

# Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 2

September 23, 2022



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

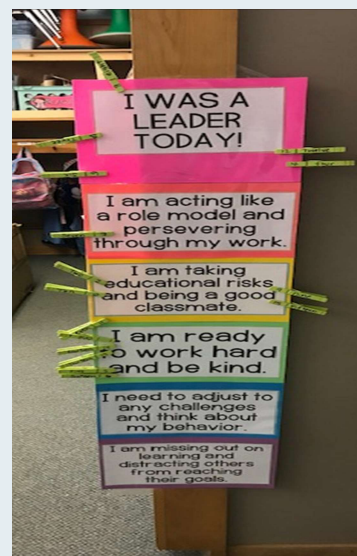
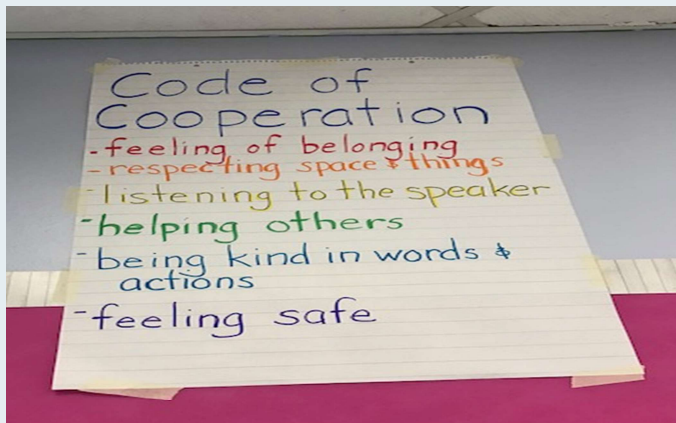
*-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-*



(Pictured above is the WCS Tiger created by Charlotte H.)

## Hello WCS Community!

Today marks the completion of the first four weeks of school. Our students are steadily adjusting to classroom and school wide routines as well as building connections with one another and staff. From creating classroom vision statements, introducing new literary works, problem solving to implementing positive reinforcement systems, learning and growth abounds! Here is a sample of some of the great things happening at WCS that are helping to build a solid foundation of connections and belonging for our students:



**ABILITY**

fixed mindset	GROWTH MINDSET
This is too hard!	I can always improve. I'll keep trying!
I give up!	This may take some time and effort!
I'm just not good at this!	I'm on the right track!
I can't make this any better!	I'll use some strategies I've learned!
I'll never be as smart!	I need to figure out what I did wrong and ask for help!
I'm never going to get this!	What am I missing?

Change your words, change your **MINDset!**

**BE A PEACEFUL PROBLEM SOLVER!**

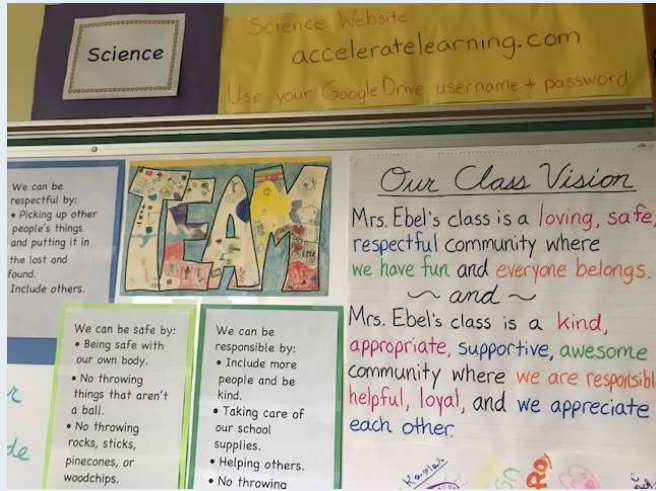
**Ignore**

**Take a Break**

**Take Turns**

**Talk it Out**

"If you can't Fly Than Runs  
 If you can't Run Than Walks  
 If you can't Walk Than Crawl,  
 But whatever you do...  
 Keep moving Forward...-mlk  
 (Without Whining!)"

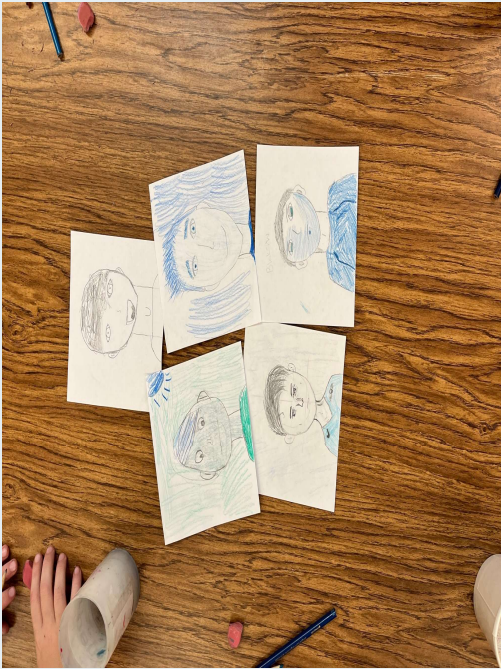


## Student Art



During the first weeks of art class, students created monochromatic self-portraits. Students discussed how to create a safe, fun, and respectful school community and how we are each an important part of that community. Students then made their portraits using different shades of one color and we put them together to create a rainbow of our school community. We hope you enjoy our mural!





## University of Maine/4H/Cooperative Extension Partnership



Representatives from the University of Maine/4H/Cooperative Extension recently presented some exciting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) related professional development to WCS staff. WCS is working with these community partners to re-establish the partnership that our school enjoyed and benefitted greatly from pre-pandemic. The partnership includes classroom based STEM opportunities as well as Kid's Academies (before/after school student learning opportunities).

Pictured below are students in Ms. Carroll's 5th grade classroom engaging in STEM activities.



## A Couple of Important Items:

\*Morning arrival for students is between 8:40-8:50 A.M. each day with the exception of Wednesdays (9:40-9:40 A.M.). Students who arrive after 8:55 A.M. (9:55 A.M. on Wednesdays) will be marked tardy.

\*Student Dismissal: Students are dismissed to their buses at 3:10 followed by car riders and walkers at 3:15 P.M. **Car riders and walkers must be picked up no later than 3:25 P.M.**

## Final Thoughts....

Please review the important dates and FOWC information as there are lots of things happening at WCS throughout the next several weeks. Parent/caregiver communication and support is highly valued and always welcome. If you have any questions and/or needs please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to help!

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

[rineerr@link75.org](mailto:rineerr@link75.org)

(207)725-4391





gratitude



**We have MANY things to be thankful for:**

- \*Books donated by the Cass and Kulas families to the Little Free Library.
- \*Excellent attendance and support at the FOWC and playground committee meetings.
- \*Great enthusiasm and student behavior at the "Back to School" Assembly.
- \*Students are adapting positively to the many routines and procedures including arrival/dismissal, lunch/cafeteria and recess SOP's.
- \*5th grade attended a band demonstration at Mount Ararat Middle School.

\*Our community partner: 4H/Cooperative Extension provided our staff with STEM related professional development.

\*Curriculum Nights provided by grade level teams.



9/26-9/28 NWEA, Grades 1 & 2

9/26 School Picture Day

9/27 Raffle Basket & Halloween Dance Planning Committee, 5:45 P.M., Learning Commons

10/3-10/28 FALL NWEA Assessment Window, Grades 3-5

10/3-10/6 Scholastic Book Fair

10/4 Scholastic Book Fair, Evening Hours, 4-6 P.M.

10/7 District In-Service Day, No School for Students

10/10 No School, Holiday

10/11. FOWC Meeting, 5:30 P.M., Learning Commons

10/12 Walk to School Day

10/18 Playground Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M., Learning Commons

10/28 FOWC Halloween Dance, 6-8 P.M.

10/31 Trunk or Treat, Topsham Fairgrounds, 4:30-7:30 P.M.

11/7 School Picture Retakes

11/10 FOWC Basket Auction & Potluck Dinner, 5-6:30 P.M.

11/11 Veterans Day, No School

11/14-11/22 Parent/Teacher Conferences

**11/22 Early Dismissal**

**10:45 A.M. PreK**

**12:10-12:25 P.M. K-5**

11/23-11/27 Thanksgiving Break

# friends OF williams-cone

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

We had a wonderful turnout for the first FOWC meeting of the year. Thank you to everyone that was able to come and add to our agenda and provide community feedback on several items. We are looking forward to spending time with our WCS Community by attending the upcoming school-wide community events that our volunteers are hard at work planning. Be on the lookout for our various flyers and Social Media posts.

Missed the Meeting but want to catch up on what's happening - Check out our Meeting Minutes here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gXpvnIkdRg82Nc2q4N7yGLFvXwMbcuMo/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106930027698857256135&rtopof=true&sd=true>

Looking to get more involved with our School PTA - Join our Contact List by filling out this form: <https://forms.gle/9Jr7C9rx8aRKBtpk8>



Help us raise money for supplies, playground equipment & maintenance, Kids Academy programs, and educational events for the students by participating in the Box Tops Program. 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>



Another way you can support FOWC is by picking up a Clynk bag located in the bin next to the front door of our school.

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!



## Raffle Baskets

It's time to prepare for the **Williams-Cone Basket Raffle Fundraiser!** Keep your eye out for flyers coming home with your students. Each grade in our school has a theme and the items collected will be dispersed between two grade-level baskets. You can support your child's grade

by providing donations to fill the baskets. If you would prefer to send in a monetary donation we will shop for you! Checks can be made payable to **Friends of Williams-Cone**.

Ticket Sales will start the night of the Halloween Dance. This year the baskets will be raffled off at our Community Potluck that will be held in November. All proceeds from the raffle help support educational activities and teachers.



Friday, October 28th from 6-8 PM - Mark your calendars for a spooktacular night of dancing at the Williams-Cone School! We are excited to bring back this great family event and DJ Dave with 8th Street Entertainment will be spinning up the best tunes to keep everyone moving. A flyer with the details and pre-buy ticket option will be coming home with students soon.

### **Join us for the FOWC Upcoming Meetings:**

9/27/2022 at 5:45 pm (Learning Commons) - Raffle Basket & Halloween Dance Planning Committee

10/11/2022 at 5:30 PM (Learning Commons) - FOWC Monthly Meeting

10/18/2022 at 5:30 P.M. (Learning Commons) - Playground Committee Meeting



**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](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zy-XTY_equtyU2CXLCb4aw-Ln5jF-hEI/view?usp=sharing)



**Little Free Library**

Due to the generosity of the Cass & Kulas Families, you will find our Little Free Library stocked up with some new content. Stop by and grab a book (or two), and leave a book if you can.



WCS will be sponsoring a trunk at the upcoming Trunk or Treat on Monday, October 31st from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the Topsham Fairgrounds. Volunteers are needed to help decorate a trunk for WCS as well as distribute candy at the event. Please contact the school office at 725-4391 or email Mrs. Rineer at [rineerr@link75.org](mailto:rineerr@link75.org) if you would like to volunteer for some or part of this event.

Candy donations are needed and are currently accepted through the WCS School Office (please ensure that each piece of candy is individually wrapped and purchased at a store). We will need candy for 400 trick-or-treaters! This event is sponsored by Topsham Parks and Recreation.



### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraising**

If you are interested in planning fundraisers to support the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class end-of-year celebrations, please contact Mary Kate Appicelli at 207-751-0133 or [applecelery@hotmail.com](mailto:applecelery@hotmail.com)



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

### **New Hours for the 2022-2023 School Year**

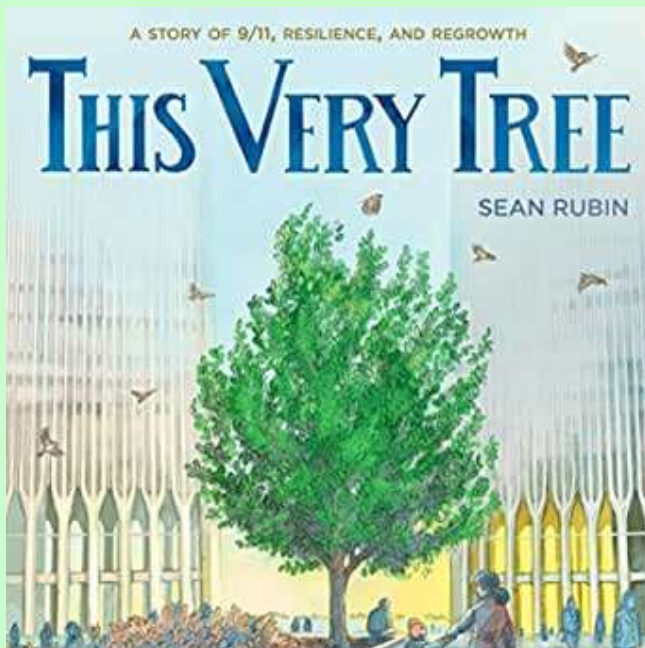
**Wednesdays 3:15pm to 5:15pm**

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](mailto:meierc@link75.org).**

## **Staff Recommends.....**

**Beginning this issue of the WCS Principal's Newsletter, we will feature a children's book reviewed and recommended by a WCS staff member.**



"This Very Tree", a Chickadee Award winner, written and illustrated by Sean Rubin tells the story of a pear tree that lived between the World Trade Center's Twin Towers following 9/11. The book includes a note from the author/illustrator, along with a history of the events of 9/11 and information on the actual tree that survived.

I vividly remember the events of 9/11 as it was a day like no other in our country's history. When the 9/11 events took place, they were very real to me as I lived and worked in a community that was located in proximity to the tragic events. I visited the Twin Tower area a few months after 9/11 and saw the destruction and desolation firsthand. It is a memory that will never leave me. "This Very Tree" is a beautifully and sensitively depicted story of resilience, hope and growth during the tremendously difficult time in history. There was and still is much to learn from this time in history about resilience and restoration.

*-Mrs. Rineer, WCS Principal*