

Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 9

February 18, 2022



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

-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-



Hello WCS Community!

It's hard to believe that Winter Break 2 is already upon us. We've had so many great learning opportunities and activities taking place at WCS over the past several weeks. This week we celebrated the 100th day of school! Pictured above and below are some 100 day projects completed by kindergarten students





School Wide Positive Behavior Challenge Celebration



Throughout the months of January and February our School Wide Positive Behavior Challenge focused on being responsible learners. Students earned extra PAWS slips for demonstrating responsible behavior in all school settings. Each classroom was given the challenge to fill a large jar with the extra PAWS slips. For every jar that was filled, a desk will be purchased for a student in the country of Malawi through the K.I.N.D. (Kids in Need of Desks) Fund sponsored by Unicef USA.

To celebrate our school's success with the PBIS challenge, a special zoom assembly was held for students featuring Phredd, a "Ukulele One Man Band" from Lancaster, Pennsylvania (pictured above). Phredd presented a "Ukulele Flailing, Harmonica Wailing, Suitcase Drumming, Kazoo Hum-Humming Ukulele Bundle of Joy" assembly for our students celebrating our PBIS focus on responsibility and earning desks for the K.I.N.D. fund.

In case you would like to listen to a bit of Phredd's fun music including some videos, here is a link to his website: <https://phreddcentral.com/>

Winter Break 2 Principal's Reading Challenge

A Winter Break 2 Principal's Reading Challenge have been sent home with students to complete during the break. The purpose of the reading challenges are to build a love for reading as well as maintain reading growth and progress. All K-5 WCS students are encouraged to participate and will receive a reading log to complete over the break and return to their homeroom teachers following the break.



Battle of the Books



We are excited to announce that Ms. Bretschneider's fifth grade class won first and second place in the district's "Battle of the Books" contest! Students read books from the MSBA book list and answered trivia questions related to the books. We are so proud of our fifth grade readers!

5th Grade Wild Oats Fundraiser

The 5th Grade has partnered with Wild Oats in Brunswick to help raise money for end of year celebrations. Indulge your sweet tooth and join us on February 27th from 8am-3pm at Wild Oats to pick up a WCS themed cupcake. Proceeds of cupcake sales will be donated to WCS.



Outdoor Winter Adventures



During the week of January 31st, third, fourth and fifth grade students enjoyed some extended outdoor time snowshoeing, hiking and/or snow tubing under the direction of Annie Martin, WCS Physical Education Teacher with support from other WCS staff. Students had a grand experience utilizing the trails located in the woods behind WCS that are owned by The Highlands. (Photos courtesy of Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Brooks).



Playground Project Update

We have a very motivated and talented playground committee comprised of parents and WCS staff that are working hard to create and implement short and long term goals for our playground. A short term playground equipment project will be proposed to the district's facilities committee during the month of March. The next playground committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15th at 5:00 P.M.



<https://zoom.us/j/98663810691?pwd=Zm1WZ2lLUFNPRXpRQWZ6RCt4Q2UrQT09>

Meeting ID: 986 6381 0691

Passcode: 633915

Student & Teacher Playground Survey

To assist with long term goals and planning for the playground, the playground committee has created surveys for both the students and teachers to complete. The student survey will be completed in classrooms during the week of March 7th through March 10th. This survey will be in the form of a "Mad Lib" activity, where students will fill in the blanks with their feedback on what they like and don't like about the playground as well as some future wishes for the playground. As per our district policy, if a parent would like to preview the student playground survey and/or they do not wish for their child to participate in the survey, please notify me, Randa Rineer, at rineerr@link75.org no later than Friday, March 4th.

Second Grade Celebrates 2-2-22



Second grade students participated in special activities celebrating that they were in 2nd grade on 2-2-22. Activities included creating time capsules that will be opened on 3-3-33 as well as wearing T-Shirts with the caption "I was in 2nd grade on 2-2-22" designed by the second grade teachers.

Valentines Day





Pictured above are first grade students engaging in Valentine's themed games.

It was great to be able to hold Valentine's exchanges this year in the WCS classroom. Last year, students were unable to exchange Valentine's cards due to Covid-safety protocols. Students had lots of fun playing Valentine's themed games, creating friendship cards and letters as well eating special treats.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and relaxing Winter Break 2. When we return from break, the month of March will be just around the corner. March brings Trimester 2 report cards and parent/teacher conferences. Similar to the November conferences, the March conferences will be held primarily via zoom. Please review the "Important Dates" portion of this newsletter carefully as there are some in-service dates to note. As always, if you have any needs, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school team here at WCS.

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

rineerr@link75.org

(207)725-4391



gratitude



Lots of great things have been happening throughout the WCS community over the past several weeks. We are grateful for:

*The overwhelming support for the Mid-Coast Hunger Prevention Program food drive (see picture above). Thank-you to all who have donated food items and thank-you FOWC for organizing the food drive.

*The fabulous support for the FOWC Sweet Sensations fudge fundraiser. FOWC raised over \$1000! Thank-you FOWC and to our generous community!

*The Sherman's Bookstore Night fundraiser for 5th grade end of year activities raised over \$600.00! Thank-you 5th grade parents for coordinating this fundraiser and thank-you WCS community!

*Our 4th grade students did an outstanding job participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress on February 3rd. They were very focused, responsible and respectful.

*Over 150 students completed the Winter Break 1 Principal's Reading Challenge. Each participating student will be receiving a new book from Scholastic, organized by our Learning Commons Staff, Ms. Tinsley and Mrs. Middleton with support from Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Sanders in the office.

*The many treats that families sent in to celebrate Valentines Day.

*Having staff who are willing to provide extended winter outdoor activities for students.



*

Winter Symphony

Some say winter is quiet.

A funny notion indeed.

Listen carefully

and try to imagine;

a concert is waiting to be heard.

Starting with the winter birds

brave enough to visit

the neighborhood feeders

with trills and tweets.

Of course the chipmunks and squirrels

chime in with chitters and barks.

The wind must blow and rumble

a few cords

and send a "brr" of shivers

to any inadequately dressed.

Those who don the proper attire

will make their own contribution

to the music

with a snowpants swish

and a boot clip-clop.

The crusty snow makes an appearance

with its crackle and crunch.

The brook, who hasn't yet frozen

will provide a gentle hum and trickle.

Do not discount the subtle percussion

of stubborn ash and oak leaves

who refuse release

from their branches.

They now lend a soft, constant patter.

Of course the trees
with their gossiping trunks
offer a creek and whistle
to the chain.

And finally,
The squeals of laughter
amidst nature's amphitheater
gives a crescendo
to the end of a perfect score.

Rebecca Brooks

2/27/2021

Williams-Cone School Food Drive for MCHPP

GOAL: Let's fill ~~5~~⁷ boxes for MCHPP

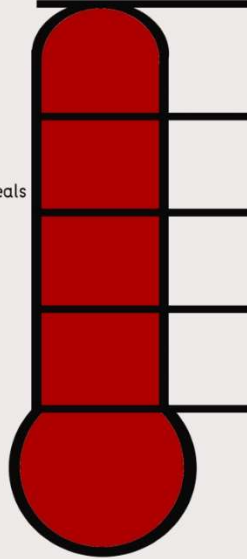
WAY TO GO WCS!!!

Please help us reach our goal by donating unexpired, unopened non-perishable goods!

- Some of MCHPP's Wish List Items:
- Peanut Butter
 - Canned Fruit
 - Canned Soup, Stew, or Pasta Meals
 - Boxed Cereal
 - Canned Vegetables
 - Canned Chicken or Tuna

Drop Off Location:
Williams-Cone School

Collection Dates:
February 1 - 28, 2022



Due to February Vacation our last day for collection is Monday, February 28!

Thank you for your support in making this a successful community event!

Pre-Screening Tool for School Attendance

Within the past 24 hours have you had a fever* or taken fever reducing medicine?

YES =



Do you feel sick, had Vomiting/diarrhea, fever*, sore throat, new cough, or felt unwell?

YES =



Have you been told to stay home and isolate/quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure?

YES =



Most Common Symptoms of COVID-19:

Cough
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Fever *
Chills
Sore throat
New loss of taste or smell

Less Common Symptoms:

Muscle pain
Nausea or Vomiting
Stomach pain
Diarrhea
Fatigue
Headache
Rash
Swelling or redness of hands/feet
Red eyes/eye drainage
Congestion/runny nose

**Fever is 100.4°F/ 38°C regardless of measurement location (oral, temporal).*

Stay home with any **YES** response to the questions above.

Symptoms of illness can have many causes. Please keep your student home and contact your school nurse or primary care provider if your student is unwell. Students who present with symptoms while in school will be dismissed to home at the discretion of the nurse.

**A fever is 100.4F/38C or greater.*



Updated 10.19.2021



February/March/April

2/27 5th Grade Cupcake Sale, Wild Oats Bakery in Brunswick, 8am-3pm

3/2 FOWC Meeting, 5:00 P.M. Via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/99606041751?pwd=emtZNFpLaDRvUzJ3TUFTdERXUIVpdz09>

Meeting ID: 996 0604 1751

Passcode: 160794

3/10 Half Day for Students

PreK Dismissal: 10:45 A.M., K-5 Bus Dismissal: 11:55 A.M., Walkers/Car Riders 12:05-12:25 P.M.

3/11 No School for Students and Staff, Teacher Compensation Day

3/14-3/18 Parent/Teacher Conferences

3/15 Playground Committee Meeting, 5:00 P.M. via zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/98663810691?pwd=Zm1WZ2ILUFNPRXpRQWZ6RCt4Q2UrQT09>

Meeting ID: 986 6381 0691

Passcode: 633915

3/25 Trimester 2 Report Cards Distributed

4/15 No School for Students, In-Service Day

4/18-4/22 Spring Break

If you have a child who will turn 5 no later than October 15, 2022, he/she is eligible to attend kindergarten beginning the 2022-2023 school year. Kindergarten registration will take place March 1st through March 25th.



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, 2022. 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. Parents must complete an application to start the PreK process.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2022-2023 school year. Additional information is available through the following link:

http://link75.org/parents/student_registration/prek_registration

please join us at our community food pantry



We Include, Nurture & Give

W.I.N.G.

the food pantry at Mt. Ararat Middle School

Drive-up service available
Mt Ararat Middle School front entrance
Monday 10a-1p
Friday 5:30p-7:30p

Fresh produce, Dairy, Frozen foods, &
Hygiene products are all available to anyone.

FMI contact
207.729.2950 ext. 7202

in cooperation with
MCHPP
Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program