



December 2009 Newsletter
WILSON CREEK SCHOOL

25440 S. Gougar Rd.

Manhattan, Il 60442

815-478-4527

www.manhattan114.org

Mrs. Barbara Hogan, Principal

Mrs. Pam DeBoer, Building Secretary

Mrs. Janice Benney, District Secretary

Mrs. Cathy Zielezinski, Nurse

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOUR FAMILY FROM THE WILSON CREEK FAMILY!

IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES

- 3 Secret Santa Shop
Market Day Pick-Up at Wilson Creek, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- 4 Secret Santa Shop
Progress Reports Go Home
- 8 Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Wilson Creek
- 10 Candid Yearbook Picture Day
- 15 First Grade Holiday Program, 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Second Grade Holiday Program, 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Snow Date – if either Holiday Program is cancelled
Early Childhood Holiday Parties, 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
First & Second Grade Picnic with the Principal
School Pride Assembly – Wear Blue or Green
- 18 Holiday Parties – 10:15 a.m./1:30 p.m.
Early Dismissal – 11:15 a.m. AM Kindergarten
2:30 p.m. PM Kindergarten/First & Second Grade
Start of Winter Break – see you back at Wilson Creek on January 4, 2010!

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Listed above you will find the dates/times for our First and Second Grade Holiday Programs. A note should already have come home with your child regarding what we would like your child to wear for the program. If you didn't receive this note please contact your child's teacher to send home another one.

HELPING THOSE IN NEED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

In keeping with our Character Counts "pillars" of Citizenship and Caring we will once again ask our students and families to participate in 2 programs that will help those in need during this holiday season. Nickels for the Needy and Warm Hands/Warm Hearts will run from Wednesday, December 2 – Friday, December 11. Please feel free to support either or both of these programs. Attached you will find a flyer explaining these programs in more detail.

ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

Please help support the Angel Tree Program that is sponsored by the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce. You can stop in at either First National Bank of Manhattan locations to pick up wish lists from families in the Manhattan area that need help during the holiday season. What a wonderful family project this could be!

SANTA'S SECRET SHOP

The Manhattan Band Boosters will once again provide a holiday store for Wilson Creek students. **Santa's Secret Shop will be open during school hours on Thursday, December 3rd and Friday, December 4th. The public will also be invited to shop from 2:15-3:15 p.m. each day. This year there will be extended shopping hours on Thursday, December 3 until 7:00 p.m.** The store is stocked with a large variety of well-chosen gifts for the whole family, with prices ranging from 25 cents to \$10. Just like last year, hand-made gifts will also be available. Band Booster parents will provide shopping assistance and put purchases in gift bags. Please watch for the Band Boosters' letter and payment envelope that will be sent home with students. The profits from this fundraiser are used to support band programs for the Manhattan School District. Thank you in advance for shopping with us.

CLICK IT OR TICKET

This is just a reminder to our parents...children should be seat-belted at all times when in a moving vehicle. It has come to our attention that some parents leave school grounds without children being properly restrained. This is just our friendly reminder to BUCKLE UP!

LOST AND FOUND

If you believe your child has lost something at school, please encourage them to check our lost and found shelf in the office. Any clothing unclaimed in the Lost and Found is given to a needy organization during the winter break, spring break, and the end of the year.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Now that winter weather is upon us, please remember to send your child with warm coats, hats, and gloves/mittens. We will go outside everyday that the weather is above 10 degrees and it is not too wet out. If your child wants to play in the snow this winter, then he/she needs to bring boots and snow pants. **IF THEY ARE NOT DRESSED PROPERLY, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE THEM GO TO THE WORKROOM DURING THIS TIME.**

EMERGENCY CLOSING INFORMATION

In addition to local radio, TV, and websites, you can access up-to-date school closing information by calling any of the school phone numbers or the district office at 478-6090 and press extension 5. Mr. Butters and the principals will record a message informing parents about school closings.

If school is going to be closed prior to the start of the day, parents will receive an automated "Connect Ed" call. If you have had a change in contact phone numbers since filling out your child's registration form, it is important that you call school with these changes. These are the numbers that will be used to generate your automated call. You can also call any of the school numbers or our District phone number at 815-478-6093 and dial extension 5 to hear up-to-date information about school closings. **HOTLINE**-If we have to close school once children are already in school, we will activate our Emergency Hotline. We will call Wilson Creek and Anna McDonald's youngest child in the family's emergency contact information to notify you if we have to close school early. At Manhattan Junior High we will only call those families that request a call.

USED BOOKS AND PLASTIC MILK CARTONS NEEDED!

In February we will be having our Going Green Curriculum Night. During this event we hope to have a Used Book Sale. Please drop off or send with your child, anytime in the next two months, any books that you might like to donate to the sale. These books can be adult hard cover or paperback, children's books, cooking books, or any other type of book. In addition to the book sale we hope to make an igloo out of gallon size plastic milk jugs. Please wash out and dry (as best you can) the milk carton and send to school with the screw on lid.

NURSE'S NEWS

DENTAL EXAMINATION REMINDER: All Illinois children in Kindergarten, Second and Sixth Grades are required to have an oral health examination. Dental exams must be completed by a licensed dentist and he/she must sign the examination form. Each child shall present proof of the dental examination by May 15, 2010. The examination must have been completed within 18 months prior to the May 15th deadline. The dental examination forms are available in the nurse's office. The state has also provided "Waiver" forms for families who may have difficulty obtaining a dental examination at this time. These forms are available in the nurse's office and are completely confidential. Please contact the nurse's office if you are unable to obtain the required dental examination at this time so we can discuss the steps that will need to be taken to assure your child's compliance with the state's rules and regulations regarding dental exams.

VISION AND HEARING SCREENING: Vision and Hearing screenings were recently completed at school. All students at Wilson Creek received Hearing screenings. Preschool students, Kindergarten students (who had not received the state required eye examination completed by a licensed eye doctor) and all Second Grade students received Vision screenings. Also, all students who are new to our district, all students referred by their teacher and all students receiving special services at school received Vision screenings.

We have completed notifying the parents/guardians of any of the students that did not pass either the Vision and/or Hearing screenings. If you did not receive a letter in the mail from the Nurse's office, you can rest assured that your child passed the screenings without difficulty. If you have received a referral letter from our office, we would like to remind you how important it is to follow up with a doctor when there are either vision or hearing concerns noted during your child's school screenings. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Nurse Cathy at Wilson Creek: 815-478-4527.

ART NEWS

The Art room has been a busy place lately! First Grade artists have been working on their Reindeers that will soon be decorating our Cafeteria/Commons. Make sure that you look for them at the Holiday Concert. Second Grade has been working on an Art project which is based on the artist Gustav Klimt. They've been discussing pattern and design ...look for the gold. They will be decorating the display cabinets in the Commons area during the Holiday Concerts, as well. All of the Wilson Creek students will be working on Square One Art projects during December. They will be working on composition, color coordination and borders, to name a few things. First Graders will be using the Birds as their theme and the Second Graders will be using their Castles. The actual order forms will be sent home in the late winter.

CHARACTER COUNTS EDUCATION NEWS

Thanks to all of you who donated to our local food pantry during Red Ribbon Week, which was October 19-23! The Manhattan Food Pantry was very happy to see all of the food come pouring in! Also during the month of October, Wilson Creek students learned about Fairness. One student from each grade was chosen as the Fairness student of the month. The students were: Kindergarten: Mackenzie Higgins

1st Grade: Anthony Markowski

2nd Grade: John Langdon

These students received their Award Certificates and prize bags at the School Pride Assembly on November 20. Great job to everyone who earned a Fairness leaf! The Character Counts! pillar for November and December is CARING. Students will again have the chance to earn leaves on Wilson Creek's Tree of Good Character for showing that they are Caring kids! One student from each grade level will be chosen as the Caring student of the month. These students will receive their awards at the School Pride Assembly on December 17. Remember: Wear RED on Wednesdays in November and December!

MUSIC NEWS

The First and Second Grade students have been busy working on their songs for the upcoming Holiday Programs in December. Please continue to work with your students on their songs at home whenever you are able. The students who will have speaking parts for this year's programs have been given their parts and lines to work on and memorize. They should have brought home their information and have hopefully started to work on their lines. Practices will be starting the week of November 30. Please contact Mrs. Pedziwater with any questions. (815) 478-6090 As a reminder, the First Graders will be performing "The Incredible Reindeer" on Tuesday, December 15 at 9:30am and again at 7:00pm. The Second Graders will be performing "Elfis and the Sleigh Riders" on Wednesday, December 16 at 9:30am and again at 7:00pm. Please be sure to mark your calendars!

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Thanks parents and volunteers for supporting our Box Tops for Education project. During this first collection we raised almost \$800, which will go to improve our technology! All of the students have continued to make great strides in Computers. Second Grade students have been introduced to Microsoft Word, while First Grade and Kindergarten have used various websites and software to improve on Reading and Math. **Feel free to contact Mr. Riley anytime at jriley@manhattan114.org.**

LAST CHANCE OPPORTUNITY: Please fill out this form and send back to school with your child if you would like to have the monthly newsletters and school updates sent to you by way of email. We will not start this until December.

Student Name: _____ **Teacher:** _____

Parent Name: _____ **email:** _____

Parent Name: _____ **email:** _____
