

The

JACKSON TIMES



March 2007 | Volume 14, Number 7

Spring is in the Air!

Hello, Jackson.

Finally, some beautiful weather has arrived! March has some exciting events coming up including **Clusters, March 14th, 15th, and 16th**. We hope your students enjoy all of the fun special activities the teachers have planned.



I hope everyone enjoys **Spring Break, March 19th-23rd**. Our TERRIFIC Kid's assembly will be on March 30th at 8:00 am. Have a wonderful March!

Thank you,

Craig Stevens, Principal
366-5884 School 329-2670 Home
cstevens@norman.k12.ok.us

An Appeal for Parent/Adult Volunteers to Assist as Test Monitors During State Testing, April 9-13

On Monday – Friday April 9-13, Jackson will be conducting the annual Oklahoma State Testing Program. We need parents to assist us in this process. Each third, fourth, and fifth-grade class will be conducting this testing. In every test setting, a "test monitor" is needed to verify that appropriate test procedures were followed. It is not a difficult task, but it is an important and essential one. Test monitors will be needed for morning sessions beginning at about 8:00 AM and continuing until testing is done. Testing in regular classrooms usually ends by 10:30 AM.

If you can volunteer for all or any small portion of the testing, your help would be deeply appreciated. Please call at 366-5884 during school hours OR contact me by email (dwilson@norman.k12.ok.us) OR fax at 447-6563 and let me know your availability. Thank you very much. Please contact me if you have questions.

David Wilson
School Counselor

Children's Author Jerry Pallotta Visits Jackson

On Thursday, February 22nd, children's author Jerry Pallotta visited the Jackson Media Center. Students in 1st through 4th grade were very entertained and inspired by his stories.



Mr. Pallotta is pictured here along with Levy Buss and Grace Yoon.

We NEED Yearbook Pictures

Keep sending those photos and story ideas. Lori Brooks, Jackson's Yearbook Editor, is beginning to prepare for this year's yearbook, *The Jackson Tiger*. Photos are trickling in but we need **a lot more**.

We are looking for photos, story ideas, and information about our Jackson students participating in such activities as: school events, sporting events, clubs and organizations, special scholastic events, and artistic performances.



Below is a list of some of the desired content:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Back-to-School Night | Jog-a-Thon |
| Student Service Clubs | Jackson Picnic |
| Math Fair | Jackson Jumpers |
| Halloween | Jackson Sports Teams |
| Grandparents' Day | Circle State with Song/Orchestra |
| Portfolio Night | Reading Workshop |
| Student Council | Girl/Boy Scouts |
| Jackson's Music Programs | Camp Fire USA |
| Awards | 4-H |
| Explorers Breakfast | Resource Team |
| Spelling Bee | Valentines' Day Dance |
| Teacher-of-the-Year | Tiger Knights Chess Club |
| Book Fairs | Jump Rope Club |
| Media Center | Walking Club |
| Literacy Club | SEES Club |
| Math Olympiad | Science Club |
| PE and Music Classes | Computer Club |
| Travel Fair | Clusters |
| Jump Rope for Heart | |

You may contact Lori with any questions about content at 405-990-7409 or lbrooks@ou.edu.

Parents of fifth graders, you will also have an opportunity to purchase ads congratulating your children in this year's yearbook. More information to come.

To submit photos and story ideas please email them to jacksontigeryearbook@yahoo.com or you may drop them by the main office.

Schoolwide Reading Challenge March 5th thru 26th



Join the schoolwide reading challenge! The reading challenge began March 5 and will run through March 26. The theme for this year's Reading Challenge "Movies"! Each classroom will set a goal. Every class that meets their goal will participate in the schoolwide **Reading Celebration on Friday, March 30th**. Students will be able to dress

up as their favorite movie characters at the celebration. Contact your child's teacher for more information.

Record Turnout for the Math Fair

Our Math Fair and Chili Dinner was a great success. We had **record turnout** this year! We usually have approximately 30% of our students attend. This year we had 43%!



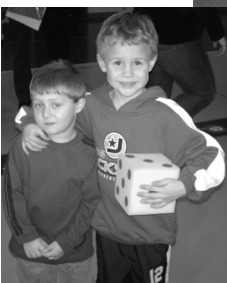
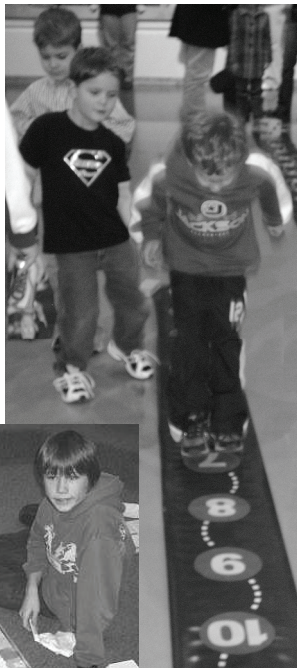
We usually receive approximately 70 family surveys throughout the Math Fair. This year we received 95! Thank you Jackson families for your participation.

The top three grade levels will receive math games for their rooms; 5th grade really rocked this year with 49% attendance, as well as, 3rd and 1st grade with a great turnout of 41%.

Mrs. Dmytryk and Ms. Lundgren's classes will receive free math games. Both classes had an attendance or over 50%.



A **BIG thank you** to Eileen Lillard our Math Resource Teacher and to everyone who volunteered their time to help. We also are grateful to our Jackson PTA for paying for the chili dinner and McFarlin's Church youth group for serving the food.



The Jackson Media Center has a new look!

EDITORS NOTE: This article was submitted by Jayme Seat.

The Jackson Media Center has a new look thanks to the Norman community. The bond issue which Norman voters passed last year provided the funds for the new furniture.



Our new furniture began arriving the first week of November and the installation was finished just before Thanksgiving break. The media center had to be closed at times during the month of November while the installation was taking place, but the media center is now back open and ready for all students.

We will be adding a few finishing touches to the décor of the library in the next few months. We are using book fair funds to purchase a new rug in the story time area, a new self checkout station, and new book ends to match the furniture. Come by and take a look!



Students in Miss Moses' class enjoy the new coffee table and comfortable chairs!



New computer search stations have been added to the media center.

Book Fair Beach Spring Scholastic Book Fair March 26th thru 30th

The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming this month! Our Spring theme is "Book Fair Beach".



Look for more book fair information and your Scholastic catalog to come later this month. You can begin your Summer shopping here at Jackson; books, posters, educational toys, and much much more. The Book Fair will be in the large hall right outside of the library.

Parent volunteers needed to work. Contact Jayme Seat at 366-5884 or jseat@norman.k12.ok.us.

News From Mrs. Allgood

EDITORS NOTE: This article was submitted by Susan Allgood.



We have many small enrichment groups taking place this quarter. **First graders** are adding and taking away money and working with fractions. Mrs. Seat will be starting a new book study soon. **Second graders** just completed Excel graphs, discovering many interesting patterns in our body measurements. Did you

know that your head circumference is twice your neck circumference, which is twice your wrist circumference? Second grade boys are researching famous people and will start new research projects on their favorite animal in a few weeks. **Third graders** began studying fractions and Mystery Club is in the process of writing their own mystery stories. **Fourth and 5th grade** Math Olympiad students recently competed in the final contest of the year. Several Jackson students scored a perfect 25, which is amazing considering how difficult these word problems can be! Two small groups of 4th and 5th graders meet weekly to conduct individual research projects. All 5th graders recently completed a study of Greek and Latin root words and their meanings in order to increase vocabularies. Our next unit will focus on how our brains work, visual perception skills, and helpful test-taking skills and tips.

Clusters are coming! March 14, 15, and 16, during the last hour of the day, **1st-5th graders** will be participating in small groups called clusters. Each cluster focuses on a particular topic which is not ordinarily covered during the school year, but is a subject of great interest and benefit to many students. The purpose of each cluster group is for the student to create a product or learn an activity which will be of use to him/her throughout the school career, or the lifetime. **Kindergartners** will participate in their own Clusters after Spring Break.



Please contact Susan Allgood, 366-5884 or sallgood@norman.k12.ok.us, with any questions or concerns about Jackson's gifted and schoolwide enrichment programs.

NO "Heeling" Allowed

EDITORS NOTE: This article was submitted by Jane Dmytryk.

Heelys are a new style of shoe that has wheels located in the heel area, which enables the wearer to lean back on his/her heels and "skate", or go "heeling". Admittedly, this new form of recreation does look fun (in fact, a number of the Jackson faculty stated they wished such a shoe was around when THEY were kids!), but it has created some serious safety issues. Students have inadvertently fallen when their feet went out from under them, toes have been rolled over, students are unable to run safely in PE class, and collisions have occurred as students skate down a hallway and run into someone coming around the corner. Therefore, the school's safety committee has advised students that **"heeling" is no longer allowed at Jackson, both inside and outside.**



The shoes may be worn to school ONLY if the wheels have been removed and are left at home. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the school or speak with your child's teacher.

Thank you for keeping our kids safe!

Eight Good Jokes and a Startling Reality...

EDITORS NOTE: This article was submitted by David Wilson.

TEACHER: Young woman, do you know what time we start school here in the morning?

PUPIL: No, teacher, I don't. I've never been here for that.

TEACHER: Young man, you've been late for school every day this week.

PUPIL: No, teacher, I was only late for school four days this week. The other day I was absent.

TEACHER: Do you have any idea how many times you've been late for school this year?

PUPIL: Well, teacher, I don't think it's been more than once a day.

TEACHER: Young man, you've been late for school five days this week. Does that make you happy?

PUPIL: Sure does. That means it's Friday.

TEACHER: Young lady, do you know what the word "tardy" means?

PUPIL: No, teacher, I don't. You must have covered that before I got here.

TEACHER: Young man, how would you like it if I were ten minutes late for school every morning like you are?

PUPIL: It would be great. We could ride to school together.

TEACHER: You've been ten minutes late for school every day this year and all you do is come up with unsatisfactory excuses.

PUPIL: I know. If I could be 15 minutes late, that would give me enough time to come up with better excuses.

One kid in our class is always late for school.

When we studied the Hundred Years War, he only showed up for the last three years.

EMPLOYER: I understand that you've been late to work 12 times in the last 3 months.

EMPLOYEE: Yes, I can explain...

EMPLOYER: No need. We've discussed it before. I just wanted to let you know that we will no longer be in need of your services...

Aside from the obvious problems of classroom disruption and missed learning caused by students arriving late for school, being on time is an essential life skill. It is considered by most employers as an important characteristic of dependability. Dependability reflects on character and responsibility. Character and responsibility are not qualities that suddenly appear because one becomes a grown-up. Children develop these qualities through the models given them by significant adults in their lives and through the valuable experiences of childhood.

Please help your children learn the value of being on time by getting them around and getting them to school on time. If you are struggling with your child's cooperation in the morning, consult with others. Your friends, family, your child's teacher, the school counselor, and the principal might be able to share some responses that could help. Meaningful little consequences now for not cooperating with Mom or Dad and getting to school on time can make a big difference. The lessons get much tougher when they are grown.



REMEMBER...

The first bell rings at 7:50 am
School starts at 8:00 am

The Boomerang Night Winner

For the month of February, **Mrs. Bruton's 1st Grade** class is the winner of Jackson Family Night at Boomerang Grille. They will get a catered lunch from Boomerang Grille brought to right to their classroom. The exact date will be determined later.



Congratulations to Mrs. Bruton's class!

DON'T FORGET...2nd Grade has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 13th due to the bad weather in January. All proceeds from January will be carried over.

Teacher Appreciation Week

A BIG Thank You to all of the wonderful volunteers who contributed their time and skills to help make Teacher Appreciation Week a great success. Thank you Mary Biddick, Anna Goree, Lisa Houston, Holly Jack, Rose Tyler, Nova McIlhane, Jill Fayak, Darla Baca and especially to our Teacher Appreciation Coordinator Jennifer Marcum.

Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

Jackson's Lost and Found

Dear Parents and Friends,

Jackson's Student Council has gotten the Lost and Found UNDER CONTROL! Items are now hanging instead of piled in stacks. It is now much easier to find lost items than ever before. However, few items are being picked-up from the lost and found, and that results in items piling up in barrels again.



Please come by during school hours and check for any items that your child may have lost at school.

Please check while the items are still here.



David Wilson, Student Council Faculty Advisor
dwilson@norman.k12.ok.us



The Carnival Has Moved!

Our annual Jackson Carnival has been moved to **Friday, May 4th** to give more time for preparation and better weather.

We need parents, grandparents, family members, and community friends to help put on a great carnival for all of our children.



If you are interested in helping with the Jackson Carnival, please contact Christine Wilson at 405-329-5737 or christineawilson@hotmail.

Jackson Upcoming Events March/April 2007



- Mar 5-26..... Schoolwide Reading Challenge
 - Mar 13..... Pre-K Music Programs
(Music Room, AM at 9:00am and PM at 2:00pm)
 - Mar 13.....Boomerang Grille Night (5:00-10:00pm)
(2nd Grade Competition Night—RESCHEDULED)
 - Mar 15..... Classroom Group Pictures
 - Mar 19 – 23.....NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
 - Mar 26-30..... Spring Scholastic Book Fair
 - Mar 27 PTA Meeting (6:15-6:45pm in the cafeteria)
 - Mar 30.....TERRIFIC Kids Assembly (8:00am)
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- Apr 1..... Daylight Savings Time Begins
(Don't forget to turn your clocks up 1 hour)
 - Apr 3..... 1st Grade Music Program
(“Upon a Lilly Pad” at 7:00pm)
 - Apr 6.....SONIC Drive-In Night (5:00-7:00pm)
 - Apr 17.....Boomerang Grille Night (5:00-10:00pm)
(Pre-K and Kindergarten Competition Night)
 - Apr 17..... PTA Meeting (6:15-6:45pm in the cafeteria)
 - Apr 20.....TERRIFIC Kids Assembly (8:00am)
 - Apr 26..... Choir Jump Rope Program (7:00pm)

Our Next PTA Meeting March 27th at 6:15pm



DON'T forget our next PTA meeting. It will be Tuesday, March 27th at 6:15pm in the Jackson Cafeteria.

For more information, contact Holly Jack, PTA President, at 405-321-4479 or holly_a_jack@yahoo.com.

Volunteer of the Month

The Volunteer of the Month for March is **Darla Baca**. Darla serves on the Jackson PTA Board as the Public Relations Chair. She is the editor of the Jackson Times and created and maintains our website. She has worked tirelessly this year to get information to the Jackson Community through the newsletter, website and the local media. She has volunteered her time at numerous PTA events, all while going to school at OU and working as a substitute teacher.

Thank you so much **Darla**, for everything you have contributed this year! You truly are an exceptional volunteer!

2006-2007 JACKSON P.T.A.

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Yearbook Editor	Lori Brooks	990-7409	lbrooks@ou.edu

All yearbook pictures and story ideas need to be sent to jacksonfigeryearbook@yahoo.com or leave them in the main office.

For information about The Jackson Times, please contact the editor, Darla Baca, at 321-6461 or d.baca@cox.net.