

JLE News Flash

Notes from the principal # 7

January 22, 2009

Waiting for the Thaw

It certainly has been a rough winter so far, and it hasn't even been a month yet! Already we've had 5 snow days, one more than we figured for; and thus, school will be in session on Friday, April 17th. This was to be the last day of Spring Break. If we have any more snow days, then we will come to school on April 16th, then April 15th, etc. Let's hope the timing of our future storms doesn't affect school!

We remind you that children should come to school adequately dressed and preferably in layers, as classroom temperatures can fluctuate. Please label your child's accessories. We have many, many found mittens and hats, some scarves, sweaters, and coats - without names. If your child is missing something, please let us know and we will try to find it for you, or check in with lost and found. Items unclaimed at the end of the year will be recycled.

Construction Going Well, But Calls for Caution

The construction project is going well and is on schedule. The frame is up, cement floors have been poured, and the infrastructure is being worked on. Students continue to get a view of the process and we hope to be able to post some pictures on our web site.

With the number of vehicles in and out, the need for access to the site, protected areas, etc., we have major traffic and parking problems. These pose a hazard to our students and staff. Once again, we ask that you observe posted signs, park only in designated areas, take up one space only when parking, do not attempt to enter the bus area between 2:00 and 2:30, or when busses are in the area in the morning. It is a punishable offense to pass a bus that is unloading and has its flashers on. We **will** write down your license number and **will** report it. Our students are our first concern, and we must all watch out for their safety. Please help us out by observing our safety rules. It's better to be a few minutes late than to take a life or cause serious injury.

People picking up their children from pre-k must be in and out by 2:05. If you are picking your child up early, you will not get out of the bus lane after 2:05. You know not to come in there, so don't. The busses will block you in and you will be stuck until they leave at almost 2:30. They are supposed to be there. You're not. The more you argue with us about it, the further delay there will be. We will do our best to move you to a safe place where you will not interfere with busses that are loading, and will move you out as quickly as we can. We anticipate that by next fall, the drop off and parking areas will be reconfigured and there will be separate areas for the busses and parents. Keep your thoughts on the future! It will get easier!

Habitat for Humanity Information Session

Habitat for Humanity will soon be building another house in the Mill Street area. An information session for potential applicants will be held at John L. Edwards on Thursday evening, February 12th, at 7:00 p.m. Applications are available at JLE and the Hudson Area Association Library. If you are a potential applicant, please come to this meeting on the 12th. Pick up an application before that, as much information needs to be provided. All applications must be into Habitat by the 17th of February.

T -Shirt Orders Being Filled

There was a slight delay in the processing of the orders for JLE T-Shirts. These are the shirts with JLE's logo on the front and our motto on the back. We filled some orders and will order what we need to complete the requests. We have several navy youth medium and youth large shirts. These are \$8 each. If you would like one of these, or another size, please let us know asap.

The other order form you received was for the district Blue Hawk shirt. These are being sold by Greenport's parent teacher organization - HOPE.

Beyond Paper and Pencil Family Night Wednesday

Please be sure to come and bring your child to family night on this coming Wednesday, January 28th, at 6:30 p.m. The attached flyer will give you more information. This is a great opportunity to see what your children are doing and how music and movement can be integrated into literacy. Parents are welcome and encouraged to join in, but it is not a requirement of attending! Additional family nights are scheduled for March and May. Teachers continue to report how involved children are in this project and the enthusiasm that is generated by their participation.

Remaining January Programs at the Hudson Area Association Library

Friday, January 23rd - 3:00 p.m. Family Movie - "The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh"

Saturday, January 24th - 11:30 a.m. Story and Art Hour with Mrs. Enid

Tuesday, January 27th - 3:00 p.m. Mrs. Getty's January Jewels for grades 1 and 2 - come hear stories and work on crafts and other projects

Friday, January 29th - 3:00 p.m. Family Movie - "Alice in Wonderland"

Saturday, January 30th - 11:30 a.m. Story and Art Hour with Mrs. Enid
For more information, please call the library at 828-1792.

Girls' Softball League Starts New Division

This year the Hudson Junior Girls Softball League will have a division for 6 to 8 year olds. This expansion of the league is geared towards the continued promotion of girls' softball in our community. Registration is \$25 a season and will take place on Thursday, January 22nd from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, January 24th from 10 a.m. to noon at Greenport Pumper # 3 on Washington Blvd. in Greenport.

For any information, contact Beth Haring, President, at 828-3731.

We did send forms home and have a few available in the office. This is a great opportunity for our girls. Yes, spring will arrive - eventually.

The league is also interested in volunteers who are willing to act as a coach, coach's assistant, or dug-out mom. Volunteers make the league work. If interested, please call Mrs. Haring.

Other Opportunities for Fun

Hudson Youth Department - Basketball program started in January. Contact George Bednar at 828-0017

Boys Scouts - Meets Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall. Contact Peter Wooster at 828-1741

Girl Scouts - Contact Anna Marie Allen at 828-0772

Karate - Saturday Mornings from 9:00 - 10:00 at the Hudson Youth Center. Free. Call 828-0017.

Swimming - Hudson High Pool, Open Swim Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. \$1.50 for students and seniors. \$2.00 for adults. Call 828-4360, extension 3115.

Time and Space Limited - Recycled Instruments with Enrico Scull; A workshop on January 31st, from 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. for children 3- 6 years old and their parents. Cost \$5 per child for members; \$7.50 per child for non members. Make instruments and then use them in a performance with Uncle Rock at 1:00 p.m. Call TSL at 822-8448 to register.

Peanut Butter Ban

In view of the recent outbreaks of Salmonella over peanut butter, the Hudson City School District is only serving Smuckers Peanut Butter and Jelly pockets. These have been declared as safe. Cathy Drumm, Director of food services, has been in contact with the Health Department and other appropriate agencies regarding this issue.

Dates to Remember

Tuesday	February 10	Dismissal at 11:15, ½ day staff development
Monday - Friday	February 16 - 20	Winter Recess, schools and offices closed
Monday - Friday	March 9 - 13	Spring Book Fair
Thursday	March 12	Curious George Family Festival
Wednesday	March 18	Spring Portraits
Wednesday	March 25	Beyond Paper and Pencil - family night (tentative)
Friday	March 27	Superintendent's Conference Day - no school

Head Lice - Expected Aggravation

Head lice is an unfortunate visitor to places where many people come together. One such place is school. Lice are so tiny that they are almost invisible to the naked eye. The eggs, or nits, are also sticky, like glue, and virtually glue themselves to strands of hair. They are difficult to remove and literally have to be picked off one by one. (Reference the phrase “nit picking.”)

One mom has written a letter about her experiences with her daughter's head lice and she would like to share this with others. She has also done considerable research and has put together a packet of information for those who may be interested. If you have experienced lice in your household, and/or would like more information, please contact us. We will share mom's letter and her information. Two web sites are Headlice.org and headlicetodeadlice.com.

Following the recommendations of the National Pediculosis Society, the Hudson City School district has a “no nit” policy. If nits or live lice are discovered in a child's hair, the child is sent home along with information about methods of treatment. Our school nurse can point out to parents what to look for. If in doubt, she recommends seeing a physician. Children must remain home for 48 hours, and be cleared by the school nurse before being allowed back in. All children are screened at least twice a year - usually in September, and then in the early spring, when outbreaks tend to occur. If head lice are discovered in a child, then the entire class is checked as well as the classes of their siblings and those whom the child may have come in contact with. Notices are sent home to the students in the class of the child with head lice, advising them what to look for.

Classroom rugs are vacuumed daily, shampooed periodically, and removed for a period of time after an outbreak and shampooed before being placed back in class. Important to remember is that the home must also be treated. This can be the worst! Everything must be vacuumed including the mattress, furniture, carpets, etc. Bedding and clothes need to be washed. Stuffed animals should be bagged for two weeks at least. Treating your child's head, and not the home, will do nothing to solve the problem. It will only manifest itself again. Some parents request advice on how to get rid of it. Others don't want any part of us. Time out of school can be costly to a student's academic life, so we do encourage you to work with us so we can get your child back in school as soon as possible. **While head lice is a real nuisance, it should not be an embarrassment, nor should there be a stigma attached to it. It happens.** Based on this mom's concerns, we will have a parent night addressing this issue in early spring. You may also want to review the section on head lice on p. 10 of the parent section of the agenda book. This reviews much of the information presented here.