

# February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Day 4 Band/ Orchestra CSA meet- ing 7:00 PM in li- brary	2 Day 5 Band/ Orchestra	3 Day 1 Band/ Orchestra	4 Day 2 Band/ Orchestra	5 Day 3 Band/Orchestra	6
7	8 Day 4	9 Day 5 5th gr. field trip to CAC 9:45-12:30	10 Day 1 Spring parties in rooms 2:30 PM	11 No School for students  In-service for staff	12 No School for students  In-service for staff	13
14 	15 Day 4 Snow Make Up Day  School in session	16 Day 2 Band/ Orchestra	17 Day 3 Band/ Orchestra Officer Phil assemblies K-3 9:15 & 1:45	18 Day 4 Band/ Orchestra Orchestra concert @ Curtin 7 PM	19 Day 5 Band/Orchestra Staff/5th gr. Volleyball 2:00 PM Kindergarten field trip to CAC & Penn College 9:20-2:45	20
21	22 Day 1	23 Day 2 Spring Scholastic Book Fair	24 Day 3 Spring Scholastic Book Fair	25 Day 4 Spring Scholastic Book Fair Math- Science night 6:30- 8:00 PM	26 Day 5 Spring Scholastic Book Fair	27
28						

## J. Henry Cochran Elementary School

1500 Cherry Street, Williamsport, PA  
Phone: (570) 322-9731 Fax: (570) 322-9733  
Check us out on the web: [www.wasd.org](http://www.wasd.org)

### Elimination of Intimidation

Time for an exercise in relaxation (yoga mats are optional). Close your eyes, imagine you are traveling back to a time when you were in elementary school (admit it; you thought we were going on a vacation). Now, stop and name the one person you remember as being the bully. Done? You should be. I have a feeling it's not the person who stayed under the radar that came to mind; rather it was the one who made a habit of intimidating, or dare I say, bullying others, that has left a lasting impression on your psyche.

Bullying, and its subsequent outcomes, can no longer be considered a rite of passage for the *Youth of the Nation (POD, 2002)*. This is why our school district has committed to the Olweus Anti-Bullying Program, and our building kicked off our commitment to it on Jan. 22 with an energetic and entertaining program presented by our high school's performance group known as *Without a Cue*.

These students did an outstanding job presenting the major tenets of the Olweus program while entertaining our entire population. *I'm So Excited (Pointer Sisters, 1982)* about the momentum the group's performance has generated that I decided to present the pillars of the program to you through my own musical masquerade. Please humor me.

**1. *Bad, Bad Leroy Brown (Jim Croce, 1973)*:** Whether it is their intention to be the baddest young men or women in town, bullies have never been and will not ever be tolerated at Cochran.

**2. *Stuck in the Middle (Stealers Wheel, 1972)*:** If your child has a clown or a bully to the left of them, and a victim to the right, tell them to **be safe and say something**. We are trying to let our students know that being a passive bystander helps no one and sometimes aggravates the situation.

**3. *Me and Julio Down by the School Yard (Paul Simon, 1972 ...I was not born yet!)*:** Whether your child is with Julio, John, Jamie, or even Cecilia, our goal is to be sure that all of our students are connected to one another in our classrooms, corridors, and cafeteria. (And, yes, even our school yard). Social isolation is another way our students can be bullied. Please talk to your child about working hard to include others in his/her daily activities.

**4. *Say Something (James, 1993)*:** In their hit song, the British alternative band says "silence is deafening." At JHC, when it comes to bullying, silence can be devastating to our students. Therefore, they are encouraged to seek out an adult to report inappropriate behaviors such as bullying. That should come at a time when they feel comfortable enough to do so. If your child says something to you, please contact me at your earliest convenience. Do not presume that we are aware of the situation or don't dismiss it as "kids being kids." I urge you. the adult, to say something as well.

As *I Take a Bow (Madonna, 1994)*, whether I should or not, I want to repeat how important it is to our staff that your child feels safe and secure in our learning community. The Olweus program is another way we can ensure your child can *Relax (Frankie Goes to Hollywood, 1983)* and do what we hope he or she will do ... LEARN!

Need I say something more? - Mr. Michaels

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**JCH**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
MRS. KUNKLE**

As we enter into the second half of the school year, we would like to say thank you to everyone in the Cochran Community for a great first half of the school year. The upcoming months will present many learning opportunities for our students and their parents/guardians.

February 10- Valentines Parties in classrooms beginning at 2:45

February 11 and 12- No school for students (in-service)

February 15<sup>th</sup> School is in session. It is a snow make up day!

February 19<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball against the teachers beginning at 2:00pm

February 25<sup>th</sup>- Math/Science Night from 6:30-8:30pm

## **We Need Your Help!**

The "YES" program encourages our students to do their best. Each Friday, six names are pulled from the YES Coupon Box. The students selected receive their "YES" Coupon Prize. Please donate to the "YES" program to help it remain successful. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER!**

School will be closed on Thursday and Friday, February 11 & 12, 2010, due to in-service days. School WILL BE IN SESSION on Monday, February 15th, 2010. That is a snow make-up day.



### **THE LITERACY COLLABORATIVE AT COCHRAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

2010 has begun, and staff, students and parents are busily engaged in working hard to make this year a success for our entire J. Henry Cochran community. This is the time of year when teachers recognize that half of our instructional year is over, so the stretch of nearly uninterrupted time that the months of January, February and March provide has us moving "full steam ahead"!

As a Literacy Collaborative building, we are trained to observe students carefully to determine teaching moves necessary to take students to the next step. This process has created a community of adult learners who are constantly reflecting upon and refining their teaching to meet the academic needs of their students. With parents by our side, pledged to meet physical and emotional needs, we have created a team that supports students in every aspect of their development.

The key to this teamwork is communication between and among students, parents, teachers and administrators. We learn from each other. The doors to Cochran are always open! Come celebrate what we are doing as readers and writers - it's all over our walls!

### **COCHRAN IS ON THE WEB**

Check out our building online @  
[www.wasd.org](http://www.wasd.org) under SCHOOLS!



### **Keeping an Eye on the Weather**

Did you know that you can sign up to get information regarding school closings, early dismissals and weather delays sent to you via e-mail or text messaging? Visit the WASD website at [www.wasd.org](http://www.wasd.org) and click on the Channel 16 Winter watch link to sign up for this great supplemental service!

### **Lost and Found Items**

Many items, from jackets to hats, are finding their way into our lost and found box. The box is located in front of the gym. If your child loses something, please encourage your child to look in the box. Also, feel free to check the box when you're in the school.

### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

The Williamsport Area School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disability Act of 1990. For more information regarding civil rights, grievance procedures, or services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped individuals, contact: Debra J. Savage, Esq., Director of Human Resources, Williamsport Area School District, 201 West Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701, telephone number (570) 327-5500 extension 3541.

**SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTORS HONORED**

On Tuesday, January 19, 2010, a recognition ceremony was held during the School Board meeting. Cora Eiswerth and Jeffery Robinson were chosen from Cochran to honor two directors. Each director was presented with a book. The books will be returned to the library in each school. Thank you to the Williamsport Area School District's Board of Directors for your dedication and continued service. Congratulations to Cora and Jeffery for being chosen to represent our school at the recognition ceremony. Thank you to the CSA for purchasing the books.

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR**

**MRS. HARDY**

Let's face it, winter is still here! So, February is a great month to try some crafts at home. It will keep the children warm and occupied. You'll also spend some great bonding time together. Here are a few fun ideas to try:

Groundhog puppet—Mardi Gras mask- Home-made Valentines- Edible log cabins made of pretzel rods

Hope you have fun! Also, be on the look out for great ways to spend time *TOGETHER!*

**YES PROGRAM**

**(We ALWAYS need your HELP!!)**

The "Yes" program encourages our children to demonstrate that they are good citizens. Each Friday, six names are pulled from the "YES" bucket, and the children receive prizes donated by you, the parents. **PLEASE DONATE TO THIS SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM! YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

Special thanks to the following families and friends for their contributions to the "YES" program:

<b>Cillo Family</b>	<b>Fisher Family</b>	<b>Emma Morehart</b>
<b>Andrew Fish</b>	<b>Walsh Family</b>	<b>Marty Family</b>

# Connect with Cochran

- **February 1—CSA meeting 7:00 PM in the Cochran Library**
- **February 9-5th grade to CAC 9:45-12:30**
- **February 10—Spring Parties in Rooms, 2:30 PM**
- **February 11-12—No School for Students**
- **February 15—Snow make-up day (School in session)**
  - **February 17—Officer Phil Program for grades K-3 9:15 & 1:45**
- **February 18— Third grade Orchestra Concert 7:00 PM @ Curtin**
- **February 19—Kindergarten to CAC & Penn College 9:20-2:45**
  - **February 19 — Cochran Staff/5th grade Volleyball Games, 2:00 PM**
- **February 23-26—Spring Scholastic Book Fair**
  - **February 25—Math/Science Night 6:30—8:00 PM**

**COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

**MR. EDLER**

**Olweus Bullying Program**

One of the goals we had for the 2009/2010 school year was to implement a bullying prevention program. We have been working hard to get this program ready to be implemented. On January 22nd, we had our kick-off assembly. We were very pleased to be able to have the high school drama club perform skits which showed the effects bullying can have on people. Classroom teachers held class meetings prior to the assembly to discuss this new program. Classroom meetings will continue on a regular basis in order to take a preventative approach to these problems.

Please take time to read the brochure that was sent home the day of the kick-off event. Let me know if you any questions about the program or if you did not receive the brochure.

Thank you!  
Mr. Edler

**REMINDERS....**

Whenever a student has a change of address, phone, emergency numbers, or other important information, the school should be notified immediately. This notification can be in writing or by telephone. The information is extremely important for our records.

Safety Patrol members should dress appropriately for the cold temperatures. Please be alert to the weather conditions and dress accordingly.

**CHILD CARE**

Students should not arrive at school before 8:15 AM at the earliest. Arrival before this is unsupervised time. Those students who enter for breakfast do not have access to the building before 8:15 AM. For safety reasons, you should arrange leaving time for your son or daughter so that they do not arrive prior to 8:15 AM. Please do not drop off your child in the morning any earlier than necessary as supervision is not provided until 8:45 AM. Students must be picked up promptly after they are dismissed at 3:30 PM.

If you are in need of child care or "Latchkey" services before or after school hours, this can be arranged through YMCA Child Care Services which operates a program at Cochran. For more information call 323-7134.

**Title 1 News**

**10 Tips for Choosing Books for Children of All Ages**

- Have children choose their own books as soon as they start showing a preference for one over another.
- Find the children's section of your local library. Get to know the librarian, who can be a great resource.
- Find out what your child is interested in, and help choose books that are related to his or her interests.
- Ask friends, family, and teachers what books their children have enjoyed; try a book swap.
- If your child does not like a book you are reading together, put it away. Reading is a fun time to share, not a time to fight.
- Again, Again, Again! Children may want to read the same book many times, even if you think they have outgrown it.
- Use book lists generated by various literacy organizations; they usually have good suggestions. For example: American Library Association, International Reading Association, Children's Book Guild.
- Look for books that you will like reading aloud. Your enjoyment will shine through and become contagious.
- Try different kinds of books to see what appeals to your children.
- Have fun! Show your children the joy of reading and how it can open up a brand new world!

Source: Family of Readers Advisor's Guide—[www.rif.org/parents/tips](http://www.rif.org/parents/tips)

**NURSES' NOTES**

**MRS. DEMOTT-THOMPSON AND MRS. MILLER**

**IMMUNIZATION UPDATE**

There is pending legislation that will require ALL Pennsylvania school children (grades K-12) to have two (2) properly spaced doses of the varicella vaccine (chicken pox). This new immunization requirement will be for the 2010-2011 school year.

Letters have been sent to parents of any children who have not received the second varicella shot. If you received this letter and your child had the 2<sup>nd</sup> varicella, please have your doctor sign or stamp his/her signature on the bottom right side of the form, and provide us with the date of the vaccine.

If you believe that your child has not yet received the 2<sup>nd</sup> varicella, please make arrangements to get your child vaccinated and return verification to the school nurse as soon as possible.

### COCHRAN CALENDAR

**P**LEASE POST THE CALENDAR ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER AT A LOCATION THAT IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU, SUCH AS YOUR REFRIGERATOR, IN ORDER TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND DAYS THAT SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION.

**Each newsletter will have a monthly calendar marked with important dates.**

### HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

Attached is a cycle day (Days 1-5) calendar for February with the days listed. If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, please go to the next cycle day as follows.



### BUS ZONE PARKING

Please pay attention to the Bus Zone signs at Cochran. Parking is prohibited between the signs on school days from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Please follow this rule to ensure the safety of our students. We appreciate your compliance with this situation.



### PARKING REQUEST

**Please be mindful of where you park your vehicle during arrival, dismissal, and evening programs.**



### YMCA CHILD CARE SERVICES

Kathie Saar is the site coordinator at Cochran's YMCA Child Care Services before and after school program. Parents interested in this service may contact the child care office at 323-7134. This service provides supervision before and after school.

### **J. Henry Cochran Elementary is...**

...a learning community in which children will **strive for excellence, realize their potential** and make **healthy lifestyle choices** on a daily basis.



### **Y.E.S. Coupon Requirements**

**Our Expectation...J. Henry Cochran students will be respectful, responsible, and reasonable individuals who will strive to function well in the school community.**

- Please remember that students should initiate the behavior on their own accord.
- The idea is to "catch" a student being a positive, helpful, caring example to others without the student knowing.
- This program is designed to promote responsible, compassionate citizens in our school.
- The focus is on exceptional behavior.

### TOP TEN REASONS TO GIVE A YES COUPON...

A student displays **respect** by being polite and listening carefully while others are speaking.

A student displays **courtesy** by helping others and using polite language.

A student displays **responsibility** by making thoughtful, wise decisions.

A student displays **leadership** by keeping his/her group focused on their goal, taking initiative toward a positive goal and modeling good behavior, especially when attending assemblies, learning with a substitute teacher, and representing our building on field trips.

A student displays **honesty** by telling the truth and taking responsibility for his/her actions.

A student shows **compassion** by reaching out to help other students, especially those in need.

A student displays **caring** by being concerned about others well-being.

A student displays **kindness** by giving their time and efforts to help others.

A student displays **pride** by keeping the school environment clean and organized.

A student displays his/her **personal best** by learning from mistakes, trying harder when faced with adversity, and showing significant improvement in any area.