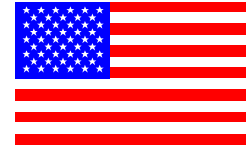




Winnisquam Regional Middle School Monthly News



Principal's News

Greetings!

It's wonderful to see the sunshine for a change! With the nice weather we should be able to install our new traffic signs soon. They will direct a one-way traffic pattern and designate our morning drop off at the stop sign. We find that this routine is much safer for students and it's easy for them to access the playground in the morning. Please be sure to enter the school from Winter Street, drive around to the stop sign to drop off your student, then make a right and continue back out to route 3. Our signs are now posted! We are proud of all our students and staff and very happy to report that we made AYP this year as a whole school and in all of our subgroup populations. To celebrate, we will be arranging some special events for our students. We have arranged some special treats with the Director of Food Service and we will be hosting a local middle school band, "The Long Tail Monkeys", to play during our lunches on May 14th. Students will be bringing their stuffed animal monkeys, wearing yellow and we will have a Monkey themed lunch. Everyone did a great job on their testing and we want them to know that we appreciate all their hard work and dedication to excellence! Our Restructuring Plan is complete and we are anxious to share the changes that we will be making next year with all of you. Even though we made AYP this year, we will still be making many positive changes for next year. Our school needs to make our AYP goals for two consecutive years in order to get off of the "school in need of improvement status." We will hold a parent meeting on Monday, May 11th at 6:00 P.M. to share our Restructuring Plan with all of you. We are very excited that this plan will help us to continue to make progress toward advancing the learning of all of our students. We hope to see you there!

Warm Regards,

Dr. Pamela Miller
Principal

ISSUE 8 April 17, 2009

At this time, all sixth and seventh grade students have received course recommendation forms for the 09-10 school year. Please sign and return the form immediately to your child's homeroom teacher. There is a section for parent comments should you choose a different placement for your child. Parent comments will be taken into consideration as we formalize student schedules to be sent home in June. If you have further questions, please contact your student's subject area teacher. The teacher recommendations sent home will stand if forms have not been returned prior to April vacation. We appreciate your input.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ronna Cadarette
Assistant Principal

Grade 6

The sixth grade is enjoying the beautiful spring weather with recess activities outside at the school track. Now that warmer temperatures have arrived and the snow has melted we are able to use more of the school grounds to spread out while getting fresh air and exercise.

The TARGET program is helping students understand where their behavior is not in keeping with the school rules. Many students have received Gotchas for receiving zero "letters" in a week! Great job! Please encourage your child to earn these Gotchas by being on time to class, having their assignments completed and brought to class, being respectful to everyone, keeping mouths free of gum and gossip, bringing their pencils and books to class, raising hands before speaking and being safe at all times.

Mrs. Hewey's Reading/language arts classes are exploring Greek myths through reading *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan. Ask your child to tell you about Grover the Satyr, the Minotaur, and Percy Jackson. **Ms. Sanders'** classes are studying biographies and autobiographies.

Mr. Meyer and **Ms. Witherspoon's** math classes are working on calculating the perimeter and area of polygons. Students are solving a real life situation they may address in their futures. A person has installed a new pool and wants to put a border of gravel around the pool. The students need to calculate area and perimeter to solve the problem and help the person purchase the correct amount of supplies. Next the classes will begin studying radius, diameter and circumference of circles and then move into three dimensional volume.

In Foundations of Algebra class we have been studying integers (positive and negative numbers). Students are becoming proficient at adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing with integers. We have been using integers to solve problems and to perform the order of operations. Students are now learning to locate points on all four quadrants of a coordinate plane and create graphs using all four quadrants of a coordinate plane.

Mrs. Martinson

Grade 7

Mr. Saltmarsh's math students are learning from a CMP algebra unit - Moving Straight Ahead. Students are learning about the slope-intercept form of the linear equation. They just finished a project of stair design finding slope by using the riser height and the tread depth. A second project using slope to find the pitch of a roof has also been completed. Project posters are displayed in the room showing their work. Installment payment plans are currently being studied, with the goal of having each student understand how to create a formula to determine how many payments will be necessary and how it is related to the down payment.

All of my math classes are working at various levels of Algebra. Block 1-2 is working on finding and understanding slope in a table, graph, and equation. Block 5-6 is finishing up with operations and rational numbers, and Block 7-8 is working on writing equations to solve situations found in real life. With the vacation coming up and MAP testing right after vacation, we will be focusing on strengthening their math skills even further to give them a good start in their assigned classes for next year. Happy Spring!

Mrs. O'Donnell

In literature we are currently finishing up the survival unit concentrating on the Iditarod. While there was still snow on the ground, the class was able to log onto the main Iditarod site and track the sled dogs with the GPS program. It was interesting to see the progression of the sled dog

teams and learn about teams that had scratched (dropped out of the race). All students in groups produced a Power Point to teach a section of the Iditarod to the class. They were fun to watch and everyone gained new information. Since the Iditarod has over 20 checkpoints, they also created brochures to advertise their checkpoint that they researched. We are working on an assembly that will demonstrate a real sled dog team as a culmination to the novels they are reading. Students need to continue to read their own books. The next book report will be due April 24 before vacation.

Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Berry

Grade 8

In Social Studies students have just begun a unit on the 1920's and 1930's. We will be contrasting the crazy 20's with the devastation of the Great Depression of the 30's. Just exactly what happened to our country's economy and by the way, are there some similar problems today? Hmmmm.

Mrs. Jurta

In math students are still going strong on the *I-succeed* math computer program. Most students are well into Volume 2 and some will soon be in Volume 3, quite an accomplishment!

In the next month, 8th graders will be attending the high school for a step-up day. They will have an opportunity to go through a mock school day as well as a tour and gain helpful information from students and staff at the high school. This should help ease their transition next school year. Also, 8th graders will have Science NECAP testing and NWEA (Map) testing coming soon. Exact times and dates will be available soon. Enjoy the spring weather.

Mrs. Vose

Library News

Many will enjoy *The Adventures of Vin Fiz* by Clive Cussler, which is a combination of fantasy, historical fiction, and adventure. Imagine living on an herb farm in California during the first part of the century. After Sucoh Sucop leaves an enchanted box that can transform any toy into the real thing for Lacey and Casey, with one special warning "to use the gift for good," Lacy and Casey try out their new gift on a toy tractor. They close their eyes and by magic a full-size tractor appears for their father. During the summer, Casey again tries out the box on his toy airplane. Yes, it becomes a real one. The adventure follows the route of the original Vin Fiz transcontinental flight

across the country. Only this flight is piloted by children and their dog. Can they really save a deserted ghost town? How do they stop an out-of-control barge or a runaway train? Read this book dedicated to all pilots who have dared to fly.

Ms. Sanders' language arts classes learned about how to find information from biography resources from Ms. Chapley. They listened to a tape created to represent an interview with an author. From the interview, they gained information about important facts about a person's life to apply to their own research of a famous person.

Mrs. Hewey's class listened to a book talk about Louis Sachar the author of *Holes* and *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*.

Ms. Chapley

Nurse's Note

We hope to see more of the sun soon! As the sun shines and we are outside, we will need to remember the importance of **SUN PROTECTION** for our skin! This includes a hat, glasses, over-up clothing and sunscreen every time we are out in the sun. Even waterproof sunscreen needs to be applied **every 2 hours** regardless of what the label says. Be aware it only takes a few sunburn to increase the chances of skin cancer as one ages. Skin that is a "little pink" today may be burned by morning since it can take up to 12 hours for skin to show the full effects of the sun. Every year I see students with various degrees of sunburn who say, "I put on sunscreen" and when asked how often usually the response is once maybe twice for the day. Please stress to your child the importance of proper sun protection using at least SPF 15 with UVA /UVB protection every time they are out in the sun.

Thank you and have fun in the sun!

Mrs. LaBranche, RN

Seventh Grade Guidance Classes

As part of our comprehensive guidance program, all 7th grade students take Guidance Class once a week during one quarter of each school year. These classes are designed around our WRSD Guidance Standards and center on the topics of interpersonal skills, becoming a better learner, cooperation and communications skills, stress management, decision making, goal setting and resource identification. An outline of our classes is given below for your review. If you should have any questions please contact me at 286-7143 x207 or via email lzimmerman@wrdsau59.org. Thank you!

Lauren Zimmerman, M.Ed.
School Counselor

Class 1 Topics: personal resources study skills
I have resources and I CAN become an excellent student?

Class 2 Topics: study skills-group communication skills
Which way does the Lego go and how can my learning style help me?

Class 3 Topics: study skills-group communication skills
Which brain and whose turn is it?

Class 4 Topics: stress management:
What exactly is stress and do I have it?

Class 5 Topics: stress management
Stress does what to my body?

Class 6 Topics: stress management
Try new ways to help you relax in class and out today!

Class 7 Topics: interpersonal skills and communication skills
Become a master at winning arguments.

Class 8 Topics: interpersonal skills
Goals - How do I get there from here?

Class 9 Topics: interpersonal skills
Why do boys love video games-why do girls love to shop? Or do they?

UPCOMING EVENTS

4/25 - 5/1 NO SCHOOL - Spring Recess

4/28 6:15 - 8:15 Drug Prevention Meeting at YAP Office in Downtown, Tilton. For more information call 286-8577.

5/8 Remote Control for Gr 7 and 8 at 1 PM

5/11 Restructuring Meeting w/Parents - 6 PM in Cafeteria

5/14 Long Tail Monkey presentations - Lunch concerts

5/14 PTO Meeting 6-7:30 PM at WRMS

5/16 CRI Exercise - Disaster Drill see attached sheet for more information.

Effective 4/1/09, the town of Sanbornton has changed a few of its road names (for better clarification for 911). Some sections of Pound Road and Circle Point Road are affected.

Please notify the office if your address has changed.