

Terrier Times

Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss - Washington School for the Deaf

April 2013



Spring Break!

From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

There isn't much time left in the school year. As you are reading this newsletter, we will have about 8 weeks left. It is not too soon to be thinking about summer and helping your child maintain the skills and growth he or she has experienced this year in school. Over the summer it is important to maintain good reading and writing habits. Consider taking your child to the library frequently during the summer months to check out books in your child's interest area. Depending on the child's age, use written notes to communicate routines and activities. For example, "I went to the store. I will be back in 15 minutes. Please do the dishes while I'm gone." *Wouldn't that be nice if you came home and the dishes were actually done. ;-)*

If you are planning a vacation be sure to include your child in the planning. View pictures of where you will be going. Talk about the schedule, how you will get to your destination and what you will do when you are there. If you drive, take along a map and assist your child in locating the roadways and points of interest on the map as you travel. Maintain good communication with your child by talking about what you are doing, what you are interested in, current events and so forth.

I will not be returning to WSD as principal next year. It has been my pleasure to work at WSD and lead the school toward becoming the best school for deaf and hard of hearing students in Washington.

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Important Elementary

updates and reminders for
Terrier Pups & their Families!

500 Books Kick Off
April 12 - May 17

Surprise field trip in May
to be announced

Spring ASP begins
April 16

FAN-April 18
Deaf Adult Panel



*"If you are planning
a vacation be sure to
include your child in
the planning."*





Northrop Elementary Updates

Shauna Bilyeu, Assistant Principal

Spring is in the Air!



Spring always seems to be such a time of rebirth. At the time I am writing this, flowers are just beginning to peek out, the trees are blooming and the sun is making its presence known. Students also seem to be growing, and not just physically. This is the time when we really start to see lots of things “clicking” into place. As I walk through the classrooms, I see students as young as 5 and 6 years old working on things like ASL location graphemes, and other



Another important life long skill that students are continuously working on is reading. We have an exciting annual spring reading event that begins in the month of April. Students and staff are challenged to read a total of 500 books in 6 weeks. This works out to be about 10 books per student and staff member. If we reach this goal there will be a surprise field trip in May! This is always a highlight of the spring and I look forward to it every year (and I know the students do, too)! Please encourage your student to read with you every night. You should also have your Read N Lead calendars that students can mark progress on. If you do not have a Read N Lead calendar, please contact Molly McMullen in the Northrop office.

“Students and staff are challenged to read a total of 500 books in 6 weeks.”

elementary students working on describing campus locations with ASL classifiers! They don’t know it now, but they are learning lifelong communication skills that will help them become better not only at ASL, but also English!

If you have not had a chance to “like” the Elementary Facebook page, please do so. You will see that in addition to regular reminders, we post things like research and videos explaining about the importance of a bilingual education for deaf students. I may be a bit biased, but I feel that WSD is well on its way to becoming a world-class bilingual institution, and we want to educate everyone about the benefits of being bilingual!

With the arrival of spring, also comes testing season. WSD students in grades 2-5 will participate in Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing in April and state-wide assessments in May. Teachers will send home more detailed information about exactly when your child will participate, but please help us to assure your child that these assessments are to help us know how and what to teach. Many students can have test anxiety and while it is important for students to try their best, we certainly don’t want the assessments to overshadow the joy of school and learning. Parents will receive MAP assessment scores at IEP meetings and state-wide assessment results through the mail next fall.



May 2013 Reminders!

Book Fair
May 17-May 25

All Star Day!
May 23, 2013

April Calendar



April 1-5/Spring Break!

April 8 - Sadie Hawkins Chase (*HS Students Only*)

April 8 - May 3/Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Testing

April 10 - Independent Living Skills (ILS) BBQ & Sadie Hawkins Dance

April 16 - Spring After School Program (ASP) begins

Travel Days 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26

Flying Hands ASL Poetry Competition Results!

Grades 1 & 2

- 1- Evan Stromberg "The Bad Guy Stole Money From the Bear"
- 2- Nelamma Behrens "The Pretty Fairy"
- 3- Ocean Gonzales "Untitled"

Grades Upper Elementary (grades 3, 4, 5)

- 1- Gabrielle Grosnick "Untitled"
- 2- (3 way tie) Charlotte Conant "Cat and Snake";
Angelina Turchin "Puppy"; Josiah Bradley "House on Fire"
- 3- Nicolaus Moore- "Untitled"

Middle School

- 1- John Smart "The Creek"
- 2- Dared Redford "The Forest"
- 3- Michelle Pulido "First Day of Middle School"

High School

- 1- Juan Aust "From High School to Gallaudet"
- 2- Bethany Shaver "High School Freshman Experience"

Fight Song

- 1- Jazia Ingram & Mai Truong "I Can, You Can, Terriers!"
- 2- Maria Preciado & Jessane Rogers "Terrier Fight Song"
- 3- Teeya Boylan-Kelly & Kaja Stone "Fight Song"



Juan Aust & Bethany Shaver

February Student of the Month!

Astounding Attending
MS Mai Truong

3 R Superstar
MS Maggie Perez
HS Tredynn

Stupendous Spirit
MS Jessane Rogers
HS Sarah Lasco

Positively Prepared
MS Cheyenne Clearbrook
HS Sarah Lasco & Crissy Gelderd

Momentous Motivation
MS Jacob Tufton
HS Jackie Wiles

Inspiring Improvement
MS Kyle Culmer
HS Mona Rayos

Super Supportive
MS Caleb Plock
HS Moniquea Harvey,
Kayla Girard & Miguel Peregrino



Young Terrier Basketball

Nathan Boyes, PE, Health Teacher

The 2013 Young Terrier Middle School Basketball season has been filled with amazing progress and excitement, both for the players and the fans who have shown tremendous support. It has been a pleasure watching these great student-athletes grow on and off the court the past eight weeks. We look forward to finishing out our last three games with our trademark fierce defense and blazin' fast transitions on offense. With this team, we can see great things in the future for these student-athletes at WSD.

Student Health Center Nurses' Corner

Jillian Bain, RN, MS, FNP-BC and Jon Tannler, RN



Is it a cold or an allergy?

Colds and allergies are often confused. They have similar symptoms, so it can be difficult to tell the difference. So, here are some ways to help you distinguish between the two.

What are the symptoms of allergies? Different people may have different reactions to allergens (triggers to allergy). The most common symptoms of mild allergies, or hay fever, are: runny nose with clear fluid; dry, itchy eyes; sneezing; itchy mouth or throat; sore throat; post-nasal drip; and/or headache. Some people may experience more severe allergic reactions which can include hives (red itchy rash) and difficulty breathing - which would require immediate/emergent medical attention.

What are the symptoms of a cold? As mentioned, cold symptoms and allergy symptoms can often be very similar, and it can be very hard to distinguish which it is. Generally speaking, you might feel more tired and achey with a cold. You may have a runny nose, with green or yellow discharge. You will likely have a cough; and you might be coughing up phlegm. You can also have a sore throat and/or headache with a cold.

What causes allergies? Many factors contribute to allergies. Most are caused by environmental factors such as pollen, perfume, dust, mold, pet dander, smoke and pollution. Some people may be allergic to foods and medications, which may cause more severe reactions than environmental allergens.

What causes a cold? Cold symptoms are caused by exposure to a bacteria or virus into your upper respiratory tract. The virus or bacteria can enter your body through your eyes, nose, mouth, or lungs.

How can I tell if I have seasonal allergies or a cold? A cold will usually last two weeks or less. They can last longer, but typically clear up within two weeks. Environmental allergies, or hay fever, normally lasts until the allergen that you are reacting is gone, or you are no longer exposed to it. This means that if you are reacting to grass or pollen in the air, you can have allergy symptoms for months, or even the entire year!!

What can I do if I think I have a cold? If your body/immune system is trying to fight off a cold, then it is important to take care of yourself, to help your body heal and recover more quickly. You should make sure to wash your hands often; especially after coughing, sneezing, and blowing your nose. You should get plenty of rest, good nutrition, and plenty of water (at least 1-2 liters a day).

What can I do if I think I have seasonal allergies? If you think you may have allergies, or aren't sure, you should see your healthcare provider. They can help to determine whether your symptoms are caused by a cold, or by allergies. Your doctor can also recommend over-the-counter medications, or give you a prescription, to help with the symptoms, if you do have allergies. Some common allergy medications are Benadryl, Zyrtec, Allegra, and Claritin. They are all available over the counter, and in generic forms. For people with more severe reactions or who do not respond to these over-the-counter medications, prescription medications and/or a visit to an allergist may be necessary. Allergists (a doctor who specializes in allergies) will conduct tests to determine the exact causes of the allergies, and may prescribe allergy shots to alleviate symptoms.

WSD Board of Trustees' tour the new Lloyd Auditorium construction progress!

