



THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

Respect, Ready, Responsible, Proud

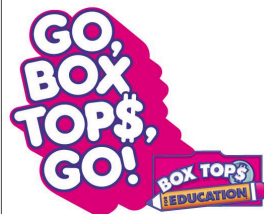
December 16, 2016



December 20th
PTO Meeting 9:15 am
Teacher's Lounge

December 26th -
January 2, 2017
NO SCHOOL
Winter Break

Don't forget to show your Johnson PRIDE by wearing spirit wear or school colors every Friday



Keep clipping Those box tops! Every little bit helps!

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caretakers,

As the hustle and bustle of the holiday season approaches, it is important that we work together to maintain our children's routines. As research supports, students thrive on consistency and routine. It is only through consistency and routine that learners grow to understand our expectations, act responsibly, and meet their goals. If we are to teach our children responsibility, we must allow them to experience the natural consequences of not being responsible. For example, if a student forgets his/her instrument or homework, and we "save them" by dropping it off at school, we have not embraced an important teachable moment. Actions have consequences and it is only through trial and error that children learn, grow, and become mature, responsible adults. Of course it is understandable that our natural inclination as parents is to jump in and rescue them.

I offer this to you for consideration, "What are we teaching our children if we take the responsibility for their actions for them? Aren't we sending a clear message that they cannot do it, so we must do it for them?" Setting up children for success includes proactively planning. Some examples of successful strategies include:

- Creating a checklist with your son/daughter that is kept in a visible location that he/she checks before leaving for school. In this way, you will be providing support while allowing him/her to take ownership for their belongings. This will yield a sense of empowerment and pride.
- If forgetting homework is an issue, consider reminding your child to check off the homework in their agenda book from the night before, and having them place it in their backpack.
- If you find that your child is running around in the morning looking for backpacks, boots, instruments, or other school related items, setting up a specific location and placing those items there from the night before will help out with the hustle and bustle of getting everyone out and on time in the morning.

Finally, know that children will make mistakes and it is our job to teach them how to take responsibility and be accountable for their actions. Let's work together to empower our children. If you would like any specific advice or have further questions, our guidance counselor, Mr. Melo would be happy to help. He can be contacted at meloj@bethel.k12.ct.us.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Very Truly Yours,
Alison Salerno
Principal

CT Annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest

Johnson School has had the pleasure of participating in the annual Connecticut Fire Prevention Poster Contest for more than ten years to date. Fire continues to be a major problem, causing substantial economic and personal loss. In October, Ms. McCue and the Town Fire Marshal, Mr. Tom Galliford kick-off the initiative by stressing the importance of fire prevention, safety, and awareness. For our young Johnson School artists, this contest is an excellent opportunity for children to blend imagery and typography, all while spreading a life saving messages.

Here's how it works. For fourth graders it is an optional take-home assignment. For fifth grade students it's a class project done during Art. In the beginning of December a panel of judges decide the town winners for each grade level. The First place winners move on to represent the Town of Bethel at the County level of the competition. If the student wins at the County level, they receive a \$150 money prize, are invited to the awards ceremony luncheon held in March, and they move to the state level of the contest. It is there that the Grand prize state winner is announced. This student wins an additional \$750 money prize, and has their winning design put on folders, posters, and on the front of the annual Fire Prevention Poster Calendar. These are distributed to all participating towns and cities in Connecticut.

This contest is only open to 4th and 5th grade students in Connecticut and typically has more than 30,000 students across the state participating.

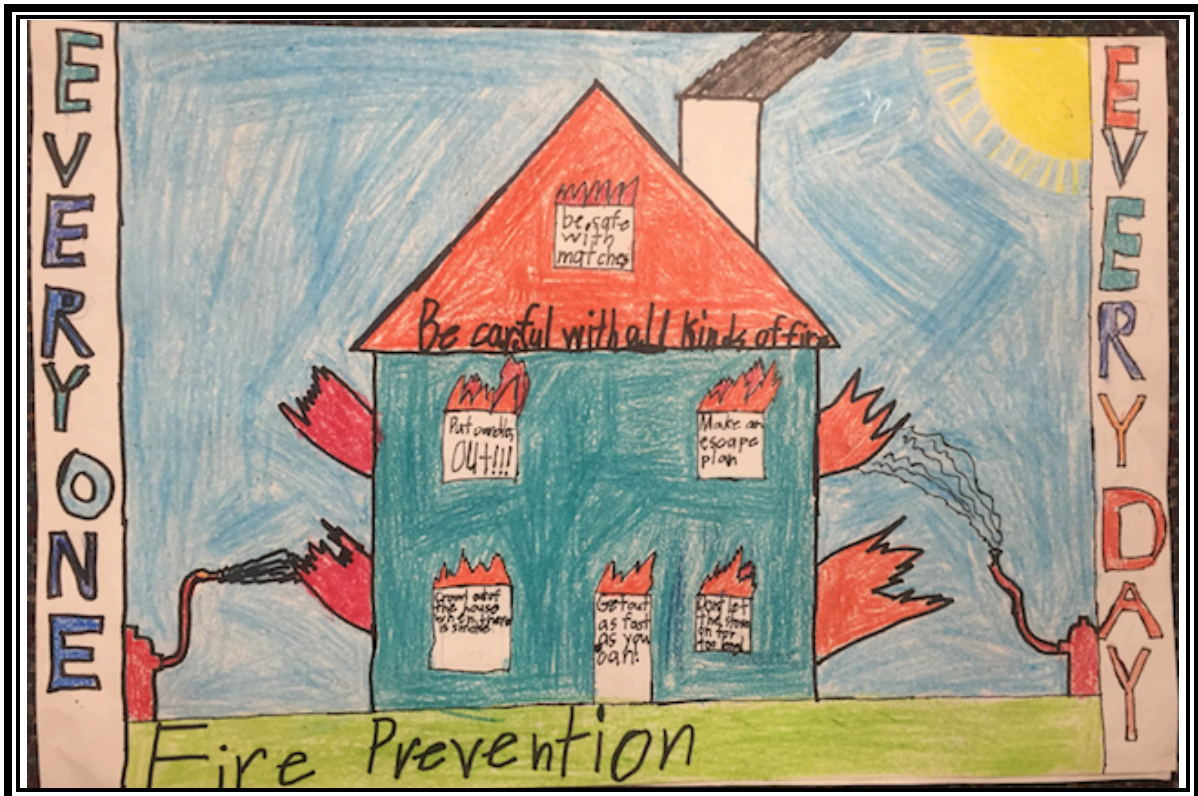
**Congratulations and Thank you to all Participants!!
2016 Town Winners**

<u>Fifth Grade:</u>	First Place:	Rebecca Summa
	Second Place:	Melody Jackson
	Honorable Mention:	Paul Nicholas
<u>Fourth Grade</u>	First Place:	Nate Geist
	Second Place:	Claire Bray



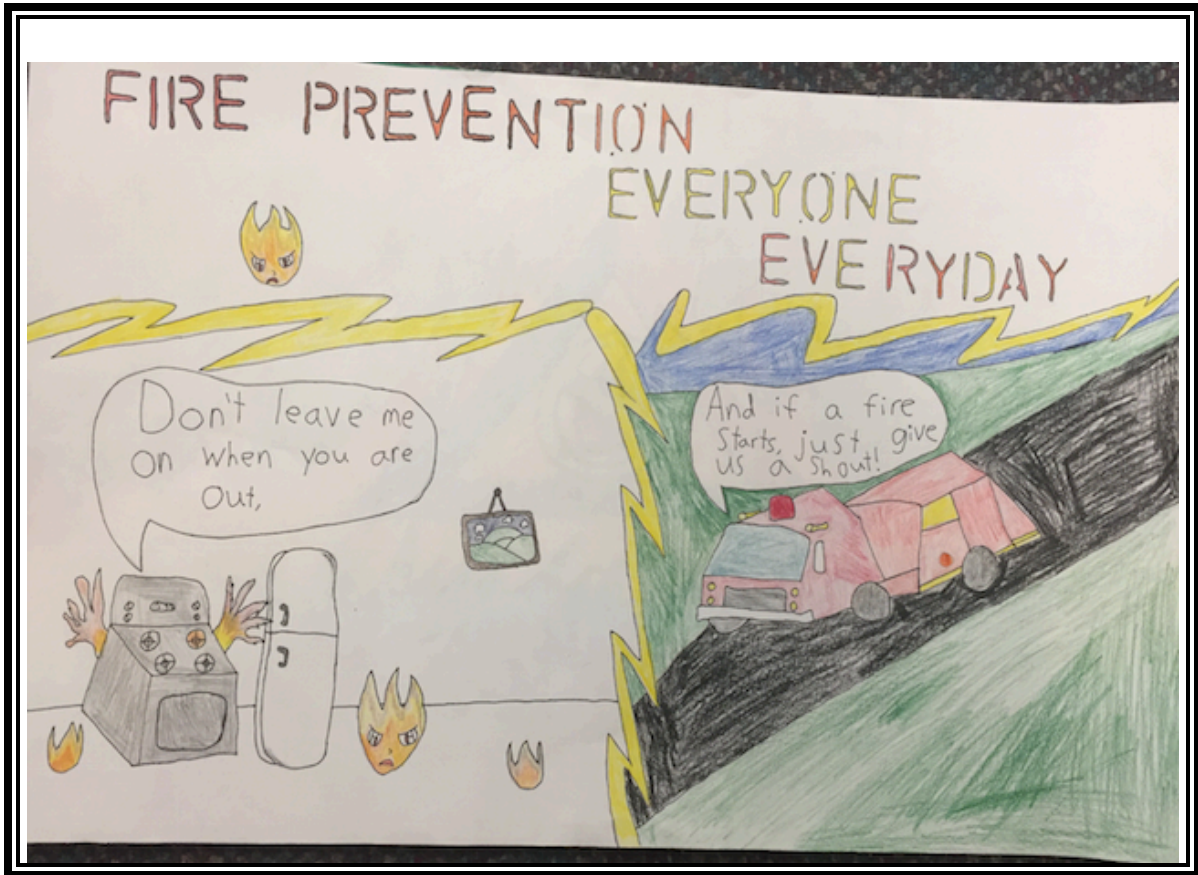
1st Place Winner for 5th Grade

Rebecca Summa



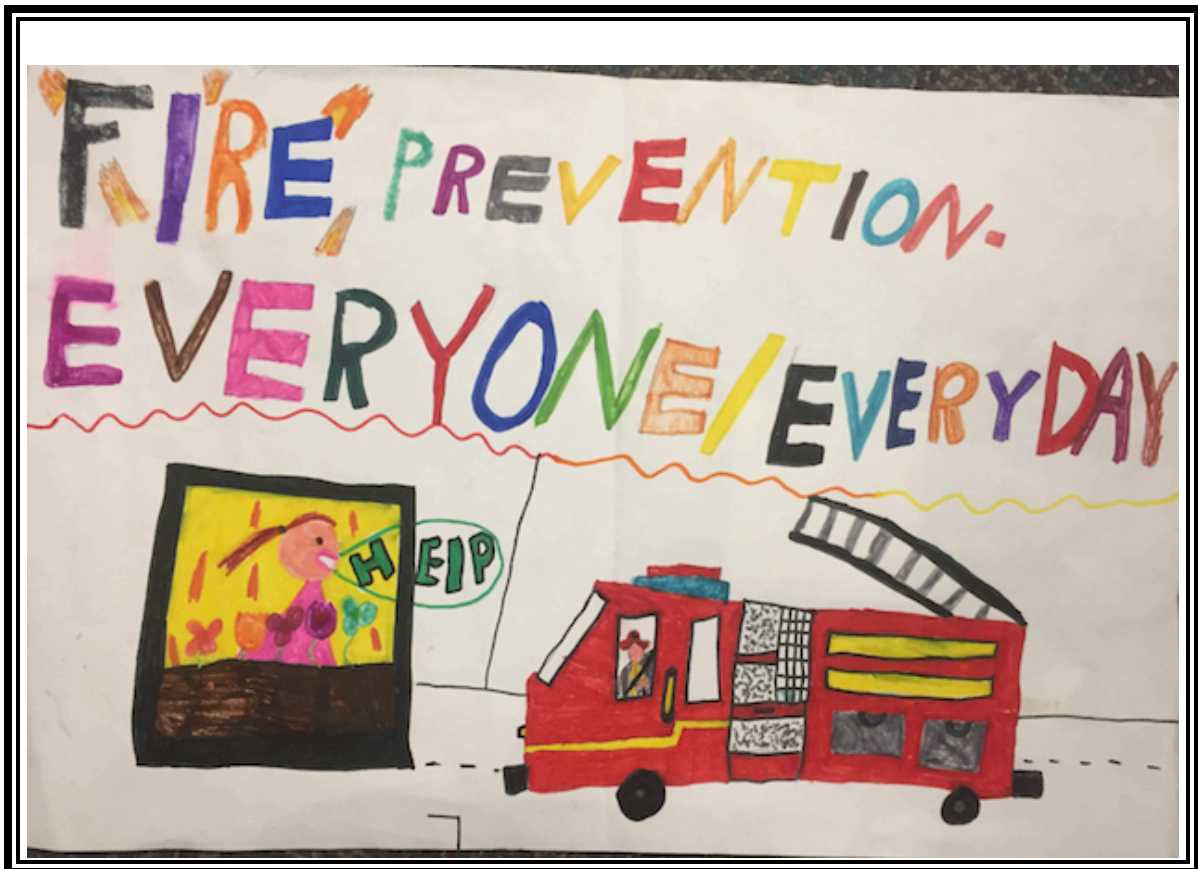
1st Place Winner for 4th Grade

Nate Geist



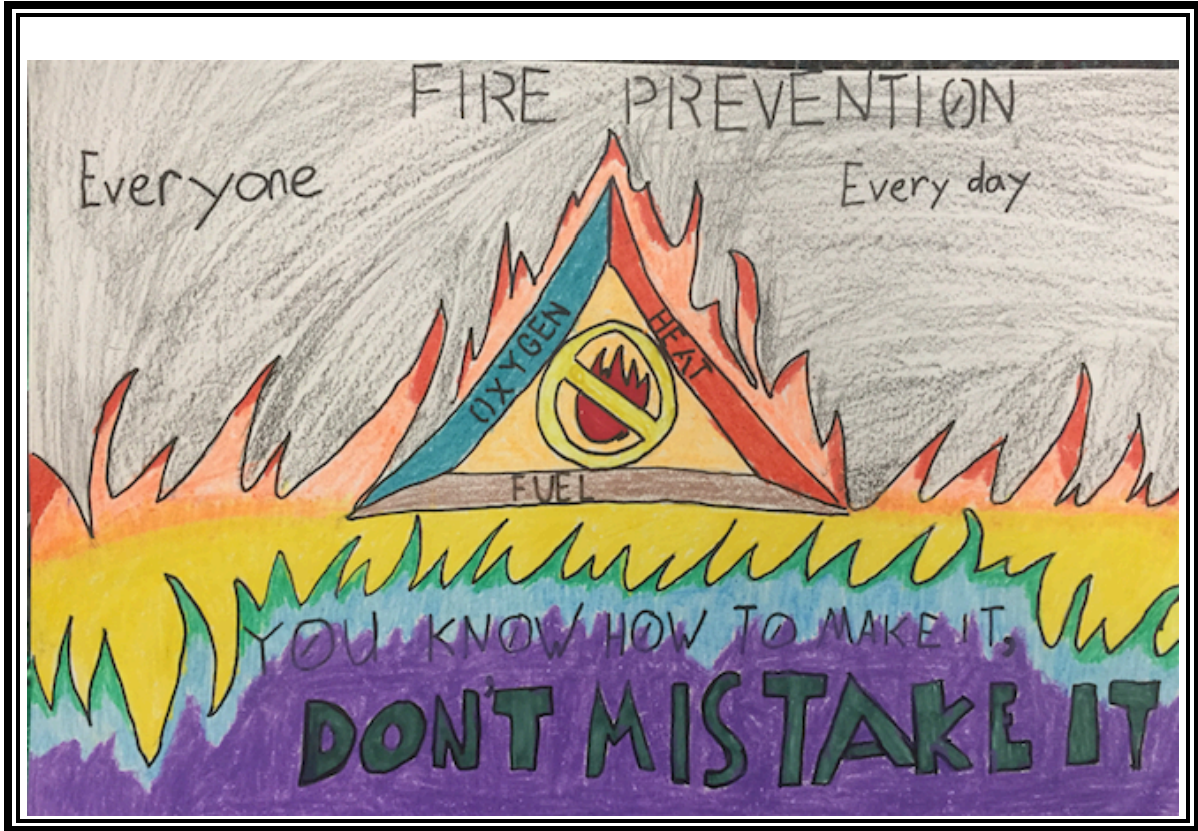
2nd Place Winner for 5th Grade

Melody Jackson



2nd Place Winner for 4th Grade

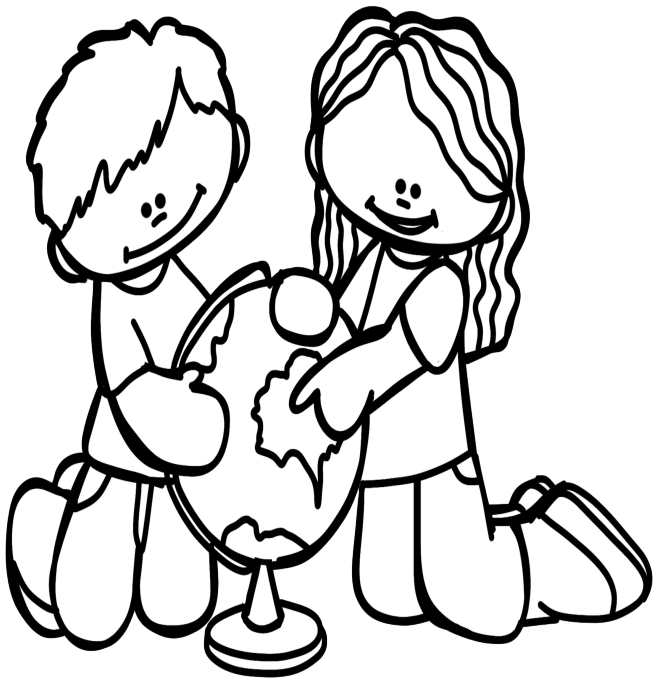
Claire Bray



Honorable Mention for 5th Grade

Paul Nicholas

You're Invited to the Fourth Grade Johnson School Culture Fest!



Who: 4th Grade Parents

When: December 20th at 1:00pm

Why: To learn about and celebrate cultures

What: A sampling of food from around the world

Where: Johnson School (Your Child's Classroom)

Please RSVP to this event, by returning the section below.

I plan on attending the Culture Fest on 12/20

Name(s): _____

I have signed up to bring: _____

Food and supplies can be dropped off in the morning, brought with the parent, or sent in with the child.

If you have not signed up to bring something in yet, please email you child's teacher or visit the link that was sent home.



R.M.T. JOHNSON SCHOOL
RESPECT • READY • RESPONSIBLE • PROUD



PTO CORNER

Fundraiser updates:

- **THANK YOU!** We could not have such successful fundraisers without your support!
- Keep sending in those Boxtops! They really add up!
- School Store is open Thursday mornings before school.

Upcoming PTO Events:

- The next PTO meeting will be 12/20 @ 9:15 am
- Toys For Tots is coming to an end. Collection dates are 12/5 through 12/16. Thank you to all of our families that donated new unwrapped toys.

Want to be more involved? Contact us to learn more, or come to one of our meetings. All are welcome, even our littlest family members.

Contact us: rmtjohnsonpto@gmail.com

**On January, 3, 2017,
Author and Johnson School Parent
Donna DiMaio Rooney will kick off the 4th grade writing unit
(animals are characters too), plus discuss kindness, bullying and
read from her NEW children's chapter book,
*DANI and the Day the Bully Change Everything.***

**To order a personalized autographed copy, please see order form below.*



About the book

When Dani witnesses a bullying of a popular boy on the school playground, her world is knocked upside down. Through a dream, Dani's beloved farm animals are presented with a similar problem where they find themselves bystanders to a vicious attack. They wrestle with how they can end the bullying and take back their farm, without becoming the next victim. There are many layers in this unpredictable story that recognize, teach and celebrate what makes each of us unique. The main characters and surprise ending will stay in the heart and mind of the reader long after the story is told.

DANI is endorsed by:

- * Karen Lawrence, mother of actress Jennifer Lawrence
- * Dr. Daniel Kelleher, M.D., Child Psy. and Asst. Prof. at Rutgers Univ.

If you would like to order ***DANI and the Day the Bully Changed Everything***, please fill out the form below and submit it to the school, along with a check made payable to Donna Rooney. ***A special discount of \$10 per book is being given to ALL Johnson school students.***

I would like to order _____ paperback (s)

**Please autograph book to: _____
(Print name)**

Name of Student: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

OPEN HOUSE
For
CIRCLE OF FRIENDS
School Year 2017-2018

Circle of Friends Preschool program, an integrated early childhood program for three and four year olds, has openings for the 2017-2018 school year. This integrated early childhood program provides a developmentally appropriate curriculum that focuses on the appreciation of individual differences, building self-esteem and fostering independence. Additionally, the staff works to develop the skills necessary for successful participation within the Kindergarten program. The OPEN HOUSE will take place on January 11, 2017, in the Berry School Media Center from 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Snow date January 18th) Program information, brochures and applications will be available. This will also provide an opportunity to meet the program staff.