

Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 12

February 3, 2023



"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed. "

-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-



Hello WCS Community!



Pictured above is the WinterKids Winter Games ice carving created by SubZero Ice Carving and sponsored by FOWC. The ice carving was one of the several exhibits at this week's WinterKids Winter Carnival.

The WinterKids Winter Games concluded yesterday, February 2nd at WCS, but not without tons of fun and fanfare! The activities included a Winter Carnival and a Closing Parade and Ceremony. And we are excited to announce that as of this week, WCS is in first place in the WinterKids Winter Games Competition!

Closing Parade & Ceremony

Wearing masks that they created in art class, students began the closing ceremony with an outdoor parade. Older students were paired up with younger students and proudly paraded through the wooded portion of the WCS playground with brightly colored iced cairns marking the route. The WCS Tiger and Yeti also joined in the fun too!





Maine Department of Education Deputy Commissioner of Education, Mr. Dan Chuhta also joined in the closing ceremony festivities, congratulating the WCS school community on a job well done. Deputy Commissioner Chuhta was presented with a special gift as a token of our school's appreciation for his support of the event and WCS.





Closing festivities continued in the WCW gym, following the outdoor closing ceremony activities. Closing ceremony activities included reading the WinterKids Winter Games Oath, remarks from Superintendent Connolly, video highlights of the WinterKids Winter Games and each student received a personal medal!





Winter Carnival

Students and staff had lots of fun enjoying and learning from a variety of exhibitors outside on the playground. Exhibitors and supporters included the Topsham Parks & Recreation, Topsham Fire & Rescue, Sagadahoc County Management Agency, Pejepscot History Center, SubZero Ice Carving, Cathance River Education Alliance, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Hannaford Supermarkets - Topsham, the Topsham Police Department, the MTA Boosters, and the MTA PALS Volunteers.

We also had a very special guest, Samantha York with News Center Maine pictured here with Assistant Superintendent Amanda Hersey!







SubZero Ice Carvings Created an AMAZING ice sculpture for WCS....







In addition to Sparky the Fire Dog and the Topsham Fire Department we had some special guests from the MSAD #75 District Office including Jessica Factor, Human Resources Director, Superintendent Steve Connolly and Assistant Superintendent Amanda Hersey.





Bonus Point

For the second week in a row, WCS has won the WinterKids Winter Games bonus point. This week's bonus point theme was "Family Photo" and the Rogers family photo (see photo below) was the winner! The announcement was made earlier this week on WMTW News Channel 8. Thank-you Rogers family for your submission!



CMP Photo of the Week



This week, WCS was chosen for the WinterKids CMP photo of the week contest! \$500.00 will be awarded to WCS! Students in Mrs. Redd's art classes created original artworks from leaves and submitted photos of them to the WinterKids CMP photo of the week contest. This piece of artwork was completed by a student in Mrs. Greenleaf's first grade class. Congratulations!

Week #4-Final Game Activities-

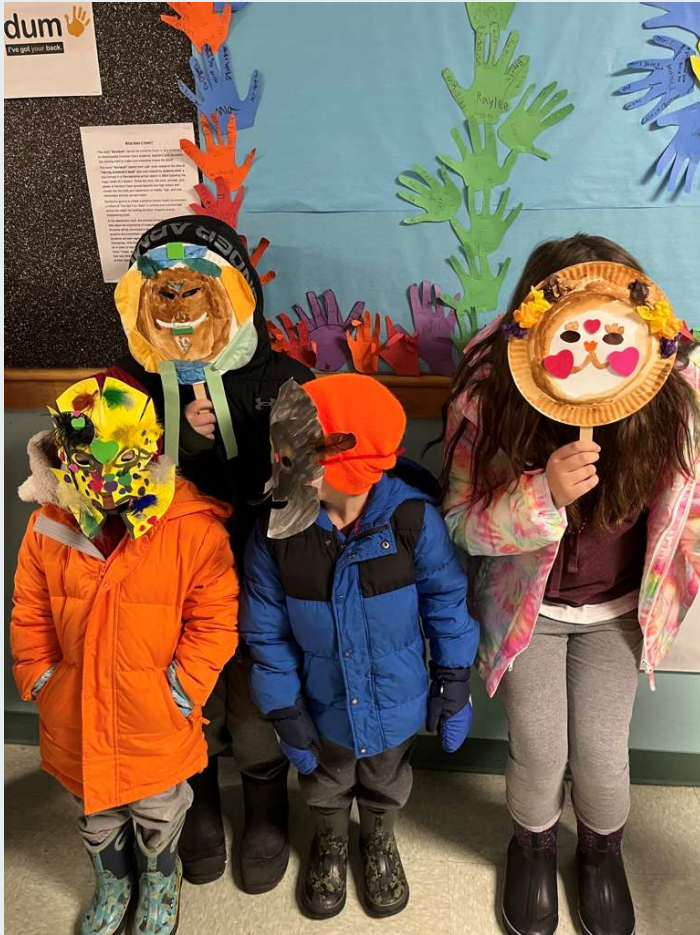
This week began with all classrooms playing the Moving Monday Mini Disc Golf game outside on the playground during Phys. Ed. class.





Throughout the week students completed the daily WinterKids Winter Games activities including creating and finishing "Wild Masks" during art class, engaging in lessons about natural resources, taking "Natural Resources Walks" on our school grounds and neighboring trails as well as learning about cairns and why people might build them.







Snack Pals Badge Activities And More....

This week students have also made paper snowflakes and looked at real snowflakes outside using magnifying glasses as the SnackPals Badge activity of the week.





Students have also completed this week's journal assignments as well as the *CMP* photo of the week activity featuring sidewalk chalk themed art creations with support from Mrs. Redd, WCS art teacher.





It has been a positively **AMAZING** experience for WCS to compete in the WinterKids Winter Games! No matter the outcome, the learning, experiences and opportunities to create and rebuild true connections and a genuine sense of belonging in our school community have been well worth our efforts. On behalf of the school community, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of support that we have received from the beginning to the end of this amazing journey together!!! Stay tuned, because there is more to come.....we will find out by Wednesday, February 8th where we stand in the contest and next steps!



And.....If you would like to keep track of our school's progress in the competition, tune into WMTW Channel 8 with Meteorologist Sarah Long this Tuesday between 4:00-4:30 P.M. and 6:00-6:30 P.M. to see the "Moment of the Week" winner or log onto WMTW.org. Additionally, you can check out the competition's progress on the leaderboard at WinterKids.org on Wednesdays to see how our school is doing.

We also continue to have a special WCS WinterKids Winter Games website that is being updated frequently. It is available at:

<https://sites.google.com/link75.org/wcswinterkidgames/home>

You will find more highlights, photos and details on the website.

If you have any questions and/or needs, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

rineerr@link75.org

(207)725-4391



gratitude

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



*Friends of Williams-Cone-we could not do any of this without all of you!!!

*The WONDERFUL Exhibitors and supporters including the Topsham Parks & Recreation, Topsham Fire & Rescue, Sagadahoc County Management Agency, Pejepscot History Center, SubZero Ice Carving, Cathance River Education Alliance, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Hannaford Supermarkets - Topsham, the Topsham Police Department, the MTA Boosters, and the MTA PALS Volunteers led by Julie St. Pierre

*Superintendent Connolly, Assistant Superintendent Hersey, Human Resources Director Jessica Factor-thank-you for supporting and participating!

*Maine Department of Education Deputy Commissioner of Education Dan Chuhta

*Annie Martin, WCS Phys. Ed. Teacher for continuing to coordinating, creating, designing and facilitating amazing games, activities and opportunities for the the WinterKids Winter Games

*Pam Young and Randy Munsey-behind the scenes support

*The Gray Family-use of their large projector screen.

*WCS Staff-their cooperation, support, organization, planning and time extended to the WinterKids Winter Games along with everything else that they are doing.

*Mrs. Bellina-the WCS WinterKids Winter Games website and lots of technical support!

*Mrs. Anderson & Mrs. San Pedro -press releases and communications

*Mrs. Sanders-keeping all of us organized!

*Samantha York from News Center Maine

*Mrs. Redd-leading art activities for the CMP contest

*Ms. Marsters, Mrs. Greenleaf, Mrs. San Pedro, Ms. Hetherington, Ms. King, Mrs. Ebel, Ms. Hayes & Mrs. Dubreuil-lesson plan support, SnackPals support, communications, etc.

From Friends of Williams-Cone:

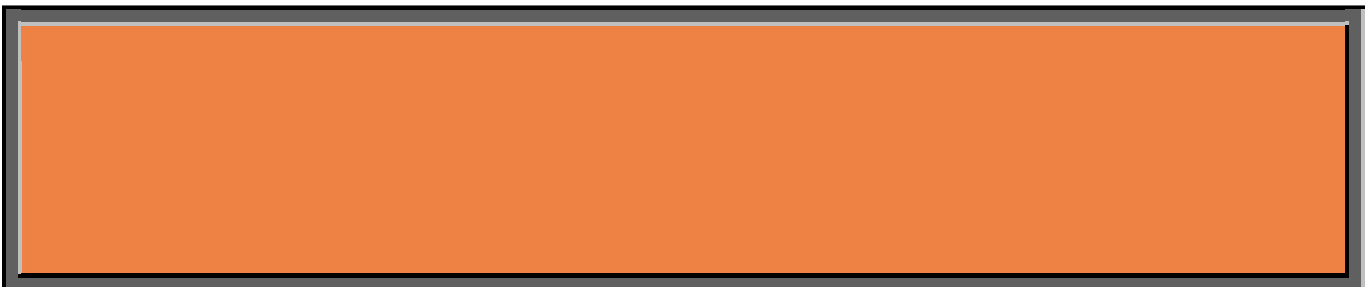
*Thank you to Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Bellina, the Siegel, Cunio, & Robertson families, and student helpers for their assistance in setting the scene for our WinterKids 4 Week Highlight reel. Mrs. Bellina & Mrs. Ebel put together the final video.

*Shout-out to Sam, Gil & Megan for transporting all of our Food Drive donations to W.I.N.G. This week.

*Many Thanks to our Principal Challenge Winter Break 1 - Recess helpers - Erin, Kim, Melissa, Christie, Nichole, April, Andrea, & Marilyn.

*We are so appreciative of the agencies, teachers, staff, and volunteers that pulled together to make our Carnival Booth Event spectacular for our students.

*Bags, bags, bags! Thank you for helping with our paper bag collection for the Carnival Booth Event! We had so many helpers - Marci D, Mrs. Rineer, Sarah C, Megan B, Megan R, Haley K, Katie B, and the many neighbors of the Bay Park Community.



Important Dates



2/6 MIYHS Survey, Grade 5 Only

2/7 Variety Show Rehearsal, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

2/7 Playground Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M., LC

2/10. FOWC Movie Night, 5:00 P.M.-Postponed-Date TBA

2/13 5th Grade Fundraiser, Gelato Fiasco Brunswick, 3:30-8:00 P.M.

2/14 Variety Show Rehearsal, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

2/16 FOWC Meeting, 5:30 P.M.

2/20-2/24 Winter Break 2

3/1 Variety Show Daytime School Performance

3/2 Variety Show Evening Performance, 6:30 P.M.

3/10 FOWC Movie Night, 5:00 P.M.

3/16. Early Dismissal, 10:45 A.M. PreK, 12:10 P.M., K-5

3/17 No School, Compensation Day for Staff

friends 
OF williams-cone

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

Thank-you to all of the WinterKids booth sponsors:

Topsham Parks & Recreation

Topsham Fire & Rescue

Sagadahoc County Management Agency

Pejepscot History Center

SubZero Ice Carving

Cathance River Education Alliance

Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Hannaford Supermarkets - Topsham

Topsham Police Department

Samantha York with News Center Maine

Mt. Ararat High School - MTA PALS Volunteers for supporting our students

MTA Sports Boosters for the popcorn snack

Purple Orchid, Weddings + Events for donating the table rentals

Friends of Williams-Cone Booth Volunteers - Jenn, Anna, Megan B, Melissa, & Christie

All of our volunteers for making the behind-the-scenes magic - Mrs. San Pedro, Mrs. Anderson, Kristina, Megan R, Anna, Sam, Ms. Pam, Mr. Randy, Mrs. Greenleaf, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Rineer, and our Teachers & Staff rearranging their daily schedules to accommodate our special events.

Join us for the Upcoming FOWC Meetings & Events:

*Playground Committee Meeting - 2/7/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

*Fudge Pick-up - 2/9/23 from 3:30-6:30 in the WCS Lobby, or home with your student on 2/10/23

*5th Grade Gelato Fundraiser - 2/13/23 at Gelato Fiasco, Brunswick

*FOWC Meeting - 2/16/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons





Wild Oats

THANK YOU to all who came out to support the 5th grade this past Sunday!

The Wild Oats cupcake fundraiser was a smashing success! Thank you to the 5th grade students who volunteered at Wild Oats, Shana Kelley-Cohen for organizing the event, all who promoted the event, and the WCS students, families, and staff who stopped by Wild Oats to buy cupcakes, to donate, or to just say hello. Thanks to your support, the 5th graders sold out of cupcakes before lunchtime and gathered donations throughout the day for their field trip to Chewonki and end-of-year celebrations. A massive thank you to Wild Oats Bakery & Café for having us and hosting a fun, delicious and generous event!

Gelato Fiasco WCS "Celebrity Scoopers"

Please join the Williams-Cone School 5th Grade on Monday, February 13th at Gelato Fiasco in Brunswick from 3:30-8:00p for a very special community scooping event. To make it extra-special, some of your favorite WCS teachers will be there scooping and serving your gelato! 🍦

3:30 - 5:00 Mrs. Martin/Mrs. San Pedro

5:00 - 6:30 Mr. Anagnostis/Mr. Myrick

6:30 - 8:00 Ms. Carroll/Ms. Bretschneider

Gelato Fiasco will donate 75% of your purchase to support the WCS 5th grade trip and end-of-year celebrations! Make sure to mention you are supporting WCS to the cashier. Items included in the fundraiser: gelato dishes, coffee, tea, waffle cones, Create-a-Pints, freezer pints and Mystery Pints are eligible (limit 4 pints). Gifts, cookies, tax, gift cards, coffee beans, The Fiasco, and online orders are not included in the fundraiser.

Note: Included purchases made from 11:00A - 11:00P are also part of the fundraiser when you mention WCS.

Thanks for your support and hope to see you there!

Playground Committee



We have some fun and creative planning ideas taking shape for the Playground Committee! Join us at our next planning meeting on February 7th at 5:30 pm in the Learning Commons to hear all about it!

**SCHOOL SPIRIT
TASTES SWEET
THANK YOU!!!!**

partnership with:

Sweet Satisfaction
Fudge

Fudge Pick up 2/9/23 at WCS or sent home with students 2/10/23 contact us if you need to make an adjustment
friendsofwilliamscone@gmail.com

The logo for Sweet Satisfaction Fudge features the brand name in a stylized font with a whisk and a small fudge piece. To the right, there is a stack of three brown fudge pieces.

Becky with Sweet Satisfaction Fudge is busy pulling together your orders. Due to some last-minute submissions, we sold 121 boxes of fudge - that's 182 lbs! It also put Peanut Butter back in the lead as the favorite flavor this year.

This a reminder that all orders will be available for pick-up on 2/9/23 in the WCS Lobby from 3:30-6:30 pm or sent home with your student on 2/10/23 depending on the preference you noted on your form. Please reach out to us at friendsofwilliamscone@gmail.com if you need to make any alternative arrangements.



COMMUNITY REMINDER - Box Tops has gone digital so instead of clipping them from products, you use the Box Tops app and scan your receipts to see if you purchased any qualified products and apply that to the school account.

Here is a short video on how to use the app: <https://youtu.be/v-bNcykyK5Y>

You can find the apps in the Apple Store or on Google Play.



We are also still Clykin! You can grab one of our bags in the bin near the WCS Main entrance. Every bottle returned helps our PTO.

It's easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Grab a bag
2. Fill it up with returnables
3. Drop it off at any Clynk location (buildings next to Hannaford stores)

Every penny counts!



Volunteer Background Check Form:

Want to volunteer with our school? Review and sign the MSAD 75 Volunteer Handbook & Form and return it to the Main Office. This form is required for all of our FOWC volunteers. Thank you for investing in our volunteer community!

You can find the latest version here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zy-XTY_equtyU2CXLCb4aw-Ln5jF-hEI/view?usp=sharing

Official Williams-Cone School
YEARBOOK

in partnership with
treering

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

Soft Cover Price: \$20.00 (*with tax*)

Deadline to Order by Cash or Check: Thursday, April 13th

Need an order form?

https://drive.google.com/file/d/13cs4ebf9OniERC_UXkB5UjVFh8EKJRW/View?usp=sharing

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 to give 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.



Sagadahoc County Emergency Management Agency

Did you know if you are a renter, and heat is included in your rent, you may be eligible for heating assistance this season? It can take a few weeks for the application to process, so now is the time to connect with your local Community Action Program (CAP) and find out if you qualify! For a complete list of all CAPs, as well as other heating and energy assistance resources, visit www.maine.gov/mpuc/consumer-assistance/programs.

HEATING TIP FROM YOUR COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

If you are a renter and heat is included in your rent, you may still be eligible for heating assistance. Contact your local Community Action Program (CAP) today.

For a list of CAPs:
www.maine.gov/mpuc/consumer-assistance/programs

NEED HEATING ASSISTANCE?



www.maine.gov/mpuc/consumer-assistance/programs



2-1-1 (OR 207-874-2211)

