jcogan@delanco.com](mailto:jcogan@delanco.com) if this is not happening.
- 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**.

### Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week was celebrated the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>. Students engaged in a variety of anti-drug activities throughout the week. Special thanks to **Ms. Hutchinson** and **Mrs. Rafanello** for all of their hard work!

### Thank You, PTO!

Special thanks to our **PTO** for treating our students to ice cream sundaes at this year's Halloween Dance!

### Riverside Marching Band

Special thanks to **Mr. Mount**, **Mr. Phillips**, and the **Riverside High School Marching Band** for the wonderful show they put on for our students on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>!

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to our **Field Hockey** and **Soccer** teams on an excellent season! Special thanks to **Coach Harper**, **Coach McGovern**, and **Coach Styles** for all of their hard work.

### Upcoming Events

**The Walnut Street Drama Club** will be holding a bake sale on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> (from 1 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) in front of the Beneficial Bank and the Delanco Federal Savings Bank.

A meeting for 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents interested in preparing for the **8<sup>th</sup> grade dance** will be held on **November 16<sup>th</sup>** at **7:00 p.m.** at Walnut Street.

**The Walnut Street Drama Club** will put on a performance of "The Greatest Sideshow on Earth" on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$4.00. Special thanks to **Mr. Shields** and **Mr. Mount** for all of their hard work.

### 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 are interested in joining the PTO, please call Colleen Truncer at 856-764-7476.

Upcoming PTO Events:

- 1) **Holiday Auction** – Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> (more information will be coming home soon)
  - 2) **Breakfast with Santa/Little Shoppers' Shop** – Saturday December 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Pearson All-Purpose Room (more information will be coming home soon)
  - 3) **Next Meeting** – **November 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.** in the conference room at the M. Joan Pearson School
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On behalf of the Walnut Street faculty and staff, I want to extend our best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

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