

**December  
2009**

# Timber Ridge Elementary Times

7370 NW 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Johnston, Iowa

## Parent Teacher Conference Attendance

We would like to thank our parents for attending Parent Teacher conferences in November. Our fall conferences had the highest percentage of parents attending conferences, 99.2% , that we have ever had. Our parent support is so beneficial to everyone, students, teachers and parents.

## Coffee With Clay

Join Superintendent of Schools, Clay Guthmiller, for a cup of coffee and conversation about our school district. This is your opportunity to meet with the Superintendent. This gathering provides district patrons, business owners and others, the opportunity to discuss their thoughts, ideas, suggestions, opinions and concerns regarding education in the Johnston Community School District. All community members are welcome to attend.

**Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm.**  
**Johnston Public Library (east meeting room)**

## Changes for Monthly Parent Newsletter

This month will be the last month in which we print a copy and send home the newsletter with every child. We still want our families to receive the valuable information contained in the newsletter, so we are offering two options. If you have internet at home, the parent newsletter will be a link on our Timber Ridge website. Parents can access their own copy on the last day of each month. The monthly lunch menu is also available the Johnston website. Our Timber Ridge website address is: <http://www.johnston.k12.ia.us/schools/TimberRidge/index.html>

The second option is for those who prefer to continue to receive a printed copy of the newsletter we will print just enough for those families and send the newsletter home with the youngest child in the family. If you prefer to have a copy send home, please complete the form below and return to school with your child by January 20<sup>th</sup>.

The reason for the change in our monthly newsletter is twofold. One it will reduce our cost and conserve resources. We also want to meet the needs of our families. Some families may read email more often and thus prefer an electronic copy.

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## Timber Ridge Elementary Times Newsletter

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

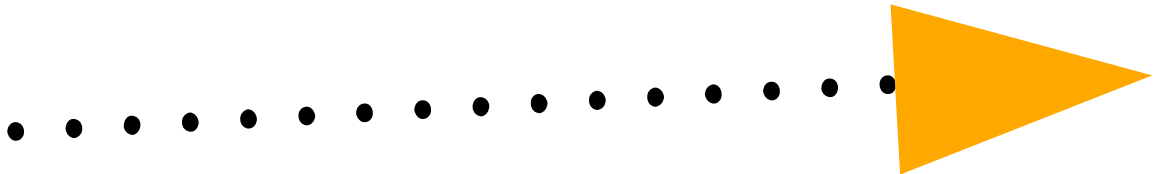
Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the option you prefer:

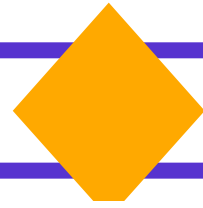
We prefer to continue to receive a printed copy of the monthly parent newsletter. The newsletter will be sent home with my youngest child on the last day of each month.

**Return the bottom information to school with your child by January 20, 2010.**

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## Lost and Found Items

Have you found a mitten for your child's left hand and were wondering where the right hand mitten might be? Please check our Lost and Found boxes. The number of items is growing! We displayed the items during parent teacher conferences. Some items were claimed, but there still items left. The Lost and Found boxes are located in the hallway outside the KTC entrance. Next time you are at school, please check our Lost and Found for any of those misplaced items. Thank you.

## Changing Weather

Our warm days are gone for a while. We would appreciate your efforts to make sure your child has a winter jacket, hat and mittens or gloves when they come to school each day. A baseball cap is not sufficient protection in the winter! When it snows, the students will also need to wear boots. It can be very windy on our playground and we want our students to stay healthy. The students will go outside for recess unless it is raining or with the wind chill, the temperature is below 5 degrees. Thanks for your help!

### Special note:

#### No School

Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
through  
Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
(Winter Break)

Classes  
resume on  
Monday,  
January 4<sup>th</sup>

## Announcing School Closings

Johnston Schools uses SNOWCAP to broadcast information regarding school closings and delays. SNOWCAP is a free service that will alert by text message on your mobile phone when school is canceled or postponed. To learn how to subscribe to this service, visit their Web site at [www.snowcaponline.net](http://www.snowcaponline.net)

### Emergency Radio and Television Announcements

If school must be dismissed early or cancelled because of adverse weather or other emergencies, the radio and TV stations listed below will also carry announcements. Please listen to the news broadcasts and special announcements on these stations rather than call the schools or administration office. Also, make a plan now so that your children know where to go if school is closed early and you are not at home.

#### Radio:

KRNT Radio (1350AM)  
WHO Radio (1040AM)  
KLTJ Radio (104.1FM)  
LAZER Radio (103.3FM)  
PRAISE Radio (940AM)  
KIOA Radio (93.3)  
STAR Radio (102.5)

#### Television:

WHO (Channel 13)  
KCCI (Channel 8)  
WOI (Channel 5)

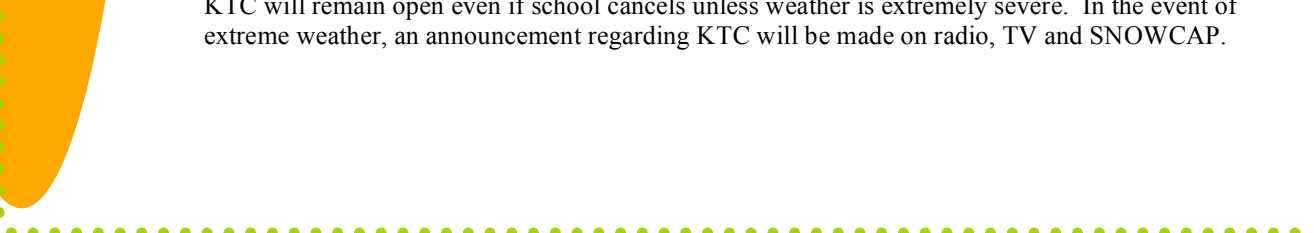
### PreSchool Classes

If the start of the school day is delayed for one hour, Little Dragon Preschool will start of the same time as the other elementary students, at 9:50. If school is delayed for two hours, then Little Dragon Preschool will be canceled. Whether it is a one or two hour delay, afternoon preschool classes will begin at the regular time. If there is an early dismissal due to inclement weather, the preschool staff will attempt to notify parents and parents will be asked to pick up their child as soon as possible.

### Community Education (CE) classes/events

For an update on all Community Education classes/events call 278-0552 after 4:00 p.m., and press #199 for a recording. If school is closed or dismissed early, CE youth basketball and CE youth swim team practices will not be held, however; other CE classes will remain in session.

KTC will remain open even if school cancels unless weather is extremely severe. In the event of extreme weather, an announcement regarding KTC will be made on radio, TV and SNOWCAP.



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## Many Thanks to our PTO

Our Timber Ridge PTO has been very busy working and supporting several projects at Timber Ridge. We greatly appreciate their support of our staff and students.

**Bookfair** - Many members have worked countless hours to organize and staff the recent bookfair. The money raised from the bookfair will be divided among our teachers and the library. They will be able to purchase books for their classroom libraries and our building library.

**Conference Dinner** – Several PTO members organized and/or contributed to a dinner for the staff on conference night. Conference night is a busy night for teachers. They often have just a 30 minute break all day. The food was from Qdoba and desserts were made by many PTO members. The dinner was enjoyed by everyone!

**Community Banners** - Next time you walk into the lobby at Timber Ridge, please look towards the ceiling. You will see our new banners to recognize our six communities. Our art teacher, Jennifer Dutcher, painted the original design for the banners and our PTO funded the project.

## Counselor Corner

*by Mrs. Maronn*

The New Student Breakfast was held on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The breakfast is to welcome students new to Timber Ridge during the months of October and November. Together they shared donuts, juice, welcome bags (courtesy of PTO) and conversation. The next breakfast will occur January 26th.

## Message from School Nurse

The following information was sent from the Iowa Public Health Department:

The holidays are here and the US Consumer Product Safety Commission has its list to help parents and gift buyers when making holiday shopping choices.

The top 5 toy hazards are:

- Scooters and other Riding Toys-Riding toys, skateboards and in-line skates go fast and falls could be deadly. Helmets and safety gear should be worn at all times and be sized to fit.
- Small Balls and other Toys with Small Parts-For children younger than age three, avoid toys with small parts, which can cause choking.
- Balloons-Children under eight yrs. can choke or suffocate on un-inflated or broken balloons. Keep un-inflated balloons from children. Discard broken balloons at once.
- Magnets-For children under six, avoid building or play sets with small magnets. If magnets or pieces with magnets are swallowed, serious injuries and/or death can occur.
- Chargers and Adapters-Charging batteries should be supervised by adults. Chargers and adapters can pose thermal burn hazards to children.

Consumers can keep up-to-date on dangerous products by calling CPSC's (Consumer Product Safety Commission) toll-free hotline @ (800)638-CPSC. For information about all types of recalls, visit [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov)

Vonnie Zenti, RN, BSN

Timber Ridge Barnes and Noble Night is Tuesday, December 1st.

Purchase any books that day and a percentage of the amount sold is donated to our Timber Ridge Library to purchase books.

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