

The Bennet Elementary Express

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Character Counts Corner

Trust Is More Important Than Truth

A study titled "Parenting by Lying" reveals that most parents lie to their children, even though they tell their kids lying is wrong. The parents surveyed said they didn't feel guilty because their lies were intended to accomplish legitimate parental goals such as getting a child to stop crying or protecting a child from feeling bad or sad.

Reviewing the wide range of casual or careless lies told by parents to change behavior or manipulate emotions supports the observation that "the road to Hell is often paved with good intentions."

Although honesty is an important virtue, I'm not a truth-telling fanatic. Truth can sometimes be sacrificed for another ethical value, and it's sometimes okay to praise a present you dislike or choose kindness over candor.

My bedrock premise is that trust is more important than truth.

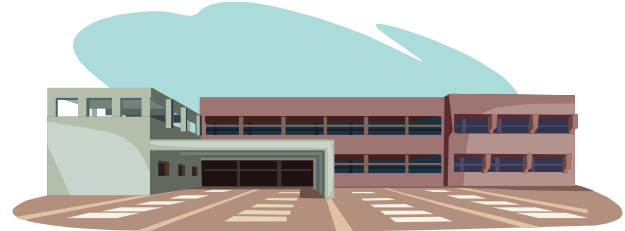
Playing with the truth is like playing with fire. It's sometimes justified, but it's unfailingly precarious. Lies are almost always bad because they almost always destroy trust.

Thus, before you decide that your noble intentions justify a lie, ask yourself: "If the person I lie to finds out the truth, will he or she thank me for caring or feel betrayed?" In other words, is the lie likely to damage trust?

Here are some other guidelines:

- Be sure the benefit you're trying to gain by lying is important enough to risk a loss of trust.
- Don't lie if you can accomplish your noble goal without lying (necessity isn't a fact, it's an interpretation).
- Be careful that the lie doesn't cause serious unintended consequence (e.g., telling a child a monster will take him or her away could generate serious long-term anxiety).

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.



School and Community Events

No School Monday, February 15th!

President's Day Vacation

Staff In-service Day

There will be no classes on Monday, February 15th. The entire teaching staff will be attending a Mid-Year In-service presented by ESU #4 in Falls City, NE. Classes will resume on Tuesday, February 16th, at 8:30 a.m.

P-T Conference Thanks

The staff would like to extend a thank you to all parents and guardians who attended conferences this past week. A special thanks to all those who made special arrangements to meet with teachers on other nights or made phone calls for conferences. It is easy to see why we have such a great bunch of kids in this school after visiting with many of their parents.

If you were unable to attend conferences on Thursday because of scheduling problems, please call the office and set up an appointment.

Thanks for your support throughout the year.

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.

Dodge Ball Tournament Back by Popular Demand!

The Palmyra Post Prom Committee will again be sponsoring a Dodge Ball Tournament on Saturday, March 20th, at the Palmyra High School Gym. The Tournament

will get underway at 3:00 p.m. Stay tuned for details in the High School Bulletin on February 19th!

Camp Invention Registration Forms Sent Home

Registration forms for Camp Invention, a Summer Enrichment Camp offered at Norris Elementary, were sent home last week with newsletters.

Camp Invention is a summer enrichment camp aimed at developing children's creative abilities through an inquiry-based learning model. The camp program consists of five exciting modules that are designed to provide a unique opportunity to explore the unknown, tinker with ideas, and satisfy an innate sense of curiosity. Children must tap into their creativity to solve real-world challenges and work as a team, using problem solving as a portal to discovery.

Extra Camp registration forms are available in the office at school.

Bennet Elementary Family Readathon Planned!

Mom and Dad, Daughter and Son.

Come and join us Everyone!
To read, and read, and read
some more

To watch our AR numbers
soar.

Reading, reading is the way

To celebrate Dr. Suess' birthday.

Families here. Families there.

Families reading everywhere!

Parents and children yes indeed, deed, deed

How many books can we read, read, read?



Who? Bennet Moms and Dads, Sons and Daughters

What? Family Dinner & Reading Night

Where? Bennet Elementary School

When? Tuesday, March 2nd from 5 - 7 p.m.

How? Many AR points can we get?

Bennet Elementary Boosters invite you to Dine and Read. Spaghetti Dinner will be served from 5 - 6 p.m. Free will donation with proceeds following expenses to go to the Jeremy and Michelle Bruce Family. Stay to AR read and test with your child. Let's see how many AR points we can earn in 2 hours!

Kindergarten Round-Up Date Set

Kindergarten Round-Up for the 2010-2011 School Year will be held in two sessions on **Friday, April 23rd**. If you have a youngster that will be starting school next fall or know of someone with an eligible student, please contact the school. We need to record names, phone numbers and

addresses, so we may send out future information to all families that need to know.

Sixth Grade to Attend Symphony!



On Friday February 19th 2010, the 6th grade classes will be attending the Young Person's Concert at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to see a live performance of Nebraska's own Lincoln Symphony Orchestra. The concert is at 10:00 a.m., so we will depart from school at 9:00 a.m., and be back around

11:45. Students will still eat lunch at school after returning.

For the concert, students should dress nicely. (EX: a nice top and nice pants or a skirt.) You may want to think of dressing as you would for school pictures. I prefer that you do not wear jeans, but if you must, make sure they are clean and not full of holes! Ladies, if you plan to wear dresses or skirts, please wear closed toe shoes, so your toes don't get wet from snow or slush! We may have to wait outside the Lied Center for a few minutes, so please bring a coat or jacket, and dress appropriately.

We will not be going far, so there is no need for cell phones, gaming devices, iPods or MP3's. Please leave these items at home.

The orchestra will perform the following selections:

- *The Star Spangled Banner* – by Francis Scott Key
- *Spring from The Four Seasons* – by Vivaldi
- *Spring from The Four Seasons* – by Piazzolla
- *Storm from William Tell Overture* – by Rossini
- *Storm from Symphony No. 6* – by Beethoven

If you have any questions, you may contact Mrs. McCreight at school. Ph 782-3535

Musically,
Beth McCreight
Vocal Music Instructor

Daycare Opening in Palmyra

Small In-Home Daycare opening in Palmyra. 10+ yrs working in childcare, Degree in Early Childhood Ed. and Dev., CPR and First Aid Certified. Call 402-560-7014 or e-mail ashli.leth@gmail.com.