

## Harrison Happenings September 2008

### Welcome New Staff

Jerome Harrison is pleased to welcome the following new staff members for the 2008-2009 school year. Elizabeth Parker joins us from Pennsylvania as our school psychologist. Allison Tetreault joins us as our speech/language pathologist. Jennifer Cheney, a recent student teacher at TVES, is our building substitute. Tippi Chupron and Lynette Glynn are welcomed additions to our kindergarten program as kindergarten aides. Sue Moore is our part-time librarian shared with Stanley T. Williams. Paraprofessional support includes Charlotte Papa, and Andrea Meaney.

### Storytown comes to Jerome

Jerome Harrison School along with the entire K-5 North Branford District is pleased to introduce our new language arts program, Storytown. This program is a comprehension literacy program that integrates best practices in literacy instruction in a systematic way that embraces the important skills essential to literacy success. As the year progresses you will be hearing more about this program. Be on the lookout for what your child will be doing in the area of reading and writing. In addition, at Back to School night, Mr. Parkhurst, along with your child's teacher, will be sharing more about Storytown. If you would like to learn more about the program, you are encouraged to visit the following website:

<http://www.harcourtschool.com/storytown/storysampler/index.html>. One very important piece for you to be aware of almost immediately is the way that spelling is integrated into the reading and phonics instruction. This means that your child will work within a 5-6 day cycle within a lesson. Students will begin spelling with a pretest and each day thereafter the students will work with the words to determine generalizations, practicing their spelling and handwriting, using various spelling strategies along with a review and then ending with a post-test. Teachers will be sending home the words that your child will be expected to know within each lesson.

### Smartboards

I am pleased to announce and each and every Jerome Harrison School classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard, called a Smartboard. This tool allows technology to be integrated in an interactive manner that is engaging and motivating for all learners. Be sure to ask you child about this and see it firsthand at our Back to School evenings.

**Important Forms**

Be sure that you have returned your Connect-Ed forms along with your personal contact information. This is critically important that you do this so that we can be sure that our messages reach you in a timely manner.

**PTO Meeting, Tuesday, September 9, 2008 at 7:00 pm.**