



Medieval Times

Volume 7 Issue 2

September 2011

From the SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Ken Halverson

North Star loaned its counselor, Rose Spinler to CJI earlier this week as they dealt with the tragic loss of a second grade student (Dawson Fraser). I am informed that Rose provided wonderful support of students and staff alike during her stay at their school. It is at such times we are thankful for being in small towns and schools that receive support and comfort from many sources. On behalf of the North Star School District, we extend our sympathy to the Fraser family.

The next School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, September 12th in Gildford beginning at 7:00 PM. Items on this month's agenda include approval of out-of-district enrollment agreements, designating surplus equipment for sale, and an overview by A.D. Brain Campbell on the ImPACT Assessment being administered to extra-curricular athletes. I will also be reporting that our district-wide attendance is currently at 162 (K-6=87, Junior High=28, and High School=47) which is slightly below last year at this juncture. However there is cause for optimism because our kindergarten enrollment has eclipsed the size of our graduating senior class for the second straight year!

Many of you may be aware that the list of Montana school districts opting for a 4 day school week has continued to rise over the past two years. Because its merits have been touted during state-wide meetings of school trustees and administrators, our Board has directed me to initiate a study of the pros and cons of a 4 day school week. While I don't expect that there will be any changes made during the current year, I would advise our families to be on the look-out for news of public meetings on this topic as the year progresses.

Our mid quarter date of September 23rd will soon be upon us, which reminds me to encourage our parents to re-locate their confidential passwords for our school's on-line grade reporting website entitled "Infinite Campus". Parents new to our district or those in need of assistance are encouraged to contact our

secretaries at either school site to get a refresher course on how to navigate that site in order to stay informed of your child's academic status during the year. Families with elementary students may reach Dana Donoven at 376-3183, and those with students in grades 7-12 can contact Carol Tempel at 355-4481.



First Grade Buckaroos pictured at left. From the bottom right to left, up the stairs, and to the right: Mrs. Donoven, Joey Wendland, Colton Spicher, Shayne Dodson, Tristan Serner, Jadon Owens, Mythias Cole, Dylon Melby, Rylan Redding, Porter Ditmar, Garrett Spicher, Erika Harvey, Michelle Follmer, Cali Keith, Kaytlyn Domire, Celina Parks, Laynie Sattoriva, Ryan Seidlitz, Rainee Watson, and Brooklyn Hansen.

Homecoming

By: Mrs. Pam Renaker

Homecoming is the week of September 19 through the 23rd. The theme is Cereals.

The spirit week days will be as follows: Monday – Decades Day; Tuesday – Geezer Day; Wednesday – Opposite Sex Day; Thursday – Famous Person Day; Friday – Blue and Black day.

Selection of the King and Queen will take place on Thursday, Sept. 22 with the announcement being made at the varsity volleyball game Thursday night.

The parade will be on Saturday, Sept. 24 starting at 9:00 AM. Anyone interested in joining the parade needs to be lined up behind the school in Rudyard by 8:30 AM. The general public will be lining up behind the class floats. If there are any people who want to ride horses in the parade, please contact Pam Renaker (355-4460) so that a place can be made for you.



FCCLA participants at Anaheim, back row L to R: Jordy Donovan, Shelby Lipp, Delainey Spicher. Front row L to R: Cooper Spicher, Taylor Warren, Quinn Spinler, Mrs. Chinadle.

FCCLA's Magical Adventure

By: Mrs. Margie Chinadle

Six North Star FCCLA members and three adults joined 6,000 participants in Anaheim, CA for the 66th National FCCLA Leadership Conference this past July.

The Food Innovations team of Delainey Spicher, Cooper Spicher and Quinn Spinler impressed the evaluators with their *Happy Trails Mix*. These students developed their low fat, non-perishable snack through a series of recipe alterations and tasting panel input. Through their display and presentations to the judges, this group earned a gold medal and praise for their professional display and appearance.

Jordy Donovan competed in Career Investigation where he explored Agricultural Engineering as a possible future career. His presentation was also well received and he received high praise for his portfolio which included illustrations of his own farming experiences. Jordy received a high silver medal for his efforts.

Taylor Warren received leadership training as a State Officer and Shelby Lipp participated as a student evaluator. Dana Donovan and Juanita Spicher went along as adult evaluators and chaperones for the group.

During the event, Mrs. Chinadle received the "Spirit of Advising" award which was a great honor for her.

Highlights of the trip included visits to Disneyland and Long Beach. All enjoyed making new friends and the many educational workshops offered throughout the week.

Thank you to all who supported our North Star FCCLA members throughout the year. Being able to attend Nationals was a magical adventure for all of us!

Sports Changes & Additions

Sept 15 – Volleyball in Box Elder, 5:00 PM, JV only

Sept 16 – Volleyball in Gildford vs. Havre Fr/JV, 6:00 PM, +20

Sept 24 – Varsity FB in Rudyard, vs. Box Elder, not St. Regis

Sept 27 – Volleyball in Rocky Boy, 4:30 PM, + 20 (C & JV)

Oct 1 – JV Showcase in Sunburst, time TBA

Oct 6 – Volleyball in Rudyard vs. Box Elder, 4:30 PM (JV), followed by varsity VB vs. Dutton-Brady

Oct 11 – Volleyball in Gildford vs. Rocky Boy, 4:30 PM, +20 (C & JV)

Oct 15 – Volleyball matches begin at 1:00 PM in Dutton (not 6:00 PM)

Nov 8 – Added JH girls basketball game in Chinook at 4:30 PM

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Sun
 10:00 AM to Noon Rummage Sale @ Milk River Motors, Clearance Prices!
 11
 12 College Fair in Havre
 13 Booster Club Mtg 4:00 PM Ruddyard VB vs. CJI in Ruddyard 6:30 PM & +20
 14
 15
 16 JH FB @ Box Elder 4:00 PM
 17 JH VB @ North Star 9:00 AM FB @ Heart Butte 1:00PM
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 19 JH FB vs. Highwood-Geraldine in Ruddyard 4:00 PM
 20
 21
 22 VB vs. Big Sandy in Gildford 6:30 PM & +20
 23 Mid-Quarter Homecoming Tailgate Party & Bonfire @ FB field
 24 Parade 9:00 AM JH FB vs. Box Elder 11 FB vs. Box Elder 2:00 PM VB vs. Sunburst 5:30,+20
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29 VB @ Chinook JH 4:30, JV 6:00 PM & V +20
 30 JH FB @ Highwood-Geraldine 4:00 PM, Varsity 7:00 PM

Mon
 Labor Day No School
 5
 6 JH FB vs. Big Sandy in Ruddyard 4:00 PM
 7
 8 Elementary Open House 6:15—8:15 PM
 9 VB vs. Chinook in Gildford 4:30 PM & +20 4:00-8:00 Rummage Sale @ Milk River Motors
 10 JH VB in Havre 9 AM JH FB 10:00 AM; FB vs. Augusta 1:00PM; VB vs. Power @ Ruddyard 4:30 PM & +20; 8 to Noon Rummage Sale @ Milk River Motors

Tue
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 2 School Picture Day VB Showcase in Ruddyard & Gildford
 3 VB Showcase in Ruddyard & Gildford FB @ Hot Springs 1:00 PM
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October 2011

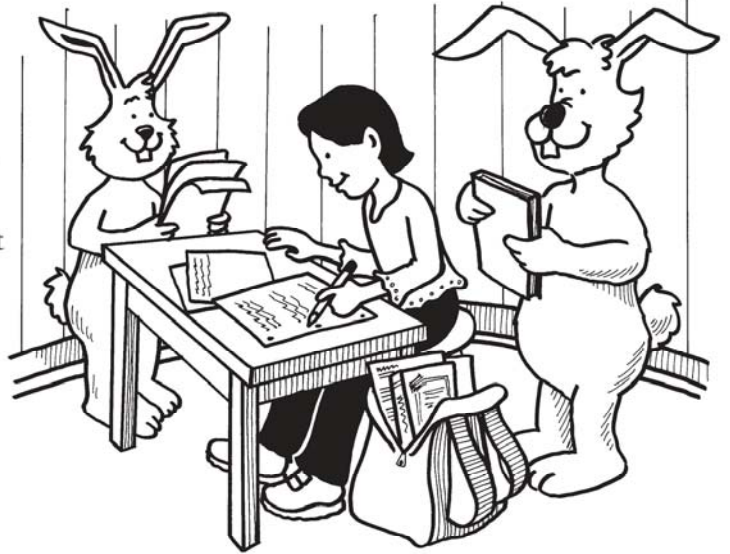
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> JH VB Jamboree in Lodgepole 9:00 AM JV Showcase in Sunburst
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> JH Football in Augusta, 4:00 PM	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> VB in Rudyard, 4:30, 6:00, 7:30 PM	<i>7</i> JH FB in Big Sandy 4:00 PM FB in Big Sandy 7:00 PM	<i>8</i> JH VB District Tourney in Chinook VB in Gildford vs. HLP, 5:00 PM, +20
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> JH basketball practice begins School Board Mtg in Rudyard, 7:00 PM	<i>11</i> Booster Club Mtg in Gildford, 4:00 PM	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> VB in Power, 6:00 PM & +20	<i>15</i> FB in Rudyard vs. Stanford/Geyser 1:00 PM VB in Dutton 1:00 PM & +20
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> VB in Big Sandy, 6:00 PM & +20	<i>18</i> VB in Chester vs. CJI, 6:00 PM & +20	<i>19</i> FB in Rudyard vs. Valier 1:00 PM	<i>20</i> Teacher's Convention No School ACT testing 7:30 AM to Noon, Rudyard Gym	<i>21</i> Teacher's Convention No School	<i>22</i>
<i>24</i>	<i>24</i> VB in Big Sandy, 6:00 PM & +20	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> JH BB in Rudyard vs. Box Elder, 4:30, 6:00 VB District Tourney at CJI	<i>28</i> End of 1st Quarter VB District Tourney at CJI	<i>29</i> JH BB in HLP 10:30, Noon, 1:30, 3:00 FB 1st Round Playoffs VB District Tourney at CJI
<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> Halloween					

Homework Help

“Why do I have to do homework?”

This is one time when answering a question with a question can work. Ask your child why she does soccer drills or practices her trumpet. Explain, “Homework helps you do better in school, the same way that practicing soccer helps you play better in games.”

Use this guide to help your youngster get the most out of homework—and put an end to homework battles.



Developing a homework routine

The way you approach your child’s homework sends an important message. Show her that homework is important by giving it a regular time slot, helping her choose the best way to work, and teaching her to organize assignments and supplies. Here are some tips:

- Does your youngster need playtime before settling into homework, or does she prefer getting her work done right after school? Try each way for a week, and keep track of the results (how long her homework takes, her mood, how well she does her work). Together, decide which time slot works best.
- Let your child experiment with work conditions, too. Some children concentrate better in silence, while others need background noise such as soft music. If your youngster has trouble paying attention at the kitchen table, let her try stretching out on the family room floor.
- Keep school supplies in a basket or shoe box, stored in a handy spot. When it’s homework time, your child can grab the container and get started. Include pencils, paper, crayons, markers, ruler, scissors, glue, and other items she might need like a calculator and dictionary.
- Be sure your youngster has a plan for bringing home papers and books. You might get her a special folder (*example*: her favorite color) where she can put assignments as they’re given. Before leaving school, she can look through the folder and take the books she needs.
- Encourage your child to use a calendar to keep track of assignments. Have her list her subjects (reading, math, social studies, science) on each weekday and write in homework and projects. Crossing off completed items will give her a sense of accomplishment.



Playing a supporting role

To get the most out of homework, your youngster needs to do it himself. If you provide too many answers, teachers won’t know where your child needs help. But you can offer the support he needs. Try these ideas:

- Go over the instructions. Have your youngster explain the directions to you before he begins so you can make sure he understands them.
- If he gets stuck, ask questions that will lead him to an answer. For instance, if he asks, “Where was George Washington born?” you might say, “Let’s read the chapter headings together and see if you can find out.” For an essay assignment, have him talk his ideas over with you before he starts writing.
- Review homework after your child finishes, and check to make sure his work is neat and complete. If he does his homework in after-school child care or with a sitter, set aside a time to go over it later.
- Help your youngster set priorities. You might encourage him to do his hardest assignments first, when he is most focused. If he has a spelling quiz Friday, have him review his words each day and allow extra study time Thursday.



continued

■ When your child has a large project, help him break it into smaller pieces. Suggest that he write down each step and hang the list in his room. For a science project, he might spend two days choosing an idea, a week doing the experiment, and another week writing up his lab report.

Tip: If your youngster is struggling with assignments, contact his teacher. Together, you can come up with suggestions to help him.



project about the main character.

■ Involve the whole family. Hold a geography bee when your youngster has to memorize names of continents and oceans. Make your child the host of a family game show where “contestants” answer questions he poses. *Note:* Have him write out questions and answers first so he gets extra practice.

Breaking up boredom

Your child may never love homework, but there are ways to make it more fun. Consider these ideas:

■ Encourage your youngster to start a homework group. Working with friends is not only more entertaining, it can increase understanding. Suggest that they take turns explaining math problems or quizzing each other on vocabulary words. When your child teaches others, he boosts his own skills.

■ Help your child bring out his creative side. For example, he might write a poem about rainbows using a different color ink for each line. Or he could turn a book report into a scrapbook

■ Plan study breaks, especially when your youngster is working on long or tough assignments. Suggest working for 30 minutes, then taking a 10-minute break to walk around the block or read a comic book.

■ Go somewhere else. You might head to the library, a coffee shop, or even a quiet corner in the park to do homework. A new environment can provide a welcome change of pace.

■ Celebrate success. When your youngster finishes writing a report on tigers, take a family trip to the zoo. He can see the subject of his hard work up close!



Online homework help

How can your child find answers when she’s stumped? Help may be as close as a computer screen. Here are a few places to try.

Yahoo! Kids School Bell • <http://kids.yahoo.com/directory/School-Bell>

Yahoo’s School Bell contains links for language arts, science and nature, math, and social studies. Students can

submit questions to be answered, learn songs to help them memorize multiplication tables and parts of speech, and read about cultures, governments, and flags.



Fact Monster Homework Center • www.factmonster.com/homework

Find help for most school subjects here. Your child can read biographies of famous people, study with math flashcards, and use reference materials (dictionary, encyclopedia, almanac, atlas).

Kids Konnect • www.kidskonnect.com

Featuring an alphabetized list of hundreds of topics, this site is a great place to start for reports and projects. Students will find information about people, animals, and more.

B. J. Pinchbeck’s Homework Helper • www.bjpinchbeck.com

This site contains dozens of links to resources ranging from All Living

Things to Webster’s Dictionary. Or your youngster can click on a school subject, like social studies or art, and find information from the U.S. Census Bureau Map Finder or the Artcyclopedia art gallery.

Kid Info • www.kidinfo.com/School_Subjects.html

Children can choose from a list of school subjects to find helpful links. At Language Arts, they’ll learn how to write a good letter or find favorite authors on the Web. In the math section, kids can play games to reinforce basic skills, try mind-bending brain-teasers, and create five different types of graphs. This site also features history, geography, health, science, and more.

Home & School CONNECTION

Drama Club Selling Little Caesar Kits to Support 2011-12 Season _____

The Drama Club is holding a Little Caesars Fundraiser from September 2 through October 10 to raise money for their 2011-12 season.

Little Caesars Pizza Kits, Cookie Dough and Pie Kits range in price from \$12.00-\$19.00 and contain all the ingredients to bake delicious pizza, bread, pies and cookies at home in minutes.

Not only are Pizza Kits available but Bread Kits, Caesar Dips Kit, Gourmet Salad Fixin's Kit, and five varieties of gourmet Cookie Dough, and two homemade quality Pie Kits. Accessory Items include: Pepperoni, Cheese, Thin Crust, Italian Sausage, Whole Wheat, Personal Pepperoni, Personal Cheese, and Microwave Baby Pan! Pan!, Deep Dish Meal Kit, Take 2 Bake, Fiesta Meal Kit, Family Meal Kit, Crazy Bread, Italian Cheese Bread, and Cinnamon Crazy Bread.

To order your item from the Drama Club, please contact Mrs. Schnittgen, or a drama student, at 355-4451 x 237 before October 10.

Have friends and family out of town who want to support the Drama Club? Order online whenever it's convenient at PizzaKit.com. Have the Fundraiser # 99055 handy and the Drama Club receives \$5.00 for each item ordered.

Thank you! Thank you!

Pringles potato chip cans are needed for a library project. Please drop off at either office.

Spring 2010-11 Honorees _____

Army National Guard Academic All Team Award is given to the top five teams that exhibit outstanding academic achievement during the school year's third quarter of play for that activity. Congratulations to the North Star Class C Boys' Track and Field team who placed 1st with an average GPA of 3.621! CJI was second with an average GPA of 3.404. The North Star Class C Girls' Track and Field team placed 5th with an average GPA of 3.727.

High School Stage Gets Facelift _____

Thanks to the North Star Foundation, Craig and Twyla Anderson and the North Star Booster Club, the high school stage underwent an incredible transformation over the summer. Instead of an awkward thrust stage that was incapable of accommodating theatrical sets and the entire band during concerts, the stage is now an elegant space with laminate flooring on top and massive storage space below.

Additionally, bordering the stage are brand new curtains in the school colors, blue and black. The heavy, dust-ridden and torn curtains have been replaced by lighter, flame resistant curtains that hang beautifully and open and close seamlessly. "It is worlds better than it was," says drama teacher Mrs. Schnittgen. "More advanced sets, and consequently, more challenging plays are now accessible for us, when previously they would have been impossible."

When asked if she had a specific play in mind, Schnittgen replied, "We have a few options, but we're leaning toward a Neil Simon classic. Very funny! We definitely want to open our season with a show that will utilize all the benefits that come with having the new stage."

Look for advertisements this November for the Drama Club's first production on the brand new stage! Thanks again to the North Star Foundation, Anderson's and the Booster Club for their support!

A **Next Quest** email list is being developed. It will be used to send out the Next Quest, schedule changes, etc. If you are interested in receiving those types of emails, send an email to bcampbell@northstar.k12.mt.



Activity Passes

Activity Season Passes for the 2011-2012 school year are now on sale. Prices: Family \$200.00, Adult \$100.00, Student \$50.00. This price covers all North Star Athletic REGULAR season competitions. It EXCLUDES but is not limited to the following: Volleyball Showcases Tournament, All Tournament Games- High School and Jr. High and all Football Playoff Games. Checks can be mailed or dropped off at the school office.

Congratulations**Kathy Preeshl**

Business Manager of the Year

Selected by nomination of her peers from the Montana School Business Officials Association

Booster Club Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 4:00 PM in Rudyard

Tuesday, Oct 11, 4:00 PM in Gildford

Everyone welcome

Meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

North Star Class of 2012
Heritage Trip Fundraiser - **RUMMAGE SALE**

Fri, Sept 9 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Sat, Sept 10 8:00 am to noon

Sun, Sept 11 10:00 am to noon

(Clearance prices on Sunday!!)

Location: Milk River Motors

(west of Holiday Village Mall), Havre, MT

Watch for Signs!!

Espresso/Cappuccino Machine, Antique Treadle Sewing Machine, Toys, Foosball/Air Hockey Table, Dresser, Coffee Table, Recliner, Clothes, Computer & Printer, Large Outdoor Christmas Decorations, Bedding, Exercise



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