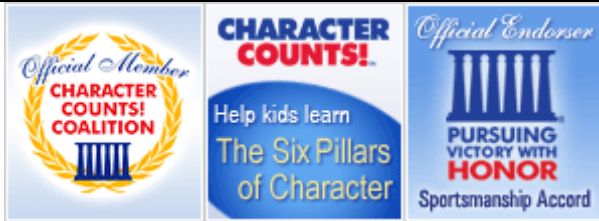


The Bennet Elementary Express

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Character Counts Corner What Will Matter

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end. There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours, or days. All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else. Your wealth, fame, and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.

It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed. Your grudges, resentments, frustrations, and jealousies will finally disappear. So, too, your hopes, ambitions, plans, and to-do lists will expire. The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.

It won't matter where you came from or what side of the tracks you lived on at the end. It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant. Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant. So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought but what you built; not what you got but what you gave. What will matter is not your success but your significance. What will matter is not what you learned but what you taught. What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage, or sacrifice that enriched, empowered, or encouraged others to emulate your example. What will matter is not your competence but your character. What will matter is not how many people you knew but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone. What will matter is not your memories but the memories that live in those who loved you. What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom, and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.

It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice. Choose to live a life that matters.

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.

Please Note:

Early Dismissal on February 9th for P.T. Conferences.

P.T. Conferences will be held from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m.

There will be After School Rec. Program that day.



P-T Conferences Approaching

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 9th. Second semester P-T Conferences for Bennet Elementary will be taking place from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. on that day. School will dismiss at 1:10 p.m. at Bennet and 1:30 at the High School for the conferences. **After School Rec. Program will be held on that day.**

We will send home notes about the times for your children's conferences on Friday, February 5th. If you have any questions about your times or wish to change the times you have been given, please contact the school at 782-3535 and we will do our best to work out a more convenient time.

Babysitting Service during P-T Conference @Palmyra

For the February 9th parent/ teacher conferences the Palmyra High School National Spanish Honor Society will be providing free will donation babysitting at the High School from 2pm until 7pm. We will have games, movies, and stories for the kids while parents speak with teachers. Any age is welcome!

Second Graders Get Living History Lesson

Students in second grade got to view hundreds of tools and utensils used by pioneer farmers as a part of a mobile exhibit brought to Bennet Elementary by Wayne Wallen of Palmyra, NE. The visit was a culminating activity as a part of the story they read this week, entitled *Josephina's Quilt*, a short story about life on the plains in the 1800's.

Wayne has collected hundreds of tools, toys, kitchen and household utensils over the years and organized them into a traveling display. It is really a very impressive collection of 19th and early 20th century tools and antiques.

Thanks to Mr. Wallen for taking the time to visit our school and spend time explaining how these tools were used in Pioneer times.

Stay tuned for an article from our second graders about the visit.



Wayne Wallen is shown in the pictures above talking about his collection of pioneer tools and artifacts with the students on Thursday.

DARE to Start in Fifth Grade

Officer Tom Brady started DARE lessons with the fifth grade earlier this month. Both Mrs. Bahm’s and Mr. McChristian’s classes meet with Officer Brady on Wednesdays this semester. The 12 lesson course will conclude in the spring with our annual DARE graduation to be held on a date to be determined.

2010 Statewide Parent Involvement Conference

On Saturday, March 27, 2010, the 2010 Statewide Parent Involvement Conference will be held at Westside Middle School in Omaha, NE, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for parents to gain parenting skills for a lifetime, from professional educators, counselors, law enforcement officials, and more. The Keynote Speaker will be Scott Butler. Scott is an assistant principal in the Millard Public Schools. He will talk about parent/child interactions and how assets can impact those interactions in positive ways. The cost of the conference is

\$25 per participant if pre-registered, \$30 registration the day of the conference. Free child care is provided but you must be pre-registered. Registration forms are available online at the Conference Web Site: www.westside66.org, or at the school office in Bennet.

Haiti Earthquake Relief Drive Raises \$700.00

Our goal was \$500.00, but thanks to the generosity and Caring attitudes of our students, parents and staff, we shot right past that goal and raised \$700.00 for the American Red Cross Haitian Relief Fund! Thanks to all of you who helped with your contributions. A check for \$700.00 was mailed to the Cornhusker Chapter of the American Red Cross earlier this week. What a caring school we have!

Speaking of Caring, February is Caring Month for Character Counts. Students are encouraged to wear red on Monday, February 1st.



Pictured above are Cassie S., Cory G., Sierra B., Brandon F., and Faith U. members of the Bennet Ele. fourth grade class. They are holding the collection jar and a check for the American Red Cross for \$700.00. Thanks again to everyone who donated for this Caring Drive.

Palmyra Boys and Girls host ECNC Basketball Games

The Palmyra Boys basketball team will host Louisville in first round action of the ECNC Conference Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 30th at 6:00 p.m.

The Girls will play host to Weeping Water on Tuesday, Feb. 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. Good Luck to both the Boys and Girls in tournament action.

Admission for all conference tournament games is \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. **No passes will be accepted for tournament games.**

