

Friday, February 10, 2012

Words From Wilshire is now being sent via email to all of our families. If you are not receiving the email version, please email Cindy Ridge to be added to the contact list: cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us

Important!

No School Monday, February 20, 2012.

Dear Families,

Fun Fest was a huge success last Friday night. A big thank you goes out to parent, Angela Martin, for coordinating the whole event! Many other WPPA members and lots of volunteers came together to host a great night for our community. THANKS! While wandering through the gym during Fun Fest, I was reminded about how important it is to just have some FUN! Events like Fun Fest remind me that time spent as a family is so important to our students for their personal development. I hope that when you can, you enjoy those activities that are just plain, FUN!

Our plans for the playground renovation are coming along nicely. We have proposed placing new equipment, including a new spider web, in the area outside of the Media Center. Students usually play football in this area but due to the Hennepin County grant that our district received, multiple games can be played on the newly constructed soccer/kickball field. The old metal equipment will be removed and the swings will be moved closer to the existing play structure to make more room for the new soccer field. One obstacle that we will need a solution to is how to keep kids off the newly seeded field for next fall. Our hope is that we can have some students move to the back of the building (to the existing soccer field) during recess if they would like to do so. This field would be supervised by additional staff as well as the playground area. I would like to thank the WPPA for providing the funding for this new equipment. It is going to look great and I hope all of the students will enjoy the new equipment, field and space.

At this time of year, staff and I are already beginning to think about next school year. One topic of interest is enrollment. Currently, we continue to have a high number of resident kindergartners who have let us know they plan to enroll for the 2012-2013 school year. I am also seeing new residents moving in to the other grade levels this school year with predictions of more to come this summer. While it is exciting to have more residents moving in to our community, I realize this leaves less space for our very committed open enrollment families. I will continue to keep all of our families informed about decisions made for next school year as I am able.

Thanks again for all you do to prepare your child for school every day! It is appreciated!

Sincerely,

Kari Page, Principal

kpage@stanthony.k12.mn.us

Important Phone Numbers:

Wilshire Park School Office: 612.706.1200

Wilshire Park Attendance Line: 612.706.1204

MN Central Bus Company: 651.633.0300 or 651.430.3311

What Our Students are Learning:

From Physical Education Specialists, Mr. Allison and Mrs. Egan:

We will be doing Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart through February 6-17th in physical education.

From Counselor, Mrs. Woodworth:

This semester, I have an intern who will be working at Wilshire Park from now until the end of April. Mrs. Tara Gallagher is working on completing her Master Degree in School Counseling from Adler graduate school. She will be working with some students individually, in small groups, and doing some classroom lessons on important character education topics. Please welcome her to Wilshire Park! Speaking of groups, our guidance and support groups began this week. We have nearly 60 students involved in 11 groups focusing on anger management, friendship, family change, and new this time: yoga calm. We're anxious to continue working on some great skills with these students! Yoga calm has recently been a focus of mine, as I've been going into classrooms to co-facilitate yoga calm lessons with our occupational therapist, Mrs. Dodds. Students have been learning how to regulate their breathing, devote time to listening, and working on cooling down their "engines". It's been a fun and interactive way to help our students work on their focus towards learning. Hope everyone is enjoying this "Spring like" weather!

From ELL (English Language Learner) Specialists, Mrs. Gomez and Mrs. Stanley:

ACCESS testing began February 6. This is a new test from the State of MN for all ELL students K-5, including monitored students. (It replaces the TEAE test.) The ACCESS tests students in the areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. During the time of the administration of the tests, there will not be normal ELL services. Mrs. Stanley and I will be taking groups of students for the Reading, Listening, and Writing tests. We will also be taking students individually for the Speaking test. Testing should be finished by mid-March. Scores will be sent home to parents when they are received, possibly next fall.

From ACHIEVE Specialist, Mrs. Boatman:

- The third unit for ACHIEVE features Independent Study (research process) and Creativity Fair (creative spin-off activity). Students will research the month of February using a notebook organizer and then the month of March focuses on the use of information for a creative endeavor.
- Destination ImagiNation students are working furiously on their main challenges. Five groups are creating their very own movie trailer involving at least two countries, a sound track, and a cinematic effect. The "Cows that Moo" are working on News Stories for cause and effect improvisation. The DI groups will perform for Wilshire Park students on Friday, March 16th. District competition is Saturday, March 24, the second Saturday of Spring Break. Go DI!
- Mark your calendar – The Wilshire Park Creativity Fair will be on Thursday, March 29th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. More info to follow!

From Band Instructor, Mr. Ravndal:

- Students are progressing toward our next big goal: the "Band Page," also known as p. 20 (or, for percussionists, p. 10 in bells & Solo #3 on snare).
- Full Band will start again soon, most likely by the end of February, once we have enough students who have passed their Band Page to make a Full Band that's substantial enough.
- Consistent daily practice time, as always, remains the greatest key to students' success. Practicing has stretches where it can be tougher to keep up, but the more steady at practicing your 5th grader can be (remember they often need your parental help to achieve that daily structure & discipline!), the better they set themselves up for a successful experience -- better playing, greater investment, more fun . . . all of that!
- It's not a frequent occurrence, but it does happen a few times each year that a 5th grader realizes the instrument they started on is just not a good fit (often due to physical limitations -- personal "wiring," so to speak, or some other reason). I believe it's far more preferable to keep them going in Band by finding an instrument that's a "better fit" for them than the original instrument proved to be, than for them to just give up and drop out. Please contact me (612.706.1274); cravndal@stanthony.k12.mn.us) anytime with any questions.

Thank You:

- A HUGE thank you to Angela Martin for all of her work chairing the Fun Fest last week. Fun Fest is one of those events that bring the community together in such a magical way. Thanks to all the parents and older siblings who gave of their time and energy with set-up, clean-up or working at the event.



Events:

No School on Monday, February 20th – Presidents' Day!

Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart from February 6th -17th

Wilshire Park is once again taking part in the Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart fundraiser this year from February 6th-17th. YOUR child can be a Heart Hero and help children with special hearts



by participating in Jump Rope For Heart! Jump Rope For Heart is a fun experience where children have fun jumping rope, learning about their hearts and how to keep them healthy, all while raising life-saving donations for the American Heart Association. We've made it really fun and easy for your child and family to raise donations using our cool online tool! You can help your child set-up his/her own Jump Rope For Heart Web page with a photo or video, and email it to friends and family to ask for their support. Your child may collect from friends and relatives or donations can be made directly to your child's Web page. This is a great family activity to do together. Please see the envelop that was sent home for more information on how to help your child join our school team online and your family will be on your way to making a Web page and saving lives!

We have set a goal as a school to raise \$10,000 for the American Heart Association. If the goal is reached Mr. Allison and Mrs. Egan will dress up as superheroes for the day. Also the class that raises the most money through emails will win a subway party.

Students may also collect money from friends and family. However, if they set up the website then people can just donate to their website. That means the child would not have to do the money collection it would go right the American Heart Association.

Your child will also bring home a collection envelope for those that would like to donate checks or cash in February.

Thanks for your support!

Mr. Allison & Mrs. Egan

Physical Education Teachers

612.706.1236 or 612.706.1238

callison@stanthony.k12.mn.us or jegan@stanthony.k12.mn.us



**Destination Imagination (DI) Practice Sessions And T-Shirt Spirit Days
8:00–9:00 a.m. (before school) on Tuesday mornings in the MPR:
February 14 and February 21**

Mrs. Boatman will be offering four Destination Imagination practice session for DI team members. She will work on instant challenges so that the after-school team time can be used for the Central Challenge skits.

These meetings are optional. However, please attend if you are able to fit it into your schedule. A big part of the competition in March is the Instant Challenge. Children are to immediately come to the multi-purpose room with coats, bags, and all, not the classrooms, when they come to school in the morning. Enter by the side parking lot door.

If you can't attend these sessions still mark your calendars for DI t-shirt spirit days for Wilshire Park.

Important Testing Dates: Please Update Your Calendar

There is a misprint in the St. Anthony-New Brighton School Calendar for this year regarding the MCA testing dates for this school year. All students in grades 3-5 will take MCAs.

The calendar states that we will hold MCA Math on April 10th and 11th, MCA reading on April 17th and 18th, and MCA science (5th grade only) the week of April 23rd. We made this testing schedule last Spring based off of previous years, however, the state has mandated that MCA math and reading cannot begin until the week of April 16th. The new testing dates are as follows:

- April 17th and 18th : MCA math grades 3-5
- April 24th and 25th: MCA reading grades 3-5
- Week of April 30th – May 4th: MCA science grade 5
- MAP testing then will be from May 7th-June 1st

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Becky Woodworth, School Counselor

(612) 706-1222

bwoodworth@stanthony.k12.mn.us

Wilshire Park First Graders Present . . .

Math Songs



© Johnny Sajem · www.ClipartOf.com/1056532

Vocal Music Concert
Thursday, February 23rd
Wilshire Park Gym
7:00 p.m.



The first graders are excited to share their concert "Math Songs" on Thursday, February 23rd at 7 p.m. in the Wilshire Park gym. Students have been learning songs to reinforce math concepts like fractions, odd and even numbers and telling time. They will sing and move to their songs about math.

Matinee Performance: The matinee will be at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 23rd in the Wilshire Park Gym. Wilshire Park students will have this opportunity to enjoy the concert.

The evening of the concert: Please bring your child **to their classroom at 6:45 p.m.** where they will wait with their class until they are scheduled to perform. Take their jackets with you to the gym because they will not be returning to the classroom after the concert.

Announcements:

School Board Selects New Superintendent:

The School Board of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District has completed its search process for a new superintendent. On February 2, the Board concluded three days of interviews with its finalists and voted unanimously to enter into contract negotiations with Robert (Bob) Laney, who is currently Assistant Superintendent for St. Louis Park Schools. Laney has spent twenty-three years of his career in St. Louis Park; he served as Assistant Principal for seven years and Principal of St. Louis Park High School for eleven years.

Looking for Ice Cream Bucket Donations

If you have ice cream buckets taking up space at your house, could you please donate them to the nurse's office or the lunchroom? You can drop them off in the office. It is not necessary to have the covers. Thank you!

Kindergarten Registration for 2012-13 School Year

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2012 and live in the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District? Please e-mail cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us or call the school office at 612.706.1200 to be added to our kindergarten mailing list for the 2012-13 school year. Please contact us even if you think we already know about your child!

Kindergarten information for the 2012-13 school year will be mailed out in February. An information session about the All-Day Kindergarten option will be held on Thursday, March 8th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Kindergarten Warmup will take place on Thursday, April 12th or Tuesday, April 17th at Wilshire Park.

Bus Company Information

MN Central School Bus is the company contracted for our student transportation. Occasionally delays in student pickup or drop-off may occur for a variety of reasons. Our office staff is always available to assist during office hours but please note our office does close at 4:00 p.m. Please make your first call to the bus company at: 651.633.0300 or 651.430.3311. Transportation phone numbers are also listed on the home page of the Wilshire Park website.

Wear School Colors on Fridays

Students and staff are encouraged to wear school colors on Fridays (t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.). Our school colors are royal blue and white. Our school mascot is the panda.



From the Nurse:

Just a reminder to all parents, if your child needs to receive an antibiotic or eye drops while at school, it must be in an appropriate container labeled by the pharmacy and you must send a signed note stating when the student should get the medication and for how long. When you receive a medication prescription please ask the pharmacy for TWO medication bottles labeled appropriately. Medications should NOT be sent to school in a baggie. They must be in the original container. Please see the Wilshire Park website for the policy on giving medications at school. Any medication (other than short-term antibiotics) that will be given at school needs to have a Physician and parent signature, this includes Tylenol and cold medicines. This is in compliance with Minnesota law. The Authorization for Administration of Medication at School form is available on the WP website under the Health Services tab. A new form is required each school year. Please call the Health Office if you have any questions 612-706-1205. Thank you.

Lori Watzl-King, RN LSN
612-706-1205
lwatzl-king@stanthony.k12.mn.us

Take Note:

After School Change in Plans

We understand that after-school plans for your child may change occasionally. Please send a note with your child or email the teacher, when possible. On those occasions when plans change during the school day, please call the school office as early as you can. Many times, the office staff is inundated with calls and visitors at the end of the day. Some grades have late-afternoon recess which makes it challenging to deliver a message to your child.

Yoplait and Dannon Yogurt: Cups of Hope

- Mrs. Burba will collect your Yoplait yogurt lids to support breast cancer. Please bring rinsed lids to the school office.
- Also, give hope with every cup of Dannon Yogurt. Look for the lids with the pink Breast Cancer Ribbon, on the back of the lid there is a code on the back of the lid with instructions to go online to www.cupsofhope.com, Dannon will donate up to \$1.5 M to Breast Cancer Research. Please go online to be informed and put your health first. Thank you for caring by helping all mothers, daughters, sisters and friends find a cure to a disease that affects us all.

Money Sent to School with Your Child

When sending money to school with your child, please mark the check or envelope clearly with your child's first and LAST name, teacher's name and why the money is being sent (lunch money, field trip, book order, All Day Kdgn. tuition, etc.). If paying on your child's lunch account, please include your child's Lunch PIN number.

Lost and Found:

The Lost and Found area inside Door #3 has many, many lost sweatshirts and other items waiting to be found. Next time you are at school, please stop by and look for items your child may have left behind at school. A friendly reminder: If you mark your child's clothing, jackets, snowpants, boots, etc. with their name, we will do our best to return your child's items to them. Many Lost and Found items were donated to charity during Winter Break.

If Your Child is Absent or will be arriving late. . .

Please call the attendance line at 612.706.1204. Please call before 9:05 a.m. (Afternoon kindergarten, please call before 12:50 p.m.) You may leave a message 24 hours a day.

After School Child Care

Please remember to notify your child care provider if your child is ill or you pick up your child from school. Sometimes we receive calls from Kids' Connection, Nativity, etc. after school looking for children. Save all of us some anxious moments! We want to know that our children are safe.

Bus Stops

Please be aware that if a bus stop goes unused for a period of 10 days, that stop may be inactivated by our bus company, Minnesota Central Transportation. Please contact our Transportation Director, Todd Niklaus at tniklaus@stanthony.k12.mn.us or 612.706.1117 if you need assistance with your child's bus route.

Flyers

Non-school-related flyers are not sent home with students but will be made available to parents in the school office. Parents may also call the school office to request that a flyer be sent home.

Flyers currently available in the school office:

- **Piano Lessons** by Michelle Carpenter, a Wilshire Park mom: Individualized instruction – ½ hour lessons in my St. Anthony home. 20 years experience working with children of all abilities. Please e-mail: michellelynn Carpenter@gmail.com or phone: 612.788.4679.
 - **St. Anthony Cub Scout Pack 153** would like you to consider scouting! It's not too late to join. A flyer is available in the school office or contact Cubmaster Michael Garrett at garrett2600@comcast.net or call 612.298.2962.
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Community News:

MCGT (Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented) St. Anthony Parent Group

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Time: 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Location: St. Anthony Community Center Multi-Purpose Room
3301 Silver Lake Road, St. Anthony Village

Topic: Activities and Games

Kids are invited to this meeting!

There will be activities for the kids and they are invited to bring a game.

The purpose of the MCGT St. Anthony Parent Group is to support parents of gifted learners. Over the years, we've discovered that our own gifted learners had special needs. Please join us to talk about these needs, share information and experiences, and connect with a group of parents of gifted learners. Bring your questions and discussion ideas for our open discussion time. Check out **MCGT** at their website (www.MCGT.net) or contact us at stanthony@mcgt.net with questions. Our meetings are on the second Tuesday of every month.

Looking ahead to the March meeting:

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2012

Time: 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Location: St. Anthony Community Center

Activity Room – CS19

3301 Silver Lake Road

St. Anthony Village

Topic: IQ Testing

***Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented**

[Disclaimer: This is a parent-created, parent-lead, "booster" type of organization that is separate from the gifted and talented education opportunities currently available in the schools. We do not identify or classify gifted and talented students. We are solely available to assist parents who feel their child/children has/have gifted and talented abilities in the arts and music, social studies, humanities, and science and math areas. Our open door policy is in keeping with the mission statement of MCGT. There is no admission test for these meetings. All are welcomed to check us out.]

Preschool Open House and Registration for 2012-2013 School Year

St. Anthony Community Services invites families of young children to learn more about preschool options at an open house on **Tuesday, February 21 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.** at the St.

Anthony Community Center. Community Services offers morning, afternoon, and all day preschool options. Preschool teachers will be available to answer questions about half day and all day preschool programs. New families can begin registering for the 2012-2013 preschool program on Tuesday, February 21. Families can contact St. Anthony Community Services at 612-706-1166 for more information.

Cops vs. Kids Basketball Challenge on Thursday, February 23rd

Come join us for our 6th annual Cops vs. Kids basketball challenge on Thursday Feb. 23rd at 6:00 p.m. in the lower gym at the high school. Six teams will play against some of St. Anthony's "finest" for a fun community event! Who will you cheer for? The concession stand will also be open for refreshments.

St. Anthony Boosters Baseball registration is now open! Registration will close on Saturday March 24th for grades 3-8. Traveling Tryouts will be held on March 25rd and March 31st, and In-House Evaluations will take place April 1st. Please see the attached flyer for additional information or visit www.boostersbaseball.com

2012 Villager of the Year/Outstanding Business Awards

St. Anthony Village Area Chamber of Commerce

Nominations are now being accepted for 2012 Villager of the Year and 2012 Outstanding Business awards. Nomination materials can be downloaded from the chamber website at www.saintanthonychamber.org

ST ANTHONY VILLAGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Networking Happy Hour
Thursday, February 16, 2012
Big Louie's Bar and Grill
790 County Road D, New Brighton
5:30-6:30 p.m.

Please join the St. Anthony Village Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, February 16th at Big Louie's Bar & Grill for happy hour. Big Louie's holds a meat raffle that begins at 5:30 p.m. – the Chamber will purchase a meat raffle ticket for all those arriving in time for the first raffle. Reservations are NOT required but it would be appreciated if you would contact us if you know you will be attending. This allows us to better prepare for the proper number of guests. Please contact us at info@saintanthonychamber.org

ST ANTHONY VILLAGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON NOTICE

Tuesday, February 21, 2012
11:30 a.m. Networking followed by Noon Program
LOCATION: The Landings
2551 38th Ave NE, St. Anthony Village
PRICE: \$10.00

PROGRAM: Our speaker will be County Commissioner Jan Parker (District 2). Commissioner Parker will be discussing the proposed Viking Stadium. Commissioner Parker was elected to the County Board in 1996 and represents the communities of Lauderdale, Little Canada, Mounds

View (Precinct 4), New Brighton, Roseville and the portion of St. Anthony that is in Ramsey County. She is the vice-chair of the Health Services Committee and of the Regional Railroad Authority, secretary of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and also serves on the Budget Committee, Facilities Committee, Human Services and Workforce Solutions Committee, Public Safety and Justice Committee, and the Public Works, Parks and Solid Waste Committee. She is chair of the County's Legislative Committee. A resident of New Brighton, Jan has over 35 years of community and professional experience. Our thanks to The Landings for providing the meeting space and acting as host of the February lunch meeting.

PLEASE RSVP BY NOON OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2012

Kelly Salseg

Email: info@saintanthonychamber.org

Phone: 612-782-8786

Mark your Calendar: ST ANTHONY VILLAGE FEST

Save the Dates: Friday-Sunday, August 3-5th, 2012

Parade on Friday, August 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Details to follow!

Question of the Week:



Question: On her report card, my child was marked absent even though she arrived late at school after a doctor appointment. Why wasn't this counted as a tardy?

Answer: The school day is divided into fourths for attendance purposes. If a child arrives to school late, but before 9:35 a.m. they are marked "tardy". The same is true if a child leaves between 3:05 and 3:35 p.m. A child is marked "absent" for any other time period during the school day. Please be sure to call the school attendance line: 612.706.1204 to report that your child will be late or absent from school.

Calendar: Looking Ahead!

- **Friday, February 10:**
 - 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Coffee & Conversation With the Principal – Multipurpose Room, all are welcome to attend, no reservation needed.
- **Wednesday, February 15:**
 - 11:35-2:35 p.m. – Third Grade Field Trip to MN Center for Book Arts
- **Friday, February 17:**
 - 9:15-9:45 a.m.: School Assembly - RoboHuskie Demonstration - Gym
- **Monday, February 20:**
 - **No School: Presidents' Day**
- **Tuesday, February 21:**
 - 7:00 p.m. – School Board Meeting – MS/HS Media Center
- **Wednesday, February 22:**
 - 7:50-8:45 a.m. – K-Kids Meeting - Cafeteria
- **Thursday, February 23:**
 - 2:30 p.m. – 1st Grade Concert Matinee: *Math Songs* – WP Gym
 - 7:00 p.m. – 1st Grade Concert: *Math Songs* – WP Gym (1st graders arrive at 6:45 p.m. and meet in classrooms).

Words From Wilshire is published twice each month on the second and fourth Friday of the month. (Exceptions: 3rd and 5th Fridays in September; One issue in November on November 10; One issue in December on December 9 and one issue in March on March 9th). Deadline for articles to be printed in Words From Wilshire is noon on Tuesday before publication. Editor: Cindy Ridge: cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us