

Upcoming Events

- **November 1**
Daylight savings time ends
- **November 5**
Late start 9:30 a.m.
- **November 9**
Picture retake day
- **November 10**
4th grade to Symphony
Veterans' Day
Assembly 2:00 p.m.
PTG meeting 7:00 p.m.
- **November 11**
Veterans' Day/No School
- **November 12**
Late start 9:30 a.m.
- **November 14**
Wilson Auction
- **November 19**
Late start 9:30 a.m.
Conferences/Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.
- **November 20**
Conferences/Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.
- **November 23**
Conferences/Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.
- **November 24**
Conferences/Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.
- **November 25**
Conferences/Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.
- **November 26 & 27**
Thanksgiving Holiday



WORDS FROM WILSON

NOVEMBER, 2009



From the Principal

Dear Wilson Families,

This month the Wilson PTG will be hosting our most important fundraiser and one of our most enjoyable events. The Wilson Auction will take place at the **Lincoln Center on November 14th at 6:00**. Please join us for an entertaining evening that will benefit our students.

Come out and join us for a fun evening and a chance to get a great deal on items like:

- A round of golf for four at the Coeur D'Alene Resort
- Tickets to Gonzaga vs. WSU men's basketball
- Two nights at the Westin in Seattle

The proceeds for the auction will go toward building 21st century classrooms at Wilson. Technology such as Smart Boards and Student Response Systems will increase our students' ability to interact with content and our teachers' ability to deliver powerful instruction. Please come and have a great time while supporting our school.

Sincerely,

Principal

EARLY DISMISSAL CONFERENCE WEEK M, T, W & F

AM Kindergarten	9:00 - 10:30
PM Kindergarten	11:30 - 1:00
Grades 1- 6	9:00 - 1:00

THURSDAY

AM Kindergarten	9:30 - 10:45
PM Kindergarten	11:45 - 1:00
Grades 1 - 6	9:30 - 1:00

WE
WANT
YOU!

UPDATING HIGH SCHOOL MATH MATERIALS

Spokane Public Schools is spending the next few months considering the options for updating the high school mathematics materials for Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra II. This work is based on the recently adopted standards approved by the state of Washington on July of 2008.

Public forums will be held November 10 at the North Central HS library from 6-7 p.m. and November 12 at Lewis and Clark HS (rooms 131-132) from 6-7 p.m. The purpose of these forums will be to provide the opportunity for a brief update on the adoption process and for parents and community members to provide input on their priorities with respect to high school mathematics materials. Additional forums will be held in late January or early February.

For more information, visit spokaneschools.org or contact Bridget Lewis, executive director of Instructional Programs, at bridget@spokaneschools.org or Rick Biggerstaff, coordinator of Secondary Mathematics, at rickb@spokaneschools.org or call 354-5900.

APPLE CUP DAY

Wednesday, November 25 is Apple Cup Day at Wilson. Wear your Cougar or Husky shirts and cheer your team to victory.



CALLING ALL VETERANS!

November 10th at 2:00 p.m. is our Veterans' Day Assembly, followed by a reception. If you know a veteran or current military person, please invite them to attend. Veterans are encouraged to wear their uniforms and/or bring military artifacts to share. Students may attend the 3:00 reception if accompanied by a parent. Wilson staff and students consider it a privilege to honor the men and women who have given of themselves to keep our country free.

Picture Retakes



Monday
November 9th

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES NOVEMBER 19 - 25

Your child's teacher will be contacting you soon to schedule a parent/teacher conference. This is an important time in your child's academic year to build solid communication with school. In order for our teachers to complete their conferences, students will be released at 1:00 p.m. each day during conferences.

Thank you in advance for your flexibility and we look forward to seeing you during conference week.

4TH GRADE VISIT THE SYMPHONY

Our 4th grade students, along with other 4th graders throughout the district, have a wonderful opportunity to attend a Spokane Symphony production on Tuesday, November 10th. Students will be bussed to the Fox Theatre for the event. Thank you to the Spokane Symphony and all of the sponsors who helped to make this event possible.

ELEMENTARY ART TEACHERS HONORED

The Spokane Arts Commission held the 18th annual City of Spokane Arts awards, on Monday, October 5th at the Spokane City Council meeting. This event coincided with the celebration of National Arts and Humanities month. The 2009 "Arts in Education" award was presented to the nine Spokane Public Schools Elementary Art teachers who travel to all 35 public schools and provide art instruction to all 4th through 6th grade students. In addition to teaching our kids, these teachers provide students' art displays at our district administration building, the Spokane Airport, Spokane libraries and at Spokane's Sister City in Japan. Mrs. Schmitz is our specialist at Wilson. We congratulate all of the elementary specialists and Mrs. Schmitz for their commitment to education and the arts.

PTG NEWS

A NOTE FROM PTG

The PTG and the Auction Committees have been working very hard planning the upcoming Wilson Auction. It will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at the Lincoln Center building, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The theme for this year's auction is 21st Century Classrooms. The money raised will be used to buy technology for Wilson. Tickets are being sold for \$25 per person for hors d'oeuvres and there will be a no-host bar available.

The Auction Committee could still use your help if you are interested in volunteering. Please continue to send in donations for the silent and live auction. We hope to see you all there for an evening of fun!

The next PTG meeting will be November 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Amy Barker
PTG Secretary

WRAPPING PAPER SALE

The Wilson wrapping paper sale was a great success again this year. We want to thank you so much for all of your hard work in support our school. The profits from the sale will be used for field trips, assemblies and classroom needs. This year's profit is \$7500. Twenty four students sold 30 or more items to qualify for a limo ride for lunch.

Once again we could not have reached our goal without your help. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

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A FROG WITH GREAT IDEAS!

Students in kindergarten through third grade are cheering for a spotted green frog names Kelso. Kelso lives in a pond but visits Wilson three days a week with the counselor, Mrs. Johansson, to teach problem-solving strategies. This curriculum is fun, offers positive, concrete options for problem-solving, and helps students find multiple ways of solving minor problems.

Kelso, the frog puppet, teaches students that conflict and disagreement are normal and often happen when people live and work together. Hurtful words, gestures, exclusion, and/or cheating are unacceptable ways to deal with conflict and disagreement at school. However, these types of conflict are usually small enough for our students to handle by themselves.

Our goal is to teach nine positive ways to deal with these difficult situations. To do this, we are asking students who have minor problems to try at least two of the following ideas:

1. Go to another game or activity.
2. Share and take turns.
3. Talk it over respectfully using I-messages and good listening skills.
4. Walk away from the problem.
5. Ignore the problem behavior.
6. Tell the person to stop the problem behavior.
7. Apologize.
8. Make a deal or compromise.
9. Wait and cool off.

This process can be done before asking for adult help. When a request for an adult is made, it will include the two ideas tried: "Mrs. Smith, Tad is teasing me about my glasses. I tried ignoring him and I told him it hurts my feelings when he makes fun of me. He is still calling me names." The adult will get involved and help solve the problem using our discipline plan. Of course the adult will immediately handle any serious conflicts which cause a child to feel threatened or frightened or there is any indication of a situation being unsafe or a student being physically harmed.

By using this strategy, we believe that our students will develop effective problem-solving skills that they can use again and again. It will help them to deal with conflict in a positive manner and make appropriate decisions. Knowing what to do will help students reduce the stress and number of conflicts they have at school and home.

We encourage you to become familiar with this problem and use it in your home. By working together we can develop healthy life skills for young people at home and at school. Attached is a Kelso wheel. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mrs. Johansson at 354-4510.