

J. M. S. News. . . by Donald F. Gately

April 13, 2007

Quote of the Week:

"Reach high, for stars lie hidden
in your soul. Dream deep, for every
dream precedes the goal."

- Pamela Vaull Starr



Hope (Resiliency)

Our monthly theme for **April** is "**HOPE (RESILIENCY)**." Joseph Sugarman said, ". . . if you're willing to consider failure as a blessing in disguise and bounce back, you've got the potential of harnessing one of the most powerful success forces."

I believe that Joseph Sugarman's quote captures the meaning of the need to be resilient. In being resilient we learn that hope believes in tomorrow because we have learned to see with our hearts.

By seeing with your heart, you are able to understand how hope looks, acts, and feels. It is our obligation, as adult mentors, to practice hope, share it, and pass it along by becoming your SEL coaches. If we do so, your hearts will see what is invisible to the eyes.



Community Service Learning Classes Update

Recently the Community Service Learning classes held a very successful bake sale. They raised \$954. With that money, they purchased gifts for each child in the Child Life Program at Winthrop University Hospital. In addition, we donated a 12 in 1 game table, an electronic bowling set, and an indoor basketball shooting game for the playroom as well as arts and crafts supplies and activity books. Our students even made some of the activity books. Students in the Community Service Learning Program took a field trip to Winthrop on March 28th to deliver their gifts.

Seventh Grade Social Studies Trip to Philadelphia

Last month our 7th grade social studies students visited Philadelphia for a day. Please click on the link below to view the pictures of our students on their trip.

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/ms/library/philadelphiatrip2007.htm>

Take the Personal Best

SEL Challenge for the month of April!!

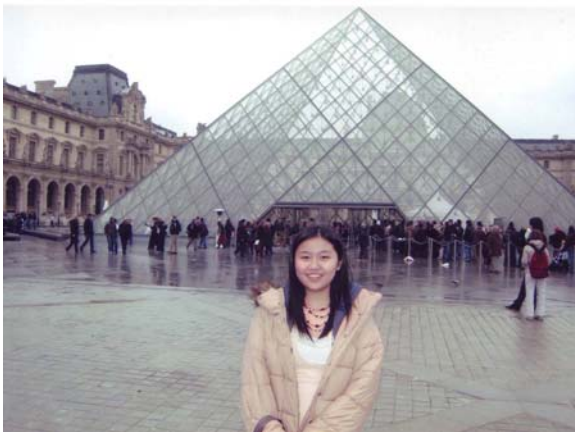
Jericho Middle School Students have been encouraged to take the Personal Best SEL Challenge by doing the following:

- Do something that is good for you to do but that you find difficult...three times.
- Help somebody succeed at something that is important.
- Encourage somebody when they struggle.

All students are welcome to **attend a special Personal Best/SEL event on April 27th at 2:15 p.m. in the Middle School Library.**

Congratulations to Hinano Ishii!

Hinano Ishii, an eighth grader at our Middle School recently traveled to the *Louvre* in Paris to see her artwork displayed. Her drawing was awarded 2nd place in a contest sponsored by U.N.I.C.E.F. for student created artwork. This is the second year in a row that Hinano's art received an award in this contest.



Congratulations to Brandon Carter!

Brandon, a student in Ms. Saur's Language Arts Class, was awarded second place in GEICO's 2006 Safety Belt Poster Contest. In addition, our school will benefit by receiving art supplies from the GEICO Insurance Company.



Pennies for Patients

Do you know what a blood cancer is? It is a certain disease that occurs in the blood. A healthy blood cell turns into a bad blood cell and multiples. To get rid of this disease, blood cancer patients have to take special medicines. Last year's Pennies for Patients earned \$350,000 or 35 million pennies. The money raised from the Healthy Snack Sale and from loose change collection will be donated to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society that helps patients that need those special medicines.



DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 17 Middle School 3rd Making Period Ends
- April 19 Board of Education Meeting - Seaman Elementary - 7:45 p.m.
- April 24 Middle School Evening Guidance Hours - 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- April 24 SEPTA Meeting - Seaman Elementary - 7:30 p.m. - Speaker: Dr. Valerie Gauss, Ph.D. will be presenting: *Walking the Tightrope: Balancing Your Child's Need for Independence with the Need for Your Help*.
- April 25-30 Middle School Grade 8 Science/Performance Test
- April 30 Middle School Report Cards E-mailed
- May 2 Middle School Grade 8 Science Written Test
- May 3 Middle School PTSA Meeting - Middle School Library - 9:00 a.m.
- May 15 Middle School Spring Concert I - Chorus/Orchestra - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.