

Left of Center

By: Hollee Kaseberg

10 signs of bad luck:

1. Magpies
2. Giving a wallet without putting money in it first
3. Getting out of bed on the opposite side you got in on
4. Putting your left foot down first when getting out of bed
5. Cutting your nails on Friday
6. Singing at the table
7. Writing a person's name in red
8. Killing a ladybug
9. Putting your shoes on the table
10. Having Goldfish in the house

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Why Four - Leaf Clovers are Considered Lucky?

By: Katie Poirier

With St. Patrick's Day around the corner, we are all getting ready for a sea of green and four leaf clovers, but what makes the little clover so lucky anyways?

According to superstition, it is incredibly lucky to find a four-leaf clover in a field. Some people say that when Eve left the Garden of Eden she was holding a four-leaf clover, thus making people believe that it would bring them luck.

There is only one four-leafed clover for every 10,000 clovers, so it is quite lucky if you were to find one with four leaves. The Irish claim to have

more four-leaf clovers than any other place in the world, hence the saying "Luck of the Irish".

Each leaf of the clover is said to represent wealth, fame, love and health. This belief has been dated all the way back to the 17th century, but may be older. The Celtic people carried four-leaf clovers with them for protection against dark spirits. It was also believed to provide protection against witches and to allow those who wore a four-leaf clover to be able to see through any tricks attempted to be played on them by witches.

Children in the Middle Ages used four-leaf clovers as a way to try to find fairies because it was believed that the clovers allowed you to see fairies. In Britain, finding a four-leaf clover is a sign that one will soon meet their soul mate and, when worn by young men on their jackets, a way to avoid military draft. In other places around the world, the clover is said to bring the finder double the

luck if it is immediately given away. It is also believed that four-leaf clovers only grow where a mare has foaled, some people say the clover is considered to be lucky due to its ability to help with certain skin problems, while others believe it's considered lucky because of biblical reasons, like Eve, and St. Patrick.

St. Patrick used a shamrock with only three leaves to represent the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and some Christians use the four leaf clover as a resemblance of the cross. Each of the four leaves representing the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the Grace of God.

Two leaf clovers also have some lucky attributes. It is said that, if a woman wants to meet the man she is going to marry, she should wear a two leaf clover on her right shoe, and the next man she meets is destined to be her husband. Five leaf clovers are considered extremely unlucky and should not be picked or messed with!

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Sports Center

By: Katie Poirier

February 14th: Our Huskies traveled to Hermiston for first round of districts, and played Ione. The girls came out of the game with a heart breaking loss, prematurely ending one of the best Lady Husky basketball seasons in the last four years. The score was 33-36. The boys team did a lot better than the girls and beat the Cardinals, 78-62.

February 15th: The boys faced the Horizon Christian Hawks and after an intensely close and nerve racking game, lost 54-60.

February 16th: Our Huskies faced the Echo Cougars to determine who would place third in districts. Our boys made Sherman County proud by defeating the Cougars with a score of 60-34

February 19th: The boys took on Powder Valley for state playoffs, and after a close game, won 80-77.

February 22nd: The Huskies played Hosanna Christian for yet another playoff game, and lost 64

-80. This loss resulted in the end of Sherman boys basketball season, but we are all immensely proud of how far both of our basketball teams went this season, and we hope to have an even better one next year.

We are now looking forward to very fun and successful track and field, tennis, and baseball seasons!

Basketball Highlights in Pictures!



Makenzie Blaylock leaps over a Dufur Ranger for a jump shot.



Riley Brown protects the basketball from a Maupin Redside.



Katie Poirier jumps over a Maupin Redside for a rebound.

Husky Happenings

By: Audrey Kaseberg

It's only the third month into the new year, but it's keeping everyone super busy! This month, March is bringing plenty of events for everyone to enjoy. Track and Field, Tennis, and Baseball seasons are starting, FFA State Convention, Missoula Children's Theater: "The Secret Garden", Mr. Husky Cancellation, and the one event everyone's looking forward to...SPRINGBREAK!

Spring sports are springing into action! Welcome back Track and Field, Tennis, and Baseball students and coaches. Track and Field coach, Todd Swan, Tennis coach, Leo Baptiste, and baseball coach, Joe Justessen, are already prepped and ready for their seasons to begin. They've been seen numerous times in the halls at school encouraging students to get out and join the teams!

Our track team got a big surprise this year; usually they have State Track in Monmouth, OR at Western Oregon University, but this year it is being held at University of Oregon in Eugene, OR, for school's 1A-6A. To some track members who've been to state in the past years this is a great experience they are striving to be apart of.

Also this year, Sherman County's baseball team is just pairing up with the Arlington Honkers to make a full team. Last year we also conjoined with the Condon-Wheeler Knights, but this year they had enough to make their own full

team. Our baseball team will have many more practices in Arlington this year then last, so there will be plenty of traveling time going back and forth from each town. We wish our new sport teams good luck in their games and meets, and hope they have a great season!

Tennis is off to a hopping start. The team welcomed a new assistant coach, Kalie Rolfe. There are many returning players and several new players this year. Their first match was March 11 against Umatilla.

FFA State Convention will be held March 22nd-25th in Corvallis, OR, at the OSU campus. The Sherman Chapter has individuals selected to participate in AG Issues, a play hosted at the Convention. They will be competing against other Chapter members for medals and awards. The AG Issues members from Sherman County who are going include Makenzie Blaylock, Shaun Casper, Shayne Holmes, Meagan McKinney, Brooklyn Sandquist, and Katherine Shafer. Garak Casper and Karolyn Kaseberg will also be in attendance.

Once again Missoula Children's Theater returned to Sherman County and encouraged our grade school and high school students to participate in the play: "The Secret Garden". Student's met with the plays advisors for auditions on March 4th, and rehearsed from March 4th-8th. They performed on the 8th as well, and put on a spectacular show for the community to enjoy. Missoula has always been great entertain-

ment for our community to come watch, and for our students to participate in. Watching everyone perform that night was a thrill, especially because you could tell that they themselves really enjoyed it.

Missoula gives students the opportunity to be a part of a performance, to help with shyness and stage fright, but as well as just have fun! Big 'Thanks' to Missoula Children's Theater and Mr. Casper!

It is with disappointment to announce that the Mr. Husky Competition has officially been canceled for the 2013 year. Sadly the Senior Class officers could not get enough Senior boys interested in the scholarship opportunity, and therefore had to put the competition off, until next year. Hopefully then the 2014 Senior Class will be able to get participants to want to do the show. We are sorry to everyone who enjoys watching the show, and "voting" for the contestants. To anyone who sees any of the Senior boys out and about, don't be afraid to give them a hard time about not participating in the fabulous opportunity to gain scholarship money and fame.

SPRINGBREAK! Is March 25th-29th. This break will be much appreciated by everyone around! Enjoy time with friends, family, and sleeping in till noon!

Statement to the Community

By: Amanda Ross

To the School Board, Mr. Owens, Mr. Somnis, Mr. Hammond, and the General Public:

It is with mixed emotions that I address you tonight. My letter of resignation has been given and I am sure that it was a surprise to all involved, most namely me.

I want to start this public discourse by stating the following, this decision did not come easy and it does not come without reservation and sadness. I came to Sherman County a year and a half ago and in that time I have been accepted by the students, staff, and community. I became an integral part of a very unique community that opened its arms to me in gestures of friendship and acceptance. For almost two years I have stated that I would never leave and that I was where I wanted to stay for the remainder of my life. Yes, I said those very words and I meant every one of them.

Life has a very interesting way of working and, at winter break, I went to visit a friend of mine in Fairbanks, Alaska. And, after only a few days, I knew I belonged there.

However, I want to convey to the board and to those who live in Sherman County that the decision to move to Fairbanks, Alaska, has nothing to do with dissatisfaction. On the contrary, I have never left a place more accepting and more like home than I have ever experienced. I am leaving the best job I have ever had, great friends, and, yes, even a great house.

Teaching at Sherman Junior/

Senior High School has been the most wonderful experience of my life. I left a teaching job in Las Vegas because of bullying by the principal, which, I can say, never happened here. I came to Sherman County a defeated teacher completely unsure of my ability. Since coming to Sherman, my confidence has been restored plus some. I leave having a heart not only for high school students, but for junior high students, as well. I never thought I could teach junior high and I never thought I would love it as much as I have. Truly, in Sherman County I have only experienced the positive that can be education. I love my students with my whole heart and I love walking into my classroom on a daily basis.

This is the first time I have willingly left a job under my own recognizance where I was truly accepted, where I thoroughly enjoy my job, I have the best administration in my career and where I have a community in full support of my teaching practices.

I love Sherman County and wanted to spend the rest of my life here, but sometimes a monkey wrench is thrown in and I found myself wanting to move to Alaska. I need to be there and I know; however, it is not without reservation and it is not without sorrow at what I am leaving behind. I love this community and I love my students.

So why? Some people ask. I can't explain other than I am cer-

tain that I am to go to Alaska. There are a lot of unknowns, but I welcome adventure.

With that said, I just wanted the board and all those involved in this process to know that I am truly grateful for having spent this time here in this community. Sherman County will always have a spot in my heart on which I will dwell with fond memories.

I submitted my resignation early in the year because I know that the best teachers are hired early and I want the very best for my students. I still lesson plan on a daily basis and all of my curriculum will be left for my replacement. I truly care about my students and want them to have the best available. My lesson plans, whether followed or not, will be a stepping stone and will help the next teacher to understand where our students are and where I wanted them to go.

Honestly, I had every intention of staying in Sherman County for the duration, but I realize that life sometimes throws curveballs. I have been truly blessed here and I cannot express my gratitude enough. Sometimes, doing the right thing feels wrong and can be painful. And, sometimes I think that if I could take back my resignation, I would. But, it is given. And, I thank you. All of you.

Husky Helper

By: Katherine Shafer

As the month of March began, the Husky Times Staff decided the next person to be awarded as “Husky Helper” should be Carrie Somnis for her hard work and devotion to the school.

Carrie has been elected to receive this award because she has proven to be a terrific volunteer and helper around the school. During every season -whether it is during football, volleyball, basketball, or track- she can often be found helping with concessions. She has even been referred to as the “concessions master” by

some students. Working the concession stand is a big way for different teams and organizations to make money, so her help is a big deal! Carrie is a great example of the type of people the school needs. Sherman Jr. Sr. High School is always looking for people that are willing to support our students and help them do their best. Without volunteers like Carrie, our school wouldn’t be as successful as it is today and the concessions during all the sports games wouldn’t run as smoothly. Thank you Carrie for all the hard work! Your help is definitely appreciated!



Carrie Somnis and Clay



Poetry Projects from the Senior, Junior, and Freshmen English Classes

Junior High News! By Katie Poirier

The seventh graders at Sherman Jr./Sr. High School have been working hard on a project for Mrs. Thompson's social studies class. The students were studying Medieval Europe, or commonly known as the Dark Ages. To help the students better understand the feudal system; the social system that was developed during that time, Mrs. Thompson had the kids make a foldable describing what life living in a castle would be like and had them make their own castles.

After showing off their castles for observers, the students built catapults

to see how sturdy and defense proof the castles were.

Some of the students had their own favorite things about their own castle, whether it is made up of cardboard or duct tape, "My favorite part of my castle is my draw bridge because it actually works," said Rebecca Earl about her intricately made draw bridge. Bri McKinney carefully chose her materials stating, "I had a lot of card board around my house, and I got duct tape for Christmas, and I like to spray paint so I spray painted it." Some of the seventh graders got really

creative, using real sand and popsicle sticks and even Lego people, "I used real sand around my castle because it makes it more realistic," stated Zach Fluhr about his eye catching castle. Kiersten Casper also was inventive using real Lego people as part of her castle's decorations, "I like my King the best," she said. As Mrs. Thompson stated, "The quality and creativity of the castles have improved each and every year." Good job seventh graders on your castles!



Hallee Koshney shows off her castle.



Pals Lexi Grenvik and Kiersten Casper dress the part



Jared Fritts proudly stands next to his castle.

Congratulations!

Congratulations! Audrey J Stone. She has qualified to represent our school and participate at the state level of the National Geographic Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek. The state Bee will be held on Friday, April 5, 2013 at Western Oregon University in Monmouth.

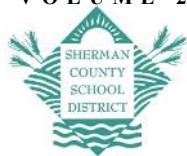
One winner from each state and territory will advance to the national

competition, which will be held May 20-22 in Washington, D.C. The final round will be moderated by Alex Trebek and will air on National Geographic Channel on Thursday, May 23.

Good Luck Audrey!!!!



Audrey Stone



Superintendent's Corner

By: Wes Owens

As I write this letter at the beginning of March, the snow is falling and I am looking forward to the transition from winter to spring. As we move closer to a new season, it reminds me of some of the transitions and transformations that are occurring in Oregon and on the national front regarding education. Two of these changes include how teachers and administrators are evaluated and implementation of a new, more uniform set of state standards.

SB 290 - Teacher and Administrator Evaluation and Support Systems

Senate Bill 290 directs all school districts in Oregon to develop or modify their current teacher and administrator evaluation system by July 1, 2013. During the 2012-13 school year, we established a collaborative team—consisting of Sherman County School District staff, administration and school board members—who have been working together to select and design a new evaluation system. According to the Oregon Department of Education, the system must include multiple measurements aligned with Model Teaching Standards. They are as follows:

Professional Practice: Measures the quality of a teacher's planning, delivery of instruction, and assessment of student learning.

Professional Responsibilities: Measures the teacher's progress toward his or her own professional goals and contribution to school-wide goals.

Student Learning and Growth: Quantitatively measures the teacher's impact on a student (or sets of students) as delineated by multiple sources of student data over time.

The implementation of this new evaluation system will have a positive impact on improving classroom instruction and student outcomes in the Sherman County School District.

Common Core State Standards

Prior to the Common Core State Standards, each state had its own set of educational standards for what students were to learn and know at certain points in their academic development. However, over the past few years, there has been a move to create a set of national standards. These standards became known as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Forty-five states, including Oregon, have adopted these standards that will be fully implemented during the 2014-15 school year. The CCSS provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn K-12 in Mathematics and English Language Arts & Literacy.

These new standards, now more than ever, require our teachers to take on some formidable challenges. Our teachers are optimistic as they address and meet these new challenges. This year we have made it a District goal to integrate these standards into curriculum documents, or maps. Our teachers meet in collaborative groups to focus on new targets and develop these curriculum maps to integrate CCSS and chart educa-

tional progress for all students district wide. They are developing cutting edge teaching strategies that will be implemented in all classrooms; this effort is vital to the academic success of our students and for which I am extremely appreciative. The national standards reflect new levels of expectations for our students in the Sherman County School District and, like other districts in Oregon and the nation, our teachers recognize the need for students to meet the highest of standards in order to be successful in the 21st century.

We will be transitioning to the CCSS over the next couple of years. Students will be tested using a performance-based assessment (Smarter Balanced Assessments) starting in the spring of 2015.

Thank You Classified Employees!

After seven and a half years in the Sherman County School District, I continue to be amazed by the outstanding assistance our classified and support staff members provide our students, teachers, and administration. They constantly work together to ensure the best education possible for ALL students. Every staff member works tirelessly to uphold the District motto of, "Working Together to Put Student Success First". The week of March 4-8 was National Classified School Employee Week. I want to take this opportunity to, again, recognize the outstanding classified employees and other support staff who work in the Sherman County School District. Their

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Principal's Corner: Brandon Hammond

By: Brandon Hammond

Spring is just around the corner and the elementary school is budding with enthusiasm and anticipation for warmer days. Our annual children's theater was just completed during the first week of March and the students gave another outstanding performance. In the five years that I have participated in Missoula Children's Theater, I am continually astounded by the ways in which our kids can memorize lines in only a few days and able to put together a 55 page musical. Way to go!

Unfortunately, with Missoula Children's Theater and Spring Break, we will not be holding a literacy night in March. The support we have had over the years regarding our literacy nights is truly remarkable. Literacy Night was created to bring our community together and foster an appreciation for academics within the elementary grades. These expectations have been met and exceeded, so thank you for all of your continued support and we will see you next

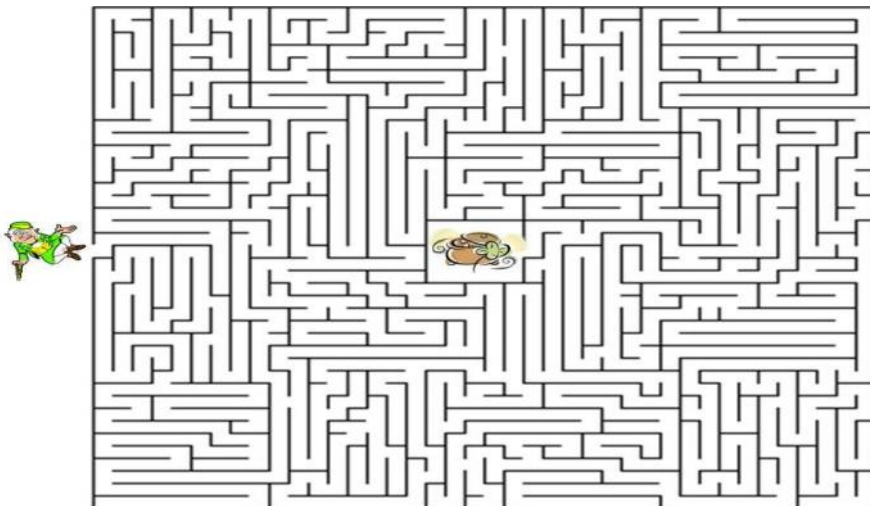
month.

March is also the beginning of our state testing, which we refer to as OAKS. The State of Oregon has used the OAKS assessment since the 2007-08 school year. The test is administered to all third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders at the elementary school. This test is nothing new, but there has been a move that connects student scores to how well a school is performing. OAKS is a summative assessment designed to show what the student has learned in the areas of math and reading. Our fifth graders are also assessed in social studies and science. At Sherman Elementary we have focused on how students are growing from year to year. This allows us to look at the individual student and where they need to improve. Each student is unique with their own strengths and weaknesses. Using a growth model has taken the pressure of passing or failing away and emphasizes the need to improve. This approach has also given students who have not

passed a feeling of success. They are able to look at what they scored last year and see how much they have improved.

Finally, in April we will be holding a training session for our staff, preschool staff, and our lunch buddies in conjunction with our school behavior program. We are currently invested in the Kelso's Choice model and will be having a trainer visit us on April 19th. This session will assist our school community in becoming a cohesive unit in regard to our behavior plan. I am excited and looking forward to this opportunity and know it will benefit us as we continue to strive for ways to help our students succeed.

Thank you so much for all of the support you give us at Sherman Elementary. We are happy to serve the community!



Help the Leprechaun
find his gold!!!

Principal's Corner: Mike Somnis

By: Mike Somnis

As I write this article, I can't help but think about how quickly this year has seemed to go by. It just seems like a few weeks ago that we were starting our first day of school in September. With Spring Break right around the corner, it is the time of year to begin looking forward to the many events that will occur as we head for a strong finish to the school year.

Looking at our Jr./Sr. High School schedule, we have an astounding number of events and activities happening, 26 to be exact, in the two weeks of school leading up to spring break. The last three months of school are always extremely busy. Students have a wide variety of activities and events from which to choose. All of these options can make it difficult for our

students to focus on finishing the year academically strong; however, students' academic success should always be the top priority in school. Students need to remain focused on the task of getting great grades, enjoying their time in the classroom, and learning everything they can here at Sherman Jr./Sr. High School!

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service and devotion is vital to the everyday operation of our schools.

Our Instructional Assistants do amazing things daily that often go unnoticed. Debbie Bird, Connie Greenwood, Jerri Lovell, Britney Macnab, and Elaine Richelderfer perform a myriad of tasks over the course of a school day to support teachers and students. They pride themselves on jumping in and assisting with anything that they can. These wonderful ladies are all tremendous team players.

Our libraries are supervised by Deanna Christiansen and Arla Melzer. Together with the caring Public School Library staff, they professionally support our students, teachers and the community on a daily basis. Their friendly and helpful service is commendable and they provide an abundance of helpful materials, books, technology and information.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding food service program in the Sherman County School

District. Ree Ella von Borstel and Darcy Henry do a fantastic job preparing nutritious breakfast and lunch meals for our students. Their friendly service to our students and staff is exemplary.

We have a custodial staff that has a tremendous amount of pride in caring for our facilities. Dan Aldrich and Craig Wood simply do a fantastic job. We regularly receive outstanding comments from community members, parents from other schools, and students about how clean our facilities are in the District.

Linda Burnett, Patti Ketchum and Jeanie Pehlke are the faces and voices of each school office. They are professional, friendly, and helpful to everyone with whom they come in contact during the day. They answer questions and process a remarkable amount of requests from parents, students, teachers and administrators. We are extremely fortunate to have them working in their positions.

Kim McKinney is the Business

Manager for the Sherman County School District. She works tirelessly supporting the staff, school board and administration. Her finance and budgeting experience is noteworthy.

If you ever get the opportunity, please take a moment to thank these wonderful employees for all that they do to support the students, parents and teachers in our community.

As always, I encourage your feedback and participation in the life of the Sherman County School District. I welcome your comments, questions, or concerns. Please give me a call at 541-565-3500, 541-333-2250 or send me an email at:

wowens@sherman.k12.or.us.

Sincerely,

Wes Owens

Superintendent

Students of the Quarter

by Katherine Shafer

As the quarter came to an end on Thursday February 24th, the staff was left with the hard decision of who would receive the Student of the Quarter award. There were many students that deserved this award, but three students stood out in particular. Ashley Berish and Wyatt Stutzman were chosen as the second quarter Senior High Girl and Senior High Boy, while Joe McAllister was picked to be the Junior High Student.

Ashley Berish, a freshman, was nominated as the Senior High Girl to receive the Student of the Quarter award for second quarter by Miss Ross. Ashley who moved to Sherman at the beginning of the year has already made her mark on the school. She is reportedly a good friend and role model to those around her, as well as an excellent student. Miss Pinkerton, who also has Ashley in her class, added that though Ashley has never attended any Spanish classes for 7th and 8th grade before, she is still one of the top students in Spanish 1 and always goes above and beyond. Good job Ashley!

Wyatt Stutzman, a freshman, has been chosen as this quarters Senior High Boy to receive the Student of the Quarter award. Mr. Collins who nominated Wyatt wrote, "If I could use

one word to describe Wyatt Stutzman it would be "dedication." Wyatt who is involved in sports year round as well as FFA is always hardworking and positive no matter what the situation. He is also humble and often puts others before himself. Ms. Pinkerton also nominated Wyatt, because of his good behavior and incredible work ethic in her class. Good job Wyatt!

Joe McAllister, an eighth grader this year, was chosen to be the Junior High Student for this quarter by Ree Ella von Borstel. Joe is always eager to help without being asked. "He started helping with freight [one] Thursday morning," says Ree Ella," and also took out the compost." Joe always remains in good spirits and helps staff around the school with whatever they need. Thanks Joe for all your hard work!

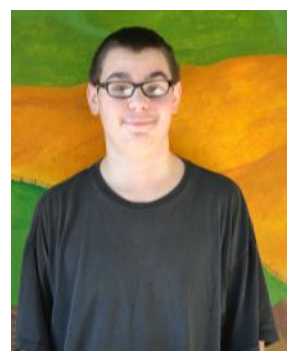
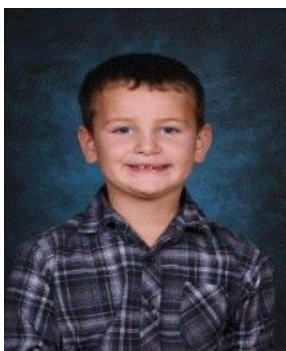
Not only does the Sherman Jr. Sr. High School award deserving students with the Student of the Quarter award, but so does the Sherman Elementary school!

Henry Poirier, who is in Mrs. Sharp's 1st grade class, was presented with the Student of the Quarter award for his amazing leadership skills and diligent work ethic. Mrs. Sharp says Henry is kind, and patient, and always

willing to help his classmates with their own work and messes. Henry always listens to what the teacher is saying and challenges himself in Math and reading. He sounds out unfamiliar words by himself, while other kids ask for help without trying on their own. Even though Henry is only in the 1st Grade he is still already proving what a good leader and role model he is. Good job Henry!

Also chosen for this quarters Student of the Quarter award was Cali Johnson. Cali was nominated by her 3rd grade teacher Mrs. Hansen for her outstanding work and great attitude towards every situation she faces. She always has her work done on time Mrs. Hansen explained while writing why Cali deserved this award, and she always puts an extra effort into everything she does. Cali is a great hard-working student, but she is an even better helper to her friends. Cali is always the first to volunteer her help to others. She is overall an amazing student and great role model! Good job Cali!

Congratulations to all the students that were awarded as the Student of the Quarter this quarter and to those that weren't: keep working hard! We only have 2 more quarters to go!



Dear Ed...

Dear Ed,

Lately I have been really forgetful. I mean I'm really, really scatterbrained. Homework, iPods, etc. I always lose things! What can I do to remember things?

Sincerely, Forgetful

Dear Forgetful,

If you're having trouble remembering things, don't fret! Studies show that when you leave a room your mind actually "resets" itself when you walk through the doorway causing you to forget what you were originally doing! When you forget something just retrace your steps and hopefully you will find what you are looking for. You can also try to keep things organized. By having a place for everything to go it will be easier to find things in a rush. Writing things on sticky notes helps too!

Sincerely, Ed



Dear Ed,

What are some of the things I can do to make colleges notice me more than other students my age?

Sincerely, College Bound

Dear College Bound,

Study hard, don't get in trouble, and participate in extracurricular activities. Colleges like students that are well rounded and will make a positive impact on their school and community.

Sincerely, Ed

Dear Ed,

What are you doing this spring break?

Sincerely, Flower

Dear Flower,

During Spring break I am going to Alaska to work as a sled dog! The spring weather here in Sherman County is just too warm for me! After all I am a husky and huskies are made for the snowy weather!

Sincerely, Ed

Dear Ed,

I have noticed that even when I try real hard I have problems keeping my binders and school stuff organized. What would you suggest I do to stay more organized?

Sincerely, Unorganized

Dear Unorganized,

One way to stay organized at school is to get a planner. A planner is just a book where you can write down homework assignments and other things you may need for class. I would suggest if you're having trouble keeping your binders organized that you also get dividers, and even a small hole punch (Staples has one that can fit in your binders) for on the go. That way if you get any new papers, you can easily hole punch them and put them in your binders. Take a day to get everything in order and then you should be good to go!

Sincerely, Ed

