

Val Jackson Elementary School Newsletter

Principal's News

Val Jackson
Elementary School
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<http://jackson.usd259.org/>

Volume 2 | Issue VI

February 1, 2010

Parents,

We are now officially into the second semester of school. The year is moving quickly! State Assessments are around the corner! 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will be involved in State Reading, Math and Science testing this year.

State Reading Window (3rd – 5th grade): February 22-March 5, 2010

State Math Window (3rd-5th grade) : March 29–April 9, 2010

State Science Window (4th grade only) : April 20-April 26, 2010

PLEASE talk with your child’s teacher regarding their individual testing schedule (whether testing will be in the morning or afternoon) we would like to ask that you refrain from scheduling doctor or dentist appointments during testing sessions!!! Attendance is extremely important during assessment time. Being tardy can result in your student having to spend the morning in the office - once testing is started in the classroom, it is important for the environment to remain as uninterrupted as possible!!

You are your child’s first motivator during this critical time!! Let them know this is their time to shine and show what they know!! We look forward to another year of great academic achievement!

Past Highlights

- Congratulations to our 5th grade Battle of the Books team: Anisia, Chloe, Sophie and Kennis. They won their city-wide competition last week!!
- Our 5th graders tribute to Dr. King, “An American Dreamer” was outstanding!
- Our 2nd annual Val Jackson Career Day exposed our students to the important history of our school’s namesake and his family (we even had a visit from Mr. Jean Jackson, Mr. Val Jackson’s twin brother)!! Thank you also to our school superintendent, Mr. John Allison and BOE representative, Betty Arnold for coming to share about their jobs! So many others took time to share about their careers (even some of our parents).....THANK YOU!
- Thank you to 3rd grade and Explorer parents for your attendance at the last round of parent meetings!

Family Engagement Time

What is your student learning this week in the new Everyday Math curriculum? What is the latest selection they’ve read in reading? These are two questions you can ask to show your child you are interested in what they are doing daily!! Ask them to explain the new math concept or tell you about their favorite characters in the selection. Has your student had any conflicts recently with anyone? Ask them how they have worked to solve the problem. We are working to prepare our students to be 21st Century Learners -see the attached sheets that explain what a 21st Century learner should be able to do. Parents you can also help us in this endeavor as well!!

How is your child progressing academically? Please come with questions regarding your child’s academic progress during our next conference session: **March 9th, 10th and 11th!!**

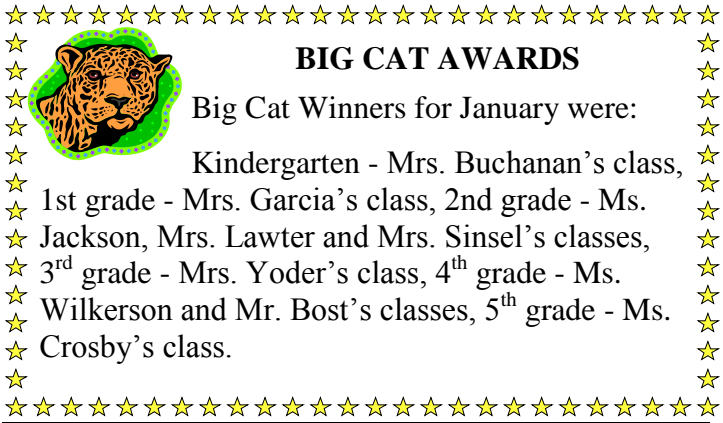
In the Interest of Val Jackson students.....

- - - Mrs. Evans, Principal



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BIG CAT AWARDS

Big Cat Winners for January were:

- Kindergarten - Mrs. Buchanan's class,
- 1st grade - Mrs. Garcia's class, 2nd grade - Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Lawter and Mrs. Sinsel's classes,
- 3rd grade - Mrs. Yoder's class, 4th grade - Ms. Wilkerson and Mr. Bost's classes, 5th grade - Ms. Crosby's class.

CALLED SITE COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 AT 4:30 IN LIBRARY

BUDGET IS ON THE AGENDA

From the desk of
Val Jackson School Nurse, Lynda Gillen

February is Dental Month!

Tuesday morning, February 16, 2010, at 9:30 two dental hygienists will be here to provide a dental screening to our students at Jackson who have not turned in a dental card. No procedures will be done. This is simply a dental check with information sent home on what was seen.

The dental inspection will take place in the gym. I have a record of the children that have turned in dental cards and most of the students who have seen a dentist during the school year. You may still turn in the pink dental cards to the nurse's office.



Reminder! - No School
Monday, January 18
And
Tuesday, January 19

CONGRATULATIONS!!

The Jackson "Royal Court Readers" win their City League Battle of the Books Competition!

Congratulations to Kennis Bell, Sophie Bachman, Anisia Brumley and Chloe Leaks for competing well in the City League Competition. They represented Jackson very well earning 12 points on their book talk (the highest score given) and earning 224 points total in their competition that day!

This team read all 64 books, memorized their titles and authors and helped each other prepare during daily practices in the Jackson library!

Way to go Jackson Champs!!

Marchel Thiessen
 Val Jackson Library Media Specialist

Congratulations to Ashlee Alexander, Sophie Bachman, Shelby Tauanu'u, and Aubury Harper, for being chosen to participate in this year's All City Fifth Grade Honor Choir. The All City Honor Choir concert will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at 7:00 PM in the Century II Concert Hall.



Inside Dismissal

Due to inclement weather there have been several days that we have had to dismiss from inside. In order to communicate to parents when we will dismiss from inside we will post red signs in the office window and on the front door of the school. When the red signs are posted we will dismiss from inside. We ask that you park your car and pick your student up from the gym. We hope this will help make inside dismissal run a little smoother. Thanks for all of your help.

← SEE PICTURE

Spotlight on 2nd Annual Career Day



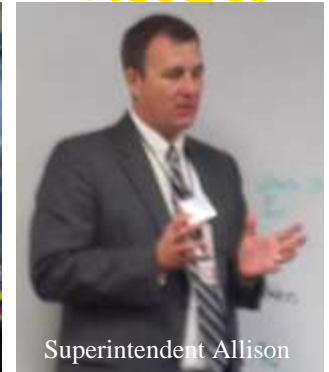
Stephanie Cousin & Jean Jackson



Senator Faust-Goudeau



Robert Waller



Superintendent Allison



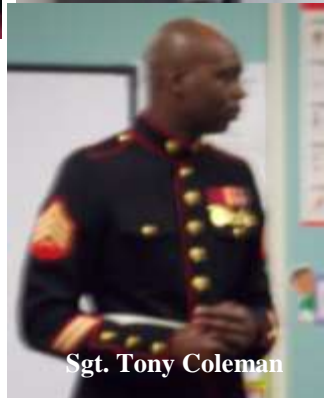
Tonia Mack



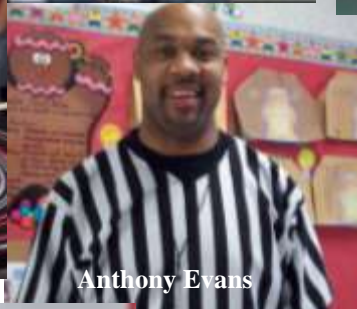
Lee Shiny



Missy Kupfersmith



Sgt. Tony Coleman



Anthony Evans



Betty Arnold



Derek Morgan




BUG LADY!



Nathan-Great Plains Nature Center

Make sure you check your child's lunch balance and keep payments current. It is district policy that after three (3) charged meals without a payment the child will eat peanut butter crackers and water. You can also make payment online or via phone by accessing <http://www.mealpayplus.com> or calling 1-866-736-9007.

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 African American Read In	2	3 Called Site Council Mtg 4:30	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 SOCK HOP K-2 1:30-2:30 3-5 2:45-3:45	12 NO SCHOOL INSERVICE DAY	13
14 	15 NO SCHOOL President's Day	16 Dental Screening	17	18 PTSO 5:00 in library Site Council 6:00	19	20
21	22 State Reading Assessments Begin	23	24	25	26	27
28						



Inclement Weather Pick-up
 New system: Inside dismissal will be communicated via red sign on entrance door and office windows. If the temperature is below 30 or it is lightning, raining, snowing or sleeting teachers will not bring the students outside for dismissal. If there is inclement weather please park in a parking space and come into the gym to pick up your child.

Thanks for your cooperation.



Schedule of Events

Visit <http://jackson.usd259.org/>
 Or www.valjacksonparents.org for more updates