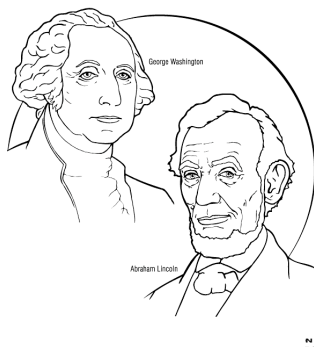


PRESIDENT'S DAY!



February 2010 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

IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES

- 2 P.T.O. Meeting at Wilson Creek, 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Market Day Pick-Up at Wilson Creek, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- 5 P.T.O. Father Daughter Dance 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 9 Board of Education at Wilson Creek, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Bike Safety Assemblies
- 12 Observe Valentine's Day – see note below about this year's changes.
- 15 **President's Day – NO SCHOOL**
- 19 Progress Reports Sent Home
Picnic with the Principal and School Pride Assembly – Wear Blue or Green if possible.
- 25 "Get Your Green On" Family Curriculum Night – see details below
- 26 **Institute Day – NO SCHOOL**

March

- 1 **Casimir Pulaski Day – NO SCHOOL**
- 4 Kindergarten Round-Up Night at Wilson Creek, 7:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER SENT DIRECTLY TO YOUR EMAIL

Tired of looking for important school dates and information in the pile of papers that comes home? You can have a copy of school newsletters and flyers sent directly to your email. If you have not already filled out the attached form, please do so, as soon as possible. If we don't get a form from you, we will take your email address off the registration form you filled out at the beginning of the school year. The only newsletters that will now be sent home in "hard copy" will be those that we don't have an email address for.

VALENTINE'S DAY CHANGE

With the support of the P.T.O., the third P.T.O. sponsored party of the year will be right before Spring Break, on Wednesday, March 31, instead of Valentine's Day. We would still like to encourage students to bring Valentine's in for their classmates on **Friday, February 12.**

Teachers will plan time at the end of the day for students to pass out their Valentine's. You will receive information from your child's teacher if they have any special requests or suggestions for that day.

FAMILY CURRICULUM NIGHT

Wilson Creek's "Get Your Green On" Curriculum Night is on Thursday, February 25, 6:30-8:00 p.m. There will be a variety of fun activities that you and your children can participate in. In addition, we will have an environment/energy fair with groups such as ComEd, Nicor and the Farm Bureau. A used Book Fair will be another highlight of the evening. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND IN ANY USED (IN GOOD SHAPE) CHILDREN'S, ADULT FICTION AND NON-FICTION, SELF-HELP, ETC. BOOKS FOR THIS SALE.**

BUNDLES OF BOOKS FOR BABIES - FREE BOOKS FOR NEW PARENTS!

If you have a baby under the age of one and are a resident of Manhattan School District, please come to Wilson Creek to pick up a bag of free books! Our "Bundles of Books" program is our way of showing how important we think reading is to young children and to welcome you and your child to our district. If you have any question regarding this program, feel free to call the office at 815-478-4527.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP IS SET FOR MARCH 4TH

Registration for children entering Kindergarten in the fall will be conducted Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wilson Creek Commons. All children who will be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2010 are eligible to attend Kindergarten for the 2010-2011 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 in April. If you know of any parents with Kindergarten age children please pass along this information to them.

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 or 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. They are awesome!

NURSE'S NEWS

All Illinois children in Kindergarten and Second grades are required to have an oral health examination. A licensed dentist must complete and sign the examination. 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.

In honor of **NATIONAL DENTAL MONTH**, we have invited Dr. Edward Kirsch of Frankfort, to come to our school and speak to our First and Second grade students. He will focus his presentation on good dental hygiene and the benefits of taking proper care of their teeth. Children will be given a goody bag to take home as well as worksheets to reinforce what they have learned. If you have any questions regarding our upcoming dental presentation, please call the School Nurse at 815-478-4527.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

February is American Heart Month and to celebrate, the students will be participating in **Jump Rope for Heart**. Our event is planned for Friday February 19. Our fundraising goal this year is \$7,500! In other PE news, our First and Second graders are working hard to achieve their goals during mile days. Congratulations to all, and keep running hard! We have been discussing healthy foods and fitness this month and will continue to talk about these important subjects throughout February as well! **Our speed stacking team has been chosen! Congratulations to the 36 students who make up this year's team. This year's tournament is being held at Chelsea Intermediate School in Frankfort on Saturday March 13!**

CHARACTER COUNTS NEWS

The Character Counts! trait for November and December was CARING. One student per grade level was chosen to win the character prize bag for Caring at the school pride assembly last month. Congratulations to our Caring winners:

Kindergarten: Olivia Gonda (Mrs. Rose's class)

First Grade: Alex Ciabattari (Mrs. Davis' class)

Second Grade: Garrett Torkelson (Mrs. Weiher's class)

The Character Counts! Pillar trait of the month for January was TRUSTWORTHINESS. Students have learned what it means to be a trustworthy friend, family member, and student! This past month, students took part in a "trust walk" activity to learn what it means to both trust and be trusted. Any student "caught" being trustworthy earned a blue leaf to put on our Tree of Good Character in the Commons here at school! **Remember, our Character Counts! Pillar is CITIZENSHIP for the month of FEBRUARY. The color for CITIZENSHIP is PURPLE, so wear PURPLE on Wednesdays!**

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch groups are small friendship groups held during lunchtime. Students bring their lunches (and their friends!), to Mrs. Rych's room, where good social and friendship behavior is modeled and encouraged. All students are eligible to attend. Both students who may need help with social skills and students who excel with social skills are invited in order to allow for good role modeling. Students constantly ask to join the group! Please let Mrs. Rych know if you would **not** like your student to attend a Lunch Bunch group.

ART NEWS

We are preparing for **Square One Art** in the Art Room! First graders are putting the finishing touches on their Birds, while the Second graders are working on their Castles. We will receive our returned order packets in mid March. This year we would like to install a Tile Wall. All proceeds from **Square One Art** this year will go into installing a tile wall, which will include all students and staff artwork. It would be a permanent piece of art in our school. We would like to possibly do this every 5 years or so. If you would like to donate to this project, there will be a space on the order form to donate for your child's tile. If you are interested in seeing what this installation will look like, we have a picture in the Art Room. Parents can also go to square1art.com, where you can find a variety of tile wall installations. We begin working on our Bus posters in February and the Second graders will begin working on their fish sculptures, that will hang in the Commons.

MUSIC NEWS

In Music class, both the First and Second graders are beginning to understand the difference between rhymes and songs and speaking and singing. They are also starting to learn about Quarter Notes and paired Eighth Notes. Our Second graders are going to be reviewing the difference between beat and rhythm. All of the students are learning these different concepts through games and songs.

LIBRARY NEWS

Happy 2010! The Second graders have written down their New Year's resolutions and will start to work toward these goals. This month everyone will be exploring Magnets and Rocks. Thanks to all who have brought in milk jugs. Our igloo is beginning to take shape. Please send more and remember to include the cap/lid for each gallon jug.

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

During the last month, all Wilson Creek students have continued to make great strides in computers. Second grade students visited a website about Space and the Solar System, and a program aimed at developing their money counting skills. First grade used software to develop grammar skills and letter recognition. Feel free to contact Mr. Riley anytime at jriley@manhattan114.org.