

WAITE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WILDCAT NEWS



ISSUE 7

MARCH 8, 2017

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MRS. ROCHELLE MCGINNESS, PRINCIPAL

Principal's Corner

Greetings Waite Park Families,



Spring is coming!

I can't believe spring is almost here! The school year is already half over! As the year progresses, we continue to see great learning in our classrooms. We want to thank all of our families for their continued commitment to our children's success. In April our third, fourth and fifth graders will take the MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment) to measure their proficiency and growth in math and reading grade level standards. Fifth graders will also take the Science MCA. More information will be shared regarding the assessment schedules in the April Wildcat. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me

MPS PreK-5 Literacy curriculum fair

Minneapolis Public Schools continuously works to improve curriculum and the success of our students. As we seek a new core PreK-5 literacy adoption, we need your voice to help guide the process and advocate for student and community needs. Join us on Tuesday, March 21 or Wednesday, March 22 from 8 am-7 pm at the Davis Center (1250 W Broadway Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55411). Come share your thoughts on how MPS communities can help schools make the most of the literacy curriculum. Your input is important to us.

Any questions, contact Tina Platt at tina.platt@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612-668-0378.

NE Band Festival

Please join us for the 3rd annual NE Band Festival at Edison High School on March 23rd at 6:30 pm. It will be featuring various NE school bands from Waite Park, Pillsbury, Marcy and much, much more! Admission is free for everyone. Hope to see you there!



Spirit Week

Spirit Week is the week of March 27th.

3/27/17 Monday: Crazy Hair day

3/28/17 Tuesday: No bullying day (wear pink or school colors)

3/29/17 Wednesday: Twins day (Find somebody that will wear the same clothes as you or wear Minnesota

Twins clothing.

3/30/17 Thursday: Pajama day (All clothing must be appropriate and be within school rules, pajamas need to be full length pajamas, no wearing of slippers)

To participate in Spirit week, students must bring one canned or non-perishable food item for local food shelves the first day of their participation. Let's hear it for school spirit! Thank you.

School Patrol Safety

When approaching a crosswalk, please wait for the school patrol on duty to lower the orange flag to stop traffic before entering the intersection. This helps teach our patrols proper safety procedures and helps keep walkers safe.



Sincerely,

Rochelle McGinness
Principal

English Language Learners

This week 3rd, 4th, 5th graders are starting a unit on making inferences. Inferring, figuring out something that isn't completely in the text, is one of the most important skills readers use to understand what they're reading. Building on our trip to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, we're using our Visual Thinking Skills to infer why and how people feel in a picture. Then we're creating short stories about them. From there we'll work our way up to longer and longer passages of a story.

In 2nd grade co-taught science we're learning about how counterweight can help something balance. Together we've been conducting experiments and learning vocabulary around this topic. This week we will work on getting a pencil to balance on its point with the use of counterweight.

While 1st graders are learning more specific verbs to describe what they're doing (sprint vs run vs jog), Kindergarteners are learning decoding strategies. In Kindergarten we're using the first letter of a word in conjunction with clues from the picture to figure out what that word might be.

This week also wrapped up ACCESS testing. Each year every ELL student takes the ACCESS to assess their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. We're looking forward to seeing the results in May.

No School Reminder

There will be no school on March 31st for Teacher Record keeping day. Spring break will be April 3-April 7. Have a great break and see you back at school on April 10th.



Mark Your Calendars!

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 12. Spring forward 1 hour.

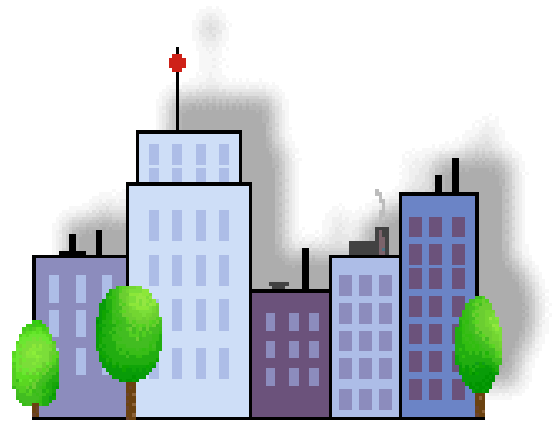


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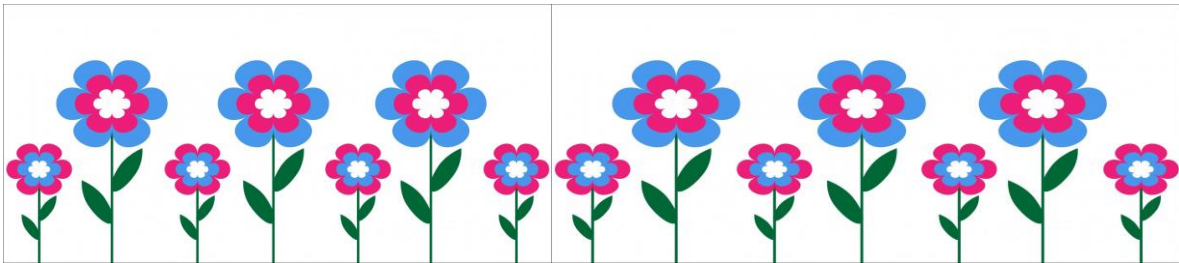
Spring Social - Saturday, April 22, 2017

The Spring Social is coming soon! This fantastic adults-only event is hosted each spring by the PTA, and accounts for our biggest fundraiser of the school year. Invite your friends, family, neighbors... anyone who wants to help support Waite Park students!

- Where /When: The Social will take place downtown in the North Loop neighborhood at 514 Studios, 514 N 3rd Street, #101 from 6 to 11 p.m.
- Tickets: Tickets can be purchased in advance of the event online (see waiteparkpta.blogspot.com) or in person at the school office. Tickets can also be purchased at the door the night of the event.



- What's Planned?: The Social is a great opportunity for the school community to come together to enjoy an evening of delicious food and drink (much of it catered by our favorite NE establishments) as well as live and silent auctions and other entertainment.
- Child Care: Remember this is an adults only event. Leave the kids at home and enjoy your night out! Child care is available through the Waite Park site during the social if you're struggling to find child care or if your kiddos want to have their own party to look forward to. For more information, please call the Park at (612) 370-4959.



Silent Auction Baskets

Each year, the PTA asks that each classroom compile a themed basket to contribute to the Silent Auction. If you haven't seen the flyer come home in your child's backpack, or if it's gone missing, the theme list is below. Please send any items you're able to contribute to school with your child between March 1st and April 14th (earlier is better)!

- Room 112 (Neville): Chocolate and Coffee
- Room 122 (Schultz): Superheroes
- Room 123 (Swentko): Let's Cook
- Room 124 (Bauer): Day at the Beach
- Room 119 (Teeters): Family Movie Night
- Room 120 (Carpenter): The Arts
- Room 121 (Matthes): Legos
- Room 104 (Monson): Spa Day
- Room 105 (Miller): Road Trip
- Room 107 (Thompson): Life's a Garden
- Room 106 (Wisniewski): Pokemon
- Room 108 (Griesch): Legos
- Room 114 (Nolde): Gone Fishing
- Room 113 (Holm): Family Game Night
- Room 116 (Glocker): Outside Activities
- Room 115 (Harms): Sports
- Room 117 (VandeBerg): Camping/Picnic

The next PTA meeting will be held Thursday, April 13 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.