

# Kernville Elementary School Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 5

January 2010

## Upcoming Events

- 1/4 - School resumes
- 1/4 - School Site Council 4:00
- 1/5 - PTC meeting 4:30 room 7
- 1/5 - School Board Meeting 7:30 @ WWWE
- 1/6 - Early Release Day
- 1/13 - Early Release Day
- 1/18 - No School
- 1/20- Early Release Day
- 1/21 - Jon Pearson Family Event 4:00
- 1/25 - In-Service Day - No School
- 1/27 - Early Release Day
- 1/29 - Recognition Assembly

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## Happy New Year

Happy New Year! The students and staff at Kernville hope that you had an enjoyable holiday season and are ready to get back into the school routine. Please remember that after a long holiday break, it is very important that students re-establish their school routine as soon as possible. This routine should include proper rest and nourishment to enable students to work up to their capacity each day.

Just a reminder about scheduled early release days every Wednesday.

Students are released one hour earlier. Please try to schedule appointments in the afternoons of minimum days so your child does not miss valuable school time.

School will be closed on Monday, January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King's Birthday and on Monday, January 25th for a staff development day.

The new year brings in new guidelines for cell phones at school. All cell phones must remain in backpacks and turned off while on

school property, including bus transportation to and from school. Cell phones seen by district employees will be confiscated from the student and the parent will need to personally pick it up from the office.



## Laps for Learning Winners

Laps for Learning was a HUGE success! Thanks to a supportive community, we brought in over \$7,000. Top money maker was Jared Mofatt bringing in \$317.00, Mrs. Tito's class brought

in the most money, bringing in \$1,792.00. They will receive a party of their choice.

The money raised will be used for assemblies, field trips, and other student activities.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

# School Attendance is Important

Schools are funded based on actual attendance. So far this year, Kernville Elementary School has lost approximately \$18,000 due to absences. The amount lost has a significant impact on our school and district. Please try to schedule doctor appointments in the afternoon so that your child can attend school in the morning.

Regular attendance at school is important for every student. It is difficult for students to learn if they are not in class. The teaching-learning process builds upon itself—each lesson presented to students is based upon or related to the lessons that

were taught earlier. Just as we can never regain a moment of time wasted, the child who misses a day of school also misses a day of education that cannot be retrieved. Research shows that children who attend school regularly are more likely to be successful during their school years and after graduation. If young people do not develop the habits of good attendance and prompt completion of assignments while they are in school, when will they learn these things? Their success as adults in their chosen occupation is dependent upon these habits.

When parents believe that attendance is important and they communicate that to their children, unnecessary absences will be reduced.

Students should attend school every day unless an illness or emergency prevents them from doing so.

When you miss school, you miss out!

## Family Event Scheduled “Drawing Out The Best in Your Family”

Kernville Elementary School will be hosting a family event on Thursday, January 21st at 4:00. Described as the “world’s funniest educational evening,” this is a chance for families to discover some effective tools for communication, learning, and personal success. Find out how to overcome the two greatest blocks to learning and see how your children can personalize and accelerate all their studying. The family event is aimed at showing how anyone (parents and children) can use drawing as a learning tool. It will also show parents how to connect with their children through the drawing process. Jon Pearson, the presenter, will show how drawing can be used for language and memory development —

how to take notes with drawing, how to do pre-writing with drawing, how to expand imagination through doodling, how to increase comprehension through drawing, how to use drawing to “learn anything faster and remember it longer!” He will show you some practical secrets to draw out the best in your children and help them be the unique, life-long learners they naturally are.

Jon Pearson has a book and DVD available for purchase. The book, *Drawing on the Inventive Mind*, is 90 pages of easy-to-use activities for teachers, parents, and students. Even if you “can’t draw a straight line” Jon will show you how to use drawing to develop reading, writ-

ing, thinking and self-esteem skills. The DVD, *Draw Power*, is Jon Pearson “in a box”: an hour and three minutes of “active tools for teachers, parents, and students.” See how to transform drawing into a reading, writing, and thinking tool. The DVD is divided into eight sections with a musical interlude in between. The book sells for \$10 and the DVD sells for \$25. Books and DVDs may be purchased at the event.

Mark your calendar now and join us on January 21st at 4:00 for this exciting family event.

# Character Counts All the Time

## Monthly Focus: Responsibility

The Kernville Union School District is committed to strengthen young lives through character education. Character Counts! focuses on six pillars: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. Good character is necessary to successfully meet life’s challenges. But it doesn’t just happen. It’s up to all of us to teach young people right from wrong. This month we are focusing on **Responsibility**.

Being responsible means:

- Fulfilling your school, family,

and community obligations

- Thinking ahead, setting reasonable goals, controlling your temper, and not giving up easily

When individuals are responsible, they:

- Never threaten to cause harm, bully, intimidate, abuse, mistreat, exploit, or fight with anyone.
- Attend class regularly and be on time. Remain at school at

all times unless permission to leave is granted.

- Never bring to school or threaten anyone with a weapon (including a toy weapon), gun, knife, explosive device, tear gas, firecracker, or a dangerous or harmful device.
- Abstain from the illegal use and/or possession of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

## Family Resource Center/Low Cost Health Insurance

The Kernville Union School District's Family Resource Center offers a variety of services to local families. Family Advocates and Intensive Home Visitors provide local families help with concerns ranging from medical, dental or mental health issues to assistance with school readiness and utility bills.

Do you need low cost health insurance for your children? The Family Resource Center has the solution—Healthy Families Insurance. Healthy Families Insurance is California’s low-cost, comprehensive medical, dental, and vision care insurance program.

For more information, call the Family Resource Center at 379-2556.



## Inclement Weather Guidelines

With the winter weather we have been having, it is possible that we may experience weather conditions that may affect the opening of school at any time. In case of inclement weather, usually snow, Robin Shive, District Superintendent, makes the decisions with the welfare of the students in mind. When it is necessary to delay the

opening of school, an announcement will be made as early as possible. The announcement will be broadcast over radio stations KVLI (1140 AM or 104.5 FM) and KCNQ-FM (102.5) between 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. It will also be broadcast on Channel 17. You can also go to our web site <http://www.kernvilleusd.org> and click on the School Alert link in the upper right hand corner. Once

you hear the information, continue listening to your radio for any update related to the opening of school.

If the decision is made to send students home early due to weather, the information will be broadcast over the radio stations, Channel 17 and on our web site.