



Zellerbach Zebras



## Notes from your Principal ~ Patricia Erdmann

Dear Friends,

Those of you who had children in grades three, four and five last year have recently received your child's spring '08 WASL scores in the mail. Here is a summary of WASL results for JDZ students showing the percentage of students who met or exceeded standard.

	<b>READING</b>	<b>MATH</b>	<b>WRITING</b>	<b>SCIENCE</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>64.3</b>		
<b>Fourth</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>78.6</b>	
<b>Fifth</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>67.6</b>		<b>53.5</b>

Our state requires that students in grades three through five take the WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning) every spring. We analyze results by student, by class and by grade and use the data to help us identify the strengths of our programs and to target areas for improvement.

There are many other assessments our teachers use to measure what students are learning. Some of these are paper and pencil tests given to whole classes (e.g., tests before and after math units, writing samples at the beginning and end of the year, fifth grade classroom-based science assessments). Others involve a teacher working one-on-one with individual students (DIBELS in kindergarten through second grade and the San Diego Quick Words reading test). Last year our teachers agreed that they wanted a common measure of children's reading skills across all grades so that we can clearly see children's progress over time. Now all students in first through fifth grades meet individually with teachers for an Individual Reading Inventory (IRI). It takes some time to administer but teachers believe this is time well spent.

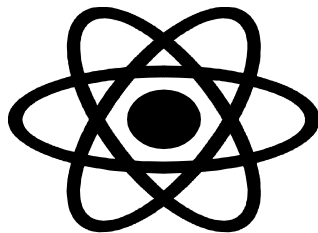
We are proud that JDZ is a school with professional learning communities. One of the benefits of our "ZLCs" is to help us make sure that assessments are worthwhile. Our teachers meet an hour each week in grade level teams. They determine priority goals for their students, agree on what's the best way to assess learning, and study the data the testing provides. This year we are concentrating on how to use that data to improve our teaching, to make sure we don't have children "falling through the cracks" and to give additional challenges to those who are ready.

Our teachers look forward to sharing what they are learning about your children at upcoming parent-teacher conferences. If you haven't already signed up, be on the lookout for conference schedule information coming soon.

*Volunteers still  
needed to help  
facilitate the  
Kindergarten  
Family Reading  
Night, Oct. 20.  
Contact Molly at  
833-1793*

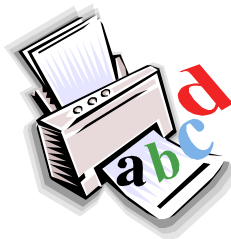
# Calendar of Events

Mon., Oct. 6	Coffee & Conversation with the principal 9:00-10:00 AM
Tues., Oct. 7	Special Ed Curriculum Night 6:00-7:00 PM
Wed., Oct. 8	Kick off for the Jog-a-Thon Assembly 9:15 AM
Fri., Oct. 10	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> State Inservice Day
Wed., Oct. 13	Reflections Art Contest (projects due)
Tues., Oct. 14	PTA General Meeting, 7:00 PM Library (every 2nd Tuesday of the month)
Wed., Oct. 15	Papa Murphy's Pizza Night
Mon., Oct. 20	Kindergarten Family Reading Night 6:00-7:30 PM
Thurs., Oct. 23	Title I Open House 6:30-7:30 PM
Tues., Oct. 28	Living Voices Presentation – 3rd Grade
Thurs., Oct. 30	4th Grade Salmon Field Trip – Oxbow Park



As part of JDZ's School Improvement Plan we'd like to invite community members to our school to share with students how science is part of their daily lives. This sharing will enhance our efforts to foster at least one of the three very important attitudes of science: curiosity, openness to new ideas and informed skepticism. Scientists thrive on curiosity and so do our students. Children enter school bursting with questions about everything in sight, and they differ from scientists only in that they have not yet learned how to go about finding answers and checking to see how good those answers are. Science education that fosters curiosity and teaches children how to channel that inquisitiveness in productive ways serves both students and society. We hope that if you are a scientist or engineer (or know of one) who is interested in fostering children's natural curiosity, you will contact your student's teacher or [maureen.juenger@camas.wednet.edu](mailto:maureen.juenger@camas.wednet.edu) to arrange a date to work with our budding JDZ student scientists. Together we can prepare our students for a lifetime of participation in society.

*Yes, we are collecting Printer cartridges. Drop off boxes are located in the lobby.*



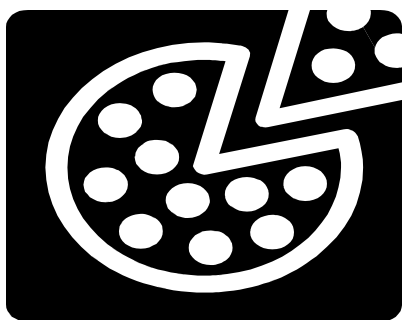
**2nd Tuesday of each month**

# **PTA Meeting**

**JDZ LIBRARY - CHILDCARE PROVIDED**

**Tuesday, Oct. 14**

**7:00 PM JDZ Library**



**Wednesday,  
October 15**

**We've got dinner planned!**

**Look for details coming home.**

## **Phone Directory**

We're excited to produce our first ever JDZ PTA school directory this year! This directory is for you the parents...and of course the children. We're hoping to fill it with as many names and numbers as possible. Please remember to turn in your forms with all your information to the office by Oct. 14. Additional forms are available in the office.

Please contact Zoe Clow at 834-2569 with any questions.

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# Reminders from the Office



**PRE-PLANNED VACATIONS/APPOINTMENTS:** We have noticed that sometimes parents e-mail their children's teachers regarding upcoming vacations, doctor/dental appointments, or change in dismissal plans. If you could also cc the office, it would be GREATLY appreciated.

Often we do not receive this information until your child has been absent for more than two days without any returned calls from the parents. We then will ask the teacher if they know why the student is absent. A simple cc of the original e-mail will assure that your children's absences are excused!

Please e-mail: [anna.smith@camas.wednet.edu](mailto:anna.smith@camas.wednet.edu)



**CHANGE IN DISMISSAL PLANS:** Please be aware that if your child does not bring a note or we do not receive a phone call from a parent, the child **MUST** adhere to their "regular" dismissal plan. We have had many, many instances this year of students thinking they need to take the bus home rather than going to JWR, students wanting to go to JWR rather than taking the bus home and students thinking they are going home with a friend.

HOWEVER, if we have not heard from the parent we have a policy of not calling home to verify this. Unfortunately we just do not have the time or manpower to make all of these calls. It is very hard for the staff to send a crying child someplace they do not feel they should be going. *(We feel responsible for knowing where your children are going and will not let them make their own decisions on where they think they should be going unless we are SURE that you are aware!)*

As it is very difficult to get notes delivered to classrooms with dismissal quickly approaching, we ask that you help us make dismissal a smooth, happy time for everyone by simply sending a note or calling the office **NO LATER THAN 2:30 p.m.**

As always, if there is anything we can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to call (833-5710) or stop by the office. Thank you for helping us make this a great year at JDZ!

Aileen Hay & Anna Smith