

2nd Quarter Newsletter



Mark Your Calendar

January

- 24th – End of 2nd Quarter

February

- 19th – No School – President’s Day
- 20th – No School or Snow Makeup Day (if necessary)

March

- 9th – No School – District Consortium Day
- 16th – No School – Curriculum Day
- 28th-30th – Early Release for Conferences

Student Art Wins Local Awards

A **Peace Poster Contest** was sponsored by the Chewelah Valley Lions Club this Fall. The theme this year was “Celebrating Peace”. Students came up with their own designs depicting what “Celebrating Peace” around the world would look like.

Nicole Presho’s poster took 1st, Amy Meyers took 2nd, and Ricky Lane took 3rd, at the local level. The 1st and 2nd place posters went to the regional level where Amy Meyer’s poster was selected to continue to the district level. All the students did an awesome job and it was very difficult to pick the best ones. Congratulations to all for their quality work.

(see page 4 for Ricky Lane’s 3rd place art work)



Amy Meyers, 2nd Place Picture

Inside this issue:

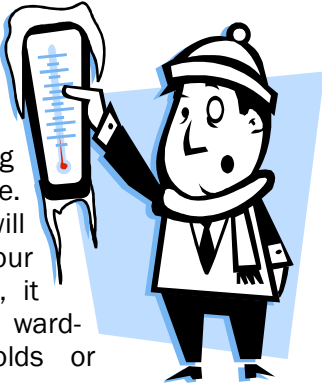
News from Mrs. Henjum	2
K-8 News and Information	3
Auditions Art News	4
Science and Explorations Computers 4 Kids Program	5
Sports Schedules	6
Sports Schedules Jan Term Teachers	7
News from the Superintendent	8



Nicole Presho’s 1st Place Art Work

Cold Nights, Cold Days

As the temperatures continue to stay in the freezing range, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Pajamas, shorts and thin weight clothing are not appropriate clothes for the winter months. Please make sure your child is dressed in gloves, a hat, snow pants and boots before leaving the house. Not only will this keep your child warm, it will help in warding off colds or even the flu.



8th Grade Field Trip

This month our 8th graders headed to the YMCA to test their rock climbing strategies and test their swimming skills. Students were challenged and the outcome from all the students was, "It was sooooo FUN!" For those of you who haven't ventured out to the Spokane Valley YMCA, it is highly recommended to every family. I am almost positive that all members of the family would enjoy all of the activities that are offered under the same roof.

We're on the Web

Remember that you can find the Mary Walker School District on the Internet.

www.marywalker.org



News from Mrs. Henjum

Happy New Year to Everyone! I cannot believe that we are already mid way through the year, not to mention that it is 2007. The rest of the school year is going to fly by and before we know it is going to be time for kindergarten and eighth grade graduation. With the start of the New Year, there are a lot of things going on here at Mary Walker Elementary / Middle School. Get your calendars out and mark them for some very important events:

- January 24 End of the first semester
- January 25 Second semester begins
Music / Band classes start
- January 30 Report cards are mailed home
- February 8 100th Day of School
All Day Write K-8
- February 9 Golden Horseshoe:
PreK to 2 8:45 - 9:15
Grades 3 to 5 9:15 - 9:45
Grades 6 to 8 10:30 - 11:00
- February 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb. 19-20 No School (Presidents Day / Snow Day)
- February 22 Family Book Night - 6:00

As you see from the list above, we have found a music / band teacher. We are very excited to welcome Barbara Robinson from Davenport to our Springdale community. Mrs. Robinson comes to us with a diverse background rich in both vocal and instrumental expertise. All students PreK-8 will receive services starting the 25th of January. Welcome Mrs. Robinson!

I wish all of you the best in 2007. This is going to be a great year filled with many new memories, achievements and, of course, new challenges. Our doors are always open and we encourage you to join your child in the classroom.

Happy New Year to All!

Ms. Cheryl Henjum
PreK-8 Principal



More Elementary and Mid-School News

3rd Graders Receive New Dictionaries

The Camas Valley Grange visited our school upon our return after the holiday season, and presented our kids with new dictionaries. Each third grade student received a brand new dictionary compliments of the grange. Their donation comes at a great time. Our third graders are immersed in their writing and these new dictionaries will help to ensure accurate spelling throughout their stories. Thank you Camas Valley Grange!



Book Grant Received

Ms. Gearhart, a fourth grade teacher, recently received a book grant that allows each and every one of our PreK-6 students to receive a FREE book. Yes, a FREE book! Ms. Gearhart wrote the Reading is Fundamental (R.I.F) grant in hopes of encouraging parents and students to share a love for reading together.

Throughout the remainder of the year we will host 2 parent nights, one of which is scheduled for February 22 at 6:00. Please mark your calendar and join us for an evening filled with great fun. Congratulations Ms. Gearhart and thank you for sharing your love for reading with our students.

Teachers Are Students Too

Just like students, teachers are eager to learn new strategies or ways of engaging students while assisting students towards mastery in all areas of study. For example Mrs. Wisser (1st grade) and Mrs. Sulgrove (2nd grade) visited Lidgerwood Elementary last week, engaging themselves with various teachers from around the Spokane area. They evaluated and observed students during various stages of writing. These strategies will help our 1st and 2nd grade students in the area of writing.

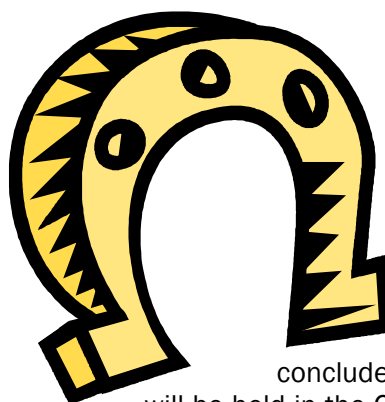


Mr. Schell and Mrs. Kennedy spent the day getting caught up with the latest and greatest strategies in the area of Special Education. They both came back with a toolbox full of ideas and strategies to use in the classroom.

All PreK-8 teachers are going to collaborate with various teachers from the surrounding districts. Each teacher will spend the day sharing new ideas, discussing challenges or new educational findings and create new ways of demonstrating student mastery.

New Flooring is Squeaky Clean

If you haven't been into the Elementary / Middle School lately, you should come in and check out our new floor. Over the holiday break, our carpet was removed and in its place a random pattern of black and white tile sparkles in our hallways. Not only does the tile make for easier cleaning conditions, it does spark some interesting activities for all ages: hop scotch, hot lava, etc.



Golden Horseshoe Awards Scheduled

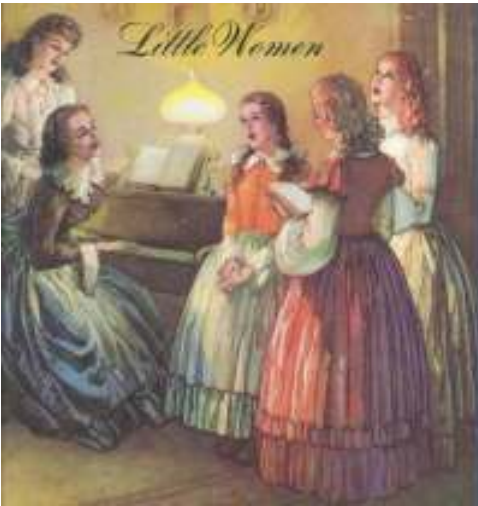
Mark your calendar for February 9th, as we honor students with high academic excellence, citizenship and effort towards their academics. PreK-2 will start our ceremony at 8:45 – 9:15; grades 3-5 will follow at 9:15 – 9:45; mid school will conclude our ceremony at 10:30. All three events will be held in the Charger Wing Auditorium. Please come and support your child and the other children of the Mary Walker Elementary / Middle School.

Auditions Coming Soon

Little Women is the play that the fifth and sixth grade students will be performing this year. The novel Little Women is a part of fifth grade Core Knowledge curriculum and the students know the characters very well.

As in previous years, students will be given an opportunity to audition for a part in the production. Mrs. Howard will be handing out scripts to each fifth and sixth grade student so they can rehearse at home. The audition script will be handed out on January 29th, and auditions will be held on the 7th or 8th of February.

In order for your child to audition to their potential encourage them to practice at home, as well as to memorize the script.



Upcoming Art Event

The Chewelah Community 2007 Arts Festival, sponsored by the Chewelah Arts Guild will be held Feb 9-11th. Mary Walker's student art from 3-12 grades will be exhibited at the Chewelah Civic Center. Participation and admission are free to the public. Class field trips can be set up on Friday the 9th by contacting Kay Comer at 935-6198.

Horizons

Community Leadership to Reduce Poverty

The Springdale community has been accepted into the Horizons program being delivered by Washington State University. Horizons details the changes a community can make to move from poverty to hope, from population and economic decline to prosperity. Open to all community members, the program focuses on practical strategies and tools for poverty reduction. Horizons provides training, skill-building, and coaching to strengthen community leadership and civic engagement systems.

Horizons is a four-phase two-year program that is already starting in the Springdale community. Come join us as we work together for change. For more information, please contact Lela Taylor at 258-7160 or via e-mail at lela@wildblue.net. Also watch for the Springdale Community Newsletter which will include an informational flyer with additional details about the Horizons program.



Band and Music start January 25th

Welcome Mrs. Robinson!



Student Art Wins Local Awards (continued from pg.1)



Ricky Lane's 3rd Place Art Work

National Honor Society

Recently the National Honor Society held its annual Induction Ceremony for new members and doubled its size from seven to fourteen. The new members are as follows: Hannah Hibdon, Heather Corter, Maddi Swidergal, Sam Pierce, Jordon Hayward, Josh Hill, and Mary Vanderholm. Congratulations to our new inductees! They arrived just in time to help host the blood drive that was held on January 16th.

During our previous blood drive in November, we acquired 30 units of blood! We eagerly wait to hear the amount that was donated on the 16th. The NHS has scheduled another blood drive in March, and we look forward to your participation. A special thank you to everyone who has helped make our blood drives successful and given to this noble cause!

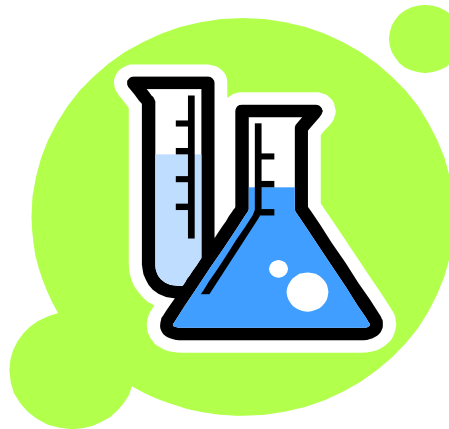
by Erin Menz

Science and Explorations with Mr. Moeller

At Springdale Middle School sixteen children make up the Explorations class with Mr. Moeller. The purposes of this class are making math more meaningful and improving math skills.

Science in Mr. Moeller's class is not just about sitting around and doing work from our textbooks because sometimes we do experiments like testing water quality.

Last summer, five Mary Walker teachers—Mr. Moeller, Mrs. Moss, Mr. Gilmore, Mr. Kiefer, and Mr. Kohlstedt—went to Ellensburg, Washington. They learned about water quality testing and integrating math and science.



They also used Springdale's Lucky Duck Pond as a lab to test temperature, flow rate, pH, and conductivity in order to see what could and is living there.

Mr. Moeller is teaching the students of his class how science and math is used in the real world.

by Sam Cashion
7th Grade

Computers 4 Kids Brings Technology to Classrooms

Since 1998, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction has been working in partnership with other government agencies on a project to refurbish usable surplus state computers and donate them to schools throughout Washington. This project, called Computers 4 Kids, has placed almost 30,000 computers in hundreds of needy schools throughout the state since its inception.

All equipment distributed through the program must meet strict state standards. These standards are based upon a "rule of thumb" of providing computers to schools that are 3 years old or newer.

The Mary Walker School District is able to receive between 24 and 36 computers per year through Computers 4 Kids, allowing us to update existing classroom computers on a rotating basis. Without this program, districts like Mary Walker would quickly fall behind in their ability to keep up with advancing technology.

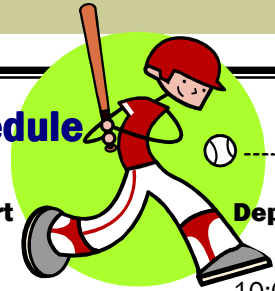
New state and federal regulations require students to demonstrate certain levels of computer literacy by 8th grade. Having quality computers, such as those received from Computers 4 Kids, provides students with the opportunity to inte-

grate technology into their learning, and gives them the skills they will need both in school and beyond.

Staff, students, and administrators at Mary Walker are grateful for the computers provided by the Computer 4 Kids program. Technology is definitely a huge part of everyday life and having the equipment we need helps us take giant strides forward in learning.



2007 Charger's Softball & Baseball Schedule

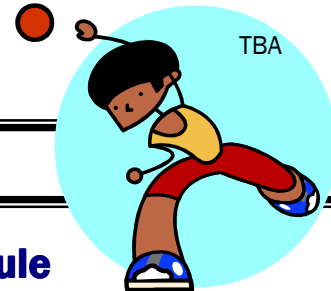


Day	Date	Opponent	Start	Depart
Tuesday	March 21st	St. Michaels	1:00	10:00
Saturday	March 24th	Columbia	12:00	9:30
Tuesday	March 27th	Selkirk	1:00	NA
Saturday	March 31st	Northport	12:00	9:00
Tuesday	April 3rd	Inchelium (Softball only)	12:00	NA
Saturday	April 14th	St. George	12:00	9:15
Saturday	April 21st	Wellpinit	12:00	NA
Tuesday	April 24th	Cusick	2:00	NA
Friday	April 27th	Curlew	2:00	NA
Monday	April 30th	Republic	2:00	TBA



2007 Charger's Track Schedule

Day	Date	Host	Start	Depart
Saturday	March 24th	University Center	10:00	8:00
Tuesday	March 27th	Wilbur/Creston	3:30	1:30
Tuesday	April 10th	Springdale	3:30	NA
Tuesday	April 17th	Colville	3:30	1:45
Tuesday	April 24th	Reardan	3:30	2:00
Tuesday	May 1st	Republic	3:30	1:00
Friday	May 18th	Regional Tournament @ SFCC	TBA	TBA
Thurs-Sat	May 24th-26th	Top 4 B girls and top 3 Boys to State State Tournament @ EWU	TBA	TBA



2007 Colt's Mid School Track Schedule

Day	Date	Host	Start	Depart
Tuesday	April 24th	Springdale	3:15	NA
Thursday	May 3rd	Republic	3:15	12:45
Thursday	May 10th	Selkirk	3:15	12:15
Saturday	May 12th	League Championship @ Colville	10:00	8:15

Some schedules are not official and are subject to change ~ please visit the website at www.marywalker.org for changes and updates!

2007 Mid School Boys Basketball Schedule



Day	Date	Opponent	Start	Depart
Monday	January 29	Wellpinit	3:30	2:15
Thursday	February 1	Valley	3:30	NA
Monday	February 5	Selkirk	3:30	NA
Thursday	February 8	Cusick	3:30	NA
Monday	February 12	Hunters	3:30	2:00
Wednesday	February 14	Valley	3:30	2:30
Thursday	February 15	Wellpinit	3:30	NA

Schedules can change ~ please visit the website at www.marywalker.org for all the latest information!

Whitworth Jan-Term Students visit Springdale Schools

This year, the Mary Walker School District is pleased to have 2 Jan-Term students from Whitworth college visiting our middle school. Mrs. Jill Ellingson and Ms. Debra McMichael are joining classes in the building for a few weeks this January.

The class Mrs. Ellingson is taking at Whitworth College is Intercultural/Multicultural Immersion. She came to Springdale because it allowed her to observe and interact with a variety of students. She has learned so much here at Springdale like, "Seeing the transition between elementary and middle school, which is like seeing something being taught in elementary then still being taught in middle school, but used a different way."

The school she would like to teach at is either Deer Park or Springdale, because she lives in Deer Park and wants to teach close to where she lives.

Another Whitworth Jan-Term student, Ms. McMichael, chose to do her observations at Springdale for



Jill Ellingson

many reasons. One reason she came here was because she wanted to know about Core Knowledge schools. Ms. McMichael also chose it because Springdale is a small, rural school. She wanted to work with Mr. Moeller, too. Ms. McMichael said, "Springdale is a lot like my high school and middle school in Kettle Falls."

Ms. McMichael has learned that teachers in Springdale care a lot about their students. She learned that the teachers work together to



Debra McMichael

teach their students. Also, she learned that there are many different cultures at Springdale.

The Jan-Term program offers a wonderful opportunity for student teachers to get experience in a wide variety of school settings. It is certainly a winning situation for both them and our school district.

By Emma Arendt & Cora Lasich
8th Grade

Mary Walker School District, No. 207

P.O. Box 159
500 North 4th

District Office

Superintendent-Kevin Jacka
509-258-4534

High School

Principal-Matt Cobb
509-258-4533

Elementary-Mid School

Principal-Cheryl Henjum
509-258-7357

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit #1
Springdale, WA

ECRWSS

Postal Patron

Box Holders

Rural Routes

General Delivery

Message from our Superintendent

Whether talking to business owners, college instructors, trade unions, vocational schools, or instructors of community colleges, the message is the same. Whether this year's high school graduates plan to go on to college or enter the workforce training programs, they will need similar academic skills.

Math and reading skills essential to readiness for success in the first year of college are comparable to those needed for success in workforce training programs. Challenging coursework is clearly important for success after high school. Students who are taking four years of English, three years of Math, and three years of Science earned much higher scores on SAT and Apprentice programs entrance tests – they are better prepared and more confident in their ability to succeed.

Our course requirements need to keep pace with the demands of college and the workforce training programs. Students need to have meaningful options when they finish high school. The skills can be taught within rigorous high school classes whether they be academic or career focused. The expectation for students who plan to attend college and those who plan to enter the workforce training programs must be the same.

The path toward after-high-school readiness begins in the elementary grades. Students won't be ready for rigorous coursework in high school if they haven't acquired the fundamental skills in elementary and middle school that lead up to those courses.

This is all to say that you will continue to see change to high school requirements and K-8 academics so that students will be better prepared for post-secondary education.

Kevin Jacka, Superintendent

