



November 2009 Newsletter  
**WILSON CREEK SCHOOL**

25440 S. Gougar Rd.

Manhattan, IL 60442

815-478-4527

[www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org)

Mrs. Barbara Hogan, Principal

Mrs. Pam DeBoer, Building Secretary

Mrs. Janice Benney, District Secretary

Mrs. Cathy Zielezinski, Nurse

**Important October Dates**

- 29 End of "Leaf" the T.V. Off - Read a Good Book, Reading Incentive  
Market Day Pick-Up at Wilson Creek, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- 30 Halloween Parties, PreK AM 10:30 a.m., Kind. 10:45 a.m., Kind PM, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 1:45 p.m.  
Halloween Parade 2:45 p.m.  
Report Cards Sent Home

**Important November Dates**

- 4 Book Fair  
P.T.O. Meeting, 9:30 a.m. at Wilson Creek
- 5 Book Fair
- 6 Book Fair  
Parent-Teacher Conferences for PreK (Mrs. Schroeder) and Kindergarten: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
**(NO SCHOOL PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN ONLY).** Mrs. Wingfield will have PM class.
- 9 Parent-Teacher Conferences, **NO SCHOOL**, PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, 2:00-9:00 p.m.  
P.T.O. Shopping Extravaganza at W.C. 3:00-8:00 p.m.  
Book Fair
- 10 Parent-Teacher Conferences, **NO SCHOOL**, PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Book Fair  
Board of Education Meeting at Manhattan Junior High (note change in location), 7:00 p.m.  
Book Fair  
**Parents of Lincoln-Way Area Associated with Special Education Meeting-Pioneer Grove School 7:00-8:00 p.m.**
- 11 **VETERAN'S DAY - NO SCHOOL**
- 12 First Grade Field Trip to Fire Department
- 13 Second Grade Field Trip to Manhattan Library  
Kindergarten Field Trip to Manhattan Bank  
P.T.O. Family Activity Night for PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Graders at Wilson Creek, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 16 Kindergarten and First Grade Field Trips to Lincoln-Way Central Play
- 20 School Pride Assembly Day/Picnic with Principal - **WEAR BLUE OR GREEN**  
First and Second Grade Picnic with the Principal
- 25 **Early Dismissal - A.M. Kindergarten 11:15 a.m./P.M. Kind., 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:30 p.m.**
- 26 Thanksgiving Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- 27 Thanksgiving Break - **NO SCHOOL**

**SOME IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES TO HELP YOU PLAN AHEAD**

- 3 Secret Santa Shop at W.C.  
P.T.O. Market Day Pick-Up at W.C. 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- 4 Secret Santa Shop at W.C.  
Progress Reports Sent Home
- 15 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Holiday Program 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
- 16 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Holiday Program 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Holiday Break Starts

## **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE REMINDER**

In order to keep Parent-Teacher Conferences running smoothly, and as close to the scheduled times as possible, We would ask you that you keep in mind the 20 minute time frame allotted. If you need additional time you can always plan another scheduled time to meet with the teacher.

## **MANHATTAN WEB SITE UPDATES**

On our Manhattan Website ([www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org)) you can now find our **School Report Card**.

In addition we will have a new link (**Virtual Backpack**) where you can find information that we use to send home in a "hard copy" from local organizations such as the Park District, MYAA, Scouts, etc. If you are in need of a hard copy of any of these flyers you can have your child pick one up in the office.

## **EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND EMERGENCY HOTLINE**

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.

## **WILSON CREEK BOOK FAIR**

A Book Fair is scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. Children will be able to purchase books during school hours on November 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>. Parents will have the opportunity to view the selection of books and make purchases during the hours of Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. A listing of selections will be sent home just prior to the fair.

## **P.E. ABSENCES and RECESS NEWS**

If your child needs to miss P.E. for one day, a note from the parent/guardian is sufficient. A doctor note will be needed for any days past one day. **PLEASE NOTE:** If your child is excused from P.E., they will not be allowed to participate in recess. As per our Student Handbook, children will go outside for recess unless the temperature is below 10 degrees wind-chill. Please remember to send them with the appropriate outerwear for outdoor recess.

## **"THE CREEK" SCHOOL STORE**

Our School Store is now open. Students will be able to purchase items from the store on the following days as they enter school: Tuesdays -Kindergarten, Wednesdays-First Grade, and Thursdays-Second Grade. We have fun school supply items as well as gift items such as fuzzy pencil pouches, personal notepads, and "cool" pens and pencils. In addition we have more typical school supplies such as pens, pencils, glue sticks, crayons, and markers. We prefer that our Kindergarteners and First Graders (especially at the beginning of the year) bring their money in an envelope with their name on it.

## **IMPORTANT LUNCH NEWS**

When purchasing lunches, please remember to place money in an envelope with your child's name, teacher's name, and amount enclosed. This is very important to assure that we can credit the right child's account. Please send a separate check/cash in an envelope for each of your children.

## **NURSE'S NEWS**

Please pay attention to the important health information that is located at the end of this newsletter.

## **PLASE-THE PARENTS OF LINCOLN-WAY ASSOCIATED WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION**

PLASE will be meeting on November 11, 2009 at the Pioneer Grove Educational Center at 7:00 p.m. If you would like more information about this organization, please call (815) 806-4600.

## **CHARACTER COUNTS NEWS**

Wilson Creek students are learning a lot about character! October's **Character Counts!** pillar was **FAIRNESS**. Students participated in activities where they showed that they know a lot about how to be a fair person! Winners of the Fairness Awards (one student per grade level) will be announced and awarded their Good Character goodie bags at November's School Pride Assembly. The character pillar for November and December is **CARING**. The color for **CARING** is **RED**, so wear **RED** on Wednesdays in November and December. Red Ribbon Week was celebrated October 19-23. Students enjoyed a week full of how to make healthy choices. Thanks so much to all of you who helped make a difference in our community by donating items to our week-long food drive

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

The students will be completing a Library unit on "Communities and American Symbols". We have rotated to various centers each week: from puzzles, puppets, and reading centers to building a Lego town and wooden block town. Each week we have practiced voting. Just ask your student what the topics were. November's unit is "Health, Safety and Nutrition". Our school store is now open. (Tues.-K, Wed.-1st, Thurs.-2nd). Our new Library Aide, Mrs. Swanberg, is having a blast and really feeling at home in the library.

## **ART NEWS**

We have been busy this past month! Our First Grade artists have been perfecting their birds and the Second Grade artists have been learning about drawing our Castles and Spooky houses. They've been learning about parallel lines and guide dots to name a few Art terms. Maybe you have seen these creations at home! In November, we will be working on weaving at both grade levels. They will construct a place mat that they'll be able to use at Thanksgiving, and the First Grade will also decorate and construct their Indian vests. We all will be painting our Fall Trees, soon. The Second graders will learn about monoprints in their painting project. At conferences, please watch for all art projects on display!

## **MUSIC NEWS**

The First Grade Music Classes are working on their Holiday Program called, "The Incredible Reindeer." Words for the songs have been sent home with your students. If you could please go over the words with your child-it will help them to learn and memorize their words more quickly, therefore allowing them to have an even better program. The First Grade Program will be performed on Tuesday, December 15 at 9:30 am and once again at 7:00 pm. Please mark your calendars accordingly. The Second Grade Music Classes are working on their Holiday Program called, "Elfis and the Sleigh Riders." Words for the songs have been sent home with your students. The Second Grade Program will be performed on Wednesday, December 16 at 9:30 am and once again at 7:00 pm. Please mark your calendars. **If you could please go over the words with your child-it will help them to learn and memorize their words more quickly, therefore allowing them to have an even better program. accordingly.** A snow date has been set aside for Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> in case either program has to be cancelled due to inclement weather. You do not need tickets to attend this program.

## **P.E. NEWS**

In October the students earned their scooter license and participated in scooter relays and games. Coming up in November the students will be introduced to speed stacking! Look for order forms to come home during the first week of November. We will also be working on ball skills such as dribbling, passing, rolling and catching.

## **COMPUTER NEWS**

All the students continue to make great progress in Computers. The students have continued to use software and educational websites to improve on various subjects. Two great educational websites we've used were pbskids.org and abcya.com. Both websites are designed to make learning fun and students enjoyed them very much. If you need to contact Mr. Riley, feel free to email him at jriley@manhattan114.org. Don't forget to keep collecting those box tops!

**P.T.O. SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA**

If you're looking for Christmas gifts, teacher gifts, something for the office, gifts for the bus driver, your holiday hostess or even a gift for yourself, this is the place to be! Get a head start on your Christmas shopping at the PTO's Annual Home Shopping Expo! This event will be held at Wilson Creek Elementary, on Monday, November 9th, from 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. There will be great raffles from all vendors! Vendors include but not limited to: Avon, Celebrating Home, Chic Boutique, Close To My Heart, Cookie Lee, Creative Memories, Curves, Double Take Photography, Dress A Neck, Gold Canyon Candles, Gram of Gold (gold buying), Great Products 2go, Hand Stamped, Creations by Lisa, Juice Plus+, Lia Sophia, Mary Kay, Miche Bags, Moms Helping Moms, Pampered Chef, Partylite, Reel Art Productions, Silpada, Southern Living at Home, Stampin' Up!, Sunsilks, Tastefully Simple, The Angel Company, Thirty-One Gifts, Tupperware, Uppercase Living, Votre Vu, What a Charming Idea. This event is open to the public! Please invite your friends. If you would like more information regarding any of our vendors, please feel free to contact Lori Brown at (815) 478-5119 or [thebrowns@earthlink.net](mailto:thebrowns@earthlink.net). PTO thanks you for your support!

**MANHATTAN POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

Manhattan Police Chief, William Fitzgerald wants to encourage all parents to sign up with NIXLE, a Community Information Service that gives you up-to-the minute neighborhood information. For local alerts and information, from this free secure web-site, (text charges may apply), please sign up with [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). This site, has been recommended, by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. **Also, please remember to remove valuables and lock all car doors especially during the overnight hours.**

**MANHATTAN FOUNDATION NEWS**

Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence would like you to turn your weekly grocery bill into cash for our schools! Shop at Berkot's (Manhattan) on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Turn in these identification slips with your purchases and Berkot's will donate 5% of your bill to the Manhattan Foundation for Educational Excellence. Please encourage your family and friends to also participate. Thank you for your support!

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**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:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## MANHATTAN SCHOOL DISTRICT 114

To the Parents/Guardians of All District 114 Students:

In light of the recent National and International developments regarding Swine Flu, we have been asked by the Will County Health Department, the Illinois Department of Public Health and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to monitor and document the number of students who are absent, and in particular, the students whose symptoms meet the definition of an Influenza-like Illness or also known as a Febrile Respiratory Illness. .

The Illinois Public Health Department defines a Febrile Respiratory illness as:

Fever or feverishness and recent onset of at least one of the following:

1. Nasal congestion
2. Cough
3. Sore throat

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines an Influenza-like Illness as:

Fever of 101.5 or higher and one of the following:

1. Cough
2. Sore throat
3. Headache
4. Muscle ache

We are asking for your assistance with this very important matter.

When reporting an absence due to an illness, we are asking that you provide us with as much information about the illness as possible.

Specifically, if your child has any of the Influenza-like or Febrile Respiratory Illness symptoms noted above, it is very important that we are aware of that at school.

If your child has symptoms consistent with Influenza, you should contact your health care provider who will determine whether testing or treatment is needed.

This procedure for reporting an absence due to illness should be followed throughout the school year.

You can visit the Will County Health Department or IDPH websites for further information regarding the Swine Flu.

[www.idph.state.il.us](http://www.idph.state.il.us)

[www.willcountyhealth.org](http://www.willcountyhealth.org)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school nurse.