

Wild Horse

















ROUNDO UP

AUGUST, 2010

Welcome back to an exciting year at Wild Horse! This newsletter is filled with important information to ensure a successful start to the school year for all of our families.

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SCHOOL HOURS

Office Hours: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
 School Hours: 8:23 am - 3:13 pm
 Half-Day Kindergarten: 8:23-11:23 A.M.

Students should **not** arrive prior to 8:10 AM, since supervision is not available. Students will not be permitted to enter the building before that time unless they attend Adventure Club.

Students are expected to be picked up promptly at the end of the school day. We understand that emergency situations arise in which a child may need to remain in the office for a bit after school. If this becomes habitual, however, the student will be taken to Adventure Club at the expense of the parent. The cost of an emergency day visit to Adventure Club is \$38.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

School Office	636-537-4398
FAX	636-537-4388
Attendance Line	636-537-4385
RSD Central Office	636-733-2000
First Student	636-458-2044
Adventure Club	636-861-7768
Early Childhood	636-861-7772
CCL	
- Primary	636-207-2551
- Intermediate	636-207-2579

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 12** - Placement E-Mail Sent after 5:00 p.m.
- August 13** – Meet the Teacher 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- August 17** – First Day of School
- August 20** – First Day of CCL
- August 24** – Curriculum Night, 6:30 p.m.
- August 30** – PTO Meetings, 6:30 p.m., Library



Wild Horse Elementary School • 16695 Wild Horse Creek Road • Chesterfield, MO 63005-1627
 636-537-4398 • Fax: 636-537-4388 • Karen Kieffer, Principal • Web site: www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/wildhorse

We are STRONG! We are SMART! We are STALLIONS!

WHO IS MY TEACHER?

On the evening of August 12th an e-mail will be sent to each child's home (grades 1-5) informing them of their teacher for the 2010-11 school year. In addition, class rosters will be posted in the lobby of the school after 3:30 PM on Friday, August 13th, and will remain there until school begins on Tuesday, August 17th. If you will be on vacation, please ask a neighbor to check the rosters for your child's assignment. Due to the fact that we have many items to attend to before the start of school, we ask that you not phone the office to ask about teacher assignments.

Much time and care went into class placements to ensure balanced classes based on gender, ability, learning style, personality, and other variables. Given that we received over 250 input letters, you can imagine the daunting task of placement. As parents, your approach to your child's placement will have a tremendous impact, so please give your support to provide the best start to the new school year.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



Tuesday, **August 17th, 2010** is the first day for students. Staff members will welcome all students as they enter the building and guide them to their classrooms. All classroom teachers will be in their rooms to greet students.

Buses will drop off in the front right parking lot. Students driven by parents should be dropped off in the lanes marked "parent drop off" on the left side at the front entrance. For student safety, all students should exit cars from the right side only. Please make sure that your child is ready to exit the car so that we can keep the drop off line moving. Please remain in line until all cars in front of you move forward.

MEET YOUR TEACHER

Friday, August 13th
Grades K-5
3:30-5:00 p.m.

If you would like the opportunity for your children to meet their teacher and see where their new classroom will be, we invite you to stop by some time between 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. on August 13th, for an informal visit. Teachers will be working in their classrooms during that time, so feel free to stop by and introduce yourself and your child.

Although teachers may be in the building at other times during that week they will be involved in curriculum meetings and preparing their lessons for the first week of school. We ask that you respect their time and only visit the classroom during Meet your Teacher on the 13th. A great deal of preparation goes into planning for a wonderful beginning to the school year and through everyone's cooperation, we will make 2010-2011 a terrific year!

NEW STAFF

We welcome the following new staff members to our school this year:

Ms. Tara Natrass, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Lou Ann Moore, Kindergarten

We know you will enjoy working with our new Stallions!

The following staff members' names have changed over the summer:

Miss Melissa Mautner is now Mrs. Mautner-Grana; Miss Erica Hicks is now Mrs. Plumb; and Miss Christa Cowan is now Mrs. Dulle. Congratulations to our summer brides!

MOVING?

Please notify the office ASAP if you are moving or not returning to Wild Horse. If you are moving but not changing schools, please contact the office in order to change your address and phone number.

If you live in the city of St. Louis and your address or phone number has changed over the summer, or if you will not be returning to Wild Horse, please notify us immediately. It will take 7-10 working days to set up a new bus stop for the 2010-2011 school year.



TELEPHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES

Please contact the office if you have changed your telephone number or e-mail address.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The school is fully air-conditioned and students are expected to dress appropriately. Children will need tennis shoes for gym classes. All students except kindergartners should bring paper and pencils on the first day. A copy of the suggested grade levels' supplies has been posted on our web site. Each classroom teacher will communicate additional instructions on the first day of school. Please send your child to school ready to learn on the first day.

Anyone that ordered a school supply pack (wrap-pack) may pick your packs up on Friday, August 13th. They will be placed in your child's classroom in time for Meet the Teacher at 3:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend Meet the Teacher your child will receive their supply pack on the first day of school. Individual items within the packs will still need to be labeled with your child's name. If you have any questions, please call Julie Stern at 636.519.1799.

Also, bring your checkbook so that you may purchase a school assignment planner and other supply items from the school store.

CURRICULUM NIGHT AND CONFERENCE SIGN-UP

Parents are encouraged to attend Curriculum Night on **Tuesday, August 24th at 6:30 p.m.** to learn about the educational program as well as classroom routines and expectations. You may also sign-up for parent/teacher conferences (**October 25 and 27**), so bring your calendars! This is a "**parent only**" event. Please mark your calendars and arrange for childcare so that you can attend this very important meeting with the teachers!

HANDOUTS TO EXPECT 1ST WEEK

- Free and Reduced Lunch Application
- School Insurance Form
- Policies and Procedures Handbook from Rockwood Board of Education
- Menus

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Missouri State immunization laws require that all children have up-to-date immunization records on file at school **prior** to their being able to start on August 17th. We do not wish to exclude any students, so your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

If your child will be taking prescription medication beginning on the first day of school, remember that it must be sent to school in the original prescription container with accurate dosage directions and a note from the parent giving permission for the nurse to administer the medication at school. No medication can be given at school unless it is in the labeled prescription container. It would be helpful if you could bring the medication to the school on Friday, August 13th or Monday, August 16th before the first day of school. **ALL** over-the-counter medications, including Tylenol, must be accompanied by a doctor's note and a note from the parent giving details about time and dosage, and must be in the manufacturer's container. If you have any questions, please contact our school nurse at 636.537.4398.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Daily student attendance is important for learning. We ask your help in this area by scheduling doctor and dentist appointments for after-school hours, non-attendance days or during the afternoon of our half days. (Please refer to the calendar on our website for these days!) Please also ensure that your child does not miss valuable instruction by being tardy or checked out early. We expect students to be learning from 8:23 a.m. until 3:13 p.m.

Please remember to call the Wild Horse Attendance Line at 636.537.4385, before 9:00 a.m. if your child will be absent. This will assist us in accounting for the safety of each student.

2010-2011 PTO BOARD

A special welcome to our new PTO board members! PTO representatives will be at Wild Horse during Meet the Teacher to welcome your involvement and answer any questions you may have. We appreciate the plans they have in place to make 2010-2011 a great year! Be sure to check out the PTO webpage on the Wild Horse website at <http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/wildhorse/pto/Pages/default.aspx>. If you have questions about PTO please e-mail or call one of the co-presidents, Jennifer Fleming, 636.532.4751, flemingjenn@charter.net, or Karuna Murray at 314.308.4502.

**S.A.F.E. Schools Hotline
314-889-SAFE**

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Beginning the first week of August, you can login to the Versatrans e-link system to find your child's bus route information.

Remember this information to login to eLink:

USER ID: parent

PASSWORD: parent

(Tip: Type word parent (not parent name) as the USER ID and PASSWORD.) [Login to elink at http://elink.rockwood.k12.mo.us/elinkrp/.](http://elink.rockwood.k12.mo.us/elinkrp/)

Parents are required to sign their student out through the office if it is necessary for the child to be dismissed during the school day.

Students will not be called out of class for early sign-out after 3:00 PM, since it is disruptive to the classroom dismissal process after that time. We ask for your cooperation with our arrival and dismissal procedures to ensure the safety of the students.

Each time a child does not ride the bus or walk home; parents are required to send a note. The office must be notified in writing or by telephone of any changes in a student's usual transportation arrangements. **Except in the case of emergency, we ask that these arrangements be made prior to 2:00 pm so that we can make sure that your child is notified of the change.** If your child is a walker, the office will need notification if he/she is **not** to walk home on a specific day. Also, if your child is eligible for transportation services, but you choose to have him/her walk to school, please notify the office in writing of your intentions or it will be assumed that your child should ride the bus.



COMMUNICATION

On-going, two-way communication is essential to ensure that we work together as a team. I have listed below a few ways that we will be communicating this school year.

The information in the **Round Up** is moving online. To help keep parents in the communication loop – our monthly school newsletter is being replaced with the announcement section of our school Web site.

With the re-organization of our school Web site, parents can receive school news every day by logging on to the **Wild Horse** Web site at www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/wildhorse.

Instead of a once-a-month newsletter, parents can find the latest information online at their convenience: events, school announcements and news from the principal and more.

To remind parents of school news items, Mrs. Kieffer will send out occasional email reminders. She has also set up a blog called 'Kieffer's Korner'. Check it out on the school's website. These messages will provide links to our school calendar and announcement pages, as well as important news our parents need to know. Parents will be able to do the following:

- Print off the school calendar
- Link to the most recent school announcements
- Access curriculum and department updates
- Find out what's going on with the PTO
- Wednesday Folders

If your family does not have a way to access the Internet and receive email messages, please let us know. Call **636.537.4398** and ask for **Mary Hirth**, and we'll make sure you receive printed copies of these messages via your child's Wednesday Wrap-up take-home folder.



Wild Horse understands that one of the keys to ensuring the best educational experience possible for your child and family is great communication. Remember all the ways we work to keep parents updated on what your child is doing and what's happening at school.

Electronic:

Teacher Web sites: To help build upon learning, teachers share important information about what's going on in the classroom.

Principal's Blog: Mrs. Kieffer will be sharing school info through her blog entitled 'Kieffer's Korner'.

Rockwood Web site: Learn about district-wide programs and resources for students, parents, community and staff.

AlertNow Messages:

Phone or Email: Parents will receive important information - such as emergency notifications, school closings due to inclement weather, and other school news.

Resources:

Wednesday Wrap-up Take-Home Folders:

Each child at our school has a folder, which will come home on Wednesdays. It includes items, such as program flyers, artwork, notes from the teacher, etc.

PTO Communication: Our parent-teacher organization keeps parents in the loop through the PTO page on our school website and notices that go home in our Wednesday Wrap-up folders.

Parent Resource Centers: A parent communication center is located in our school entryway. This is the place to find community information that support education and families.

Questions?

Should you have any questions, please call the school office (537.4398) and talk with Becky Conrath, Mary Hirth or Sherry Black (secretaries), Tara Natrass (Assistant Principal), or Karen Kieffer (Principal).

ACT (FERPA) FORMS FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). If you do not want your family's "directory information" (such as name, phone number, and/or address) listed in the school buzz book, please fill out the FERPA "Refusal to Permit Disclosure" form which is available in the school office. Deadline to submit the form is August 27.

CENTER FOR CREATIVE LEARNING (CCL)

Wild Horse students will attend the Center on Fridays beginning August 20th. Students may ride the bus or parents may drive them. The bus will leave Wild Horse at approximately 8:45 a.m. and return between 4:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Intermediate Campus
9:15 a.m. – 3:55 p.m.
Primary Campus
9:20 a.m. – 4:05 p.m.

Please note that it does take the CCL bus a few weeks to get into a regular schedule at the end of the day due to traffic and changes in the number of students who are dropped off. We ask that you arrive at Wild Horse around 4:25-4:30 for the first couple of weeks until a regular time is established. We **WILL NOT** have supervision after school, so if you are not here to pick up your child from the CCL bus, they are to report to Adventure Club so that they can be supervised until you arrive. You will be charged a fee for the time they spend in adventure club. Please review these procedures with your child so that they know what to do in the event that you are late to pick them up.

SAFETY FIRST

We always want to make sure our students are safe and secure. We will be using a locking/monitoring system on our main entrance door and will continue to keep the outside doors to our building locked at all times. You will need to press the buzzer, wait a few seconds while one of our staff identifies you, and then be admitted to the school office. By doing this, we will be able to identify and admit visitors into our building. Our intent is to make it more difficult for unauthorized individuals to enter our school. We welcome parents and encourage you to be involved in our school. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions.

ALL visitors to our building will be required to sign in at the office and will receive a 'Guest nametag to wear in the building. This includes all parent volunteers. If you are bringing a forgotten lunch or homework, please bring it to the office instead of walking to your child's class. We will be happy to take the item to your child. Staff members will be wearing identification at all times, and have been instructed to ask all parents to check in at the office prior to coming to their classrooms.

Students who attend Adventure Club will need to enter and exit the building through their entrance at the front of the building underneath the lettering on the building.

We have phones in all of the classrooms. All in-coming phone calls will come through the office, but the teachers will be able to make out-going calls from their classroom.



TAKE A NEW LOOK AT SCHOOL MEALS

Rockwood Child Nutrition Services is serving up healthy meals each day to help students do their best in school. Introducing new and improved items, conducting student focus groups, and purchasing locally grown produce when available are just a few examples of how we are working to improve school meals. As always, school meals are required to meet nutrition guidelines based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. This means school lunches provide one-third of the Recommended Dietary Allowances of protein, Vitamin A, Vitamin C, iron, calcium, and calories over the course of a week (breakfast must meet one-fourth of the requirements).

You can prepay your child's meal account prior to the beginning of the school year and ensure your child won't miss out on a nutritious meal. NutriKids offers parents a secure system for school meals, along with other important features and benefits:

- 24/7 access to accounts and balances
- Secure online payments through credit/debit cards and PayPal accounts
- One meal account per family will allow for easy management of funds
- Itemized purchase history up to 30 days can be viewed in online account
- Automatic notification sent to e-mail when balances are low

You will need to log-in and create an account on mynutrikids.com.

Free and reduced price lunches are available to those who qualify. Forms will be sent home during the first week of school.



Mrs. Toni Berhorst, the Wild Horse Cafeteria Manager, will be on hand during Meet the Teacher afternoon on August 13 to answer any of your questions. She will also be able to scan your child's finger print for those students in grades 1 – 5 who are new to Wild Horse Elementary. Kindergarten students will have their finger prints scanned during the school day.

For more information including nutritional value of menu items and free and reduced meal applications, go to www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/childnutrition.

LUNCH PRICES

Student Breakfast - \$1.45

Student Lunch - \$2.30

Super Lunch - \$2.45

Milk/Juice - \$.50



EARLY DISMISSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

One afternoon each month is devoted to professional development for staff, a critical element of maintaining quality instruction. During this time, we work in teams to advance the work of our school improvement goals. Lunch will be provided for students before **dismissal at 12:08 P.M.** Many families find these are excellent times for routine doctor and dental appointments as well as special family events. Please mark your calendars for our 2010-2011 **Early Dismissal Days: September 14, October 12, November 9, December 7, January 14, February 18, March 8, April 21, and May 10.**

Adventure Club is available to all students on Professional Development Days on a fee basis. Students must be registered two weeks before the Professional Development day to avoid a late fee. Registration packets are available at the Wild Horse Adventure Club. You can also find information on their webpage <http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/adventureclub/Pages/default.aspx>.

ADVENTURE CLUB EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

This program is provided on early dismissal days for families not already enrolled in the PM session of Adventure Club on the days when your elementary school dismisses **after lunch**. The children will have an opportunity to participate in activities with their friends in a well-supervised, fun atmosphere. We will also serve a snack in the afternoon.

EARLY DISMISSAL DATES: 9/14/10, 10/12/10, 11/09/10, 12/07/10, 1/14/11, 2/18/11, 3/8/11, 4/21/11, 5/10/11

COST AND PAYMENT: \$20.00 Per Child Per Day
Payment may be made with a check or if you are enrolled in the Automatic Debit (ACH) program for your regular Monthly Adventure Club tuition, your Early Dismissal fee will be debited with the next ACH. Make checks payable to Rockwood School District.

ENROLL

The enrollment packets are available online, please visit [www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/adventure club](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/adventure%20club). Complete the enrollment form (required if your child attends Adventure Club on Early Dismissal days ONLY), the reservation slip and return with payment by the DUE DATE to avoid a \$10.00 late fee per child. Space may be limited – Reservations are taken on a first come basis.

CANCELLATION

Any cancellation for Early Dismissal must be in writing, and received at the Vandover Adventure Club office two weeks before the Early Dismissal session. Credit will be given for cancellations with a two week notice. Cancellations less than two weeks will not be credited. Credit will not be given for days missed for any reason including illness or vacation. You may mail, fax, or e-mail the cancellation notice to our office. It is the parent's responsibility to confirm receipt of the cancellation notice with our office.

If you have any questions or need further information, call the Adventure club office at 636.861.7768, fax 636.861.7775, or email adventureclub@rockwood.k12.mo.us.

Mail reservation forms and fees to:
Adventure Club
Vandover Campus
1900 Hawkins Road
Fenton, MO 63026



District News

July 2010

Three Things Every Rockwood Parent Needs To Do Before the First Week of School

As you prepare for back-to-school in the coming weeks, here are three important things to add to your “to do” list. All of them can be completed online in the convenience of your own home.

1) Visit eLink in August

eLink is Rockwood’s online Transportation Information System, and it will help you determine your child’s bus route for the school year. Bus schedules for the 2010-2011 school year will be posted the first week in August.

Remember this information to logon to eLink: USER ID: parent and PASSWORD: parent

As a safety precaution, entire bus routes are only available upon request at the school of attendance after August 10, 2010.

Be sure to arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes before the posted pick-up/drop-off as bus drivers adapt routes the first week of school.

Find bus information on the eLink Web page: www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/transportation.

2) Check AlertNow Information



AlertNow is an automatic notification system that delivers voice or email messages to parents’ telephones, mobile phones or any Internet-enabled device. In case of an emergency or inclement weather, the district can reach parents with important information. In addition, your child’s school principal will contact you with school news, events and information.

Never miss another message. Check out Message Replay for a list of messages sent by your school/district.

If you have changed your contact information, contact your school registrar or lead secretary to provide the up-to-date information.

Find AlertNow and Message Replay: www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/alertnow.

3) Pay for school meals with NutriKids



NutriKids offers parents a secure system for the payment of school meals along with these benefits:

View what your child is having for lunch. You’ll see an itemized 30-day purchase history.

Make secure online payments 24/7 through credit/debit cards or PayPal accounts.

Find out how to create your NutriKids family account: www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/childnutrition.

More Back-to-School Information: ww.rockwood.k12.mo.us/parent/Pages/BacktoSchool.aspx



