

Terrier Times

Washington School for the Deaf



From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

As Fall turns to Winter . . .

WSD recently celebrated Spirit Week, Homecoming and Fall Open House. It was so nice to see the families of our students on campus to celebrate Homecoming and have the opportunity to observe in our classrooms and meet with teachers. The connection between school and family is extremely important for all students but especially for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students. If you were here for our Homecoming and Open House on October 11, we'd like to thank you. If you were not able to make it, know that you are welcome anytime to visit our school. Just call our school secretary, David Martin, to let us know you would like to visit. We hope you can attend our **Spring Open House and All Star Day on May 23, 2013.**

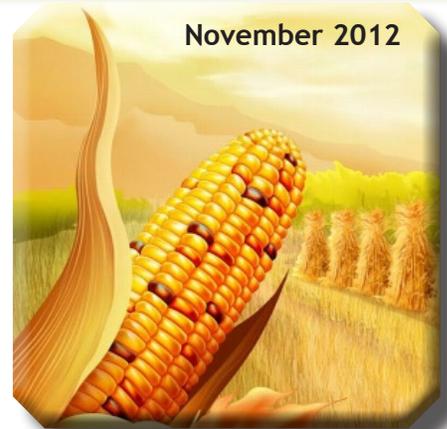
Do you want to know about your child's schedule, homework or grades? Check out the *Family Access Skyward* button on our WSD homepage at www.wsd.wa.gov. With Skyward you will be able to see your child's classes and assignments and grades. If you have forgotten your user name and password, please contact David Martin at david.martin@wsd.wa.gov.

Winter is coming. Has your family gotten your flu shots? Flu shots help prevent the spread of the flu among our students and staff. Of course always follow your doctor's recommendations with regard to all health issues.

You will see elsewhere in this issue that WSD has been chosen as a regional site for the Deaf Academic Bowl. This will be an exciting event for our school. Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students from all over the Western US and US territories will be coming to WSD on **President's Day** weekend, February 15 - 18, 2013. Mark your calendars and plan to come to WSD for this exciting event.

Enjoy your **Thanksgiving** holiday with friends and family. Thank you for entrusting the education of your child to us at WSD. We take this responsibility very seriously. If you have any questions about your child's education or care at WSD, please do not hesitate to contact us. Students are most successful in school when parents and teachers work together.

November 2012



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*Legislators visit WSD for Deaf Awareness Week (DAW)
Rep. Jim Moeller, Rep. Liz Pike,
Mayor Tim Leavitt, and Val Ogden.*

PAWS

For a Great Attitude!

Every week Terrier Pups (students in grades preschool-5th) can earn a PAW. Each student that earns a paw gets recognition and a "PAW" of approval.

This special ticket earns students a Terrier paw for a job well done and a possible trip up to the treasure chest during lunch on Fridays. Students can also see how many paws they've earned throughout the year on the PAW bulletin board outside the office.

Students and staff are engaged in weekly lessons with Wendy Schlitz, our elementary counselor, to learn about positive behaviors. We are using the curriculum Second Steps.

Staff have been working to ensure that we use the same signs for each of the terms in Second Steps on a consistent basis. The vocabulary on the PAW ticket also correlates with the Second Steps curriculum.

Look around Northrop halls to see examples of the positive behavior vocabulary our students are learning.

*Questions? Email or call
Shauna Bilyeu*

Shauna.bilyeu@wsd.wa.gov
360-696-6525 x. 4299

News from Northrop Elementary!

Shauna Bilyeu, Assistant Principal

Terrier Pups are busy earning **PAWS** (see accompanying article), and continuing to learn about communities. Students in grades K-4 will be attending the Oregon Children's Theater production of **"Duck for President"** on October 31st. This will be a perfect tie-in to the community at large and the presidential election. Be sure to take time to ask your child about this. Building real-world knowledge is absolutely crucial for your child's educational success. Hearing children pick up on things just through incidental and overheard conversations. Many times Deaf children do not have the same access to these opportunities. Adults need to help Deaf children make connections and tie language to what they see.

WSD is working on setting up a reading program for parents to work on with their children at home with the WSD Parent-Staff Organization (PSO). Be on the lookout for more information regarding this incentive program in the near future!

Fall is always a crazy busy time, but things are settling down into routines and there is lots going on every day. Terrier Pups are energetic, happy and curious learners. It makes for a great place to come to work every day! Be sure to check your child's backpack on a regular basis and/or check emails for communications from teachers. We have come to rely on email (perhaps too much) as a way of contacting parents. Please let us know if you have any changes in your contact information.



You've earned a Paw!!!

Name: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/> Problem Solving
<input type="checkbox"/> Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Responsibility
<input type="checkbox"/> Flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Friendship
<input type="checkbox"/> Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation
<input type="checkbox"/> Effort	<input type="checkbox"/> Courage
<input type="checkbox"/> Patience	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Caring	<input type="checkbox"/> Sense of Humor
<input type="checkbox"/> Pride	<input type="checkbox"/> Respect
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Staff Signature: _____

Sports!

Ron Spratlen, Athletic and Recreation Director

Where has the time gone?! Our football and volleyball seasons are coming to a close and we will soon be transitioning into the basketball season. At our last volleyball game of the season on Thursday, October 25, at 6:00pm, we will be honoring our seniors for their hard work and dedication to this season and years past.

The following week on Thursday, November 1, at 3:30pm, will be our last football game of the season. We will also honor the senior boys for their hard work and dedication to the football program. We are very proud of our Terriers and you should be, too!



In honor of breast cancer awareness month, WSD will have a "Pink Out Day" on Thursday, October 25th. This will be a school wide event and our football, cheerleaders and volleyball teams will wear pink items with their uniforms during their games that day. Please join us by wearing pink that day in support of breast cancer awareness! Thank you for your support and Go Terriers!



Homecoming King and Queen
Jonah Winninghoff &
Yessica Arceo-Jimenez

November School Calendar

- November 1, WSD vs Lake Quinault (Football)
- November 2, Gallaudet presentation
- November 12, Veterans' Day - No School
- November 15, Family Academy Night (FAN)
- November 19-23, Thanksgiving Break
- Travel Days 2, 4, 9, 12., 16, 25, 30

WSD Staff members get their "heads shaved" for Cheerleading Fundraiser!



Nurses' Corner

Jillian Bain, RN, Jon Tannler, LPN, Linda Meier, RN (on-call)

The change in the weather and seasons is upon us! Are you prepared for the rain? For the snow? For the cold virus? For the flu?

The flu season has already begun! We are now ready to face it head on! We will be offering flu vaccinations here for the students within the next month. The flu vaccine will include protection for the annual, seasonal flu. When you receive your child's flu shot permission slip/form, please fill it out and return the form immediately.

In case of illness, when the student is showing any of these symptoms shown below, the student **WILL NEED TO STAY HOME**:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher. Also, the child **MUST BE FEVER FREE** for 24 hours prior to returning to school (Center for Disease Control's recommendation)
- Vomiting and/or persistent diarrhea
- Serious respiratory infections with persistent cough, fever, and or large amount of yellow/green discharge

There is another serious disease, and the number of occurrences is on the rise - Pertussis (otherwise known as Whooping Cough). Pertussis symptoms include very persistent, loud (barking) cough, and can be associated with respiratory distress. It is called Whooping Cough because the cough can be described as sounding like a loud "whooop." In adults, Pertussis may present as a really bad cold, but in infants and children, pertussis can be fatal (due to their much smaller airways); so it is very important for us to protect ourselves and youngsters by being vaccinated. Those with compromised immune systems, respiratory diseases (including COPD and asthma), and smokers are also at increased risk for fatal effects from Pertussis. Many young adults, teenagers, and adults are past due for a Pertussis booster. We encourage you to check with your doctor about getting a booster for TDap if needed.

We, at the Student Health Center, want everyone to remain happy and healthy through cold and flu season. Please always remember that the most important things you can do to help prevent spreading illness include:

- Washing your hands.
- Covering your mouth when you sneeze/cough.
- Getting plenty of sleep, good nutrition and lots of hydration/fluid.
- Getting vaccinated.



WSD Fun Run!



“Literacy Development”

Cathy Bennett, Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator

Did you know that?



Deaf children are significantly behind hearing peers in their reading skills (Allen, 1986). Deaf children from homes with parents who sign with them outperform Deaf children from homes where sign language is not used consistently on vocabulary, ASL and reading skills (Prinz & Strong, 1998, Padden & Ramsey, 1998, Mayberry 1993).

Fingerspelling is a bridge from ASL to English (Padden and Ramsey, 1998). We can learn a great deal about developing literate Deaf children from the parenting practices of Deaf parents who have Deaf children.

DEAF PARENTS:

- Start from birth using sign language with their children
- Use “motherese” in sign language - “baby talk”
- Label people, places, things
- Use Chaining techniques when pointing; fingerspell-sign-picture-print
- Use Sandwiching techniques when labelling; sign-fingerspell-sign or fingerspell-sign-fingerspell (Blumenthal-Kelly, 1995, Erting, Thuman Prezioso and Benedict, 2000)

Being exposed to reading and writing from a young age is very important! (Sulzby & Teale, 1991; Clay (1991)

There is print all around you! Print in everyday life is essential to children’s literacy development. Here are some everyday activities you can share with your child:

- cooking
- shopping
- going out to eat
- playing games
- reading books



How Parents Can Support the Behavior System

Piper Gallucci, Teacher

RESPECT SELF - RESPECT OTHERS - RESPECT PROPERTY

Having family involvement in a child’s education increases your child’s likelihood of success. Your help with WSD’s behavior system is very important. We ask that you support the staff in the following ways:

- Remind your child of the behavior expectations before he/she leaves for school.
- Recognize your child for following expectations while at school.
- Help your child be prepared by helping him/her wake up for school, eat a good breakfast and arrive on time.
- Have your child write and display the school’s expectations in a place where you and your child will be frequently reminded.
- The behavior system is consistent and fair; if your child has earned a consequence, please support the decision.
- Do all you can to have your child accept the consequence and/or recognition.
- Support the concept that a child’s “job” is school.

Thank you! Your support sends an important message to your child that we are working together as a team to help him/her be successful in all parts of his/her life. We appreciate your daily support.

Deaf Awareness Week (DAW)

Tyler DeShaw, Bilingual ASL/English Teacher

From September 24 to 28, WSD hosted Deaf Awareness Week (DAW)! DAW is an internationally recognized annual event and is always celebrated the last full week of September. The purpose of Deaf Awareness Week is to celebrate and embrace Deaf people and their accomplishments as well as draw attention to their issues.

Our theme this year was “Deaf Superstars” and we focused on famous Deaf American heroes who have paved the way for today’s Deaf youth in the areas of education, art/theatre, science/math, and social justice. We chose this theme because we feel our students will benefit greatly from learning about extraordinary role models and be inspired.

During the week, we had two school-wide assemblies, educational periods, Deaf culture events, and a special guest speaker. Our kick-off ceremony on September 24 was a huge success with the Vancouver mayor, Governor’s office, and state representatives in attendance. The show stealer was one of our precocious preschoolers performing in front of everybody. Later that night, WSD student representatives went to the Vancouver City Council meeting to accept a proclamation from the mayor.

We were also thrilled to announce that Deaf actress, Shoshannah Stern (of “Hammer”, “Jericho”, and “Weeds” fame), came to WSD September 27. Throughout the day in an all-school assembly and small breakout groups, Ms. Stern shared the message that if we dream big and plan accordingly, we can achieve.

Overall, it was a great week and it was neat to see the campus community come together to celebrate Deaf Awareness Week!

Actress Shoshanna Stern visits WSD!

