

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**FRI., MARCH 11**

Fun Fair  
5:30—8:30 p.m.

Report Cards Issued  
Grades 1-6

**SUN., MARCH 13**

Daylight Savings Time/  
Turn Clocks Ahead

**TUE., MARCH 15**

Market Day Pick Up

**WED., MARCH 16**

Go Green Day  
Waste Free Lunch

**THURS., MARCH 17**

Board of Education  
Candidate Forum  
Sundling Junior High  
7:00 p.m.

**MARCH 21-25**

Spring Break

**MON., MARCH 28**

School Resumes

**WED., APRIL 6**

PTA Meeting  
9:00 a.m.

**APRIL 7-15**

MAP Testing

**Marion Jordan School**

100 North Harrison St.  
Palatine, IL 60067  
Office: 847-991-5500  
Absentee: 847-963-5501

**Interim Principal**

Jennifer Grosch

**Assistant Principal**

David Kerkemeyer

**PTA Co-President**

Mary Kay Aronson

**PTA Co-President**

Alison Silver

**Editor**

Beth Anderson  
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# Jordanaire



## Signs of Spring

You can begin to feel it in the air; spring is on its way. Soon all those winter coats, boots and snowsuits will be replaced with shorts, swimsuits, and baseball and soccer uniforms. During the winter months at Marion Jordan, the work of our PTA is seen and enjoyed through various indoor activities. This is because of parent volunteers who give graciously of their time and talent. Some recent events were the Valentine's Day parties organized by room parents, complete with games, crafts, and

treats! The kids are loving the mini courses during their recess time where they have enjoyed bingo games, chocolate treat making, chess and a host of other activities. Watch for information on the upcoming PTA spring event....Family Bingo Night!

March 11 is the night many students look forward to all year long....**the Fun Fair!** The excitement begins at 5:30 with old favorites and new surprises too! **Please check your coats with the 6<sup>th</sup>**

**graders in the teachers' lounge.** Your donations at the Fun Fair Coat Closet will help support the end of year 6<sup>th</sup> grade carnival. Make sure to stop by the ticket table and buy some tickets for the games or the ever-popular cakewalk. There will also be a huge selection of awesome raffle baskets to choose from and the children are always excited to see their classroom baskets. This evening is sure to be fun for kids of all ages!

*Continued on Page Two*

## Principal's Note

I happened to catch the tail end of the Academy Awards ceremony on television the other night. Over and over I watched as people who had accomplished great feats came to the microphone to thank those who had played key roles in helping them to find such success. I was moved to see adults disregarding the tightly set time limits for speeches, not to gain an addi-

tional amount of recognition for themselves, but to profusely thank the people who had made a difference in their lives. Parents, spouses, directors, agents, fellow actors and the likes were all recognized. It made me take a few minutes to reflect on the words gratitude and appreciation.

Too often the people in our

daily lives go unrecognized for the significant contributions they make. I'd like to thank a few key people that deserve a bit of recognition for the things they have done in and around Marion Jordan School. Given a chance to step up to a microphone, this is what my speech would sound like. Through the

*Continued on Page Two*

And the Oscar  
goes to ...  
Marion  
Jordan!  
Thanks to  
everyone who  
makes our  
school such a  
special place.



## Principal's Note *(Continued from Page 1)*

snowiest February in 115 years, I thank all three of our **custodians** who have worked tirelessly to remove the snow from the sidewalks and keep the walkways salted and safe. To the **office staff** for registering new student after new student during kindergarten registration, we appreciate your welcoming greeting to incoming students and their parents. To the **school nurse** for her positive bedside manner as many of our students came down with cold or flu like symptoms. To our **assistant principal** who has diligently worked to organize and schedule the myriad of tests

being administered at this time. For our **teachers** who continually amaze me with the creativity and passion that they teach with day in and day out. Thank you to **every student** for their amazing academic accomplishments (Marion Jordan was again a nationally recognized School of Excellence with the Blue Ribbon School Award in 2010!!). I offer thanks to the dedicated and selfless **support staff** who assist teachers and students in countless ways every day. To the **parent community**, many thanks for supporting your students with everything from homework to fostering healthy

peer relations. And finally, I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to **Mrs. Petersen** for her vision and leadership as the school's Principal for the past 10 years. She had everything to do with making Marion Jordan the exceptional school that it is and for that we can all be thankful. Please join me in wishing Mrs. Petersen strength and good health, I know she'd appreciate us for it.

Jennifer Grosch  
Interim Principal

## Signs of Spring *(Continued from Page 1)*

Soon spring break will be here and we hope wherever your travel plans take you (whether here or far) that you have a safe and wonderful time.

The next scheduled PTA meeting will be April 6 at 9:00 a.m. At this meeting

we will be proposing the slate of new officers for the 2011-2012 PTA Executive Board. As always, all of our PTA meetings are general membership meetings and all are invited to attend. Grab a friend or neighbor and join us for a cup of coffee! We are beginning to

fill our PTA board positions for next year so look for all the opportunities in the next few months and consider joining us.

Mary Kay Aronson  
Alison Silver  
MJ PTA Co-Presidents

### *Please Be On Time ...*

Students are expected to arrive on time for school. Late arrivals cause unnecessary disruption in the classroom and result in lost instruction time. Parents must sign-in their tardy students in the office to ensure the student is not marked absent for the day. If tardiness becomes a problem, parents will be contacted to resolve the issue.

# PTA Sponsored Field Trips

New to Marion Jordan this year is our PTA sponsored Field Trip program. The PTA will be subsidizing field trips for grades 1-6 at the rate of \$14 per student. Field trips forms are beginning to filter in from our teachers, and we know that there are many exciting excursions beyond those listed below that are planned for later this spring.

To date, the following field trips have been paid for, either whole-

ly or in part, by the PTA:

- Mrs. Nelson's 3rd/4th Grade Class/Metropolis Theater to see "Frindle"
- Mrs. Falkenberg's, Mrs. Hootman's and Mrs. Eckman/Myers' 4th Grade Classes/Metropolis Theater to see "Frindle."
- Mrs. Davis' and Mrs. Harris' 5th Grade Classes/

Metropolis Theater to see "The Diary of Anne Frank."

We are elated to be able to provide these wonderful educational and cultural opportunities to our students and hope that they will fully enjoy their experiences. Look for regular updates of the field trips we have sponsored in future editions of the Jordanaire, and stay tuned into what our students are doing at MJ.

**The PTA is currently subsidizing field trips at the rate of \$14 per student**

# Bullying Awareness Campaign at MJ

Some of you may remember the Pixar animated short film *For the Birds* included as an "extra" with the DVD of the Disney/Pixar animated motion picture *Monsters, Inc.* Others of you may not have ever gotten to the "extras" choosing instead to enjoy the featured movie over and over and over and over ... as happens quite frequently in my house. It is a well-animated, little Pixar short film that tells the story of a flock of chirpy, little birds that can't help but make fun of and exclude a larger bird very different from themselves.

Interim Principal Jenny Grosch and Assistant Principal David Kerkemeyer have incorporated *For the Birds* in a bullying awareness curriculum that they are rolling out to Kindergarten

through 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Marion Jordan. At the Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade levels, the program focuses on differentiating between "tattling" and "telling" and deciding when it is appropriate to bring an adult into a potential bullying situation. Students at these younger grade levels also discuss what it means to respect each other and talk about positive interactions with their peers.

At the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade levels, they work on identifying bullying behaviors, and how to stand up for themselves and others in a manner that emphasizes self-confidence and assertiveness, not retaliation. Throughout the movie, they point out the birds' behaviors and ask the children whether the behavior is appropriate or inappropriate. A

discussion follows the viewing with suggestions as to how to react in different situations.

The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will not view the film *For the Birds*. Instead they will spend a greater amount of time role playing and modeling positive interactions with their fellow students. At these older age levels, the curriculum adds discussion of effective ways to counter peer pressure which becomes increasingly relevant as students move on to junior high and high school.

We encourage you to ask your children about what they have learned at school and to reinforce anti-bullying principles at home. The message will only become stronger the more they hear it from the most important role models in their lives.

The  
Environmental  
Awareness  
Committee will  
be collecting  
used shoes for  
Nike's  
Reuse-a-Shoe  
program and  
Soles for Souls  
now until  
May 13



# Environmental Awareness News

## Go Green Day

The lunchroom was once more awash in green as we celebrated February's "Go Green Day" at Marion Jordan. We were happy to see so many of our students participate in Waste Free Lunch. We had a friendly competition between classes, and after two months of Mrs. Kurtz's class winning in a row, this time Mrs. Cutts' class won the participation award! They had the most raffle tickets for wearing green and/or bringing a Waste Free Lunch. The Student Ambassadors will provide a special prize for their efforts. We will continue this contest all through the year.

The following students won prizes in the Waste Free Raffle:

Aaron – Fredell/Leonard  
Lihito - Halloran  
Nick – Kurtz  
Kotone – Kurtz  
Broc – Cutts  
Kate – Cutts  
Skyler – Kurtz  
Mia – Eckman/Myers

Sam – Nelson  
Cole – Hootman  
Nathan – Eckman/Myers  
Luke – Falkenberg  
Krystian – Davis  
Hannah – Davis  
Elle - Harris

Thank you to all students and staff who participated.

**Our next "Go Green Day" will be on Wednesday, March 16, 2011.**

## Reuse-A-Shoe Program

We have signed on again to participate in the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County's (SWANCC) and Nike's *Reuse-a-Shoe* (RAS) program. Normally, old sneakers are thrown away in the garbage and end up in a landfill. Through the RAS program, old athletic shoes collected from our school and communities will be shredded and made into *Regrind*, a material that goes into making new sports surfaces and fields. Nike will take any brand of athletic shoes, but wants *court-type* shoes such as basketball, tennis, cross-training, run-

ning or aerobic shoes that do not contain metal, batteries, mud or water (no cleats). Please do not tie athletic shoes together or put rubber bands around them and you can leave the shoelaces in the shoes.

Gently used non-athletic shoes that do not qualify for Nike's program, will also be collected and given to *Soles for Souls*, a not-for-profit organization that will distribute them to poor people on a global basis. Please wash or knock off any dried mud from shoes prior to donating them.

**All types of shoes may be brought to Marion Jordan and placed in the recycling bin near the front office starting March 1. The deadline for collecting shoes will be Friday, May 13.**

Susan Erickson  
Karla Nora  
Environmental Awareness  
Committee

## *March Navigate 15 Meeting to Focus on Technology*

The next *Navigate 15* meeting will be held on March 29 from 7-9 p.m. in the cafeteria at Winston Campus. Discussion will focus on Technology: What is expected for the 21st Century?

The District has invited all residents to participate in its *Navigate 15* community engagement sessions, which are designed to help shape the future direction of District 15.

## 6th Grade Committee News

The 6th Grade Class and the 6th Grade Parent Committee have been very busy having a great time in recent weeks. Our committee would like to thank everyone who supported our recent fundraisers. So many students enjoyed receiving the beautiful floral and tootsie pop bouquets at the December Chorus Concert. (By popular demand, we will be selling these by pre-order once again for the April Chorus Concert.) The Valentine CandyGrams were also a very special treat for so many — over 725 CandyGrams were delivered to classrooms on Valentine's Day!

Several 6th Graders will be volunteering their time at the annual Fun Fair on March 11th, helping at the coat closet, selling Jamba Juice, and selling those fun large balloons with bouncy balls inside. Again, we thank you for your support of our fundraising activities.

On February 25th, 70 6th Graders attended the much anticipated lock-in. Everyone had a great

time listening and dancing to music provided by a favorite DJ; playing basketball, volleyball and dodgeball in the gym; and playing picnic and board games. We had numerous volunteer parent chaperones that helped our evening's activities run so smoothly, and we are so grateful for their help. We would like to thank the following parents for a job well done: Cindy Payne, Kathy Doody, Mary Ellen Gearhart, Caroline and Bill Schroll, Sue and Jack McCoppin, Denise Mirabelli, Kris Stone, Mary and Jim Kating, Patty Ide, Jossie Prochilo, Vivien Mullen, Linda Truver, Janet Koufis, Phil Gilchrist, David Hotchner, Dan Ault, Mark Evenson and Alison Silver. We would also like to thank Jenny Grosch, David Kerkemeyer, Ms. Stephanie Smith, Ms. Christy Morton, and Mr. Steve Nagy for all their help and support.

Our next activity for the 6th Grade Class will be the service project, where the students give back to the community. The students chose to help Su-

perSibs, an organization that helps support siblings of cancer patients. Watch for more information on this in the very near future.

Finally, every 6th Grader is anxiously looking forward to their 6th Grade Carnival on Friday, June 3rd. Our 6th Grade Committee is busy planning all the fun and activities for this day. We will need several parent volunteers to assist us with various positions. Parents, if you would like to help us on this day, please contact Kelly Reynolds at [tomkellyreynolds@aol.com](mailto:tomkellyreynolds@aol.com), if you have not done so already. It is sure to be a blast for everyone!

Thanks to all the 6th Grade Students who proudly show their school spirit each Friday by wearing their special neon green class t-shirts.

Penny Zografos  
6th Grade Committee Chairperson

## Jim Garwood Named Deputy Superintendent

The District 15 Board of Education unanimously voted to name Jim Garwood the District's Deputy Superintendent during its February 9 meeting.

Superintendent Scott Thompson recommended that Mr. Garwood's title be changed to Deputy Superintendent as a

way to publicly acknowledge his work within the District and his leadership and responsibility within the organization.

"Over the past few years, Jim Garwood has functioned as a strong stabilizing force that has allowed the District to operate in a successful manner despite

some of the changes that have occurred within its administration," said Mr. Thompson. His office is located adjacent to mine and his leadership is evident to administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and community members. I feel this title change

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*Marion Jordan has earned an Illinois Academic Excellence Award for the seventh consecutive year.*

## MJ Makes Illinois Honor Roll

Marion Jordan was one of nine District 15 schools to make the 2010 Illinois Honor Roll. The Illinois Honor Roll is a joint project of the Illinois State Board of Education and Northern Illinois University.

This is the seventh consecutive year that MJ has earned an Illinois Academic Excellence Award. To receive the award, schools need to meet the following criteria:

- At least 90 percent of students met or exceeded state standards in both reading and mathematics for at least three consecutive years.
  - All schools must have made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the past two years, as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- Other District 15 schools to earn Academic Excellence Awards were Pleasant Hill, Plum Grove Junior High, Frank C. Whiteley, Willow Bend, Winston Campus Elementary and Walter Sundling Junior High. Winston Campus Junior High received an Illinois Spotlight Award, which recognizes high-poverty schools where academic performance is closing the “achievement gap.”

## D15 Board Candidate Forum March 17

The Northwest Suburban Council of PTA/PTSA is sponsoring a District 15 Board of Education Forum on Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium at Walter Sundling Junior High.

The forum will start with two-minute introductory statements by the candidates, and then transition into a question and answer

session. Questions will be submitted by the audience and will be limited to issues facing District 15. The forum will conclude with one-minute closing statements by the candidates.

Six candidates are running for the District 15 Board of Education in the April 5 election. Their names will appear on the ballot as follows:

- Manjula Sriram
- James G. Ekeberg
- Scott Herr
- Gerald D. Chapman
- Gerard Iannuzzelli
- David Seiffert

Three seats on the seven-member Board will be filled in the election. Candidates will serve four year terms expiring in April 2015.

## Jim Garwood *(Continued from Page 5)*

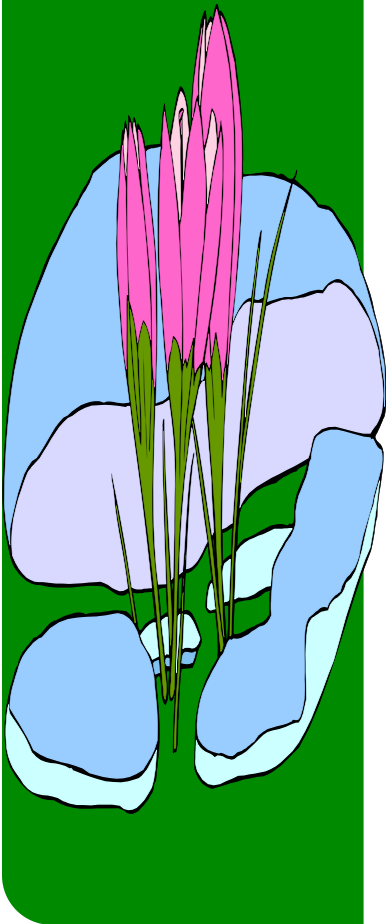
more accurately reflects the role he plays within the District.”

Mr. Garwood has served as the District’s Assistant Superintendent for Adminis-

trative Services since April 2007. Corresponding with his title change, he has been assigned the additional responsibilities of supervising the junior high principals

and the Director of Personnel and Human Services.

*For more information, contact Superintendent Scott Thompson at 847-963-3205.*



# Birthday Book Club

The "Luck of the Irish" has entered the Library by having 27 students donate books in honor of their birthdays! Thanks to all who have participated so far this year! If your birthday is coming up, keep an eye out for the donation form to be coming home in the backpack!

Thank you and Happy Birthday to the following Blue Jays:

Sara G.	Jan. 10
Abby R.	Jan. 22
Nao S.	Jan. 22
Suneal T.	Jan. 24

Meghana M.	Jan. 26
Molly A.	Jan. 28
Timothy O.	Jan. 28
Rayan B.	Jan. 28
Stefan P.	Jan. 29
Gabriela P.	Jan. 31
Alexis P.	Feb. 1
Kayla K.	Feb. 2
Jeeyoung W.	Feb. 7
Maxwell J.	Feb. 9
David S.	Feb. 12
Evan M.	Feb. 16
Drew G.	March 4
Kaylee G.	March 4
Boogyu P.	March 7
Evan G.	March 10
Shriya B.	March 10

Caitlin L.	March 12
Erik V.	March 15
Nicholas M.	March 16
Erin L.	March 17
April W.	March 22
Martin M.	March 23
Lauren N.	March 23

Birthday Book Club  
Coordinators:

Crista Goluch  
gocrista@gmail.com

Julie Pope  
popegroup@sbcglobal.net

## Parent Education—Taming Media Stereotypes

### *Taming the Media Stereotypes that Make Kids Aggressive*

By: Lynn Mikel Brown, EdD, as published in PTA Magazine

I think of the 2002 *New York Times Magazine* feature called "Mean Girls and the New Movement to Tame Them" as the official rebirth of an age-old stereotype: *the catty, deceitful, manipulative female*. A slew of popular parenting books and the clever movie *Mean Girls* followed, and before we knew it, relational aggression (RA, for short) was the "it girl" social crisis.

Nearly a decade later, mean girls show up on most popular TV shows for teens and are a staple of PG-13 movies; we have aisles

of girl-centered book series with names like *Clique*, *A-List*, and *Gossip Girl*, and dozens of backstabbing women on reality shows. Like every other idea marketed to teens these days, this version of girlhood has quickly trickled down to tweens and younger. Even American Girl dolls are getting in on the action. Their history books now contain something much more compelling than World War II victory gardens and Red Cross fundraisers: a good catfight. Hey, girls, watch Chrissa face off against the "Queen of the Mean Bees!"

The impact is evident. I wish I had a dime for every time I've heard a version of the following conversation:

"Girls are so manipulative and backstabbing. Their fights are mean, too personal, and last forever."

"I know. Why can't they be more like boys; just get it out in the open, deal with it, and move on?"

Too many teachers and parents say these kinds of things, and too many girls and boys believe them. But it's wrong and damaging in many ways.

### **The truth about fighting like cats and dogs**

Let's consider what we really know about gender and aggression.

*Continued on Page 8*

# Parent Education *(Continued from Page 7)*

“Many research studies find that girls are more likely than boys to be relationally aggressive, but some studies show no gender differences at all, and some show that boys are just as good at this form of aggression.”



We know that 80 percent of physical assaults in this country are perpetrated by boys and men, most often against other boys and men. It just makes no sense to wish girls were more like boys when it comes to conflict resolution. "Dealing with it" isn't what we want if it means punching someone or calling them out. Sure, the interaction is over quickly, but it's naive to think there aren't lasting feelings of pain and humiliation.

Many research studies find that girls are more likely than boys to be relationally aggressive, but some studies show no gender differences at all, and some show that boys are just as good at this form of aggression. These different findings relate, in part, to the age of the kids in the studies. Girls are more cued in relationally when they're younger because we socialize them to be and because their verbal skills mature a little earlier. As boys move into adolescence and become more socially tuned in and verbally sophisticated, they are as likely as girls to capitalize on the power that comes from talking about, excluding, or teasing someone.

While there's much hand wringing about the impact of video games and other violent media on boys, we

don't seem all that concerned about relational aggression in girls' media. Yet, recent studies suggest girls are learning how to aggress relationally from all those backstabbing and gossip-filled reality shows, and that young women become more aggressive after watching scenes of "mean girl" behavior. No cautionary voiceover tells those watching these shows that the female contestants have been deprived of sleep to make them irritable or that editors have punched up the drama by slicing and dicing the videotape.

Certainly media encourages girls to connect popularity, sexiness, and mean behavior. But are girls *really* getting meaner? It's a complicated question, because too often we confuse being mean with being outspoken and assertive. In the early 1990s, after a five-year study Carol Gilligan and I led on girls' psychological and social development, published as *Meeting at the Crossroads: Women's Psychology and Girls Development*, we were worried about "the tyranny of nice and kind" that kept girls, especially white middle-class girls, from speaking their minds and going after what they wanted. We heard the girls in our study bury their opinions and saw them take their strong feelings underground

because that is what good girls were supposed to do. We urged them to take risks, to bring their thoughts and feelings into the open, not only for their own health and well-being, but also so they could really learn and be intellectually challenged. There was a reason doing so was hard: they risked being called bad, selfish, and aggressive.

The rise of the so-called mean girl has accompanied the rise of the strong and outspoken girl, the rise of the girl who has challenged boys for top honors, closed the gap in math and science scores, and outnumbered boys in college classes. Challenging traditional gender roles requires breaking free of the tyranny of nice and kind. As Rachel Simmons, author of *The Curse of the Good Girl*, says, "Girls often perceive two choices...either they're nice all the time and everyone likes them, or they're mean. There is no alternative, no third way or positive identity for an assertive, truth-telling girl."

## What about boys?

As girls are challenging gender conventions, boys are naturally anxious about where they fit in. In *Packaging Boyhood*, Sharon Lamb,

*Continued on Page 9*

# Parent Education *(Continued from Page 8)*

Mark Tappan, and I discuss two different choices we saw repeated in boys' media: over-the-top tough, aggressive winners or funny, underachieving slackers. Neither choice says it's cool to do well in school. Is there a relationship between these media messages targeting boys and their school achievement?

We want and hope for a third option for them as well, a positive identity for a smart, competitive, and caring boy.

## What we can do

Here are a few things parents and teachers can do to undermine these gender stereotypes about aggression:

**1. Instead of labeling kids, address their behavior.** It's our job as adults to help children get beyond labels and treat one another as complex human beings. How many times have we caught ourselves referring to the school "bullies" or "mean girls"? Why contribute to the name-calling we're trying to address? Labels stick, but if we focus on just their behavior, we offer children a chance to learn and change.

**2. Move beyond gender to see the bigger picture.** To understand why and how a child uses aggression toward others, it's important to understand their complex realities, including the kinds of attention and resources they receive, where they fit in, whether they feel

marginal or privileged in school. Listen, observe, and be compassionate.

### 3. Invite critical thinking about stereotypes and advocate for media literacy.

Provide girls and boys with the language and tools to be critical of the things they watch, read, and listen to. If media perpetuates gender, race, religious, or social-class stereotypes, use lessons in media literacy to uncover this stereotyping. Adolescents don't like to be duped or played, so help them see how media messages do just that.

**4. Be proactive.** Rather than react to problems, create opportunities for kids to be leaders, affirm their relational strengths, invite complexity, and let them know you believe they can do good, brave, remarkable things. Emphasize coalition-building and becoming an ally to those who are different.

**5. Challenge bully prevention programs to better reflect good research on aggressive behavior, bullying, and harassment.** Too many programs simply accept gender stereotypes for the same reasons marketers promote them: simple messages are easy. It's also true that mean girl mania sells. Just like American Girl's Mean Bees storyline sells Clarissa and her friends, promises to reduce an RA or mean girl epidemic sell books and draw people to webinars and conferences.

All these movies, books, toys, and even school-based programs suggest that we know what girls and boys are *really* about. This may make us feel like smarter parents or more in-control teachers, but it comes at a big cost to children. When even young girls are told that their friendships are marked first and foremost by how they can hurt; when boys' relational and emotional lives take a back seat to their "get it over with" fights, it's time to step back, take a deep breath, and rethink.

*Lyn Mikel Brown, EdD, is professor of education and human development at Colby College, Waterville, Maine, a founding member of the Harvard Project on Women's Psychology and Girls' Development, and co-creator of the nonprofit Hardy Girls Healthy Women. Her solely or coauthored books include Raising Their Voices, Girlfighting, and Packaging Boyhood.*

**“It’s our job as adults to help children get beyond labels and treat one another as complex human beings.”**



## Kudos

Many thanks to **Penny Zografos, Patty Ganas, Kelly Reynolds, Gina Stavrou,Carolynn Burk, and Deb Rudman** for everything they did to make the 6th Grade Lock-In a tremendous success. Fantastic job, ladies!

Thanks to **Gina Stavrou,Carolynn Burk, Deb Rudman, Kelly Reynolds, and Penny Zografos** for organizing and assembling the Valentine CandyGrams, along with the Chorus Floral and Tootsie Pop Bouquets. Thanks to **Ms. Becky Clark** for her assistance with the selling of Chorus Bouquets, we appreciate her help. Also, a huge thank you to the many 6th Grade students for their help in assembling and delivering Valentine CandyGrams, and assembling Chorus and Tootsie Pop Bouquets. Great job, kids!

Thanks to **Gina Stavrou** and **Penny Zografos** for

their assistance with the ordering and delivery of the 6th Grade Class t-shirts.

Thank you to **Patty Ganas** and **Janet Koufis** for creating two amazing 6th Grade auction baskets at the fun fair, and to all those parents who contributed donations to these baskets.

Thanks to **Patty Ganas** for organizing the Fun Fair Jamba Juice sales and to **Ericka Arbour** for heading up the Fun Fair Coat Check.

A big thank you to **Kelly Reynolds** who does a great job keeping our 6th Grade activities so organized in her fabulous spreadsheets!

Thank you to the **6th Grade parents** who made generous donations to the 6th Grade Committee to help with our many activities planned throughout the year, we appreciate your support very much.

A great big thank you to **Sue McCoppin** for taking pictures of the 6th Graders at the lock in and the fun fair, along with the upcoming carnival and graduation. These pictures will be put on a DVD for the graduating class of 2011 as a wonderful keepsake for each student to remember their last year at Marion Jordan.

Thanks to **Penny Zografos** for collecting all the preschool aged pictures of the 6th Grade Class to be used in a special section of this year's yearbook. Just wait until you see all these cuties!

Thank you to **Mary Kay Aronson** and **Alison Silver** for all of their support for the many 6th Grade activities, you make it so easy for us!

*Congratulations to Jennifer Grosch for being named  
Marion Jordan's new principal, effective the  
2011-12 school year.*

*We're happy you'll be joining our  
MJ community!*