



THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

Respect, Ready, Responsible, Proud

February 3, 2017



February 17, 2017
Professional Development Day
Early Dismissal
12:56 PM

February 20-21st
2017
NO SCHOOL
President's Day
Recess

February 23, 2017
Parent University
6:30 pm-8:30 pm
(see attached flyer)

Find us on
Facebook!
Johnson
Parent
Network



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

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caretakers,

In an effort to ensure clear and consistent understanding of how students are assessed, I would like to share the following:

Q: What is Standards Based Grading?

A: Standards-Based Grading is a more precise way of reporting what students know and how they demonstrate their learning of state content standards.

Q: What is the purpose of Standards Based Grading?

A: The purpose of Standards Based Grading is to align grading with the state content standards as measured by consistent and accurate student achievement data and common criteria for grading.

Q: What is the goal of Standards Based Grading?

A. There are two primary goals of Standards Based Grading. First, with Standards Based Grading we are able to better communicate what each student knows and is able to do relative to grade level expectations. In addition, Standards Based Grading allows us to separately assess behavior and work habits relative to how they influence student learning.

Q: How does Standards Based Grading work?

A. Standards Based Grading tell us what students have actually learned and know. Standards Based Grading removes extraneous factors and focuses exclusively on proficiency. It assesses a student's current and most recent work, so it tells us what a student has learned and what they know now.

Q: How does Standards Based Grading differ from traditional letter grades?

A. Traditional grading averages all of the work and other subjective factors that a student has done over the course of an entire marking period. Standards Based Grading measures students' knowledge of grade-level standards by reporting the most recent, consistent level of performance. So, a student might struggle in the beginning when new content is introduced, but then learn and demonstrate proficient performance over time.

For example: In traditional grading, the student's performance for the whole marking period would be averaged and early quiz scores that were low would be averaged together with proficient performance later in the unit, resulting in a lower grade. In Standards Based Grading, a student who reaches proficiency would be reported proficient and the grade would reflect current performance level. In addition, traditional grading often includes other subjective factors like attendance, effort, and attitude which might influence the grade positively or negatively. In Standards Based Grading, content proficiency (what students know compared to to the standards) and work habits (factors like participation and effort) and reported separately in order to give a more accurate picture of student progress.

Q: How are my child's marks determined?

A: A student's performance on a series of assessments (both formative and summative) will be used to determine a student's overall grade on a standard. Practice assignments (homework) are just that, practice, and should serve primarily as a source of feedback and instructional support for both students and teachers. Scores on practice assignments should not be used as a major component of a student's academic grade.

Q: What will each of the numbers in the 4 point scale represent?

A: A score of (4) would indicate that a student is consistently above current grade level expectations as evidenced by independent application of concepts and skills.

A score of (3) would indicate that student performance is consistently at grade level expectations and may on occasion be above grade level as evidenced by independent application of concepts and skills.

A score of (2) would indicate that student performance is beginning to and occasionally does meet grade level expectations or student requires support to meet grade level expectations.

A score of (1) would indicate that student performance is consistently below grade level expectations.

Q: What is considered to be an A,B, etc in Standards Based Grading?

A: You cannot really compare a traditional grading system to Standards Based grading. It is like comparing "apples to oranges." Standards Based grading identifies a standard and indicates whether or not a student is meeting the standard at a given point during the school year.

Q: Is it possible to achieve a grade of 4?

A: Yes it is. However, a score of (4) indicates performance that is *consistently above what is expected for mastery*. Level 4 work would indicate a much deeper understanding of a standard, the ability to apply that knowledge, make connections and extend learning beyond the targeted goal.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's performance, please contact their teacher. Be sure to ask your child what he/she learned at school each day. It is a good practice to ask him/her to show you what they have been working on in class. Much of this work is in a digital format and can be accessed through Google Classroom or Google docs. Your child logs in daily the these platforms and can help you navigate the system.

Very Truly Yours,
Alison Salerno
Principal

Important Reminder!

As the weather continues to get colder, it is so important that your child is dressed appropriately!

We try to allow for outdoor recess as much as possible (weather permitting). If your child is in need of a winter coat, please call Kate Coffey at 203-794-8679



When it is necessary to delay or close school due to inclement weather or have an unscheduled early dismissal due to forecasted inclement weather, the announcement will be made over the following radio, TV stations, and websites:

- WLAD AM Danbury 800 on the dial
- WINE AM Brookfield 940 on the dial
- WICC AM Bridgeport 600 on the dial
- WEBE FM Bridgeport 108 on the dial
- WEZN FM Bridgeport 100 on the dial

- TV channel 3, channel 8, channel 6
- Bethel Public Schools website - www.bethelk12.ct.us
- CT Weather website - www.ctweather.com

STRING NEWS



To the Parents and Guardians of Johnson School String Students:

Our dress rehearsals and concerts will take place on Tuesday March 7, 2017 at Bethel Middle School. Students have been given an information sheet and permission slip to take home. The info sheet includes rehearsal and concert times, as well as the required dress code. Please return the attached permission slip as soon as possible.

Also, please check your child's orchestra folder on a regular basis for important string information. Ask them what music they are playing in the concert, and have them perform it for you. Your encouragement and support can make a big difference!

02/23/17

6:30-8:30PM*

BETHEL MIDDLE SCHOOL



Rated “Excellent” by an overwhelming majority of 2016 Attendees

“...the most useful presentation I've ever attended!”
“Very informative!” “Great opportunity...” “...very engaging.”

parent university

REGISTER TODAY!

**[HTTP://WWW.BETHEL.K12.CT.US/
QUICK_LINKS/PARENT_UNIVERSITY](http://www.bethel.k12.ct.us/quick_links/parent_university)**

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE

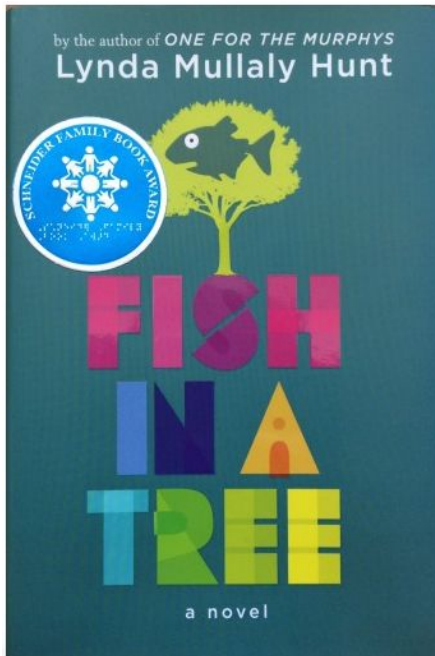
KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION • STRATEGIES TO HELP YOUR CHILD REGULATE STRESS • NAVIGATING THE PARENT PORTAL • INTERNET SAFETY • AND MORE!

FREE CHILDCARE

MUST BE AT LEAST 4 YRS OLD AND TOILET TRAINED

*Snow date, March 2, 2017.

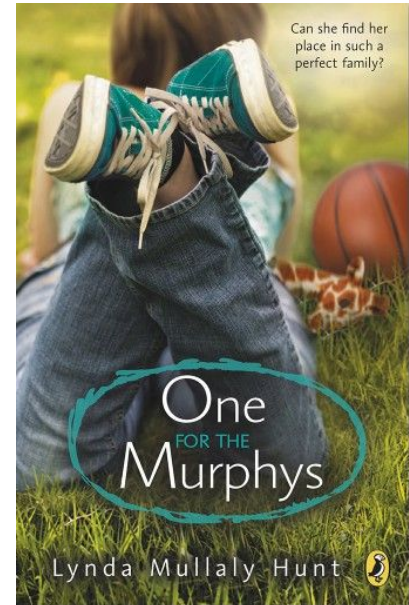
Parent University is sponsored by the Bethel Family-School Partnerships and the Bethel Central PTO.



We are excited to announce that New York Times Best Selling author, Lynda Mullaly Hunt, will be visiting Johnson School on March 3, 2017. Her visit is one of the many events we have planned for our Reading Rockstars Read-a-Thon. Lynda is the author of two books, One for the Murphy's and Fish in a Tree.

During her visit to our school, Lynda will be sharing her experiences as a writer as well as explaining her writing process. Her work as an author directly aligns with our Grade 4 and Grade 5 Language Arts curriculum. Lynda

states, "Readers are connected to stories/characters by feeling emotion—not by being awash in facts. Using engaging true stories of loyalty, love, hardships, and resilience, I will illustrate how I used these experiences to create One for the Murphys and Fish in a Tree."



Please feel free to visit Lynda's website, www.lyndamullalyhunt.com, to learn more about her as an author, speaker and person.

Lynda Mullaly Hunt connects to students with personal stories, and explains how personal experiences can translate into vivid writing. As a former teacher, she knows how to engage students and how to ignite the desire to read...and write. I hope she can come back again next year!

Robin Greenwald, 7th Grade Teacher, Montville, CT

Books will be available to purchase prior to the author visit. Soon, we will be sending home a flier and order form with more information. Books will be available through March 10. Parents are invited to attend with their child's class. The author visit schedule will be available soon.

Thank you,



Alison Salerno, Kara DiBartolo, Alana Weinberg and the Johnson PTO



BETHEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PRESENTS A FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT INNOVATION, CREATIVITY AND EXCELLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS

11TH ANNUAL

BARNUM BALL

A ROARING GOOD TIME



SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2017

ALL INCLUSIVE 6:30-8:30PM

BEVERAGES ADDITIONAL AFTER 8:30PM

ETHAN ALLEN HOTEL

\$105 OVERNIGHT RATE
MENTION THE BARNUM BALL WHEN
MAKING YOUR ROOM RESERVATION

DINNER & DANCING
LIVE & SILENT AUCTION

\$80 PER PERSON
\$750 TABLE OF 10

PURCHASE YOUR BALL TICKETS ONLINE AT
WWW.BETHELEDFOUNDATION.ORG

Order your tickets by Feb. 20 to be entered into a drawing for overnight accommodations for the Ball

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TO THE BARNUM BALL ONLINE OR SEND THIS PORTION TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHECK BY TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH

Order your tickets by Feb. 20 to be entered into a drawing for overnight accommodations at Ethan Allen for the Ball * generously donated by Ethan Allen Hotel

Yes! I'm looking forward to the Barnum Ball on March 18th
Enclosed is my check for:

- # ____ tickets x \$80 = \$ _____
- Table of 10 = \$750 (you can include separate checks, but payment must be paid in full)
Please list all names on the back of this form

Sorry, I can't make it!
Here's a donation to support school grants \$ _____

Name _____
please list each name for this reservation
if purchasing a full table, please include all names on the back of this form

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____
An email confirmation will be sent once payment is received

Please seat me with _____

We will email you to select your meal choices shortly.

Mail to: PO Box 92, Bethel, CT 06801
Checks payable to Bethel Education Foundation
Questions? Email: BethelEdFoundation@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



IS YOUR BUSINESS LOOKING TO SUPPORT INNOVATIVE PROJECTS IN THE BETHEL SCHOOLS?

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS

Become a sponsor, advertise in the Ball book, or donate an auction item!
Go to www.BethelEdFoundation.org and click on the Support Our Work Tab

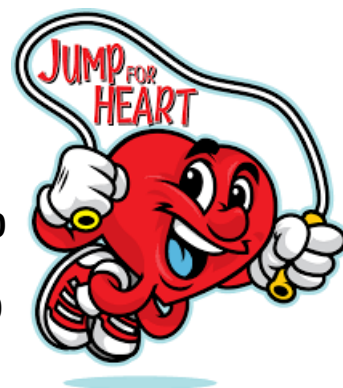
Go **Wild** for Heart Health~ Johnson School

Jump on board with the American Heart Association!

Jump Rope For Heart is coming to our school!

Wednesday, February 15th - Fifth Grade from 3:00-4:00

Thursday, February 16th - Fourth Grade from 3:00-4:00



Your support saves lives!

Click on: [Johnson School Jump Rope For Heart Page](#)

Any parents who are willing to help out on

Thursday, February 16th please email

jaquess@bethel.k12.ct.us

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING AT THIS EVENT!



SHAPE America and the American Heart Association collaborate on the Jump Rope For Heart and Hoops For Heart programs.



It's Softball Season!!



Bethel Softball Association
invites you to register for the
2017 Spring season!

Registration is open from January 20 - March 1

Fees:
\$75 per player
\$100 max per family
Register by **MARCH 1**
to avoid \$20 late fee
and/or waiting list
** NO REFUNDS **



Registration
fees include
uniform shirt,
visor, socks
& FUN!

Coaches! Volunteers!
Team/League Sponsors!
We need you!
Email if you are interested



We offer recreational teams for ages PreK 4 - 16.
Spring Season runs April - June.
All skill levels are welcome!!

Sign up today using our **NEW ONLINE** Registration System at
www.leaguelineup.com/bethelsoftball
(or just Google Bethel CT Softball!)

Questions? BethelCTSoftball@gmail.com

