

Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 16

April 28, 2023



"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed."
-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-

Pre-K Outdoor Classroom

April 2023 - Phase 1 Build



Hello WCS Community!

(Photo collage compliments of Megan Robertson)

Over the break, the AMAZING FOWC Playground committee volunteers worked very hard to create a Pre-K outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom includes areas that will promote and support creative learning in a natural environment through a sensory path, sandbox, play kitchen, balance beam system, mobile garden planters and art area. We are very excited and most appreciative!

Winter Break 2 Principal's Reading Challenge Special Reward



On March 30th WCS staff went door to door delivering individual cheese pizzas, donated by Portland Pie Company to students that completed the Winter Break 2 Principal's Reading Challenge. Over 140 pizzas were assembled by staff a day prior to the delivery. This special project helped to promote not only the love of reading but also provided opportunities to continue with building connections and genuine belonging with students and their families. Many thanks to Portland Pie for their generous donation of pizza ingredients and boxes!





5th Grade Carnival/Dance



Fundraiser

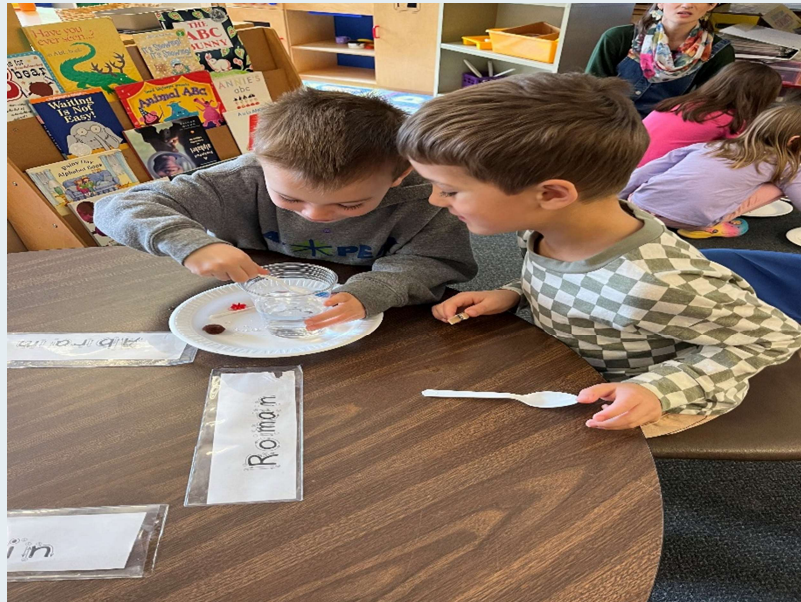


A fabulous 5th grade fundraiser carnival and dance was held on March 31st through the leadership of Amber-Jean Nickel and fifth grade parents. The event was very well attended with students, families, staff and the WCS Tiger had a great time playing games, eating snacks and dancing with music DJ'd by former WCS student Aubrey Pelletier and company!





STEM Partnership with the 4H/University of Maine Cooperative Extension



Throughout the year staff from the University of Maine/Cooperative Extension 4H program have provided a variety of STEM lessons and activities to all K-5 students. Pictured are kindergarten students engaging in a sinking and floating activity.



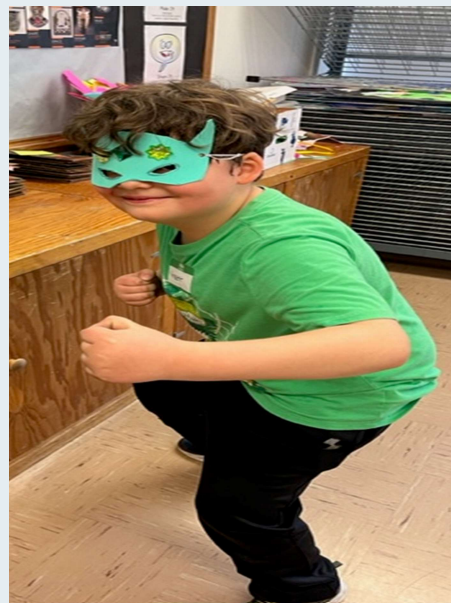
FOWC Kid's Academies



Kid's Academies are back! You may be wondering what are "Kid's Academies"? Kid's Academies are free before and after school opportunities that give WCS students an opportunity to explore their interests in a variety of areas. This ranges from physical activities, lego clubs, music to art activities. They are sponsored by FOWC and led by parent/community volunteers. Pictured above and below are students engaged in some recent Kid's Academy activities that included creating objects with foam as well as creating perlers and paper flowers. Special thanks to Jennifer Cass and Heather Rogers for providing these art opportunities for students!







Spring is certainly upon us and I trust that everyone enjoyed Spring Break last week! Over the next several weeks students will be engaged in lots of learning, NWEA/MEA's, field trips, Book Fair, Arts Night, Band Concerts, etc. While this is an exciting time of the year, the changes in routines can be overwhelming for some children. Our school community will continue to provide as much structure and routines as possible so that our students can have a strong and positive finish to their school year. We ask for parent/caregiver support and understanding as

well. Thank-you!

If you have any questions and/or needs please do not hesitate to reach out to me and our school team. We are here to help!

Your Principal,

Randa



Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

rineerr@link75.org

(207)725-4391



gratitude



Pictured above are mobile garden planters created by the FOWC Playground Committee.

We have LOTS of things to be thankful for as a school community:

***FOWC Playground Committee**-the amazing outdoor classroom and mobile garden planters that they built over spring break! WOW!!!! This includes a special thanks to the following:

Project Leads: Kimberly Pride & Sam Eaton

Build Volunteers - Sam Eaton, Kim & Adam Pride, Jonathan & Megan Robertson, Ms. Brooke, Becky Jauch, Marci & Richard Doble, Collin Johnson, Mac Hunter, Jenn Cass

Tire Donations - Todd Chaney & Don Foshay's

Tree Stump & Teacher Bench Donations - Mrs. Bowie & Bowie, Inc

Snack & Drink Donations & Funding for Moveable Garden Beds - Friends of Williams-Cone

*Spring Break!

*CPR/AED/First Aid Training for staff provided by Bath Deputy Fire Chief Chris Cummings.

*Garden care-Jenn Cass

*Portland Pie Company-a very generous pizza donation.

*5th Grade Carnival Dance-Amber-Jean Nickel coordinator/organizer and the many parent/student volunteers.

*Kid's Academies provided by Jenn Cass & Heather Rogers

*Family Movie Night-FOWC

*University of Maine/Cooperative Extension 4H-providing STEM opportunities for students throughout the year.

From Friends of Williams-Cone:

*Many thanks to our students K-5 who designed some spectacular letters for our Race for Education Fundraiser under the guidance of Mrs. Bellina and our FOWC Volunteers- Kim, Anna, Heather, Erin, Christie, and Megan. Jenn C has been busy processing address forms and mailing letters.

*Worthy of another mention - our Playground Committee members are amazing! Thank you so much for all the hard work that went in over the April Spring Break and the prep/planning hours to make the project a reality.

*Shout out to tonight's Movie Night FOWC volunteer team - Jenn, Anna, Meredith, Sam, Kim, Travis, & Megan. These events take many school staff too! Thank you, Mrs. Rineer, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Appel, Mr. Randy & Mrs. Pam. The Gray Family also continues

to support us through the use of their popcorn machine and borrowing a projector screen - we are very grateful to you all!

*Our Teacher Wishlist Program made its final deliveries this week! Many thanks to the FOWC committee for approving our Teacher & Staff requests, Meredith P for handling the majority of all purchases, and The Robertsons - Megan, Juliana & Katelyn for handling deliveries. All these supplies will better support our Teachers & Staff for their important work for our students and help cover costs for items not in our school budget.

*We continue to be grateful for Jenn C and her volunteers Heather, Haley, & Kate who have been facilitating the after-school Craft Club. These have been wonderful and fun opportunities for our students!

*Thank you to all the families that have contributed to our Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week! The additional supplies, baked goods, signs & post-it notes have been wonderful, and we deeply appreciate your generosity and time. Your support will make this coming week amazing! Much gratitude for our lead volunteers behind the planning - Erin, Kim, Christie, Laila, Jennifer B, Jenn C, Anna, Meredith, & Megan. The next newsletter will have a detailed thanks to the many helping hands supporting the week.



Daffodil photo courtesy of Jenn Cass.

Important Dates



4/28 FOWC Movie Night, 5:00 P.M.

5/1-5/5 Staff Appreciation Week

5/1-5/26 MEA/Through Year Assessments, Grades 3-5

5/5 Grade 5 Bretschneider-Growthtown School Field Trip

5/8 Grade 5 Carroll-Growthtown School Field Trip

5/8 School Wear Pick-Up Night, 3:30-6:30 P.M., WCS Lobby or Sidewalk

5/10 Incoming K Parent Night, 5:30 P.M.

5/11 Incoming PreK Screening, 8:30-3:30 P.M.

5/11 FOWC Meeting, 5:30 P.M.

5/12 Race for Education

5/12 Race for Education , 5/19 Rain Date

5/16 Grades 3-5-All District Band & Chorus Concert, Orion, 9:30-11:30 A.M.

5/16 All District Band & Chorus Concert, 7:00 P.M., Orion

5/22-5/26 Scholastic Book Fair

5/22 Arts Night/Book Fair Open, 5:30- 6:30 Chorus Concert

5/23 5th Grade Field Trip to Chewonki

5/23 Playground Fundraising Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M., LC

5/29 Memorial Day, No School

6/5 Field Day-Grades 3-5, (All Day)

6/6 Field Day-Grades 1 & 2, (All Day)

6/6 Field Day-Kindergarten, 9-12:00 P.M.

6/6 Playground Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M., LC

6/7 5th Grade Step Up Day

6/7 Late Start, Volunteer Breakfast, 8:15 A.M.

6/9 MTA Senior Walk Through, June 9,

6/14 5th Grade Farewell, 1:30 P.M., WCS Gym

6/15 Last Day of 2022-23 School Year, 1/2 Day, 10:45 A.M. PreK Dismissal, 12:10 P.M. K-5 Dismissal



Message from Mrs. Appel, WCS Music Teacher

Dear WCS Families,

We have been busy in the music room preparing for not one, but TWO spring concerts! After a COVID hiatus, we are bringing back the All District Chorus and Band Concert this spring in addition to our own concert at Williams-Cone later in May as part of our ARTS NIGHT (more details on that to follow). The All-District Concert brings together chorus and band members from all 5 elementary schools for a wonderful performance of over 250 students! This amazing experience has been a long-standing tradition here in MSAD 75 and we are very excited to be able to have it this year.

Below are the dates and times for both spring events for our chorus members:

All-District

Thursday, May 11th, CHORUS rehearsal at MAMS (Orion) **6:30-7:30pm**

Monday, May 15th, CHORUS rehearsal at MAMS (Orion) **6:30-7:30pm**

Tuesday, May 16th, All District Chorus and Band Concert at MAMS (Orion) **7pm**

WCS SPRING CONCERT

Monday, May 22nd, WCS GYMNASIUM **6:30pm**

Feel free to email with any questions or concerns! Sending a big thank you for your encouragement and support and we'll see you in May!



Welcome to Williams-Cone Elementary School!



You are invited to join us in person for Parent Info Night on Wednesday, May 10 from 5:30PM to 6:30PM in the Learning Commons at Williams-Cone School. ***This session is for parents and caregivers only.***

You will meet:

Principal, Mrs. Randa Rineer

Kindergarten Teachers, Dot Bowie
Leah Hayes

School Counselor, Jeff Cardoza

School Social Worker, Carin Merrill

Speech Therapist, Katelyn Berube

Health Office Nurse, Therese Chamberland

Please join us for information about the Kindergarten screening process, preparing your child for Kindergarten and to find out more about Williams-Cone Elementary!



Kindergarten

If you have a child who will turn 5 no later than October 15, 2023, he/she is eligible to attend kindergarten beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Kindergarten registration is currently taking place and an incoming Kindergarten Parent will be held on Wednesday, May 10th beginning at 5:30 P.M. in the WCS Learning Commons.

Kindergarten students can be registered electronically at:

<https://ic.link75.org/campus/apps/olr/application/login/kiosk-app-type>



In an effort to increase access to high-quality early childhood learning opportunities for students prior to entering Kindergarten, M.S.A.D. No. 75 provides two PreK classes, for a total of 32 students. Students must be 4 years old by October 15, 2023. The program uses the same calendar as grades K-12, runs five days a week and approximately 6 hours per day. Transportation is not provided. One class is at the Williams-Cone School in Topsham, while the other is at Midcoast Maine Community Action's (MMCA) Head Start location at Cook's Corner in Brunswick.

friends OF williams-cone

Get caught up on the latest news from Williams-Cone School's PTO group

friends OF williams-cone

SUPPORTING THE STAFF AND FAMILIES
OF THE WILLIAMS-CONE COMMUNITY

Annual Fundraising Goal



as of February 7, 2023

We have one more FOWC Meeting to go as we close out the 2022-2023 school year! It's never too late to join us on May 11th at 5:30 PM. We will be looking ahead to next year's plans and would love your feedback and suggestions.

While anytime is great to celebrate the educators teaching our children, Monday kicks off our week-long celebration dedicated to all the educators and staff members here at WCS (a week ahead of the national celebration). Help us make this week special by sending a personalized 'Thank You' note, email, or message to any of our Teachers & Staff and letting them know how they've made this year special for your child, you, or your family.

Join us for the Upcoming FOWC Meetings & Events:

Family Movie Night - 4/28/23, 5-7 PM in the gymnasium

WCS Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week - 5/1-5/5/23

School Wear Pick-up Night - 5/8/23 3:30-6:30 PM in the Lobby or on the Sidewalk

*If you chose 'send home with student' those will come home on 5/9/23

FOWC Meeting - 5/11/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

Playground Fundraising Committee Meeting - 5/23/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

Race for Education - 5/12/23 9:30-11 AM on the Playground Field (Rain date is 5/19/23)

Playground Committee Meeting - 6/6/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

Playground Committee



Over April Break our WCS Playground Committee volunteers were hard at work! Due to the dedication of our fantastic project leads, we were approved to move forward with building an outdoor classroom for our Pre-K students attending the Williams-Cone School location within MSAD 75.

While this project has another phase of construction, we are very proud and grateful for the hours put in by our volunteer team - Sam, Kim & Adam, Mrs. Brooke, Jonathan & Megan, Becky,

Marci & Richard, Collin, Mac, Jenn C, Robyn, & many youth volunteers - Henry, Gavin, Logan, Catherine, Juliana, Katelyn, Michael, June, Paige, & Kyle, along with our local business connections - Hunter Excavation, Todd with Don Foshay's, Mrs. Bowie & Bowie, Inc, our administrative and staff support - Mrs. Rineer, Mr. Johansen, Mr. Randy, & Ms. Pam, and MSAD 75 Facilities Committee & School Board for their approval of the project proposal.



Join us TONIGHT from 5-7 pm for the movie The Bad Guys!

Rated PG, 1 hr 40 min

Bring your blankets, pillows, chairs, and food.

FOWC will provide water and freshly popped popcorn.

This is a free event so we hope you will join us.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

5th GRADE

5th Grade Update:

Important Dates:

May 1: 5th Grade Celebration Planning Meeting 5:30-7:00p at the WCS Learning Commons

Gratitude and special thanks!

Williams-Cone School
5TH GRADE
CLASS
WANTS TO
THANK YOU!

Because of the tremendous amount of support from the WCS community, our 5th Grade Class will have an end of the year celebration they will remember for years to come!

We could not have accomplished our fundraising goal of supporting ALL 5th graders to attend the trip to Chewonki and their end of year celebrations without the generosity and unending support from our WCS and broader community, families and friends. Special thanks goes to:

Our Popcorn organizer and lead Joey-Lynne Beardsley for helping us try something new—it was a tremendous success! For our Carnival Dance: Massive thanks to our custodians: Pam Young and Randy Munsey, the WCS teachers and staff, especially Mrs. Appel

and Mrs. Martin for their help with the sound system, Mrs. Sanders and Mrs. Anderson for helping us to promote all of our events, Mrs. Rineer and Chief Marc Hagan for attending and showing their support, and to all the teachers and staff who attended the Carnival Dance. A special shout-out to Mrs. Dubreuil for helping the WCS Tiger make an appearance. Thanks to our DJs, Ava Hanson and Aubrey Pelletier, and mega thanks to Megan Robertson and the rest of the Friends of Williams-Cone for sharing their advice and equipment/supplies with us.

Thanks to the 99 Restaurant for donating popcorn and to the 5th grade families who volunteered by staffing or donating to the Carnival Dance, and finally, enormous thank you our Carnival Dance creative force and organizer Amber-Jean Nickell!

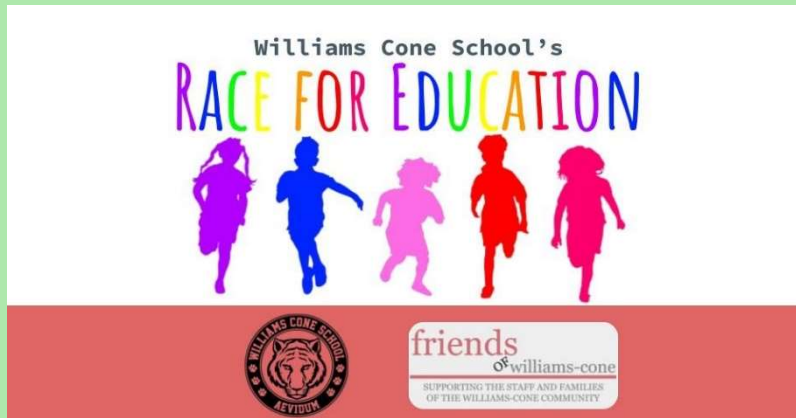
And last but not least, Thank you! Thank you to everyone who promoted, attended, purchased and/or donated to any of our fundraising events. We are so grateful for your help!!

School Wear

Reminder - School Wear pick-up night is still planned for May 8, 2023, from 3:30-6:30 pm at WCS. If you selected 'send home with student' those orders will be coming home the next day (May 9th). Thank you all very much for supporting this last-minute event. We are so glad we could bring this back by popular demand and raise an additional \$700.00 for our PTO & school.

Have apparel you've outgrown? Send it in and we would be happy to ensure it finds a home with one of

our students.



Our last major fundraiser of the year is underway! We hope to raise \$5000.00 through this event. Please help us by returning your address forms to the Main Office. These forms are critical to our success! You are also welcome to share our CheddarUp link on any social media platform to help us achieve this goal.

Our CheddarUp Online Donation Link: <http://wcs-2023-race-for-education.cheddarup.com>

Misplace your address form? Print a new one here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pHB9NXAJw2s2OKh8tP2Jlbg3DMo_hlQY/view?usp=sharing

Our Race for Education outdoor event will be held on Friday, May 12th (with a rain date of Friday, May 19th). We hope you will join us in cheering on our students during this fun event. You will see more details about the timing of our event in your child's backpack next week!



The Hannaford Helps Schools program RETURNS!!

Now through 5/27, purchase 4 participating products and earn 3 School Dollars.

New this year: Scan the Hannaford Helps Schools QR Code found on your coupon to easily donate to the school of your choice no matter where you shop.

Ordering online? Keep an eye out for an 'apple' icon - that means it's a participating product!

You can learn more from their website: <https://www.hannaford.com/about-us/hannaford-helps/schools>

Official Williams-Cone School
YEARBOOK
in partnership with
treering

**Get Your 2022-2023 Williams-Cone
School Yearbook Today!**

Don't miss out on our memories from this amazing year!

There are only 3 DAYS left to grab your WCS Yearbook and save on shipping!

Deadline to Order Online: Monday, May 1st

It's easy! Order online at www.treering.com/validate

Enter WCS's passcode: 1015059372991326

Your yearbook purchase helps us continue the tradition of giving every 5th Grade Student a free yearbook during the Farewell Ceremony. Thank you!

(you can order online after the deadline however shipping costs will apply)

W.I.N.G The Food Pantry at Mt. Ararat Middle School

New Hours for the 2022-2023 School Year

Wednesdays 3:15pm to 5:15pm

W.I.N.G. is open weekly with fresh produce, dairy, frozen foods, and hygiene items available to any MSAD No. 75 family. If you have special requests or would like your order packed in advance, please call 729-2950 x7202 and leave a message with your name and phone number and a volunteer will give you a call back. If accessing the pantry is a hardship, please let us know. We are happy to work with any family to make alternate arrangements.

W.I.N.G. is looking for new volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering in the food pantry, please reach out to Catie Meier at meierc@link75.org.



28th Annual Brunswick Bike Rodeo & Family Safety Day



Free event!
Saturday, May 20
9 a.m. - NOON

Brunswick Recreation Department
220 Neptune Drive, Brunswick
*(Rain Date: Sunday, May 21
Same Time and Location)*

**Bicycle and helmet
give-aways!**

**Bring your own bike, or
borrow one at the event.**

- Bike Registration with Brunswick PD
- Bicycle Safety Check from local professionals
- Helmet Check/Helmet Give-Aways
- Bicycle Rodeo Safety Course
- Bicycle Give-Aways



Park in designated area and continue to
bike registration shown on map.





RAISING CARING, RESILIENT, SOCIALY-RESPONSIBLE CHILDREN

Applicable for parents and caregivers of children K-12
Sponsored by NAMS Parent Academy

Wednesday, May 17 | 5:30 - 7pm EDT | NTA FORUM

How do we help the children in our lives to grow up with caring concern for others, resilience to overcome challenges, and a solid sense of social-responsibility?

In this workshop, Marjie Longshore, Ed.M. will share strategies to encourage your child with the crucial skills that lead to flexibility, resilience, responsibility, social interest, and concern for others.

About Marjie:

Marjie Longshore is the mother of two teenagers and the founder of Family Leadership Center, a non-profit organization in Yarmouth, Maine. With a Masters in Education from Harvard, she has devoted her career to education as a teacher, curriculum developer, and parent educator. Her courses and workshops at Family Leadership Center support parents, grandparents, caregivers, and teachers who want to raise the bar for the children in their lives with proven tools in an encouraging, supportive community.



FAMILY LEADERSHIP CENTER
encourage. grow. lead.

**Strategies to create
respectful
relationships that
grow empathy and
kindness**

**Proven tools to
regulate strong
emotions**

**Fresh ideas for how
to lead your family
in an encouraging
and truly powerful
way**

NO RSVP

NECESSARY;

**HOWEVER REGISTERING HERE
BEST HELPS US PLAN FOR THE
GROUP AND THEIR NEEDS**