

Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 9

January 13, 2023



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



Hello WCS Community!



Week #1 of the WinterKids Winter Games Challenge has been amazing for Williams-Cone School! The Opening Ceremonies began with a school wide parade led by the school mascot, the Williams-Cone School Tiger. Older students paired with younger students and danced to music through the hallway as strobe lights reflected snowflakes on the walls. The parade continued outside and where students and staff were greeted by a large crowd of enthusiastic spectators and participants including family members, the Topsham Fire Department as well as non-teaching staff from the district's administration, social work and special education departments. The Opening Ceremony included a school wide dance, the singing of "Hats, Snow Pants, Boots and Gloves" performed by first grade, a fifth grade performance of our the "WCS Song", a recitation of the "WinterKids Winter Games Oath", and a special reading of "Eddy the Yeti" featuring our school district's Superintendent Steve Connolly.

Here are some picture highlights from the opening ceremony:





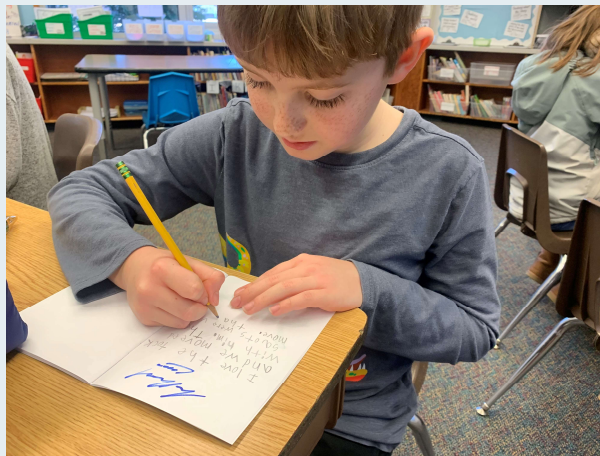
Week #1

Throughout the week students, staff (teaching and non-teaching) and community members enthusiastically completed all five Week 1 activities including the Snack Pals Badge Activity of the Week, CMP photo of the week, and journaling. Students also engaged in a variety of other outdoor games in a rotating stations format when completing the "Build a

Snowman" activity. Games included a "Snowball Surfer", "Snowman Target", "Catching Snowflakes", "Yeti Down", and "Smack Snowman".



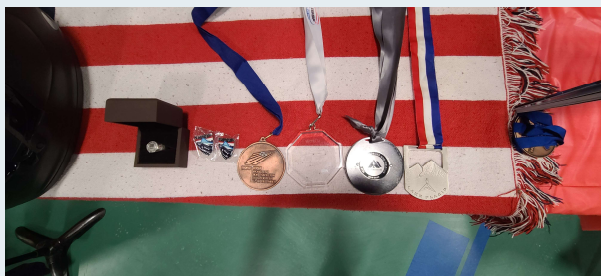




Guest Speaker

A highlight of the week was the guest-speaker, 2022 USA Olympic bobsled team member, Jim Reed, who provided the students with an interactive presentation about his experience preparing for and participating in the Winter Olympics. The presentation included not only the highlights of his experience but also the perseverance that was required in spite of several obstacles and a few setbacks. Reed also led the students in stretches and interacted with students in their classrooms following his school wide presentation.





The week has concluded with a district wide winter gear/clothing drive sponsored and coordinated by our parent/community group, Friends of Williams-Cone. Donations have been made by the district's five elementary schools, middle school and high school. The clothes and gear are being sorted and categorized by Friends of Williams-Cone and distributed back to the schools based upon each school's needs.



Overall, it has been a fabulous first week competing in the WinterKids Winter Games. We are gearing up and looking forward to Week #2-Nutrition!

Week #2-Nutrition

The theme for Week #2 is **Nutrition**. These are the school wide events that will be taking place January 17th through January 20th:

Tuesday, January 17th: Outdoor Cup Relay

Wednesday, January 18th: Wild Card Wednesday- outdoor activities chosen by classrooms, Classroom Snack Pals Activities

Thursday, January 19th: Smoothies will be offered to students during lunch.

Friday, January 20th: "Friendship Friday", Food Drive led by FOWC

FOWC is sponsoring a Food Drive beginning January 17th and plans are underway for a WinterKids Family Night on Wednesday, January 25th. More details to come soon! If you would like to keep track of our school's progress in the competition, tune into WMTW Channel 8 with Meteorologist Sarah Long on Tuesdays 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.

While the majority of the activities will be completed at school, there are weekly opportunities for families to complete a variety of activities at home. This includes the "Snack Pals" activity presented by Hannaford and the CMP photo contest (see picture below). Students and families are **not** required to complete these activities at home but it is strongly encouraged to do so.

WEEK 1

WEEK 2

Hannaford **snack pals**
Fun fuel for kids.
hannafordsnackpals.com

WEEK 2: GOING FURTHER: SMOOTHIE

To start now, scan here:

WILD BLUEBERRY SNACK ATTACK!

WINTERKIDS SMOOTHIE CUP

Complete the weekly activity to work towards earning your Snack Pals Winter Games Badge and unlock secret coloring pages! Try some of the Snack Pals smoothie recipes in your Winter Games Smoothie Cup.

ENTER THE CMP PHOTO CONTEST!

Share a photo of your Winter Games **WILD** outdoor art project with Central Maine Power and you will be entered to win \$500 for your school!

1. Create an outdoor art project using the week's "Secret **WILD** Ingredient!"
2. To enter, scan the QR code and attach your photo to the email. Be sure to include your name, your school's name, and your town. Photos must be submitted by midnight Friday each week to be eligible for that week's drawing.
3. Head over to Central Maine Power's Facebook page to view an album of all the photos.
4. One winner will be **RANDOMLY** selected each week.
5. CMP will announce the winner on their Facebook page and will notify the winner by email.

SCAN ME!

This week's secret **WILD** ingredient is **ICE!**

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The next WCS Principal's Newsletter will be emailed on Friday, January 20th and will include highlights from Week #2 as well as additional details for Week #3 of the WinterKids Winter Games competition. We also 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. Many thanks to Mrs. Bellina, Learning Commons Paraprofessional for creating 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:



*Holiday treats from the Cass family and the Valade family.

*Breakfast pastries for a staff gathering donated by "The Bake Shoppe" in Freeport.

*The Jauch Family-playground cleanup!!

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

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

*Kate Greeley-video and technical support

*Candace Wright-fabulous photos!

*Superintendent Connolly for reading "Eddi the Yeti" to the school.

*Mrs. Appel-musical selections and choreography

*Jimmy Reed-our fabulous Olympic guest speaker!

*Mrs. Anderson-press releases

*Mrs. San Pedro & Mrs. Greenleaf-for securing Jimmy Reed as our guest speaker!

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

*Ms. Marsters, Ms. Hetherington, & Mrs. Dubreuil-lesson plan support, SnackPals support, communications, etc.

*Amazing support from the FOWC community for the WinterKids Winter Games events.

*SnackPals Parent Coordinator - Heather Rogers

*Opening Ceremony Check-in Helpers - Anna & Matt Siegel, Heather & Gil Rogers, Megan Robertson

*Clothing Drive - Heather Rogers, Kristina Slocum, Anna Siegel, Megan Robertson, Meredith Pinkham, Jenn Cass

*Food Drive Prep - Heather Rogers, Kristina Slocum, Megan Robertson

From Friends of Williams-Cone:

*Sincere thanks to the Jauch Family for their continued dedication to keeping our playground in tip-top shape by cleaning up debris knocked down during the storm right as Winter Break I began.

*Many thanks to the Facilities Department for the healthy trim to our rose bushes for the season.

*Our community is wonderful! Thank you so much for your active participation in our Clothing Drive this week.

*Loud applause for all of our teachers, staff, and volunteers helping out with our WinterKids activities now and over the next 3 weeks. We could not do this without your investment and support.



Important Dates

A decorative banner with the text "Important Dates" in a black, cursive font. Below the text are five colorful pennants: red, teal, green, orange, and teal, each with white polka dots.

1/9-2/3 WinterKids Winter Games Competition

1/9-1/20 K-2 NWEA Assessment Window

1/9-2/3 3-5 NWEA Assessment Window

1/10-1/25 Valentine's Fudge Sale

1/16 Martin Luther King Holiday, No School

1/17-1/20 Food Drive

1/17 Variety Show Help Session, 3:30-4:30 P.M.

1/17 Playground Committee Planning Session, 5:30 P.M., LC

1/18 All-District 5th Grade Band Concert, 7:00 P.M., Orion

1/17-1/20 WinterKids Winter Games Week #2: Nutrition

1/23-1/27 WinterKids Winter Games Week #3: Family Engagement

1/23 Variety Show Auditions, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

1/24 Variety Show Auditions, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

1/25 WinterKids Family Night, 3:30-5:30 P.M., Foreside Field, More Info. TBA

1/29 Wild Oats 5th Grade Fundraiser, Brunswick, 8:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

1/30 5th Grade Fundraiser Meeting, 5:30 P.M.

1/30-2/2 WinterKids Winter Games Week #4: Winter Carnival

1/31 Variety Show Rehearsal, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

2/3 In-Service Day, No School for Students

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.

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

We have really hit the ground running after Winter Break. There are so many great things happening - Clothing Drives, Fudge Sales, Food Drives, WinterKids Family Night, Movie Nights, and maybe even a highly requested School Wear Sale! We continue to be grateful for this wonderful community and all of our families that are able to make the time to help us and attend or participate in our various events. Our Tiger Pride is shining bright!

Join us for the Upcoming FOWC Meetings & Events:

Valentine's Day Fudge Sale (with Sweet Satisfaction Fudge) - 1/10/23-1/25/23

Playground Committee Planning Session - 1/17/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

5th Grade Wild Oats Fundraiser - 1/29/23 from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at Wild Oats Bakery

5th Grade Fundraising Parent Group Meeting - 1/30/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

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 hope with your student on 2/10/23

Movie Night-2/10/23, 5:00 P.M.

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

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

Friends of Williams-Cone Fudge Fundraiser

In partnership with:



Our flavor line up:

Orders are due by 1/25/23
Pick up on 2/9/23

\$27 per 1 1/2lb Box
(6pcs - you pick the flavors)



Valentine's Day Fudge Sale:

Did somebody say FUDGE?!?!?

Sweet Satisfaction Fudge has partnered with us again - just in time for Valentine's Day. (But really, any time is fudge time!). Order Forms will be coming home with students this week!

Help us raise funds for FOWC the tasty way and support this locally owned & operated small business. The deadline to order is Wednesday, January 25th, Cash or check is accepted. Please make checks payable to 'Friends of Williams-Cone'

Fudge will be ready for pick up on 2/9/23 from 3:30-6:30 pm at Williams-Cone School or sent home with your student on 2/10/23. (Please see our order form for more details: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VBCBbQMOO9yAhELEp7uIAHapRugLjkiK/view?usp=sharing>)



Playground Committee:

Our Committee is busy planning our next project! We are hoping to solidify some plans for a Pre-K Outdoor Classroom space and Slides, Slides, and more Slides project! Join us at our next planning meeting on January 17th at 5:30 pm in the Learning Commons. Our next formal meeting will be held in February.



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

5th GRADE

Wild Oats Fundraiser



The 5th Grade has partnered with Wild Oats in Brunswick to help raise money for their end of year celebrations. Indulge your sweet tooth and join us on Sunday, January 29 from 8:00a to 3:00p to pick up a WCS themed cupcake. ALL proceeds of cupcake sales will be donated to the WCS 5th grade!

5th grade families: we are seeking student/adult volunteers to help out at Wild Oats. Stay tuned for a sign-up link on the 2030 Class Facebook page and in your email. For any questions, please contact Shana Kelley-Cohen at 207-756-2889.

5th Grade Fundraising/Planning Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 30 from 5:30-7:00p in the Learning Commons at WCS. Please contact Mary Kate Appicelli at 207-751-0133 or applecelery@hotmail.com for more information. Hope to see you there!

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_UXkB5UiVFh8EKJRW/wh/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)

