



Woodland Elementary School
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Issue 5, February 2020

Woodland Elementary News

Welcome to Woodland Elementary School News!

Important February Dates (Page 1)
A Message from the Principal (Page 2)
From the School Nurse (Page 3)
From the School Counselor (Page 4)

Talent Development (Page 5)
Notes from Music (Page 6)
From the Media Center (Page 6)
From Your PTO (Page 7)



IMPORTANT DATES

- February 3, PTO Meeting, WD Media Center, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- February 4, Parent Teacher Conferences and Book Fair, 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- February 6, Parent Teacher Conferences and Book Fair, 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- February 11, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Mi-Sant Banh Mi Co. Fundraiser (PTO), 8540 Edinburgh Centre Dr, Brooklyn Park
- February 17, No School, Presidents' Day (Conference release day for Pre-K-12)

Woodland Elementary
Where Kids Soar



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Why do I have to learn this? I will never use it in REAL LIFE.

Most parents have heard or will hear their kids utter these words. In most cases, we can find an answer that makes sense. We use all kinds of fractions when baking. We use measurement in construction and in-home improvement projects. We use percentages when calculating sales while shopping. Knowing how to write detail-filled sentences and essays is critical throughout school and in many careers. The arts and technology can prepare us for many fields- including sales, design, or architecture.

What about the times when you cannot come up with an answer for a very frustrated child? Of course, the easy answer includes reliving parts of our own past. I certainly do not use calculus, biology, or statistics on a daily basis. In fact, I am not sure I can find a specific one-to-one correlation from something I studied in these courses to a real-life scenario. Whether it is the subjects I listed or the subjects you might list (depending on your chosen career path), finding **relevance** can be difficult.

Part of our task as educators is to provide rigorous content that is relevant to our students and “real-life.” The more we can do both, the more engaged our students will be, the more ownership they have to their learning. To provide more rigor, we look for open-ended tasks that require in-depth thinking, greater degrees of authentic connections, and student ownership. To provide more relevance, we help make connections to multiple content areas and practical, real-world examples.

Part of our task as parents is to look beyond the content of what are kids are questioning. Difficult assignments or tasks develop so much in our children. First, it helps develop a sense of humility. One of the most critical skills in life is approaching things with humility and believing we can always learn something from someone else. Second, it helps develop a sense of tenacity. Some things just require a lot of work on our part. Tenacity and “stick-to-itness” is developed with practice over time. Some skills, like researching, problem-solving, writing essays, developing Power Points, etc. that are used can easily be applied to multiple situations and subjects. Finally, and not surprisingly, not all tasks in life, nor all subjects, nor all people we work with are to our exact liking or specifications. Nonetheless, they still need to be completed, studied, and honored respectively.

Finally, if you have yet to schedule a conference with your child’s teacher, please do so as soon as possible. They begin tonight and continue next Tuesday and Thursday. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Your Principal,



Rob Nelson

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Mandy Reitmeier, RN

Here are some facts regarding influenza. Please be aware that children that have a temp 100 or greater along with sudden cold symptoms have influenza like illness (ILI). To help prevent the spread if influenza student needs to be free of temp without taking Tylenol or Advil for 24hrs before they can return to school. Influenza with children is contagious up to 7 days from the onset of symptoms. I have included information regarding influenza from Hennepin Public Health Dept.

Influenza (Flu)

Influenza (also known as flu) is a common viral respiratory infection. Influenza is not “stomach flu”, a term used by some to describe illnesses causing vomiting or diarrhea.

If you think your child has the flu, tell your childcare provider or call the school.

Keep your child home from childcare and school until 24 hours after fever is gone (without the use of a fever reducing medicine) and your child is healthy enough for routine activities.

Do not give aspirin or salicylate-containing medicines to anyone under 18 years of age.

For more information, call Hennepin County HSPHD-Epidemiology at 612-543-5230 or call your local health department.

Symptoms

Your child may have chills, body aches, fever, and headache. Your child may also have a cough, runny or stuffy nose, and sore throat.

Illness may last up to 7 days.

If your child has been infected, it may take 1 to 4 days (usually 2 days) for symptoms to start.

Spread

- By coughing or sneezing.
- By touching contaminated hands, objects, or surfaces.

Contagious period

During the 24 hours before and up to 7 days after the illness begins.

Call your health care provider

- If anyone in your home has a high fever and a coughs.

Antibiotics do not work for illnesses caused by a virus, including influenza.

Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. Use a tissue or your sleeve. Dispose of used tissues in the trash.
- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with secretions from the nose or mouth. Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Do not share anything that goes into the mouth, such as drinking cups, straws, and water bottles.
- Clean and disinfect anything that comes in contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Use a product that kills germs.
- Annual influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone older than six months of age. Ask your health care provider about flu vaccine.



FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Dear families,

Our Character trait for February is **KINDNESS!**

Our scholars will be learning about what kindness is and how to be kind to ourselves, our environment, and the people all around us. Try some of the strategies below to practice this trait and talk about it with your child. We're going to have a lot of fun with this one and I hope you will too!

Read about it

Try some of these literature resources to learn more about kindness!

- [How Kind!](#) by Mary Murphy
- [The Golden Rule](#) by Ilene Cooper
- [The Lion and The Mouse](#) by Jerry Pinkey
- [Each Kindness](#) by Jaqueline Woodson
- [Kindness is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler](#) by Margery Cuyler
- [Have you Filled a Bucket Today?](#) by Carol McCloud
- [A Little Spot of Kindness](#) by Diane Alber

Talk about it

Use some guiding questions to have family discussions about kindness at home!

- What does kindness mean to you?
- Tell me about a time someone was kind to you. How did it feel?
- Why is it important?
- Should we be kind to unkind people?
- How can we be kind to ourselves?
- Who is someone in your class or community you can show kindness to?
- What are some ways we can show kindness to others? To the environment?

Practice it!

Talk about ways this month (and beyond!) your family can practice showing kindness in your family and the community around you.

Mrs. Larson, School Counselor



TALENT DEVELOPMENT (TAG)

Young Scientist Roundtable

A program designed for all students in kindergarten through 12th grade and their families

OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS

ISD  279

Date: February 3, 2020

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Place: Wayzata Central Middle School Auditorium

Speaker: Dr. Leonard Ferrington Jr.

Roundtable Part 2

Time: 8:10 - 8:40 p.m.

Students are invited to meet with the speaker after the event to discuss topic more in depth

Beneficial Insects

Many insects provide valuable goods and services to humans. Some of these services are used in very diverse fields including the garment industry, sport fishing, subjects for the study of aging and longevity, genetics, acoustics, and the physics of flight. In this presentation Dr. Ferrington will provide a series of short examples of ways in which insects can be beneficial, including examples from the state of Minnesota. He will also bring in samples which will be looked at in small groups following the main presentation.

Speaker: Dr. Leonard Ferrington Jr.

Dr. Ferrington is a Professor in the Department of Entomology at the U. of Minnesota

In partnership with: Anoka-Hennepin School District, Eden Prairie Public Schools, Edina Public Schools, Hopkins Schools, Lakeville Area Public Schools, Minneapolis Public Schools, Minnetonka Public Schools, Orono Public Schools, Osseo Area Schools, and Wayzata Public Schools. **For more information:** Call Deb Slomkowski at 763-745-5205, email at Deb.Slomkowski@wayzataschools.org or visit our website at www.wayzataschools.org/community/ysr



NOTES FROM MUSIC!

Woodland students are working very hard to prepare performances in music classes with Mrs. Bordonaro and Mrs. Burk.

On Thursday, February 20th, our 3rd grade classes will be performing a program of music as a community service project at Maranatha Senior Living community during the school day. Students are preparing songs familiar to the residents so we all can join in singing the music we are bringing.

On Thursday, March 12th, our 4th grade students will present their Recorder Showcase program of music. Students will perform the recorder music they have prepared for parents at 8:30 a.m. in the gym followed by a reception with cookies! Later that morning, our 4th graders will present their performance again for our 5th graders who learned recorders last year and our 3rd grade classes who will be playing recorders next year.

We are so excited that students have so many performance opportunities at Woodland. Performing is a great way to keep engaged in learning music and is a wonderful reward for all their hard work!!

FROM THE MEDIA CENTER

The best way to become a better reader is to read ... a lot. In a world filled with technological distractions and multiple extra-curricular activities, how can adults help kids develop an internal motivation to read? Here are some simple ideas:

- Let kids choose books, magazines, etc. that they are interested in reading. Choice and interest build internal motivation. If your child says he/she does not know what to read, talk about how you choose a book.
- If they choose something that is too difficult to read by themselves, read with them or to them.
- Have books around the house - a combination of library books plus books the kids own is ideal.
- Make sure your kids see you reading things you enjoy.



- Listen to audio books during commutes and road-trips. Did you know the public library has digital audio books? Kids can also access digital audio books from the Woodland Elementary Media Center website. Under "Books & More," click "Mackin VIA." Select "WOODLAND ELEMENTARY, BROOKLYN PARK, MN." The username and password are the same one your child uses to log into Osseo Apps and/or Moby Max.
- Overtly teach kids how to be "sneaky readers." Just like with exercise, good readers don't have to do all their reading in one sitting. Encourage kids to bring something to read everywhere they go. Five- to ten-minute sessions sprinkled throughout the day -- in the car, in waiting rooms, at siblings' practices, before bedtime, etc. add up fast!



FROM YOUR PTO

Thank you to the families who attended Family Movie Night to watch The Greatest Showman that was sponsored by the PTO. About 200 people enjoyed popcorn and lemonade and quality time with family and friends.

Volunteers are Needed for the following:

-Book Fair: One or two individuals to chair. There are three book fairs a year. The school earns Scholastic Dollars from each fair. You would be contact for our school to schedule dates and run the fairs. Amy Titus will help get volunteers. Contact Amy in the office if you are interested.

-Tree Planting Committee: Help with planning of our upcoming Tree Planting event in May! Email Jenni092@gmail.com if you are interested.

Upcoming Events:

2/11/20: Community Supper @ Mi-Sant Banh Mi Co. (8540 Edinburgh Centre Dr)

3/6/20: Woodland Family Dance 6-8pm ****Please note, this date is changed from the previous Feb. date****

3/27/20: Carnival

Reminders:

- Follow "Woodland Elementary PTO" on **Facebook** for updates and reminders
- Download the **Box Tops app** and continue to scan your receipts!
- Use **AmazonSmile** and choose WDPTO so a portion of the sales comes back to Woodland!

Thank you for your continued support of Woodland!