

A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,



As Thanksgiving approaches we all have our own personal blessings to reflect upon. The extra time that we have to spend with family and friends is a gift in itself.

As professionals involved in public education, we are particularly fortunate to be involved in such meaningful work. Not only is working with kids a fulfilling and rewarding career, it is extremely important. An educated population is a cornerstone of our democratic society. We take this opportunity and responsibility very seriously.

This trimester represents the first time we are reporting to parents using the new Standards Based Report Cards. As active and involved parents, I know that you will appreciate how much information we have to share about your child's learning and how specifically we know his or her strengths and areas needing improvement. I'm thankful to our teaching staff for many, many hours that they devoted to learning the new system and implementing this important change.

Those of us lucky enough to be working at Woodridge know that supportive families, such as those at Woodridge, are a main ingredient to a child's success. Your conscientious participation in parent/teacher conferences is only one example of this support.

There is a lot to be grateful for here at Woodridge. Thank you for all you do to support your children and our school.

Sincerely,

Brian Melody

Brian Melody	Principal	354-4600
Attendance		354-4606

November 20, 2009

Upcoming Events

November		
Nov. 19-25	Conference Week	1:00 Dismissal
Nov. 23	Individual Picture Re-Takes	
Nov. 23	Choir Rehearsal	1:00 to 3:00
Nov. 24	Hearing Screening	Gr. K, 1, 2, 3, & 5
Nov. 24	Choir Rehearsal	1:00 to 3:00
Nov. 25	Hearing Screening Continues	
Nov. 25	ASB Character Counts Day	
	Apple Cup Day Cougars vs. Huskies	
Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving Week-end	No School

"CITIZENSHIP"

Your Bond Dollars at Work

Spokane citizens are extremely supportive of Spokane Public Schools. Last March voters approved both our Maintenance and Operations Levy and a Construction Bond.

Bond money is spent largely on replacing or renovating aging schools, such as the nearly completed Shadle Park High School, but a small portion of the money is used for annual capital improvements to all of our sites.

As you visited school this week, you probably noticed construction taking place at Woodridge on the east side of the building. Drywells are being installed to alleviate the drainage problems that we have each winter at the base of the steps at both the north-east and southeast entrances to the building. Our Site Council identified this as a top priority, and now your tax dollars are getting the job done. Thanks Spokane voters!

Conference Week Continues

November 23, 24, 25

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



Counselor's Corner

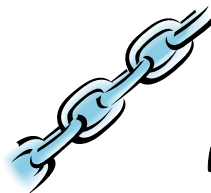


Ten Ways to help your child do well in school

1. *Show you care. Your child needs hugs and support. Ask your child about each school day.*
2. *Read, read, read! Read with your child as often as possible.*
3. *Make home a place for learning. Help your child practice reading, writing and math skills.*
4. *Promote healthy habits. Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep and exercise.*
5. *Be a role model. Your child learns from you. Be positive about education and how you enjoy learning.*
6. *Encourage independence. Allow your child to make mistakes and learn to accept their consequences. Give your child responsibilities, such as chores around the house.*
7. *Create a study routine. Set a time and quiet place for your child to work everyday. Go over homework together.*
8. *Get involved. Meet with your child's teacher for parent/teacher conferences, attend school events.*
9. *Build success. Help raise your child's self-esteem by setting reachable goals and praising your child's efforts.*
10. *Make school important. Insist on good attendance and getting to school on time.*

Jodi Harmon, Counselor

Picture Re-Take Day **Monday, November 23**



Library Link

Not just checking out books

Although checking out books is an important part of library class, your child is doing much more than that when they come to library. All students are introduced to award winning literature. Primary students learn about authors and illustrators, the difference between fiction and non-fiction, how to take care of books properly, how to independently find the books they want in the library and a three step process (the Super Three) for information problem solving. Intermediate students learn how to find information that is useful to them in this day and age of information overload. They learn a 6 step process (The Big 6) for information problem solving. This includes how to choose the right resources (print or electronic) and how to determine if those resources are reliable and useful for their specific purposes.

So when your children come to library, they are not only developing their love for reading, they are learning skills that are vital for this 21st century world in which they are growing up!

Christina Hogue
Librarian

Scholastic Book Fair **Gobble up some good books at the** **Scholastic Book Fair!** **Room 101**

Mon.	Nov. 23	12:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Tues.	Nov. 24	12:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Stop by to browse the shelves, do some holiday shopping, and say hi to friends.

