



Mrs. Debra Misecko, Principal

Mrs. Amy Turley, Assistant Principal

Joan Martin Newsletter

January 2009

DON'T MISS THESE IMPORTANT FREE PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS

Raising Drug Free Children

January 15th-Who's Doing What? Presented by: Drug Enforcement Agency Agent Joseph Mele & Dr. Peggy Buffington -What are kids in Hobart involved with? -How do you start to address the problem? -Stakes involved when issues aren't addressed. Please call 219-942-8885 to register.

January 27th-Who's Running the House? Presented by: Criminologist Susan Magestro -What are "The Doors of Anger?" -What are the "Safety Nets?" -How are children influenced by their peers? Please call 219-942-8885 to register.

The Many Faces of Bullying

Provides a unique opportunity to look at bullying through the eyes of the victims, bystanders, parents and bullies. The audience will have an opportunity to get inside the hearts and minds of victims and their parents as they hear and see some of their stories. When: January 28, 2009 from 6-7:30 pm Where: New Hobart High School Board Room

The 8 Conditions That Make a Difference Podcasts by Dr. Buffington Listen to Dr. Buffington describe the 8 conditions that need to be in place if students are to strive for, and fulfill, their academic, personal and social promise identified by the Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations (QISA). This podcast is found on the School City of Hobart's Website: www.hobart.k12.in.us.

Parental Effort and Their Children's Achievement (taken from "Gifted Child Today" 22-Sep-08, by Prufrock Press)

Do parents make a difference in their children's achievement? What activities at home and at school are most effective? Using data from the National Education Longitudinal Study, Houtenville and Conway explored child, parent, household, and school characteristics in determining the relative effects on student achievement (Houtenville, A.M., & Conway, K.S. (2208). Parental efforts, school resources, and student achievement. The Journal of Human Resources, 52, 437-453). They found that parent effort is consistently associated with high levels of achievement. For example, dinnertime discussions have greater effects than volunteering in the school. Attending school meetings has a greater effect than volunteering at school. Interestingly, daughters receive significantly more dinnertime effort—a higher frequency of discussing activities, studies and course selection. Prior achievement also affects parental effort—the greater the achievement, the more likely the parent will exert more effort. They also reported that school resources affect parental effort. If a school has more resources, parents may reduce their efforts. The authors conclude that schools that invest heavily in getting parents involved are the ones that show improvement in student achievement (p. 451).

Winter Reminders:

- The make-up days for the flooding in September and the December ice day will be February 13, April 13 and June 9.
- The curb is for drop off and pick up only. Do not park at the curb or wait for an extended time with your child in the car. Walkers and Car riders will be allowed to wait for the morning bell in the building during poor weather.
- Review your Emergency Dismissal Plan with your child. In case of early dismissal we will send an AlertNow Message. Please keep all your phone contacts up to date in the office to receive our messages.
- Children should come to school ready for outdoor recess which includes - boots, snow pants, hats, and mittens.
- Review the "LEAVE THE SNOW ALONE" rule with your child and remind he/she that it applies all the way to and from home.
- All students are expected to go outside for recess when the weather permits. Please refer to the student handbook for the procedures for staying in for recess in the case of illness.

 * Your Talents & *
 * Ideas are Needed! *
 * Come to the next *
 * PTO meeting *
 * Thursday, *
 * January 15, 2008 *
 * at 3:30 *
 * in the JM Library *
 * *****

We read the Joan Martin Newsletter and want to be entered in the January Newsletter Drawing:

Child(ren) Name(s): _____

Parent Signature: _____