



## PTO Meeting

12:00 - 1:00

Thursday,

November 12th. All are welcome to attend. This will be held in the Jefferson conference room. Bring your lunch.

# Jefferson Journal



November 2009

## *Principal's Corner*

**Congratulations!** Once again Jefferson Elementary School is named the President's Challenge State Champion school by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. The "FIT FOR LIFE" program that Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Hodorff run assists in making our children champions of fitness. Thank you parents for supporting your children in their physical activities.

**Congratulations!** Mrs. Sharese Jensen won teacher of the month from the Coteau Shopper. She is one of our Jefferson 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers. Mrs. Jensen has been teaching for 26 years and loves to be with her students. She enjoys reading, scrapbooking and walking. It is a pleasure having such a wonderful teacher teaching your children.

**Traffic** - The traffic is getting better in the circular drive, but we still need some improvement. Please be conscience of the traffic behind you. As it gets closer to 8:30 in the morning, dropping off your child directly in front of the front door creates a traffic jam in the street. Please go as far as possible to drop off your child during these times. Thank you for not parking in the north parking lot. It is not safe for your children to walk between the buses to get to vehicles. Thank you.

### **INTERNET SAFETY**

November 16, 2009 @ 7pm in the DD Miller Auditorium is a presentation regarding the potential risks relating to the internet. Topics included in the presentation are Online Predators and their tactics to sexually exploit children, Internet Safety, Social Networking sites, Peer to Peer File Sharing, Cyber Bullying, Instant Messaging, Sexting, Internet Scams and much more. Detective Sergeant, Tim Toomey with the Watertown Police Department will present. He is currently assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division. He is a member of the SD Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. All are welcome to attend.

### **Attendance**

The district attendance numbers are back where they should be at this time of year. There were a few weeks where illness was high. Thank you for keeping your child home for 24 hours after their fever breaks from an illness. This will help keep some of the germs out of the building.

One thing I would like to clarify. Sometimes I have heard parents say, "It only took my child an hour to get the absentee homework done. They must not have done much in school today." When your child is home sick, it is very difficult for a teacher to send home "everything" that was completed that day. Some activities just can't be made up at home. Teachers are the most valuable tool in the school for your child's learning. When your child is gone, some learning simply can't be made up. Sometimes a worksheet might be sent home that takes 5 or 10 minutes to complete, but that same worksheet at school may have been used for 30 to 40 minutes to work on with interactive activities. Those interactive activities are lost from your child's learning.

## Cont. *Principal's Corner*

### Concert dates:

Some parents have been wondering about the tentative dates for concerts this year.

1<sup>st</sup> grade will be April 22<sup>nd</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> grade December 10<sup>th</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> grade April 15<sup>th</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> grade December 1<sup>st</sup>

5/6 grades December 14<sup>th</sup> @ the DD Miller Auditorium

### Parent tips

- Schedule daily homework time.
  - Read together every night (10 minutes a night M-F is 50 EXTRA minutes a week! That is 43 more hours per year. Wow!)
  - Keep in touch with the school.
  - Offer praise and encouragement. Look for the "good" things your child is doing and compliment them on that.
- Volunteer in the school. (ex. Field trips, room parents, take home projects and having lunch with your child)

Sincerely,

Mrs. Morrow

## PTO NEWS

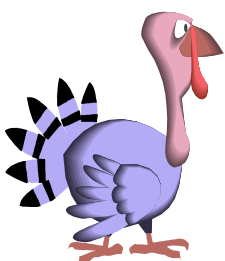
PTO News - We are looking for families and businesses to donate \$5, \$10, or \$15 prizes to **Turkey Bingo** this year which will be held on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please take prizes to the office by Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> if you are interested.

For questions or to put your name on the PTO volunteer list please email Kami at [kcanfiel@firstpremier.com](mailto:kcanfiel@firstpremier.com)

**JAG wear** order is starting again. A JAG hooded zip up sweatshirt will also be available. JAG wear makes great Christmas gifts for the whole family. Forms will be handed out conference night and Bingo night.

If you would like to be a **room parent**, please don't hesitate to call Mrs. Morrow to help get your name on the list to help. All those that have already signed up, thank you!

### Turkey Bingo



# U P C o m i n g E V e n t s

November 4<sup>th</sup> - Officer at lunch

Once a month a police officer will come and eat lunch with the students.

November 4<sup>th</sup> - SD Symphony will present to the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders from 1:15 - 2:00

November 6<sup>th</sup> - No Kindergarten (conference day)

November 10<sup>th</sup> - Joe Foss Institute Veteran's Day Program for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades @ the DD Miller Auditorium @ 1:45.

November 11<sup>th</sup> - No School - Veteran's Day

November 12<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will give speeches for student council positions

November 12<sup>th</sup> - PTO meeting at 12:00 in the Jefferson conference room. All are welcome to attend.

November 13<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade vote for representative, secretary, vice president, and president

November 16<sup>th</sup> - Internet/Electronic Device Safety Presentation (protecting our children on-line.) @ 7pm

November 18<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade health talks in the afternoon

November 23<sup>rd</sup> - TURKEY BINGO (6:00 - 8:00 @ the extension building)

November 25<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade go to the GOSS King Tut Exhibit from 8:45- 10:45

November 25<sup>th</sup> - 12:30 early dismissal

## BULLYING

The author, Trudy Ludwig, shared her stories that she has written about bullying. The children enjoyed her presentation and she gave the students' tools on what to do if they ever feel bullied.



## KID DAVIE

Kid Davie entertained the students while sharing his message on balanced living, hard work and cooperation. The teachers pictured from left to right are: Mr. Zink (5<sup>th</sup>), Mrs. Harper (6<sup>th</sup>), Mr. Sanden (6<sup>th</sup>), Mrs. McLaughlin (3<sup>rd</sup>), Mrs. Hurlbert (4<sup>th</sup>), and Mr. Maxwell (PE). Ask your child how the teachers were cooperating.



*“Enhancing educational opportunities for students”  
Innovative Education Grants Awarded!!!!*

The Arrow Education Foundation awarded four new fall grants to teachers who have great ideas for creatively enhancing student learning opportunities!

**Congratulations, Jefferson students!** The following grant was awarded to your school:

- **Flipping for Learning** - Flipping flip-open cell-phone sized video cameras....that is. All Jefferson 5<sup>th</sup> graders will use the video cameras as tools “to create a series of video podcasts integrated into the curriculum areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking/Listening, and Social Studies.” Total cost of this innovation will be \$1380. Now I KNOW that 5<sup>th</sup> graders are waaaaaay ahead of me. I have signed up for the first tutorial the students give to bring others along.

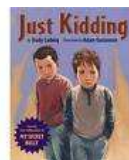
Other grant awards were

- **Art & Writing Competition** for All Lincoln Elementary students by Deb Eisenbeisz and Heather Eide. Granted \$1100.00
- **Frisbee Fun: Lifetime Sports in Watertown** for WMS Blizzard Team and WMS Physical Education students by Maure Weinkauf and Denise Ottenbacher. Granted \$560.00

The first **Marty Kranz Health and Physical Education Fund** grant award was

- **Dance, Dance Revolution** for All Lincoln Elementary students by Matti Kranz. Granted \$2070.00

[www.arrowfoundation.org](http://www.arrowfoundation.org)(605) 882-6399 or (605) 520-4432



***Understanding our Kids Social Worlds: Friendships, Cliques and Power Plays***

Author and advocate Trudy Ludwig held interactive programs with all 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to raise awareness and build skills in dealing with relational bullying. Learning sessions were also provided for parents and community members, as well as educators. This program was sponsored by a grant from the Foundation's **Marlys D Bunde Elementary Education Grant Fund**.

Ludwig's books *My Secret Bully*, *Just Kidding*, *Sorry!*, *Trouble Talk* and *Too Perfect* are available at school and public libraries.

HARVEST 2009



*“Reaping Funds and Friends for Education”*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> HARVEST on Oct 3, 2009 was the most successful ever! The Foundation greatly appreciates the overwhelming support for the work of the Foundation from alumni and friends, both individuals and businesses.

We invite you to join us next year in early October in again supporting excellence in education in Watertown.