

# The Bennet Elementary Express

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## Character Counts Corner "If" by Rudyard Kipling

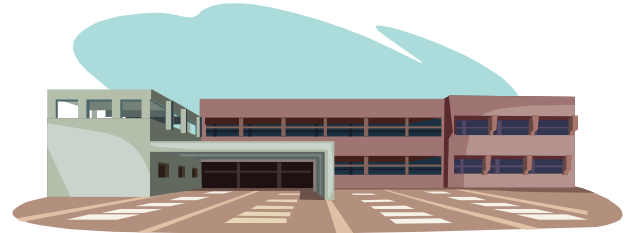
It's a pity that so many great poems are turned into commercialized clichés because when we've heard something before, we don't concentrate hard enough to listen to its messages. A good example is the classic poem "If" by Rudyard Kipling. It includes some of the best advice a parent could give a child:

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream – and not make dreams your  
master;  
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two imposters just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools;  
If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it all on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue  
Or walk with kings – nor lose the common touch;  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And – which is more – you'll be a Man, my son!

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.



## School and Community Events Thanksgiving Break No School Thursday and Friday!

School dismissed at the normal 3:20 dismissal time on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> for the start of Thanksgiving Vacation. There will be no classes on

Thursday or Friday of this week in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. School will resume on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m. The staff at Bennet Elementary wishes everyone a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday.



## ATTENTION CHOCOLATE LOVERS! Sixth Grade to Sell Holiday Chocolates!

Order forms for Baker's Chocolates are being sent home today with the newsletter. You may order 8 oz. boxes for \$4.50 or 12 oz boxes for \$6.00. Orders may be placed up until Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. The distribution date for chocolates to go home with the students will be the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>. Extra order forms are available in the office. These make great gifts for any chocolate lover.



## Winter Concert Rehearsal: Monday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>!

We will have our Winter Concert rehearsal at the High School on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Please plan ahead, as this is the Monday after Thanksgiving break. Band students, be sure to have your instruments with you that day.

Grades K-3 will rehearse from 9:00 – 10:30. Grades 4-6 will rehearse from approx. 10:30- 12:00. All Palmyra/Douglas students in grades K-3 will remain at Palmyra High School for rehearsal on the 30th. Bennet area students in grades K-3 will take a shuttle from Bennet to Palmyra at 8:35 on the 30th for rehearsal. All students in grades 4-6 from Palmyra/Douglas will report for classes at Bennet Elementary that morning. The 4-6 grades will board shuttles for Palmyra at 10:00 for their rehearsal. All students will return to Bennet Elementary by shuttle following rehearsals.



Again, our concert is on Tuesday December 1st. Grades K-3 perform at 6:30 p.m. Grades 4-6 and the band, perform at 7:45 p.m.

A memo from Mrs. McCreight about the Winter Program is posted on the school web page.

### RESPONSIBILITY is Pillar of the Month

Tuesday, December 1, 2009, begins a new month and a new Pillar of Character – RESPONSIBILITY. Green is RESPONSIBILITY'S color so please mark your calendar and wear green December 1<sup>st</sup> and 15th. During the month of December we will review what it means to be RESPONSIBLE. What does it mean to be responsible? Here are a few ways you could define responsibility: to persevere, to do my best, to be self-controlled, to do what I am supposed to do, to think before I act.

Be RESPONSIBLE wear GREEN on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>!

### Third Grade Boys Basketball Practice

Third grade boys who signed up for YMCA Basketball, will have practice on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. There will be a meeting following practice with all parents. Please contact Ken Pettigrew if you have any questions, at 450-8508.

### Movie Matinee Planned for Bennet Elementary Students!

Mr. Brown, Mr. Robb and members of the Elementary Boosters are planning a **Movie Matinee for the afternoon of Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**. Activities and movies are planned from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Elementary School. It will make a great afternoon for parents to get away for holiday shopping. This year instead of snacks, we are once



again asking that parents only provide a drink and a can donation for the area food banks for admission to the movie. We will be providing Hot Dogs and Popcorn for treats. There will be two movies shown at the same time. There will be movies and cartoons for grades K-3, and a movie for grades 4-6. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Brown, Mrs. Dawson or Mr. Robb at 782-3535.

### Elementary Boosters Looking for Cookie Donations

The Elementary Boosters are looking for parent donations of two dozen cookies for Movie Matinee Day, on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Please call Laura at 782-3535 if you can help.



**Don't Forget!**  
**Winter Program Rehearsal**  
**Monday Morning, November**  
**30<sup>th</sup>!**  
**Palmyra –Douglas K-3 Students**  
**stay at Palmyra. 4-6 Students**  
**ride shuttle to Bennet.**  
**K -3 Students Practice 9:00 –**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**4-6 Students Practice 10:30 to**  
**12:00.**

**Winter Concert is Tuesday,**  
**December 1<sup>st</sup>.**  
**K-3 6:30 p.m.**  
**4-6 7:45 p.m.**

**Have a Happy**  
**Thanksgiving!**