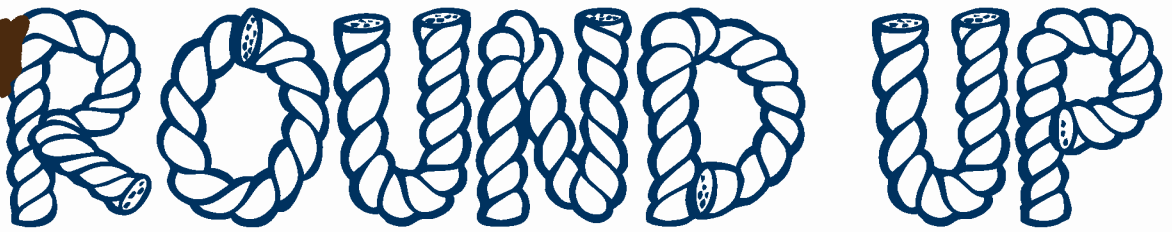


Wild Horse



NOVEMBER, 2009

Dear Parents,

Every year when parent/teacher conferences roll around, I get asked several times for advice on "How can I help my child at home?" One of the most fundamental things in building a strong learning foundation is to instill a love of reading. In my previous newsletter, I talked about how to select the perfect books using the I PICK method. Now it is time to explore the three ways to read a book! Yes – you may have learned that there is only ONE way to read – but there are truly THREE ways!

1. Read and talk about the pictures
2. Read the words
3. Retell a previously read book

Read and talk about the pictures

For the emergent reader, they learn to read the pictures of a story and are usually able to get a fairly accurate idea of the story. They feel empowered to spend time with a book once they realize that reading is not just reading the words. As a child learns to read the words, they still can read the pictures to better help them comprehend. They use the pictures as a strategy in ensuring that they are 'saying' the right words.

Read the words

Most of us were taught that reading the words was the single method of reading. For those of us who may have had difficulty with this – we learned very early that we disliked reading because we could not always 'get' all of the words.

Retell a previously read book

Children love to hear books over and over again. By retelling a story, they show a true understanding of the text and also practice the idea of beginning, middle and end. This retelling piece provides students with the foundation for writing their own stories.

By teaching children there are three ways to read, you honor their ability no matter in what stage of development their reading skills happen to be. I look forward to hearing the many successes you have as you work with your child (ren) on the three ways to read a book.

Karen Kieffer

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636-537-4398 • Fax: 636-537-4388 • Karen Kieffer, Principal



A Missouri
Gold Star School

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



IN THIS ISSUE

- Book Fair Results
- Student Council News
- Circle of Concern
- Incoming Kindergarten Information
- Inclement Weather Notification

IMPORTANT DATES

November:

- 11 – Holiday Gift Giving Program Begins
- 12 – Gr. 5 Junior Achievement Biz Town Field Trip, 8:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
WHE Students Saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the Board of Education Meeting at CMS, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 – Market Place Shopping Event, 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.
- 16 – Milk and Cookies with Story Teller, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 – Grade 4 St. Louis Symphony Field Trip, 9:30-1:45
- 18 – Spirit Day – Wear Your Pajamas to School
3rd Grade Musical, 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.
Progress Reports Sent Home
Wild Horse Night at Papa John's Pizza
- 19 – Stallion Stable (school store) open during lunch
- 24 – Annual Turkey Tourney,
5th grade students vs. Staff, 1:30 p.m.
- 25 – 27 – No School, Thanksgiving Holiday

December:

- 9 – Holiday Gift Giving Program Due Date



CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES

www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/wildhorse

www.rockwood.k12.mo.us

www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/child_nutrition

www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/transportation

www.nutrikids.com

WILD HORSE STUDENTS TO RECITE THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Nine students from Wild Horse have been selected to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the November 12th Board of Education Meeting. The meeting will be held at Crestview Middle School. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The students participating are: James Norvell, Sophia Ulett, Jack and J.D. Killeen, Connor and Caleigh McClain, Nicholas Strate, Harry and Julia Schmidt, Sarah Virruso.

Wild Horse Elementary Monthly Average Attendance	
August 18 – September 4	97.39%
September 8 – October 2	96.33%
October 5 – October 29	92.60%

WELCOME BABY BAIN!



Mr. Dustin Bain and his wife Nikki are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Skylar Marie. Skylar arrived on November 2nd, weighing 7 pounds, 4 ounces. Congratulations to the Bains on the arrival of their baby girl!

"DESTINATION BOOK FAIR: READ AROUND THE WORLD" A SUCCESS

We hope you had an out-of-this-world experience at our Wild Horse "Destination Book Fair: Read Around the World". The \$2435.00 we earned lets our library purchase the most current educational materials. We also were able to buy \$1256.00 worth of

Scholastic books for our school's library...and it's all because of your help!

We could have made this fantastic journey without the help of our volunteers:

Robin McClain	Lisa Messmer
Dinorah Aguilar	Kim Barnes
Joyce Hirabayashi	Sue Melaragno
Maria Winstead	Rebecca Ellison
Tracy Alter	Bonnie Meyers
Janet Strate	Laure Olsen
Carolyn Steinbrecher	Demaris Lee
Melody Wintz-Hostetler	Mandy French
Pam Handman	Tricia Hayes
Kara Suter	Rochelle Aaronson
Jennifer Pisarkiewicz	Wendy Gellman
Adam Steinbrecher	Drew Melaragno
Megan French	Hayley French
Michael French	Taylor Rickard
Justin Malin	

Thank you again for supporting your library...and your children.

Cindy Grigg, Linda Malin and Rhonda Rickard
Book Fair Chairpersons

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

The nurses' office would appreciate donations of gently used boy and girl pants or sweatpants, socks and undergarments in all sizes.



Cold and flu season has arrived! Colds and flu are caused by viruses that thrive in the cold, dry air. Spending more time indoors surrounded by heated air tends to dry out the mucous lining in your nose and throat, which allows the virus to invade and reproduce more easily. The result is an infection of the upper respiratory tract, commonly called a cold. If fever, chills, and muscle aches are included, it is probably caused by the influenza virus.

Encourage the use of tissues to wipe the nose instead of using hands or sleeves. Cover your cough by coughing in to your elbow and continue to wash your hands. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. If you do become sick, be sure to stay home to keep from spreading the illness. Children must be fever free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

District updates regarding H1N1 can continually be found on Rockwood School District's website home page.

The CDC has an official site regarding the H1N1. It can be found at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/general_info

You are cordially invited to attend the
2nd ANNUAL

WILD HORSE ELEMENTARY
MARKETPLACE EVENT

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2009
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wild Horse Elementary Cafeteria
A great way to get some of your
holiday shopping done for your whole
family!

CONGRATULATIONS STALLIONS!

Wild Horse Elementary would like to recognize the following students who worked hard to participate in the District's Cross Country Meet which was scheduled for Saturday, October 10. Unfortunately the meet had to be canceled because of inclement weather. We're proud of our Stallion Runners!

5TH GRADE

Logan Schillinger
 Karlin Grayer
 Spencer Ward
 Ethan Aaranson
 Thomas Penney
 Cliff Degroot
 Jeff Rauber
 Alec Harris
 Brendon Jette
 Jack Lynch
 Cooper Gast
 Jack Messmer
 Angelo Rafaelli
 Drew Taylor
 Reginal Green
 Adrieon Brown
 Cole Gast
 Madeline Heintz
 Ally Mirani
 Riley Steinbrecher
 Jornai Holliday
 Lili Hostetler
 Allison Licavoli
 Marlo McElroy

4TH GRADE

Nick Warmann
 Chase Halverson
 Chase Laux
 Eric Dalton
 Kornae Miller
 Jack Warmann
 Will Sturgill
 Vinai Kumar
 Greg Svirnovskiy
 Adam Akbani
 John Handman
 Hunter Hartmann
 Delaney Neely
 Poorva Sheth
 Brooke Stricker
 Laasya Pothuganti
 Carys Shearer
 Caitlyn Bender

FREE AND REDUCED SCHOOL MEALS

As family and employment situations change, applications are accepted at any time during the school year for free or reduced school meals. Applications are available in the office. Or, to download a copy and read more about policies of the National School Meal Program, visit http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/child_nutrition/index.hm.

WILD HORSE 2009-2010 STUDENT COUNCIL

Wild Horse Student Council is off to a great start this year. We began by learning about Parliamentary Procedure and elected officers for the school year. Congratulations to President-Judy Luo, Vice-President-Ally Miriani, and Secretary-Lindsey Abernathy. Each of our other fifth grade representatives will be leading a community service committee throughout the year.

Our year will kick off by assisting the Little Bit Foundation. Please be watching for flyers in your Wednesday Wrap-Up Folders to see how you can participate in helping keep children in the St. Louis area warm this winter!!! (Hang on to those "too small coats". We'll be collecting in November.)



Watch for other upcoming service projects this year as STUCO shows heart towards our community!!!

Thank you to every student that ran as a representative in his/her classroom. We appreciate you taking part in the democratic process!!

Grade Level Representatives are as follows:

5th Grade		
Bain	Lindsey Abernathy	Andrew Hessler
Whitford	Riley Steinbrecher	Judy Luo
Vojslavek	Arjun Devraj	Thomas Penney
Bryan	Ally Miriani	Hallie Sidney
Lammers	Jack Messmer	Alexis Brinkmeyer
4th Grade		
Castens	Malone Hanis	Logan Paul
Fozard	Ryan Wagoner	Carys Shearer
Sodemann	Brooke Rauber	Jake Szveda
Russell	Chase Lottmann	Megan Schremp
3rd Grade		
Fox	Nicholas Orr	Josie Pagel
Krystalovich	Elle McElroy	Sadie Eggmann
Miklasz	Brendan Bhambi	Julie Lees
Singer	Livi Squellati	Cate Behl

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Guidance Lessons for November...

In Kindergarten, we will be discussing and learning about strangers and the importance of safety through a story about Strangers.

The first grade students will be thinking about their futures and what jobs they might be interested in doing for a career. We start this month by playing a game where they try to guess careers by giving clues.



Second grade students will also begin to explore careers by discussing attributes of some common occupations. A specific focus will be that girls and boys can do the same jobs.



The third grade students will be talking about rumors and the damage they can do. The book, *Mr. Peabody's Apples*, will be shared.

The fourth grade students will be learning about time management and ways they can fit necessary study time in, even when there are many family and social obligations in their lives.

In fifth grade, students will once again be discussing bullying. We be specifically exploring the effects of "put downs" and "put ups" through a powerful video and activity called "The Torn Heart."

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Each November, our Student Council and Ambassadors sponsor a food drive to provide the opportunity for families in need to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner. This year, we have decided to organize our food drive a little differently. Each grade level will be asked to bring in a different type of food. This year we will be collecting food **November 12th-19th**.

Kindergarten: Canned fruit

1st Grade: Canned vegetables

2nd Grade: Pasta (mac & cheese, Velveeta shells & cheese, tuna helper, hamburger helper, etc.)

3rd Grade: Cereal, cream of wheat, or oatmeal

4th Grade: Canned meat & fish (chicken, tuna, salmon, crab, chicken of the sea, etc)

5th Grade: Birthday in a Bag (cake mix, candles, sprinkles, cupcake liners, muffin mix)

Staff: Canned soup

*** Please look in the Wednesday Wrap-Up for a flyer with more details.**

HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING PROGRAM

Each year the Wild Horse families help in supporting those families in our school who need an extra helping hand.



We will have a Holiday Gift Giving display in the lobby of the school decorated with snow flake cut-outs. On these cut-outs will be specific items needed for the families. Bring your child and choose as many cut outs as you would like off the display to help out a family in need. Cash or check donations are greatly appreciated. We will buy needed items for each family. No family receives cash, only wrapped presents. Please return all items WRAPPED with cut outs attached. Cash or checks made out to Wild Horse PTO should be turned in by December 9th.

Thank you for your continued support of our children and school. With everyone's help the holidays will be a little brighter for all!

If you have any questions, please contact Tina Hummel (536-7703) or Shannon Johnson (536-0442).

**Is your student feeling under the weather?
Extending your Winter Break?
Going on a Family Vacation?**

Remember to call the Wild Horse Attendance Line at 636.537.4385 before 9:00 a.m.

You may also report extended absences by contacting Mrs. Becky Conrath at 636.537.4398, ext. 222. All absences (trips, illness, appointments, etc.) must be reported to the office.

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

School closing or early school dismissal will be announced on the Rockwood Web site at <http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us> as soon as the decision is made. Parents will also receive an **AlertNow** voice notification message. This message will be sent to your primary household phone number. Your caller ID will display the school's main number.

Important: The successful delivery of information is dependent upon accurate contact information obtained from school records. If your household and/or emergency contact information changes, please let Becky Conrath know as soon as possible.

In addition, parents can find accurate information about district school closings on the following radio and television stations:



KTVI Channel 2 KMOX 1120 (AM)

KMOV Channel 4 KTRS 550 (AM)

KSDK Channel 5

KDNL Channel 30

Check the Rockwood Web site at www.rockwood.k12.mo.us for more information regarding Rockwood inclement weather procedures.

2009-2010 Temperature Guidelines

The weather is getting colder; please send your child to school with a coat, hat and gloves. They go outside every day if weather permits.

Guidelines for Recess and PE outdoors

Temperature (including wind chill or heat index)

Below 20 - stay inside

20 - 95 degrees - outside normal time

96 and above - stay inside



ALERT NOW REQUEST

This automated system allows us to send reminders to families about upcoming events as well as the ability to notify the entire school community about a school closing due to weather or emergencies. If you do not answer phone, the system will leave a message on your voice mail. Please listen to the voice mail prior to calling the school to ask what the message was about. Remember, if it is an emergency, "411" will be visible on caller ID. The message will tell you what you need to know. Most likely, the office staff will not be able to answer the phones in order to keep the lines open for emergency personnel.

To make sure you get these calls, please notify the office of any changes in phone numbers.

FULL-DAY OPTIONAL KINDERGARTEN INFORMATIONAL PARENT MEETINGS FOR 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Roger Stock, Executive Director of Elementary Schools and Full-Day Kindergarten Teachers will be hosting two Open Public Full-Day Optional Tuition-Based Kindergarten Informational Meetings for the 2010-2011 School Year. These meetings are for parents interested in the program and/or have questions regarding the program.

(Adventure Club information will be available)

The meeting dates and times are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2010

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Location: Crestview Middle School (Theatre)

16025 Clayton Road

Ellisville, MO 63011

Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Location: Early Childhood Center at

Vandover (Gym)

900 Hawkins Road

Fenton, MO 63026

ROCKWOOD GIFTED PROGRAM UPDATE ON KINDERGARTEN IDENTIFICATION

During September and October, the Gifted Program's Kindergarten Resource Teachers have visited every kindergarten class in the district on five separate occasions. During their visits, students received whole-class lessons on creative and critical thinking skills. They also participated in activities that allowed students to apply these thinking skills to a variety of hands-on assignments.

Gifted Program staff members have reviewed the information collected during these visits and are nominating a small number of students for further assessment.

This follow-up assessment involves administering an individual intelligence test. Based on the results of this test, students may also receive an achievement assessment and have a Renzulli Rating Scale filled out by classroom teachers. The first Renzulli Rating Scale will be completed by the parents at the time of IQ testing.

If a child does not get nominated for further testing this semester, please keep the following points in mind:

- During first semester, only a small number of kindergarten students are being nominated by gifted program staff for further testing.
- During second semester, parents and teachers can nominate kindergarten children for the program.
- The Spring Identification Process does not include information from the fall's classroom visits. All students nominated by teachers or parents start anew with a different screening procedure.
- Because different screening procedures are used in the spring, different student strengths will be tapped.

- Many students who are nominated in the spring will perform better on individual assessments than they did during the fall's group assessment procedures.
- Based on past experience, we anticipate far more students being nominated and identified in the spring than are being nominated and identified in the fall.
- Families of children who are being nominated for further testing will be notified by mail starting the last week of October and into the first few weeks of November. If families do not receive a letter, and they are interested in nominating their child for the gifted program, they can do so at the beginning of the second semester.
- Nomination forms are available in school guidance offices and at the Center for Creative Learning. For further information about the identification process or the kindergarten program at the Center for Creative Learning, you can view the website at www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/gifted or call the Center at 636-207-2579 ext. 223.



SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT WORKSHOPS

Special School District is currently offering parent workshops. Registration is required and can be done by calling 314.989.7807 (711 Deaf/HOH), or by registering online at www.solutionwhere.com/ssd. You will need to call the registration number for assistance with setting up an account. Please be sure to register for workshops as they are sometimes canceled due to low enrollment. Workshops are listed below:

Sign Language: Beginning

Tuesdays, Nov. 10, 17, 24, Dec. 1, 4-6:30 p.m.

Presenter: Connie Lemmon

SSD Central Office, Room 57

This 4-part presentation is designed for adults who are beginners or need a refresher.

Supporting Your Child with Emotional Disabilities

Wed., Nov. 11, 9-11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Scott Schaeffer, Ph.D.

SSD Central Office, Room 60

Learn how cognitive behavior therapy works and how to support and communicate with your child's therapist; decrease anxiety at home and school; educate family members; communicate with the school when negative behaviors, withdrawal or anxiety are escalating. Understand the options for school supports for children with a diagnosis of emotional disability.

Brain Gym – 2-part workshop

Wednesdays, Nov. 11 & 18, 7-9 p.m.

Presenter: Kathy French

SSD Central Office, Room 61

Brain Gym is a program of physical activities that enhance learning ability. The easy-to-do, patterned movements target brain function to promote optimal learning, communication, stress management and creativity, and can prepare children with the physical skills they need in order to learn to read, write and otherwise function effectively in the classroom. Session 1 will cover the background of Brain Gym and brain-based learning. Session 2 will focus on application for using Brain Gym. Workshop is for parents, teachers and therapists. Resources will be provided.

Strategies for Learning Disabilities

Thurs., Nov. 12, 7-9 p.m.

Presenter: St. Louis Learning Disabilities Association

SSD Central Office, Room 57

Ideas for helping your child learn more effectively will be the focus of this workshop. Tips on helping with reading, spelling, math and memory tasks, with a focus on specific perceptual learning disabilities, will be included.

Orientation for Parents to Special Education and the IEP Process

Mon., Nov. 16, 7-9 p.m.

Presenter: Joann Noll

SSD Central Office, Room 57

This orientation is designed to provide an overview of special education services and how they are provided through SSD. Learn more about how to develop an effective individualized education program (IEP), educational rights, community resources/support, and take a tour of the Family & Community Resource Center.

What About the Siblings?

Tues., Nov. 17, 6:30-8 p.m.

Presenters: Mark Keeley, Debbie Chapuis, sibling panel

SSD Central Office, Room 61

St. Louis area Sibshop facilitators will provide information about the Sibshop model and strategies to help parents successfully raise and understand issues that brothers and sisters of children with disabilities encounter throughout life. A panel of siblings of individuals with disabilities will discuss their experiences.

Helping Children Develop Friendships & Social Skills

Tues., Nov. 17, 9-11:30 a.m.

Presenters: Joann Noll, Debbie Kiso

SSD Central Office, Room 61

Workshop will offer strategies for parents to help children develop friendships, school strategies for building friendships through programs such as "Circle of Friends" and peer support groups and strategies that help children with language and learning differences, including autism, develop social skills.

How to Fit In and Be Cool

Mon., Nov. 23, 7-9 p.m.

Presenters: Debbie Kiso & student experts

SSD Central Office, Room 61

Come hear ideas and strategies to help students with disabilities fit in with their peers. We will share results of surveys completed by kids in their schools to talk about what is in style, fads, greetings, buzz words, social interactions and media. Regional facilitator Debbie Kiso will give tips on how parents and kids can decipher the "hidden curriculum" of school.