

# Terrier Times

April 2012



Washington  
School for the Deaf



## From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

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Ready, Set, Go! Our Deaf Academic Bowl (DAB) team is ready to go. They will be competing at Gallaudet University in Washington DC from April 12 - April 16. See the article on pg. 4.

Our Middle School math whizzes will be travelling to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester, NY, from March 30 - April 1 for the National Middle School Math Competition. They, too, have been busy with their preparations and fundraising. Our math team includes Mira Stapleton (7th), Brandy Pietsch (7th), Noah Tufton (8th) and Coach Stowe Beecher. Check out the National Math Competition website here: <http://www.ntid.rit.edu/prospective/mathcounts/>.

Spring Break!  
April 2-6, 2012

Good luck to our WSD academic athletes and our deepest appreciation to all of the donors, both individual and organizational, who have helped sponsor our teams this year.

Mark your calendars for **All Star Day** on May 24th. More information to come in the May newsletter.

The school year is quickly coming to a close. What do you and your family have planned this summer? Summer activities offer a great opportunity to build your child's background knowledge. Vacations to other states offer the opportunity for your child to learn about maps and geography. Visits to zoos, museums, state parks and other recreational activities offer the opportunity to talk about nature, the outdoors and even how mechanical things work. Providing your child with the names of things and places and talking about what you will do, making plans and introducing time concepts and sequencing like what will happen first, second, next, before and after will go a long way to developing background knowledge and literacy skills. Learning shouldn't stop when the school year ends. Think about your summer plans and how you can make them enriching learning experiences for your child.

WSD's graduation is June 6 at Ft Vancouver High School. Plan to join us on graduation night and wish our graduates well as they begin the next phase of their lives.



Statewide Open House  
May 10-11, 2012

April 26, 2012

Prom



[www.wsd.wa.gov](http://www.wsd.wa.gov)

## Nurses' Corner

Joyce Sjoberg, RN & Jon Tannler, LPN, Linda Meier, RN (on-call)

### Grow with them!

Think back to your childhood! Can you remember any interactions with plants or a garden that made an impression on you? I can remember the first time I learned about sunflowers. I was at my aunt's house and she showed me how you can plant a seed and see how this small seed ends up making more seeds through the flower. I was in awe that a plant could do this. Another time I "discovered" the softness of lamb's ear. The amazement that a plant's leaves could feel so soft was a memory that remains with me today.

I still remember the smell, the feel and the joy! So can our children! Children should be able to encounter the natural world hands on. They should be encouraged to look, feel, smell, listen, and taste. To do this safely, plants selected for the garden should not be dangerous for children. Avoid plantings that have thorns or that are poisonous. Additionally, an adult should be interacting with the children. This provides an example for the children but also helps the adult(s) understand what children need to learn and grow. Through these encounters, children will be able to better develop their listening and observation skills.

Children can learn where fruit and vegetables come from and how they help our bodies. Imagine the look of the child when they pull out the carrot from the ground or pick an apple from the tree. I cannot imagine a better way to appreciate our natural food.

We can setup our own gardens. I have lavender and bamboo surviving our challenging weather. I have nasturtiums, poppies and forget-me-nots sprouting in "baby pots" in the garage with enough lights. I will have my nieces and nephews plant them wherever they see fit. My family tries a new plant each year to see what new wonders will be exposed. And of course I will be planting my sunflower seeds from last summer to continue my fond memories! Grow with them! If there is a parent out there who is interested in working with us on growing veggies to use in our school, please contact us at 360-418-4333.

[http://littlegreenfingers.typepad.com/little\\_green\\_fingers/preschool-gardening-club-weekly-activities-plan.html](http://littlegreenfingers.typepad.com/little_green_fingers/preschool-gardening-club-weekly-activities-plan.html); <http://www.cityfarmer.org/schgard15.html>



*"Imagine the look of the child when they pull out the carrot from the ground or pick an apple from the tree."*



Douglas Tilden was born May 1, 1860, and died in 1935. He was born hearing, but lost his hearing to scarlet fever at the age of five.

## "Deaf-Related"

April McArthur, ASL Specialist

*"The Young Acrobat"*  
by Douglas Tilden  
Smithsonian Institution

Which famous Deaf artist has one of his sculptures in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park? (Answer: Douglas Tilden) Who travels the world meeting Deaf people working in all kinds of jobs? (Answer: Joel Barish of DeafNation) Where can you go to find news and stories from the Deaf community? Where can you go to find information about programs and colleges for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing?

We have added a new button to our WSD website called "Deaf-Related." When you click on this button, you will find links to many websites such as "Famous Deaf People," the Chuck Baird Foundation, etc. More links will be added to it over time, so be sure to check it out periodically. Enjoy!

[www.wsd.wa.gov](http://www.wsd.wa.gov)

**Deaf Related**

## April Calendar

March 29-April 1- MS Math Team to Rochester, New York  
 April 2-6 - Spring Break  
 April 11-16 - DAB Competition - Gallaudet  
 April 16 - MAP Testing Window open  
 April 16 - Seniors to *Transition Fair* at Southwest Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing (SWCDHH) 11-1pm  
 April 18-20 - American College Testing (ACT)  
 April 26 - Prom-Madison's East Wing Banquet Room in Portland, Oregon from 6:00-11:00pm  
 April 30 - BizTown, Auburn, Washington - 5th-8th grades  
*Travel Days 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29*



## Fun with Math!

Ginger Speranza, Librarian

Reading and math go hand in hand. Real world math is about knowing what type of math to use in a variety of situations. Here are a few fun math problems to solve with your child. As with all good problems, the solutions and strategies suggested here are merely a sample. Take time to play with your child today. Enjoy!!

1. Donna wishes to bake some cakes. Each cake requires four eggs. How many cakes can Donna bake if she has one dozen eggs?
2. Which is worth more: seven inches of dimes or nine inches of nickels?
3. Put in + or - to make this statement true.  $8 ? 4 ? 6 ? 7 = 11$
4. Ginger saw a ladybug with eight spots. Draw a picture to show how many spots Ginger would see on three ladybugs?
5. If Cristi has 12 cows, draw a picture showing how many legs are on the 12 cows?

Every year your child will grow and change in many different ways. Help him/her to measure and record data about themselves: height, weight, head circumference.

**Hints:** Sometimes the hardest part of solving a problem is just getting started. Having some steps to follow may help you and your child.

1. Understand the information in the problem and what you are trying to find out.
2. Try a strategy you think might help you solve the problem.
3. Find the solution using that strategy or try another way until you solve the problem.
4. Check back to make sure your answer makes sense.

### ANSWERS:

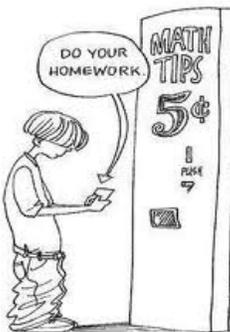
1. (three cakes) your child needs to know the meaning of "dozen" in order to solve this problem. Drawing a picture, modeling or sorting manipulatives will be helpful strategies.
2. (seven inches of dimes) This is a good problem to encourage estimation as well as coin use and measurement.
3. ( $8 + 4 + 6 - 7 = 11$ ) This problem gives kids an opportunity to use the guess and check strategy.
4. The "draw a picture" strategy should be helpful to the kids in solving this problem. 24
5. 48 legs

$$\begin{array}{r} 82 \\ - 77 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$-2(A + A^2)$$

$$\sqrt{6}$$

$$3\frac{8}{9}$$



## Flying Hands ASL Poetry Competition Winners!

### Grades 1-2

1st -Megan Fick & Gabrielle Grosnick  
2nd -Ashley Anderseon  
3rd -Janet Tuz-Marique

### Upper Elementary

1st -Dared Redford  
2nd -Elizabeth Stepanyuk  
3rd -Deanna Pankratova

### Middle School

1st -Jacob Tufton & John Smart  
2nd -Daniel Turchin  
3rd -Anastasia Stephanyuk

### High School

1st -Juan Aust  
2nd -Maliki Callahan & Cheyenne Ellis  
3rd -Noriston Joe

### Fight Song

1st -Jadzia Ingram & Mira Stapleton  
2nd -Maria Preciado, TyKeaya Terrell,  
Jessane Rogers & Hilda Beltran-Lopez

## “Reading is an Adventure...Aim for the Moon!!” 500 Books Project

Dear Parents,

Every Spring, WSD elementary and middle school students participate in the “500 Books” literary project. Our goal is to support students’ literacy development and encourage students to re-discover the joy and magic of reading. Students will be asked to read 10 books in 10 weeks. Student progress and bookmarks will be posted in our building foyer & hallways. This year, our theme is “Reading is an Adventure...Aim for the Moon” We will begin the week of April 10th. During our “Kick-Off” celebration, staff will dress up as characters from books and students guess who the characters are, and receive free books! Come check them out as we count towards our goal of 500 books read by May 25th! Have a fabulous adventure!

### Important Dates:

April 10 - Kick Off Celebration  
April 13 - Begin the count to 500 books  
May 25 - End of 500 Books  
May 31 - 500 Books Celebration & Surprise Field Trip

## “High Five the WSD DABers!”

Dana Miller, Teacher

After some stuffing, licking, stamping, punching, crunching, and slapping, the Deaf Academic Bowl students are pumped up and ready for the most anticipated trip of the year: the Deaf Academic Bowl (DAB) at the world renowned Gallaudet University in Washington, DC!

Now, I know what you’re thinking: “What in the world does stuffing, licking, stamping, punching, crunching, and slapping have to do with DAB?!” Well, the DAB teammates had to stuff fund raising letters in envelopes, lick the flaps, and stamp the postages to raise funds for the trip. They also had to punch the buzzers and crunch numbers when answering questions during practice sessions. Last but not least, they slapped each other’s hands for high fives to cheer each other on as they got the answers right. Now, that’s team effort!

The names of our awesome and amazing team members of the DAB at Washington School for the Deaf are... (drum roll...): Trevor Docktor, Sophomore; Brittany Randoff, Junior; Aliesha Rowland, Senior; Jonah Winninghoff, Junior. The coaches... Head Coach: John Thuahnai and Assistant Coach: Dana Miller.

Deaf Academic Bowl is a nationwide competition for deaf and hard of hearing schools and programs across the country to promote a friendly academic competition among students. It is hosted by Gallaudet University, and it has been up and running since 1997. It’s a rigorous competition, quizzing kids in different categories such as math, geography, history, literature, pop culture, sports, deaf culture, deaf history, and many more.

When you pass these students, take a moment to congratulate them, cheer them, and better yet, slap their hands to give them a high-five! After all, there are only a few weeks left before we leave for the DAB on Wednesday, April 11th, and return on Tuesday, April 17th. For the next few weeks, they will have to endure the laborious, yet rewarding, process of practicing and studying on a daily basis to sharpen their brains for the bowl! Go WSD DABers! Wish them luck! Woof!