



**IMPORTANT FEBRUARY
DATES**

**February 2012 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

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | 1 | 2 Market Day Pick-up at WC, 4:00-5:00p.m. | 3 100 th Day of School |
| 6 | 7 PTO Meeting at WC 9:30a.m. | 8 Board of Education at Wilson Creek, 7:00p.m. | 9 Education Foundation Meeting at MJHS, 6:00p.m. | 10 |
| 13 Book Fair | 14 Book Fair Valentine's Day (see note below) | 15 Book Fair | 16 Book Fair Family Curriculum Night 6:30- 8:00p.m. | 17 Book Fair EARLY DISMISSAL AM-K 11:15 a.m. NO PM-K DK,1 & 2 1:00p.m. Progress Reports |
| 20 President's Day NO SCHOOL | 21 | 22 Mobile Dental Van at WC | 23 | 24 Picnic with the Principal & Pride Assembly |
| 27 | 28 | 29 Leap Year! | March 1 2012-2013 Kindergarten Round-Up 7:00p.m. | 2 |

FAMILY CURRICULUM NIGHT

This year's Wilson Creek Family Curriculum Night will be on Thursday, February 16 from 6:30-8:00p.m. It will be a fun-filled night with all activities centering on this year's theme, "Proud to Be You and Me. **We will start in the Commons at 6:30 p.m. where the students will share a few patriotic songs they have learned.** Immediately following the sing-along you are invited to take part in many fun-filled activities centered on America and heroes. **You do not have to be here right at 6:30 p.m. to take part in the evening's events.**

HOMEWORK AND RESPONSIBILITY

We are very proud about the partnership we foster with the parents of our students and also feel very fortunate to work in a community where our parents are so involved in their child's education. Homework that goes home from Wilson Creek has multiple purposes. Homework helps to reinforce skills taught at school, keeps our parents informed about what is being taught in your child's classroom, and helps teach our students responsibility and organization, and prepares them for the upper grades. Students are responsible for taking the homework home, completing it, and getting it returned to school, when it is due. Although we hope that our children can do this on their own, they probably need your help. We assign a minimal amount of homework therefore if a child repeatedly forgets to return his/her homework, the teacher may send them to the office to complete it at noon recess. You will receive a note if this happens. We would appreciate your help in making sure that any assigned homework is returned in a timely fashion. Thanks so much!

VALENTINE'S DAY

At the end of the day on February 14, students will have a chance to pass out Valentine's to their friends. Teachers will send home information about their classrooms' Valentine's plans. This is not a PTO party day. Our own staff will supervise these activities.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP IS SET FOR MARCH 1

All children who will be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2012 are eligible to attend Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. All parents are encouraged to attend. Children need not attend. This evening will be informational only. You do **not** need to bring birth certificates. You will be given registration packets to take home, fill out, and then return when completed. Kindergarten Registration will be conducted on March 29 and 30. If you would like to turn in your registration sooner: stop by the Wilson Creek office from 9:30a.m. – 3:00p.m. If you know of any parents with Kindergarten age children please pass along this information to them. **If your child has a summer birthday or you have concerns about their Kindergarten readiness you will be asked to sign-up for a Kindergarten Screening on March 29 or 30. Please come prepared to know which of those days might work for you to sign-up for an appointment.**

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

In our efforts to go paperless, we are providing registration to our families in a new way for the 2012-2013 school year. The only paperwork you will receive is the green registration form and an informational sheet on how to complete registration. You will check your Homelogic account to access fees and our website for any other forms you may need. Look for registration information to come home on March 19. **Please be aware of the new Physical Form and information about the Tdap booster, whooping cough, listed with the Physical and Dental Requirements Information. If you have any questions please contact Janice Benney at 815-478-4527.**

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 815-478-6090 and press extension 5. Mr. Butters and the Principals will record a message informing parents about school closings.

THANK YOU BUS DRIVERS

We would like to thank all our Manhattan 114 bus drivers for the terrific job they do, not only year-round, but especially during our unpredictable Midwest winters. This year in particular, they have had to go above and beyond the call of duty. You are all awesome!

IXL MATH ONLINE

Just a reminder...additional math practice is available to your child on their very own IXL Math website. If you have forgotten your child's login and password please don't hesitate to email your child's teacher or send a note to school and we can resend that information to you. Our teachers have seen growth in those students visiting this website on a regular basis.

NURSE'S NEWS

DENTAL EXAMINATION REMINDER-All Illinois children in Kindergarten, Second and Sixth grades are required to have an oral health examination. These 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, 2012. The examination must have been completed within 18 months prior to the May 15 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 from the school nurse 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.

WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE DENTAL VAN IS COMING-Will County Community Health Department's Mobile Dental Van will be coming to our school on Wednesday, February 22. The forms were recently sent home with all of the Wilson Creek students. If you would like your child to receive dental services when the Dental Van is here, please complete all of the forms and return the completed and signed forms to school with your child in the next 24 to 48 hours. Please remember to sign the bottom of all of the pages. If you have any questions regarding this program or the treatments provided, please call Nurse Cathy at 815-478-4527 or the WCHD at 815-774-7300.

SOCIAL WORKER NEWS

February's character pillar is Citizenship. In February, students will learn what it means (and takes!) to be a good citizen. We will discuss everything from voting to recycling. The color for Citizenship is purple, so wear purple on Wednesdays starting in February! Three Wilson Creek students were awarded CARING awards at our School Pride assembly on January 20. Those students are Christopher Brunner (KDA), Rachel Turay (1H), and Ariana LeGrand (2W). Congratulations! Each month, students who are "caught" exhibiting that month's character pillar can earn a good character leaf on our "Tree of Good Character." From those names on the tree, one child per grade level will win the monthly character goodie bag! Winners of the Trustworthiness award (our January character pillar) will be announced at our School Pride assembly on February 24.

BULLYING: Please note that we now have a Bullying reporting form on our MSD website. Concerned citizens may contact school Social Workers or Administrators, send an email to bullying@manhattan14.org, or fill out the bullying reporting form on the school website to report bullying. You will find it under the Bullying tab. There is helpful information there as well. You may contact Mrs. Rych by e-mailing her at: mrych@manhattan14.org.

ART NEWS

We will be putting a lot of effort towards a Square 1 Art project. This project is a program where each student's individual art work will be available to purchase in a variety of products ranging from t-shirts and totes to necklaces and trinket boxes. The company will have each student's artwork available for purchase some time in early March. Please ask your child what sketch they have been working on. Please contact Mrs. Swanberg at cswanberg@manhattan14.org.

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Greetings from Techno~Zoo! The students continue to work very hard on their keyboarding skills! Along with various practice activities, they are utilizing educational websites to further develop their typing abilities and practice core content skills. Visit www.funschool.com with your child and have them show you how they have been learning! Please continue to send in your Box Tops—we truly appreciate your support! Contact Ms. Simms at tsimms@manhattanl14.org.

MUSIC NEWS

In First grade music class, the students have started working on their Spring Program called "Let's Sing America". This program will take place on Tuesday, April 3 at 9:30a.m and again at 7:00p.m at Wilson Creek. On the school calendar it says the program is April 4, so please make a note of the change to April 3. Words to the program will be emailed home to you by February 3. If you do not have email and would like to receive the words, please contact Mrs. Pedziwater at (815) 531-3217, or by e-mailing her at cpedziwater@manhattanl14.org.

In Second grade the students are reviewing the rhythm syllables ti ti, ta, rest and half note. The students are going to review the solfege syllables so, mi and learn la next. Our students are beginning to be able to read rhythms and notes at a very early age. How exciting!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

This month in P.E. we will start working on fine motor skills through string figures. This was a huge hit last year...and we hope they will continue to enjoy it this year. Speaking of fine motor skills, we have been pushing the students to work on their shoe tying skills; this will help to keep our gym and playgrounds safe from stragglng shoelaces. We have started a shoe-tying club, where the students get their name put up on the wall after showing Ms. Book they can tie! There are currently 244 members. In our 5th mile day of the year, the students went all out beating all kinds of records! Second grader, Will Brandau remains in the lead with 227 laps and Carter LaMarche is not far behind with 222 laps. In First grade James Kuypers keeps his spot at the top with 213 laps and in second is Joey Vega with 188 laps. GREAT WORK BOYS!

Jump Rope for Heart will be returning to Wilson Creek this month, look for fundraising packets to come home the week of February 6. Ms. Lindsey Holwerda will be student teaching in P.E. starting February 27. The students and Ms. Book are excited for the newest member of our P.E. team to start! If you have any questions: please e-mail Ms. Book at cbook@manhattanl14.org.

LIBRARY NEWS

In January, all of the centers in the library were hands-on magnet activities. Students had fun determining what objects would or would not be attracted to magnets, building magnetic shapes, and many other activities. In February, all students will learn about maps.

Wilson Creek's second Scholastic Book Fair will be held February 13 – 17 during the day and the evening of February 16 during Curriculum Night. Please be sure to visit the book fair that evening. Your child will soon be bringing home a flyer about the book fair. If you would like to volunteer, look for the email from Stephanie Burke or email her at kayrubies@gmail.com. She will be happy to have you volunteer. Contact Mrs. Milosevich at dmilosevich@manhattanl14.org.

E-MAIL AND WEBSITE NEWS

If you are not receiving e-mail from Wilson Creek please e-mail: pdeboer@manhattanl14.org and she will add you to our e-mailing list. All forms, menus and activity fliers are available on our school website: www.manhattanl14.org. Information has been sent home with the Lunch Menus about the new option to pay online into your lunch account. If you have questions, please contact the Wilson Creek office at 815-478-4527.