



Mellette Messenger

December, 2011 News

From the Principal's Desk:

Mark Your Calendars

Dec. 5th - 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Dec. 8th - Music Program Grades 1 & 2 Dress Rehearsal @ 1:30 & Evening Performance @ 6:30

Dec. 12th - Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Dec. 16th - 12:15 5th Grade Mini Band Concert

Dec. 19th - 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Dec. 23rd thru Jan. 2nd - Christmas Break. No School

Jan. 3rd - No School. Inservice Day

Jan. 4th - School Resumes regular schedule

Jan. 9th - Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Jan. 13th - 3rd Grade performs @ 1/2 time of HS Basketball Game

Jan. 16th - 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Jan. 19th - 2nd Grade performs @ 1/2 time of HS Basketball Game

Jan. 20th - Teacher Inservice. Dismissal @ 12:20. No Am Kdg. Pm Kdg attends 8:30-11:30.

November Teacher of the Month



Congratulations, Mrs. Radeana Johnson, our November "Teacher of the Month". Radeana is pictured with Nathan Graf, Dacotah Bank Consumer Loan Officer/Regional Marketing director, this month's sponsor, presenting the plaque, balloon and plant.

Mrs. Radeana Johnson, our November "Teacher of the Month" is a graduate of Huron High School and Southwest State University, Marshall, MN. She has been teaching for nine years. Her previous teaching assignments include: a paraprofessional in Howard, SD with 1st grade, 8th grade reading teacher at Watertown Middle School, 5th grade teacher at Roosevelt in Watertown, 1st-3rd grade Reading teacher at McKinley in Watertown and Teaching Assistant with 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades at Roosevelt in Watertown. She is presently teaching 5th grade at Mellette in Watertown.

Her students nominated her because she tries to find out what

her students interest are, so she can have books in the classroom that would interest the students. She brings zoo animals (especially snakes) into the classroom. She makes her classroom a fun and exciting place to learn.

What Mrs. Johnson likes about teaching is she loves watching her students have an "A-ha!" moment as they connect with something that they have learned. She also enjoys when her students realize how what they have learned will help them in the real world. Conducting animal encounters, rewarding students' personal and academic accomplishments, and figuring new ways to make lessons fun and interactive are also among some of the moments she enjoys teaching. She also loves working with her teaching partner, co-workers and working at Mellette School.

Radeana and husband, Cory have 2 children, Mason, 10, and Paden, 7. She enjoys reading, traveling, bargain hunting, organizing things, working at Bramble Park zoo with lemurs, baby alligators, chinchillas and snakes. She is also involved in recreational volleyball. her team received Bronze Division Champs 2 years in a row.

Congratulations,

Mrs. Radeana Johnson

Visitors in the Building

Parents/Guardians are always welcome to Mellette Elementary School. They are encouraged to attend special activities, classrooms, and assemblies. ALL adult visitors must come to the office and sign in before going to any classroom. Please understand that for the benefit for all of our students we do not allow interruptions during instructional time. Visitor badges are to be worn by all visitors in the building. As visitors leave the building, they must stop by the office and sign out. These are safety procedures required by Watertown School District Policy.

December Social Skills

News from the Library

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who helped make our Scholastic Book Fair successful. Because of your generosity, the library will receive over \$1300.00 in free books.

This year students who achieve the school AR goal will have the opportunity to walk to Pizza Ranch for lunch. We will then come back and watch a movie in the library. Students trying to achieve this goal will need to meet the following goals:

- * Students in second and third grade will need to earn 175 points and have an 85% or higher.
- * Students in grades 4 through 6 will need to earn 300 points with an 85% or higher.

Nov. 28-Dec. 9 Accepting Compliments

1. Look at the person
2. Use a nice voice
3. Say "Thank you"

Dec. 12-Dec. 22 Talking with Others

1. Look at the person
2. Use a nice voice
3. Ask questions
4. Let others talk



Elks National "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Contest

Spencer Blotsky, Bailey Zubke, Sam Stanton, Gabby Mischke, Abby Johnson and Kara Kaasa. These 6 finalists each get a certificate and will go to the Lodge Championship, where 1 boy and 1 girl will advance to a District Contest. The finalists in each district will advance to State finals. The state Champions will compete at a Regional contest to determine the contestants that will compete at the National Finals.

NOTES FROM THE NURSE

"I DONT FEEL SO GOOD"....

As parents, we always want what's best for our children. When they don't feel good, we'd gladly trade places with them. There is a great balance between reinforcing the importance of being at school and making a good parent decision that your child will not be able to be "in attention" at school because of an illness. Here are some pointers that may be helpful in this decision.

Please be cautious sending your child to school if:

He/she has a fever of 100 or greater. The question is what has caused the fever. Coming to school sick (and possibly contagious) not only exposes other children to the illness, but also delays your child's healing time.

He/she the dreaded vomiting and diarrhea. it is an excellent idea to keep your child home for at least 24 hours after the last time they vomited or had diarrhea. Feeling ill in school makes learning more difficult and also exposes other students and staff to the illness.

He/she has red eyes which can be a symptom of allergies, irritants, injury, and/or pink eye. If you see that your child has eye redness with drainage or crusting around the eye, it is possible that it is conjunctivitis (pink eye). More than likely you will get a call from the school asking that your child see an doctor to rule out a contagious illness. red eyes which can be a symptom of allergies, irritants, injury, and/or pink eye.

If your child has head lice or scabies, the child must be treated prior to returning to school. It is very important to inform the school so we can take appropriate measures to ensure a healthy environment for all.

As with any virus, a fever does not always accompany the illness. If your child seems listless, has a persistent cough, or endless runny nose, or tummy troubles, it may be best to keep them home for the day.

And as always, if your child needs medication at school, a form must be completed and the medicine brought in the original bottle. (no baggies allowed).

For more information on recommendations for temporary exclusion from a school setting, go to <http://doh.sd.gov/documents/schoolexclusion.pdf>

Items for Students

It is the Policy of Watertown School District to not disrupt class time. If a student has forgotten an item that is needed for school, parents are asked to leave the item in the office and the office will get a message to the teacher. Please do not go to the classroom as it can distract the students from instructional learning.



With the Winter Weather fast approaching we tend to forget the Cold Weather Gear. Please check the weather and send the appropriate weather gear for your student. Hats, Gloves, Coats, Snow Pants and Boots.

2012 International Aviation Art Contest

A student's artistic vision is always an amazing thing. Man started flying because of a different kind of vision but both are inspiring. The South Dakota Department of Education and the South Dakota Pilots Association is seeking children who can combine those visions into art work.

This year's theme is "Silent Flight". Art will be judged for its creative use of the theme in relation to the aviation world. All entries must be postmarked by Friday, January 12, 2012. There are various age groups. Entries in each age group are judged and state winners and runner-ups are selected. Winners receive a certificate and recognition from the state. The top three entries from each age group will be forwarded to Washington, DC to be judged in the national competition.

Please contact your child's teacher for more information. Parents will be responsible for submitting artwork.



5th Grade Full Band
December 12th 3:40-4:30 at
middle school

6th Grade Full Band
December 5th and 19th
3:40-4:30 at middle school
5th Grade Band Concert
December 16th 12:15
Mellette music room



Message for Parents



SD Elementary Honors Festival Choir

Three students from Mellette Elementary have been chosen to participate in the Honors Festival Choir in February at SDSU. Sixth grade students were given the opportunity to record a chosen song used by all contestants. Recordings were sent in to be judged and students were then rated. Last year there were over 800 contestants and approximately 150 were chosen. I am proud of all of the students who showed courage to participate. Congratulations to Brooklyn Pendley, Ally Helle, and Mac Walraven for being chosen!

December Calendar

28 Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	29	30 Early Dismissal 12:20. Teacher Inservice. No Pm Kdg. Am Kdg attend 8:30-11:30 Theme Day! (Beach Day)	1	2
5 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	6	7	8 Music Program Grades 1 & 2 Matinee @ 1:30 Performance @ 6:30	9
12 Beginning Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	13 PTO Turkey Bingo	14	15	16 5th Grade Band Mini- Concert @ 12:15
19 6th Grade Band Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30	20	21	22	23 No School - Christmas Break
 No School - Christmas Break	27 No School - Christmas Break	28 No School - Christmas Break	29 No School - Christmas Break	30 No School - Christmas Break
	2 No School - Christmas Break	3 No School - Teacher Inservice	4 School Resumes regular time	5

Mr. George Seiler
Administrative Intern Mellette School

To the Mellette school parents:

My name is Mr. George Seiler and I am doing an internship with Mr. Decker working towards my Masters in administration. One of my goals for my internship was to create an online schedule for gym usage during the school year. On the Mellette school internet homepage there is a link to a gym and multi-purpose "lunchroom" use form at the top of the page. This form will allow the Mellette staff to see requests from organizations that would like to use the Mellette elementary school facilities. The form includes the guidelines for building use, which needs to be read by all organizations who use the Mellette elementary school facilities. When a request is received and accepted it will be entered into the calendar which can be accessed at the top of the Mellette school homepage (which can be accessed to see open gym and multi-purpose "lunchroom" times) and the organization will be notified of their accepted building use by a member from the Mellette school.

Thank you for allowing me to work with you and your children and too learn in such an excellent school.

Stars for November

Taylor Adams, Mahlia Derby, Lindsey Eagle, Molli Lundgaard, Andrew Weber, Austin Benson, Tangi Bretsch, Haven Kulesa, Presley Rhody, Haley Sattler, Braeden Benda, Lincoln Stahl, Wyatt Hagen, Meghan Heggelund, Tessa Holien, Merci Hanson, Brett Fossum, Jared Fransen, Pete Roe, Isabella Karst, Emily Campbell, Riggins Bundy, Brandon Nelson, Kieran Nebel, Bianca Meyer, Kallie Gulbraa, Chloe Bell, Addie Mittelstedt, Josi Solsaa, Maverick Bickner, Mason Johnson