

Wildwood Elementary Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017

JENNIFER FOX, PRINCIPAL
LAURIE KOVAL, EDITOR



Dear Wildcat Families,

As we head into the winter months, please remember that even when it's cold outside, it is important for children to get out during the school day for some fresh air as the weather permits. As a result, the practice at Wildwood is that whenever possible, classes will go outside for recess. Make sure that your child comes to school prepared to spend time outdoors with a jacket, hat, mittens, etc. It is also a great help if outdoor clothes come labeled with names. Many items end up in the Lost and Found because they are not labeled. Please check our Lost and Found located in the gym next time you visit our school, if your child is missing some clothing. Over winter break, unclaimed items will be donated.

Jennifer Fox

CALENDAR DATES

- **November 8**
Veterans Day Assembly
- **November 9**
Early Release, at 12:46
No Preschool
- **November 10**
No School, Veterans Day
- **November 14**
Picture Re-Takes
- **November 16**
Student Council Meeting
- **November 16**
Stem Showcase Night
at Kalles Jr High
- **November 17**
Early Release at 12:46
No Preschool
- **November 22**
Early Release at 12:46
No Preschool
- **November 23 & 24**
No School,
Thanksgiving Break

Veterans Day Assembly

The Ferrucci Junior High band, orchestra and choir will be coming to Wildwood on November 8th to conduct a Veterans Day Assembly. The assembly will begin at 9:10 a.m. The assembly will serve to honor our nation's veterans from all branches of the military as well as the men and women currently in active duty. All are welcome.



Calendar Reminders

Early Dismissal Days:

Thursday, Nov 9th
(Student Learning)

Friday, Nov 17th
(Grading Day)

Wednesday, Nov 22
(Professional Day)

No School

Thanksgiving
Break
November 23-24



Student Council Meetings:

November 16
December 14
January 18
February 15
March 15
April 19
May 17

STEM Showcase Information Night

Parents and students throughout the district are invited to attend a community night designed to help students be successful in creating projects for the district's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Showcase.

The free information night will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Thursday, November 16th at Kalles Junior High, 501 7th Ave SE, Puyallup.

This night is designed to help parents gain an understanding of what their child is expected to do with the science project and provide tools necessary to make it simple, easy and fun.

Winners from each school site will be entered in the Puyallup School District STEM Showcase during the Washington State Spring Fair (April 19 - 22, 2018) in Puyallup.



5th Grade Dancing Classroom

Performances for the 5th Grade Dancing Classroom Culminating Program are on December 5th at 9:45 am in the Wildwood gym. All parents, grandparents, family and friends are welcome to attend the program and watch the children transform into ladies and gentlemen to perform the

tango, swing, foxtrot, waltz and several other dances.

The Colors of the Rainbow competition between all schools who have participated in the Dancing Classrooms program will be held at Todd Beamer High

School on Saturday, December 9th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Select students will be performing, but all students are invited to attend as audience and support crew.

School Attendance and Tardies

As we settle in to this school year, we want to emphasize the importance of school attendance each day. It is not surprising that students who attend school regularly do better in school. One study showed that, "school attendance had a significant and positive influence on student GPAs, indicating that absenteeism directly affects the amount of learning at the elementary school level."

In order to enforce this important issue, the State of Washington has a compulsory school attendance law, otherwise known as the "BECCA Law."

RCW.28A.225.010 states, "Parents of any child eight years of age (ages six and seven, if enrolled in school) and

under eighteen years of age in the State of Washington shall cause such child to attend school."

RCW.28A.225.03 states, "School districts are required to file a petition with juvenile court for attendance violations by a parent or a child."

At Wildwood Elementary, after the first unexcused absence you will receive a phone call or a letter informing you of this unexcused absence.

At three unexcused absences, a conference is scheduled with administration to discuss the unexcused absences and make a plan for improvement. At seven or more unexcused absences in a month (or ten in a year) a BECCA petition will be completed by the school and filed with the Courts.

School tardies are another

aspect of this law. Three unexcused tardies is translated as one unexcused absence. It is very important that your child is at school on time.

If you have an extenuating circumstance, you may complete a planned absence form (obtain in the office). In this case, because your child's teacher is aware of the absence, they are able to prepare make-up work.

If your child is absent due to illness, please call our school office (253) 841-8746 anytime and press #1 for the attendance line 24 hours a day to leave a message. You may also send a note on the day following the absence. Ultimately, our goal at Wildwood is to encourage regular attendance in order to increase student learning.



From the Counselor

Hello Wildcat Families-

What a wonderful start to the 2017-2018 school year. I hope you all enjoyed meeting your child's teacher during conferences. Please feel free to contact me if your student is struggling and needs more resources. I do have a list of tutors if needed.

With December right around the corner it's time to start thinking about the Holidays! Resources are very limited this year, but if you do find your family in need please call me and I'll see what help is out there. I've really enjoyed getting to know all your children. I'm currently teaching Second Step in third grade and about to start Kindergarten. Second Step is a research based program designed to increase students' school success and decrease problem behaviors by increasing their confidence personally, socially and academically.

I wanted to let you all know that there is low-cost internet for low-income families. Please visit www.internetessentials.com or call 1-855-846-8376 to see if you qualify.

Sincerely,
Koleen McGuire