

**GALES FERRY SCHOOL  
JULIET W. LONG SCHOOL  
GALES FERRY, CONNECTICUT**

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**ISSUE 10**

**May 2010**

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**HAPPY SPRING!**

Spring is finally here! These last seven weeks of school will be filled with many special activities. Our last day of school will be **THURSDAY, JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>** with a 12:50 p.m. dismissal. KAM will attend 8:40-10:45 am while KPM will attend 10:45-12:50. Students will bring home their report cards on this day. Class assignments will be finalized after we have reviewed the Connecticut Mastery Test results. Class assignments will be posted on Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.



If your children will not be returning to Gales Ferry School/Juliet W. Long School next year, please complete the form that was sent home earlier and return it to us as soon as possible. It is important to let us know about summer moves now, so that we can arrange for your children's records to be ready for you to pick up on the last day of school. Another form may be obtained by calling the school office. The school offices are closed during July and also the first week of August.

**SUBSTITUTES NEEDED**

As is generally true of all schools in town and many districts in our area, Gales Ferry School/Juliet W. Long School would benefit from having a larger pool of substitutes. If you or someone you know has a bachelor's degree and an interest in substituting, please contact Tia Emard at the Ledyard Board of Education office (464-9255 extension 219).

**MOTHER'S DAY – SUNDAY, MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Our very best wishes go out to all the mothers and grandmothers of students at Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School this Mother's Day. May your day be wonderful from sunrise to sunset.



**STUDENT SUCCESS**

Congratulations to Kathleen Ferrie (grade 6, Mr. Silva). Kathleen's written entry entitled "The Journey" earned honorable mention for the *Connecticut Student Writers*. This statewide magazine was established in 1988 to recognize excellence in student writing, K-12. Nearly 1,000 pieces were submitted this year. To have an entry chosen from this group of talented writers is a credit to Kathleen and our school. A recognition night to honor published writers and those receiving honorable mention will be held at UCONN on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Way to go, Kathleen !



**Pink and Blue Hair for Mrs. Porter-Price and Mr. Kulmann  
Bring in Your Box Tops - 10,000 is Our Goal  
With 500 students at GFS/JWL, each student only needs to bring in 20 box tops.**



**JWL FIELD DAY – WEDNESDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> – 9:00 A.M. – 2:25 P.M.**  
**(RAIN DATE – THURSDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>)**

Juliet W. Long’s Field Day will be held Wednesday, May 26, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:25 p.m. The rain date is Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. School lunch will be available on Field Day.

The games and activities will be a collaborative effort with the Ledyard High School National Honor Society, Major League Soccer Camps, the GFS/JWL PTO and Mrs. Bousquet.

Any appropriate shirt from youth league level to the pros is acceptable. Sneakers are mandatory (no sandals, platforms, hard-soled shoes, etc.) and appropriate shorts are preferred. Students are encouraged to wear hats. They should also bring sunscreen to school. Water bottles would be a good idea for the day as well.

**JWL FIELD DAY PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

If you are interested in volunteering to help out on Field Day, please complete the section below and return the form to the office by **FRIDAY, MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>**. Thank you.

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**JWL FIELD DAY VOLUNTEER - PLEASE RETURN BY FRIDAY, MAY 14TH**

Yes, I would like to volunteer to help with Field Day-Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> .(Rain date-Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>) If you can join us for the entire day, please check all time slots.

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **3, 4, 5, 6** **Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(grade –circle one)

**Parent/Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone # (860)** \_\_\_\_\_

I am/we are available to help:

\_\_\_\_\_ **9 - 10 A.M.** . \_\_\_\_\_ **10 - 11 A.M.** \_\_\_\_\_ **11 – 12 NOON**

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**2010-2011 TRANSPORTATION**

If your child is going to be picked up by the bus at any address other than your home address next school year, it would be helpful for us to have this information this school year to facilitate the scheduling of the transportation routes. Please send the information to your school office as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**FOOTWEAR**

Please remind your children to wear shoes that are appropriate for playground and gym activities. Clogs, sandals, flip-flops, and open-backed shoes do not provide the kind of stability necessary for running, jumping and climbing. The health rooms see falls, skinned knees and twisted ankles that can be attributed to the type of footwear children are wearing. Let’s keep kids safe this spring and summer.



**GFS FIELD DAY - TUESDAY, JUNE 8<sup>th</sup> - 9 A.M. – 12 NOON**  
**RAINDATE, TUESDAY, JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>)**

Field Day activities are being planned for **TUESDAY, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>** in the morning by Mr. Farnsworth, one of our physical education teachers. Both morning and afternoon kindergarten classes will attend the morning session of school and be dismissed at 11:20 a.m.



Students should dress comfortably and bring hats. They should apply sunscreen **BEFORE** coming to school. Water bottles would be a good idea for the day as well.

**GFS FIELD DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

If you are interested in volunteering to help out with the games on Field Day, please complete the section below and return the form to the office by **FRIDAY, MAY 21<sup>st</sup>**. Thank you.

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**GFS FIELD DAY VOLUNTEER - PLEASE RETURN BY FRIDAY, MAY 21<sup>st</sup>**

Yes, I would like to volunteer to help with the games on Field Day-Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.  
 (Rain date – Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>) If you can join us, please check all time slots.

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **K, 1, 2** **Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (grade –circle one)

**Parent/Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone # (860)** \_\_\_\_\_

I am/we are available to help:

\_\_\_\_\_ **9 - 10 A.M.**                      . \_\_\_\_\_ **10 - 11 A.M.**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **11 – 12 NOON**

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**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART**

was most successful. Approximately \$3000 was raised for the American Heart Association. (AHA)

Special thanks are extended to Ms. Paula Bousquet, who worked hand in hand with Mrs. Jak Caruthers from the American Heart Association (AHA). We would also like to thank our volunteers - Mrs. Cassie Allen, Mrs. Susan Baker, Mrs. Andrea Barbour, Mrs. Tina Galton, Mrs. Christine Hansen, Mrs. Eileen Litty, Mrs. Tiffany McCall, Mrs. Sue Souza, Mrs. Stacy Stahl, and Mrs. Judy Zagaski.

Congratulations to Alyah de Ugarte, GFS and Carina Mitchell, JWJ, who raised the most money for the AHA. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.



## **FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES**

### **Physicals**

Following are answers to many of the questions we get about physicals:

#### **Does my child need a physical every year for school?**

No. There are three times that the state requires your child to have a physical for school. Those times are before they start attending a Connecticut school for the first time, in 6th or 7th grade and again in 9th or 10th grade.

#### **Does every blank have to be filled out?**

Maybe not. If it is not one of the three mandated physicals, your doctor can use his/her discretion. If it is one of the three mandated physicals, then every item that has an asterisk must be completed. These items are mandated screenings and tests under Connecticut State Law. The physical is not considered complete unless all of these have been done. We recommend that you double check the form before leaving the doctor's office to be sure it is complete. Please be sure you have filled out the parent's side of the form before handing it in. This actually should be done before you even see the doctor but we know it doesn't always happen that way.

#### **Can I give the school a copy or does it need to be the original?**

The original. The blue health assessment form is the State of Connecticut Department of Education record and it is the original that we need for our records. By all means, keep a copy for your records or you can ask us to make a copy for you.

#### **My child will be going to middle school next year; do I give the health assessment form to that nurse?**

If the physical is being done before the end of the school year, it needs to be given to the nurse at your child's current school. We will update their record and then forward it to the nurse at the middle school when the records are taken over at the end of the school year. If your child has a physical done during the summer, you can turn the form in to the middle school nurse at the start of the school year.

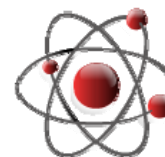
#### **Are the requirements any different if my child will be playing sports in middle school?**

Yes. Students, who play any sport, must have a physical every year. If you think there is any chance your child might want to play a sport next year make an appointment for him/her to have a physical this summer, that way it will cover the entire school year. The physical has to be done before they can start practicing with a school team.

If you have any questions please contact the school nurse. JWJ-Susan Baker 464-6929 [sbaker@ledyard.net](mailto:sbaker@ledyard.net) or GFS-Casandra Allen 464-2458 or [callen@ledyard.net](mailto:callen@ledyard.net)

## **6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE FIELD TRIP TO BOSTON'S MUSEUM OF SCIENCE**

This year's trip was successful!!! Parent and teachers remarked that the students were very well behaved. Special thanks to all the parents, who accompanied the class as chaperones, our 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers-Ms. Hartz, Mrs. Holdridge, Mrs. McNabney, and Mrs. Tedder, our physical education teacher Mr. Mark Farnsworth, the PTO and the many families who participated in our 6<sup>th</sup> grade fundraisers



## **JWJ FRONT ENTRANCE RENOVATION**

We have begun the process of renovating JWJ front entrance. The foundational shrubs planted back in the 1960's when the school was built are being cut down and replaced by smaller shrubs and flowers. Our goal is to make the front entrance more welcoming to visitors.

Over April vacation all of JWJ exterior doors received a fresh coat of green paint. Our custodians will be doing more painting outside in the months ahead. You can help us. We are looking for more flowers, shrubs, small trees, and bulbs. Donations will be gladly accepted in the school offices.





Do you have any DVDs that you haven't watched for years?  
Well, put them to good use, [donating them](#) to the DVDs4VETs!

The Rotary Club of Ledyard is collecting DVDs for wounded veterans that have returning from combat, and are bed-ridden for extended periods of time during their medical treatment and healing process. Veterans DVDs4VETs provides DVDs to help these brave people make the tedious hours stuck in a bed or coping with the pain of their wounds, pass a bit more quickly. A few moments of entertainment are significant blessings. This small gesture will have a large impact on the lives of many. Please help out as much as you can.

You can drop DVDs off at the Gales Ferry and Juliet W. Long offices.

Thank you, Members of the Ledyard Rotary



### **OUR NATION'S HEALTH**

The statistics are startling!!! 66% of our population are overweight or obese. Extra weight puts people at risk for many health problems, such as heart disease, diabetes, etc. Ms. Laurie Meyer, a dietitian with her own nutrition consulting business in Milwaukee, recommends that parents/guardians do the following with their families to combat this serious problem-

1. Be a good role model by eating healthy, well balanced meals.
2. Eat at least one meal together as a family.
3. Make fruits and vegetables more accessible to your children. Limit sugary treats.
4. Plan family activities.
5. Exercise 60 minutes a day.



### **EARTH WEEK**

We celebrated Earth Week from April 19<sup>th</sup> through April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Led by GFS/JWL teachers Mrs. Melissa Miner, Mrs. Jennifer Pacheco, and Mrs. Lisa Tedder, and supported by our classroom teachers, we had a very successful Earth Week. Special activities took place each day. We observed Earth Hour by turning off electricity between 12 and 1 p.m. one afternoon. We cleaned up our school grounds and made pledges to help save our planet Earth. Many teachers designed special bulletin boards, which were then entered in our bulletin board contest. The judges had a very difficult time determining winners because the bulletin boards were so well done!!! The winning entry was Mrs. Souza and her third grade class. Second place went to Mrs. McVeigh and her third grade class. Two sixth grade classes shared third place-Mr. Silva and Mrs. Tedder.

On Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, author Shelley Gill, who has participated in the 1,049 mile Iditarod race, gave three wonderful presentations. She talked about her life in Alaska as an adventurer and an author. She had fantastic slides and movies from the far north that she shared with us. Throughout her talks, she stressed the importance of taking care of our planet. She also taught us more about the writing process. We learned how we could use more descriptive words in our writing. We would like to thank Ms. Bonnie Castleman, our librarian, and Mrs. Kathleen Smith, GHS/LCS librarian, for arranging Ms. Gill's visit. The GFS/JWL student activity fund sponsored this program for our students and staff.

A magician presented a special program for grades 3-6 on recycling on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. All in all the week was very effective in reminding us of our responsibility to our planet.

# LEAF

LEDYARD EDUCATION  
ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION

## LEAF Teacher Recognition Program

*Wondering How Best to Say "Thank You" to Your Child's Teacher?  
LEAF Has the Answer!*

Make a tax-deductible donation to LEAF in honor of your child's teacher using the **LEAF Teacher Recognition Program**. Following your gift of any amount LEAF will send a special Certificate of Recognition to the teacher with your name prominently displayed. The amount of the gift will not be revealed to the teacher. All donors and teachers will be recognized in LEAF's *Honor Roll of Giving* published later this year.

The **mission of LEAF** is to marshal the community's resources in support of educational programs that promote excellence and enhance student achievement in Ledyard Public Schools. Since its founding in 2003, **LEAF has distributed over \$215,000** in grants for the benefit of our students.

Your donation to LEAF using the Teacher Recognition Program will not only honor and recognize a superb educator, but it will also help to fund **Teacher Mini-Grants, Growing Grants, and Capital Grants** to finance innovative classroom activities and critical needs in Ledyard schools.

Simply mail the form below with your check payable to "LEAF" to **P.O. Box 324, Ledyard, CT 06339**. You may also pay by credit card using PayPal through our website [www.LedyardEducation.org](http://www.LedyardEducation.org) and mail the form separately.

**Questions?** Contact LEAF Trustee Tom Reynolds at 860-464-0441 or [tcrey@comcast.net](mailto:tcrey@comcast.net). Thank you!

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LEAF

LEDYARD EDUCATION  
ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION

### LEAF Teacher Recognition Program

#### DONOR FORM

Donor Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_


Name of Honoree \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## UPCOMING DATES OF IMPORTANCE



<b>MONDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> - FRIDAY, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup></b>	Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 6<sup>TH</sup></b>	Mrs. Mason's class to Grasso Tech
<b>FRIDAY, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup></b>	Ms. Romano's class Grasso Tech 2 p.m. – Schoolwide Assembly – GFS gym
<b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup></b>	School Nurse's Day – Thank you Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Schilke and Mrs. Vann 2010-11 – Kindergarten Visitation/ Parent Orientation 11:30-12:15, 1:30-2:15 and 3:30-4:15
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup></b>	3:15 PM – Aerospace Adventurers
<b>SATURDAY, MAY 15<sup>TH</sup></b>	9-2 pm - PTO Carnival
<b>MONDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	Town Budget Meeting - LHS
<b>TUESDAY, MAY 18<sup>TH</sup></b>	6 a.m.-8 p.m.-Budget Referendum at JWL
<b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	Early Dismissal Day/PD 8:40-10:45 KAM/10:45-12:50 KPM-8:40-12:50 Grades 1-6 6:30 pm - LMS Parent Orientation for 6 <sup>th</sup> grade 7 p.m. – Board of education meeting-LHS Library
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 20<sup>TH</sup></b>	Grade 5 to Slater Mill
<b>SATURDAY, MAY 22<sup>ND</sup></b>	Aerospace Adventurers – CATO Rocket Club, Salem, CT
<b>MONDAY, MAY 24<sup>TH</sup></b>	Mrs. Nancy Brewer – at GFS - summer reading program. 7 pm – Grade 5 DARE Graduation – GFS gym
<b>TUESDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup></b>	Mr. Sharack's Grade 5 class to United Methodist Mrs. Brewer at JWL - summer reading program. Grade 3 field trip to Roger Williams Zoo Grade 4 Pioneer Day
<b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup></b>	8:45-12 noon – AM Kdg. to Mystic Aquarium 9 -2:25 pm – JWL Field Day 6 pm – LEAF Dinner
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup></b>	11:45-2:45-PM Kdg. to Mystic Aquarium Raindate – JWL Field Day 7 pm Elementary Band Concert at LHS

<b>FRIDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup></b>	Frank Daly, Civil War re-enactor, gr. 5 2 pm Spring band concert – GFS gym	
<b>MONDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup></b>	No school – Memorial Day	
<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup></b>	Gr. 2 field trip to The Garde Arts Center Gr. 6 visits LMS	
<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup></b>	Early Dismissal/PD 7 pm–Board of education meeting	
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup></b>	Pioneer Day - Grade 5	
<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup></b>	Grades close Superintendent's Luncheon 5-7 pm – PTO Roller skating	
<b>TUESDAY, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup></b>	Mr. Sharack's Grade 5 class to Ocean Beach 9-12 noon – GFS Field Day (am only) Both Kdg. sessions attend in the morning. All kdg. students leave at 11:20 am.	
<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup></b>	6-8 pm Director's Dialogue – e-mail pgenova @ledyard.net if interested	
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup></b>	3:15 pm Aerospace Adventurers – Space party	
<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup></b>	Mrs. Mason's gr. 2 visits Norwich partner school 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade field trip to Bluff Point 2:15 Schoolwide assembly	
<b>TUESDAY, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup></b>	Rain date for GFS Field Day	
<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup></b>	Grade 6 field trip to Fort Shantok 7 pm Board of ed meeting	
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	11 am - Grade 6 promotion ceremony Last day of school - 12:50 dismissal 8:40-10:45-KAM/10:45-12:50 KPM/8:40-12:50 – Grs.1- 6 No ice cream will be served	



**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER !**

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR THE 2010-11 SCHOOL YEAR IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**