



Jefferson Journal



October 2010

The next PTO meeting will be held on October 6th from noon to 1:00. Bring your lunch. Join the fun. All are welcome to be part of the parent/teacher organization.

PTO Updates:

- Meetings will now be held on the 1st Wednesday of every month instead of the third Wednesday.
- Thank you to all that helped with the Open House.
- Yearbook volunteers are needed.
- October is hot lunch month. Join your child for lunch. Thank you volunteers for helping with this.
- Turkey Bingo will be held on November 15th at the Expo Building.
- Thanks to all who paid their PTO dues. You may still donate to our organization.

President - Kami Canfield

Secretary - Heidi Fiechtner

Treasurer - Heather Engstrom

Event Coordinator - Angie Sycks



Special points of interest:

- ☺ Sept. 30th - Fire Safety House for 3rd graders
- ☺ Oct. 1st - Night Creatures Presentation @ 10:25 AM
- ☺ Oct. 1st - Midterms sent home
- ☺ Oct. 5th - Elementary X-country run
- ☺ Oct. 6th - Youth Ag Day for 3rd grade
- ☺ Oct. 6th - PTO Meeting 12-1:00
- ☺ Oct. 11th - NO SCHOOL - Native American Day
- ☺ Oct. 13th & 14th - DW Presentations
- ☺ Oct. 14th - 7 PM in the Jefferson Lunch room, will be another DW presentation.
- ☺ Oct. 22nd - Picture retakes
- ☺ Oct. 26th - Volleyball day for 5th and 6th graders
- ☺ Oct. 27th - Early Dismissal - AM Kindergarteners are here
- ☺ Oct. 29th - 1st Quarter end

Principal's Corner

FAMILY IN NEED:

Allison Kjellson and her children's house burned to the point where everything inside was destroyed. They incurred over \$20,000 worth of damage to their home. If you can help, here is what is needed: Furniture - beds, dressers, tables etc. Gunnar wears a size 10/12 and Jazzlyn wears a size 7/8. If you can help, Allison's number is 520-3760. (Allison also has a 7th gr. son, preschool daughter, and a baby girl.)

LIST SERVE:

Many of you signed up for the list serve on open house night. Please continue to do so if you haven't yet. The information is in your family packet you received. This list serve will enable you to receive copies of the newsletter through your email. This will save on paper. We will continue to send a hard copy until we have it running smoothly. Technology is great when it works, so we will do our best to make this seamless.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences are November 4th and November 9th. In the spring the conferences will be held on March 24th and March 31st. In October, a conference schedule will be sent home to make your date and time selection. These same times will also be used for the spring conferences.

TRANSPORTATION

Thank you parents for working with the Jefferson staff to keep safety at a premium. For families that are new to dropping off and picking up your child in the circular, please park on the west side of the circular and have your child/ren exit on the west side of your car onto the sidewalk. Please move down the circular until you reach an opening and park. Once your child/ren has been dropped off, then you may pull out into the moving lane (on the east side of the circular). It is imperative that you are parked by the sidewalk before you let your child out. This is a safety issue.

Also, please discuss with your child about staying on sidewalks and not walking in-between cars. There was an accident in town recently where a child darted between two vehicles and received minor injuries. This accident hopefully raised all of our awareness of what we do as an adult. If we run with or without our children "darting" between cars, we are modeling poor behavior.

Thank you for not parking in the staff parking lot before and after school. This area is reserved for the busses only. We do not want our children darting in and out of the bus area. This is for everyone's safety.

GATE

Those families that have children in GATE can read information online. The Gifted and Talented website is watertown.k12.sd.us/gate

THE REAL DW! (Thursday, October 14th @ Jefferson Elementary School @ 7 PM)

The Watertown Arrow Education Foundation presents Kim Brown ~ the Real DW! Bring a child, bring a friend, please come join us! Kim Brown is the little sister and inspiration for the ARTHUR book and PBS TV series character D.W. Kim's big brother, Marc Brown, has entertained children for years as an author and illustrator of award winning children's books.

Come join the fun and learn how Marc Brown writes a story and illustrates a book from start to finish using original sketches from actual books he has written; watch a show of Arthur in the famous Macy's Day Parade and learn how to draw Arthur on your own through an eight-step formula.

FLU SHOTS Mark your calendars. Flu shots will be available on November 4th and 9th.

For the fourth year, free seasonal flu vaccine will be available for children aged 6 months through 18 years. This year the Department of Health is also making Tdap vaccine available to all children aged 11-14 years.

Tdap vaccine protects against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough). Several states are reporting outbreaks of whooping cough. In South Dakota, many parents are unaware that a Tdap booster is recommended for their adolescent children.

Influenza vaccination helps protect children from the flu and its complications and decreases the spread of influenza in the community, as children are often the biggest spreaders of the disease to adults and other children. During the 2009-2010 flu season 69 % of South Dakota's cases were children 18 and younger and 50% of flu-related hospitalizations were for children 18 and younger.

The influenza and Tdap vaccines can be safely given at the same time. The state is supplying the vaccines free of charge, and there will be no administration fee at school-based clinics.

Vaccination clinics for all eligible infants and children will be held at the **Watertown Middle School on Thursday, November 4th, 2010 and Tuesday, November 9th, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Parents/guardians are encouraged to come to the clinic to be with their child when the vaccine is administered. If you would like your child to receive the vaccine but are unable to attend the clinic, you may designate another adult to bring your child. Parents/guardians will need to complete the following:

Review the Vaccine Information Statements carefully - keep for future reference

Complete one or both of the consent forms for the vaccine/s you wish your child to receive; All children are eligible for Flu vaccine; Children aged 11-14 who need a booster are eligible for Tdap vaccine; Send completed consent form/forms with designated adult.

Vaccine Information Statements and consent forms can be found online at <http://doh.sd.gov/WhoopingCough/default.aspx> and <http://doh.sd.gov/Flu/Default.aspx>.

Some children age 8 and younger will need 2 doses of flu vaccine this year

Children aged 6 months – 8 years who did not receive any 2009-10 H1N1 vaccine need 2 doses separated by 4 weeks.

Children aged 6 months – 8 years receiving seasonal flu vaccine for the first time need 2 doses of vaccine separated by 4 weeks.

Children aged 6 months – 8 years who received seasonal flu vaccine for the first time last year but only had 1 dose need 2 doses separated by 4 weeks.

If you have questions about the vaccines or the scheduled clinic, please contact the South Dakota Department of Health in Codington County at 882-5177.