

# Westwood Elementary Newsletter 2016-2017

Mr. Jay Lutt, Superintendent & Preschool - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Principal

Mr. Matt Drees 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Principal



## December

**Pre-school reminder: No Pre-school Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

### **Kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Vocal Concert**

The K-3 Winter music program will take place on **Thursday, December 1** at **7:00 p.m.** in the main gym. We prefer that students not wear blue jeans, shorts or tennis shoes for the concert, but nice dress clothes.

Students are asked to meet in the multipurpose gym by **6:45 p.m.**

### **Monday's:**

**Our three Monday's in December class begins at 9:15 a.m.**

### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band & 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocal Concert - Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

Fifth and sixth grade band students should meet in their individual classrooms to take attendance with their classroom teachers at **6:30 p.m.** After their classroom teachers have taken attendance, they may come down to the band room to get instruments out and ready to go.

Fifth through eighth grade band member's dress code consists of girls wearing dresses, skirts, dress pants, and nice shirts and men wearing dress pants, nice shirts, and ties. Nice shoes are also required. **"Blue Jeans, t-shirts, and sneakers are not professional attire."**

Fifth grade will start the concert followed by the sixth grade. The band will conclude the concert with a combined fifth and sixth grade band playing Jingle Bells.

Bands will wait in the multi-purpose room quietly when their band is not performing.

The 5-6 Choir Members NOT in band should meet in Mr.Gerking's room at **6:30 P.M.** The 4th grade should meet in Mrs.Lounsbury's room with the 4th grade teachers.

The choirs will follow the bands in the concert. The order for the choirs will be:

5-6 combined choir

4th grade choir

5-6 combined choir (final number of the concert)

Each 5-6 choir member is asked to provide an "ugly sweater" to be used for the finale. If students cannot bring one, Mr.Gerking and Mrs.Lounsbury will have some extras here at the school.

### **Jam the Gym Night!**

**Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>,** the NHS will host a "Jam the Gym" night! The basketball game is with the Woodbury Central Wildcats ~ a 6:00 p.m. start for the girls' game. This night is the main fund raiser for the National Honor Society. All monies raised are donated to the Goodfellow charity which uses the funds to purchase gifts for underprivileged children. ***A more detailed note will be coming home from the NHS with your child regarding "Fund Frenzy" and cotton candy sales!*** Remember to display good sportsmanship at any activity, whether we are at home or away, as you are representing Westwood. Students are expected to sit and cheer Westwood on to victory!

## **WEA Winter BBQ!**

The Westwood Education Association Winter BBQ will take place on **Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Westwood will host Lawton-Bronson for the home basketball game. This fundraiser helps the association in raising funds for senior scholarships. A hamburger or hot dog meal is offered for \$5.00. Included in the meal is the hamburger or hot dog, chips, dessert, and tea or lemonade. Please come out and support our seniors and enjoy a great meal too!

## **Elementary Christmas Parties**

Christmas parties will be the *last hour of the day* on **Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**. There will be a **\$2.00 gift exchange** in the classroom **for the students**. Classroom teachers will send a note home with your child if they are on the party committee. **School will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. on December 22<sup>nd</sup>**, to begin our Christmas break!

## **K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Lock-In**

**Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**, from **2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** the Westwood After-Prom Party Committee will be hosting a lock-in for grades kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms were sent home with your child in late November. Contact Joan Gengler at 712-253-3909 or Candi Gress at 402-1685 for any questions.

## **End of the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester/Christmas Break**

Our semester ends on **Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**, with semester tests Wednesday and Thursday. **Only high school dismisses at 2:30 Wednesday. On Thursday, elementary, junior and senior high school students will dismiss at 2:30 p.m.** Report cards will be emailed or mailed home if we don't have your email, in early **January**. Christmas break is **December 23<sup>rd</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Classes resume on **Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

## **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Thank you for your support during Parent Teacher Conferences. Parental support of a student's education proves to have a significant impact in all facets of a child's education as well as behavior. The next parent-teacher conferences will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Let's strive for 100% attendance.

## **Book Fair 2016**

The book fair was widely supported during conferences. Funds generated from the book fair help increase the number of books in our school's library. We'd like to thank Mrs. Bata for organizing, setting up and working the Book Fair. Mrs. Duffy, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Lux and Mrs. Hansich were great help, without these folks it would not have happened! Thank you for your support, and please continue to encourage your student to read.

## **October AR (Accelerated Readers)**

Total points for the month of October was 2,175 with 30 students joining the 25 point club. Six students joined our 50 point club and 1 student starting off our 150 point club! Top readers so far are Cael Matthias in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Jackson Dewald in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and taking the 1<sup>st</sup> place spot is Logan Bata! Congratulations to all our readers! Earning the End-of-the Year Party, students need to make their class goal for 5 of the 8 months. Keep up the good work!

## Weather Notifications:

Our JMC message center uses the phone number identified as your “primary” number to make the phone call or text message if we are delayed or cancelled due to weather. To check your primary information, use your login or call the office to make sure your contact information is up to date. It’s also a good idea to have an **alternate plan** in place for your child if early outs should happen, please let us know if you have not done so already. Thanks!

**Remember:** Our policy for going outside at recess is if it’s **above ten degrees**, factoring in wind chill, **we will go outside**. **Please be sure your child is dressed to go outside; warm clothing is a must for them to be on our buses and playground.**

## Nurse Notes ~ Reasons to Keep Your Child Home

Your child has a temperature of over 100 degrees. *(He/she must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.)* Your child has vomited or had repeated diarrhea within the last 24 hours. *(He/she must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.)* Your child has any untreated communicable disease. *(Such as pink eye, strep throat, chicken pox, etc.)* We have had reports of increased cases of strep throat in the area. Your child should see a doctor if they have the following symptoms: Fever that may begin suddenly and is often the highest on the second day, chills, red, sore throat that may have white patches, pain when swallowing, and swollen, tender neck glands. He/she may return to school fever free and 24 hours after the start of antibiotics. There have also been cases of Shigellosis; symptoms are stomach cramps with vomiting, diarrhea. Symptoms can last up to 5-7 days.

Remember: **WASH YOUR HANDS.**



### TeamMates strives to reach gold!

Right now, TeamMates is serving close to 8,000 youth in more than 130 communities across Nebraska and Iowa. Mentors meet with their mentees one-on-one in school, once a week for 30-60 minutes, during the academic year. “We don’t do this for the accolades, but when your mentee does say ‘thank you’, it touches you to your core,” Mentor Giovanni Jones said.

Mentees can be nominated one of three ways. They can be nominated by a parent, a school staff member, or self-nomination. Mentors are **not** tutors, counselors, nor are they there to “fix” anything— they’re there to be **friends**. Mentors are matched with mentees based on interests and life experiences. Activities might include card or board games, crafts, sports, baking, eating lunch, etc.

The TeamMates Mentoring Program of Westwood would love an opportunity to share the mission of the program with the community. With your help, we can be one step closer to helping our students achieve their fullest potential.

**For questions about the TeamMates Mentoring Program, please contact Taylor Wurth at [twurth@wcsdrebels.com](mailto:twurth@wcsdrebels.com) or apply to be a mentor online at [teammates.org](http://teammates.org)**

## **Veteran's Day at Westwood November 11, 2016**

Westwood Community School honored our nation's veterans with an assembly held on November 11, 2016. The entire student body met in the courtyard to say the Pledge of Allegiance and to listen to the choir lead "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful." Grades 4-12 proceeded to the auditorium for a program led by the Student Council and guest speaker Major Brandon East who is the Security Forces Squadron Commander at the 185th Air Refueling Wing, Sioux City, Iowa. Our district extends a special thank you to Major East and the local veterans who joined the program.

Mr. Drees



***Enjoy the holiday's, we'll see you in January!***

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