

Welcome to

Wilshire Park
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



A Professional Learning Community
Words Online

Friday, October 28, 2011

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

No School Friday, Nov. 11th.

Dear Families and Guardians,

I hope you all had a nice Fall break!

Our first Coffee with the Principal is Friday, Nov. 4th from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Multi-purpose Room. The topic of discussion is Yoga Calm. Yoga Calm incorporates techniques to help students achieve focus in the classroom to optimize their learning. Staff members Jill Essner-Dodds, Rebecca McGrath and Ann Shaw have been trained in the technique and will talk to parents about the use of Yoga Calm at Wilshire Park. Our whole teaching staff also received training during workshop week. You will learn about the technique and maybe even pick up a few ideas to use in your own home. The last part of the meeting is open to questions and comments about items related to Wilshire Park. If you happen to be in the building volunteering and would like to bring your materials to work on during the meeting, tables will be set up in back for you to do so.

It was such great fun to see all the grandparents and older special friends who attended our Grandparents Day and Book Fair this week. I realize some grandparents had to travel some far distances to get here and that is appreciated. Proceeds from the book fair support our media center and the purchase of new books for students. Please let your child's grandparents know how much we appreciate them!

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 Are Our Students Learning?

From Science Specialist, Mrs. Lusvardi:

Science is off to a “rocking” start for the year!

- Kindergarten students investigated color to start the year and are now studying the seasons, the weather and clothing associated with each one.
- First graders have studied volcanic rock samples and are now investigating river rock samples. They are learning to identify rocks by their sizes: pebbles, gravel, and sand.
- Second graders have done several investigations with air. They should be able to tell you five things they have discovered about what air does.
- Third graders have researched the planets and are learning how they move through space by rotating on an axis and revolving around the sun. We will investigate the moon and its phases next.
- Fourth graders have begun doing field tests on 12 mineral samples to discover their identifying properties. This will continue for several weeks as there are nine different field tests to complete.
- Fifth graders have seen the effects of water erosion on land formation, concentrating on what erosion does, where do the sediments created by erosion deposit, and what effects do flooding and slope have on the erosion process. They will be designing and conducting their own investigations to see how humans can influence the shape of the land.

From LEAP Specialist, Mrs. Hoaglund:

LEAP 4th graders have been learning and practicing multiplication strategies. Fifth graders have been working with expressions, equations, and variables.

From Media Specialist, Mrs. Kirkeide:

The Fall Scholastic Book Fair was at school during the week and many grandparents took the opportunity to look through the selection during Grandparents’ Days. Thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered to help out with the Book Fair, and Connie Bergquist for recruiting the volunteers. **We couldn’t do it without you!**

If you would like to shop the Book Fair online, you can click on the link below and order through Friday, November 4th: OnlineBookFairs.scholastic.com

Here is what else has been happening in the Media Center:

- Kindergarten. This month the Kindergarten classes will be learning about the parts of a book, and we will be reading non-fiction books.
- First graders are beginning our Traditional Literature unit, which includes Folktales, Fairy Tales and Fables.
- Second graders will be reviewing how to choose a book at the appropriate reading level, and using the visual search feature on our online catalog.

- Third grade students have begun learning about the Dewey Decimal System. We are also introducing a variety of fiction series at the third grade reading level, to encourage independent reading for pleasure.
- Fourth grade students are reviewing the Dewey Decimal system and the on line card catalog, which can be accessed from home at <http://library.stanthony.k12.mn.us>
- Fifth grade students will soon be starting their research project on biomes. During their library time, they will be learning how to create a bibliography, using an online site called EasyBib.

News from Physical Educators, Mr. Allison and Mrs. Egan:

In October our Physical Education classes will be participating in an in-house skating program through Skatetime. Due to insurance purposes, we will be exclusively using Skatetime's skates. We will provide helmets, wrist guards and knee pads. However, if your child has their own helmet we strongly encourage them to bring it to their physical education classes.

- Mrs. Egan's classes will be skating from October 25th –November 9th.

If you have any questions please let us know.

Chris Allison callison@stanthony.k12.mn.us or Jamie Egan jegan@stanthony.k12.mn.us

Thank You!



- Thank you to the Buck family, Geier family and Wright family for participating in the Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign through their workplaces. We recently received a donation through that campaign and will receive a matching donation from Wells Fargo.
- Thank you to Helen Kiedrowski and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schroeder for their contributions towards classroom supplies.
- Thank you to Penny McDonough (Rachel and Travis's mom) and Alison Gibb (Bryce, Lauren and Wyatt's mom) who helped out with Grandparents days this week. About 460 grandparents or special adult friends shared lunch with our students over three days! Wow!
- Thank you to Connie Bergquist (Ella's mom) for all of her help with the Scholastic Book Fair in October. Connie helped with setup, takedown and staffing the check-out table.
- A HUGE thank you to Bob Doolan who does a tremendous job maintaining the aquarium in the office. It is decorated with live plants and lots of interesting fish. Please be sure to stop by the office to take a look.

Events

Wilshire Park Family Night - Rich Wieber's Bicycle Stunt Show: Thursday, November 3rd from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the Gym

Rich Wieber uses his bicycle and message to present a high energy and fast-paced program that will inspire students to live out their dreams. His rock solid message is designed to educate, empower, motivate and inspire students.

This 45 minute program will cover these topics:

- Determination
- Goal Achievement
- Peer Pressure
- Perseverance

Please email Helen at hsiggelkow@stanthony.k12.mn.us by Friday, October 28th to register for this free activity. Thank you to the Wilshire Park Parents Association for generously providing funding.

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

You are Invited to: Coffee and Conversation with the Principal Friday, Nov. 4, 2011 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Multipurpose Room

You are invited to coffee, conversation and treats with Principal Kari Page on Friday morning, November 4th. The topic will be Yoga Calm, basic yoga activities used with students to help increase focus during teaching time and help with stress reduction. Wilshire Park staff members: Jill Essner-Dodds - Occupational Therapist, Ann Shaw - Title I and Rebecca McGrath – LEAP will present the information to parents. There will also be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.



Hat Day! Thursday, November 10th

Thursday, November 10th is the last day of first quarter! As a way to celebrate, students may wear their favorite or most unusual hat to school on Nov. 10th. Report cards will be sent home with students in grades 2-5 on Friday, November 18th. (Kindergarten and first grade students will receive their first report card at the end of the second quarter).

Wilshire Park Parents Association (WPPA) Meeting: Monday, Nov. 7th

Reminder: The Wilshire Park Parents' Association (WPPA) will meet on Monday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. Please note: we have moved the monthly meetings to the Staff Lounge. Please enter the building through door 3 (parking lot door).

WPPA: Candy Bar Sales

A THANK YOU to all those Wilshire Park Families who participated in this years' Candy Bar Fundraiser by selling candy bars or simply making a donation. We are beginning to wrap-up the Fall Fundraiser and wanted to take the time to send a friendly reminder that ALL money is due at school! Candy Bar money can be turned into the student's classroom teacher or brought directly to the school office.

If you are INTERESTED in selling additional cases (own a business or involved with a church) and would like to get your hands on more CHOCOLATE, please contact: Emily Tischer at: etischer@stanthony.k12.mn.us OR Tara Halverson at: dustintara@msn.com

Individual & Classroom PRIZES are being worked on and will be delivered to students when they arrive. Thank you again for YOUR help in supporting Wilshire Park!

Tara Halverson
Candy Bar Chair

WPPA: Spirit-Wear Sales

Wilshire Park Spirit-wear order forms were sent home last week with students (and attached to this newsletter). Sample sizes are in the school office if you would like to stop by and take a look. Orders are due Friday, Nov. 7th.

Please Vote on Tuesday, November 8th

The November elections are a great time to teach your child what citizenship means. Let your child see democracy in action by taking him or her with you when you vote on Tuesday, November 8th.

No School Friday, Nov. 11th.



Non-School Days/Child Care Available at SACC:

St. Anthony Community Services is open for child care all day on Friday, November 11th. Please call if you need to make child care arrangements for these nonschool days: 612.706.1166.

November Conferences: November 15, 17, 22

Fall conferences are scheduled from 3:45-7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, Thursday, November 17 and Tuesday, November 22. One additional afternoon will be available for parents for Mrs. Cobian's half-day kindergarten students only, on Friday, November 11th. Online scheduling was available through Wednesday, October 19th. After October 19th, parents will need

to contact their child's teacher to schedule a conference. Please sign up for only one 15 minute conference time slot per child. If you have more than one child, please do not schedule your children's conferences "back to back"; you will need time to walk to the next classroom. Teachers have only enough timeslots available to offer one conference time per student. If your child has parents from two households, please schedule one conference time for both parents to attend. If an exception needs to be made, please contact your child's teacher. If your family would like a foreign language interpreter for your family, please contact the school office.

Announcements

Art Adventures Volunteers Needed for Grades K-4

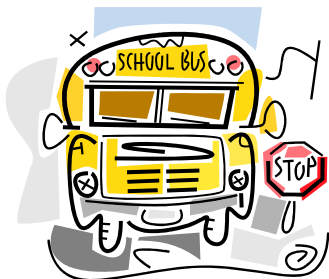
The Art Adventures Program is a picture presentation program sponsored by the Minneapolis Institute of Art (MIA). This year's theme will be "**Let's Celebrate Life!**" No art experience is needed to be a volunteer, and training will be provided.

Volunteers will attend one training session at the MIA in January. The training session includes a presentation by an Art Institute docent who will describe a series of eight works throughout the MIA. Each volunteer receives a thorough packet of information that summarizes what has been learned in the training session, as well as sample discussion questions aimed for your child's grade level. The dates for the training sessions are Thursday, January 5th from 5:30-8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, January 31st from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Once trained, volunteers will lead one to four 15-30 minute discussions about the selected works of art. You will be provided with reproductions to carry to the classroom, as well as hands-on props that may help explain the art. Volunteers will work with the teacher to determine the time and date of class meetings in the months of February and March. This will be followed by a field trip to the museum in Late March or Early April.

This has been a really fun program that allows you to work with your child's classroom – and learn a little yourself. Volunteers are needed now! Please e-mail me for more information or to volunteer.

Kurt Adolfson
adol0002@comcast.net



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.

High School Fundraiser: Huskies Clothing

Just in time for the holidays! Looking for an idea for gifts for the upcoming holiday season? Buy school gear and clothing and support the students traveling to Spain in the spring at the same time. This fundraiser will have a short shelf life so you have to act fast. Place your order on the following website: www.blue84spirit.com/STVH which will be open from now until November 14. Flyers will also be handed out at school and available at the community center. Thank you for your support.

Bill Blomstrom, Spanish Teacher
St. Anthony Village High School

Wear Your 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.



PANDA PRIDE!

From the Nurse

Vision Screening in November, Remember to get Flu Vaccine

We will be screening all students for vision during the month of November. If students do not pass the initial screening, they will be rescreened in early December. A referral will be mailed home for any students who do not pass the rescreen. If you are interested in helping with the vision screening, please call the Health Office at 612-706-1205 or email me at lwatzl-king@stanthony.k12.mn.us

Hearing screenings were completed on October 18th. If your child did not pass the hearing rescreen, you will get a referral in the mail in the next two weeks. If you do not receive a letter you can be confident that your child passed their hearing screening.

Now is the perfect time to get your family vaccinated against the flu. The vaccine this year will cover both H1N1 and seasonal influenza. Vaccination is recommended for all children ages 6 months to 18 years. If you have a child younger than 6 months in your household it is recommended that all other family members be vaccinated. If you have questions about influenza vaccination, please call your doctor or call me at 612-706-1205.

A reminder: if your child has a fever over 100 degrees, you should keep him or her home from school until they are fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducers such as Tylenol or

Motrin). Other guidelines for when to keep your child home from school are located in the Student Handbook and on the Wilshire Park website under the Health Services tab. We are seeing some cases of strep throat in the school. If your child has a sore throat and a fever consider having them checked for strep throat. The contagious period for strep throat lasts until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours, so students should stay home until that time. Please notify the school if your child is diagnosed with strep throat.

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.

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.

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. October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, 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.

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, or during November conferences, 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. Lost and Found items are periodically donated to charity.

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.

Community News

Early Childhood Advisory Council's Annual Halloween Carnival on Friday, October 28th

St. Anthony's Early Childhood Advisory Council invites parents and their children ages birth to second grade to attend its annual Halloween Carnival on **Friday, October 28th from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the St. Anthony Community Center, 3301 Silver Lake Road.** Proceeds from the carnival are used to purchase equipment and fund scholarships for St. Anthony Community Services' early childhood and school age care programs. Call Community Services at 612-706-1166 for more information.

MCGT: MN Council for the Gifted/Talented Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 8th from 7:00-8:00 p.m. - WP Media Center

The November meeting of the **MCGT* St. Anthony Parent Group** is coming up. The details are below. The purpose of our Parent Group is to support parents of gifted learners in this community. Over the years, we've discovered that our own gifted learners had special needs. This is a chance to come together to talk about these issues, share

information and experiences, and connect with a group of parents who have "been there" and "done that".

Each month, in addition to the open forum, we will try to address a specific topic of interest. Our November topic will be on "behavior" issues. Please join us. 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.

Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Time: 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Location: Wilshire Park Media Center

***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 issues 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. Future posts will be through "Words from Wilshire" and the daily announcements for the Middle and High Schools.]

Fall 2011 Fun & Fundamentals Wrestling Camp

**Come check out...
The GREAT sport of Wrestling!!!**



This is an introductory camp for youth in grades Kindergarten through grade six.

- Dates: November 1,3,10,15 and 17
- Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- Camp held in SLPHS Wrestling Room

FREE FREE FREE

District Services/Community Education Offices are open daily from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 pm
1415 81st Ave NE, Spring Lake Park 55432 763.786.1338

Question of the Week



Question: My child is sick and I am concerned about them missing classes. How can I make arrangements to pick up homework?

Answer: Thank you for keeping your child home when they are ill. Please contact the school office (612.706.1200) or email your child's teacher before 10:00 a.m. to make

arrangements to pick up homework in the office or send it home with a brother or sister or neighbor. Many teachers also post homework assignments on their classroom website. Please email your child's teacher for more information.

Calendar: Looking Ahead!



- **Friday, October 28:**
- 5:30 p.m. – ECFE Halloween Carnival, St. Anthony Community Center
- **Tuesday, November 1:**
 - Vision Screening
 - 7:00 p.m. – School Board Meeting – St. Anthony Community Center
- **Thursday, November 3:**
 - 6:30-7:15 p.m. – Wilshire Park Family Night presents: Rich Wieber's Bicycle Stunt Show – WP Gym
- **Friday, November 4:**
 - 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Coffee and Conversation with Principal, Kari Page - MPR
- **Monday, November 7:**
 - 7:00 p.m. - WPPA Meeting – Staff Lounge (enter through Door #3 from parking lot)
- **Tuesday, November 8:**
 - Election Day – Remember to Vote!
 - AM Vision Screening
 - 7:00-8:00 p.m. – MCGT Meeting – Wilshire Park Media Center
 - 8:05 p.m. – School Board Meeting – High School Media Center
- **Wednesday, November 9:**
 - 7:50-8:45 a.m. - K-Kids Meeting, Cafeteria
 - Vision Screening – Grades 2-5
- **Thursday, November 10:**
 - Last Day of First Quarter – Hat Day!
- **Friday, November 11:**
 - No School/Staff Development Day
 - 12:30-3:30 p.m. - Mrs. Cobian's Class: Additional conferences date for ½ day Kdgn.

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