

Friday Notes

Feb 10, 2017

Good afternoon!

It's been a busy time here at Wasco School. As we move into the weekend, here are a few notes to add to your calendar:

- **PRESIDENTS DAY-NO SCHOOL-MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20** (Offices closed)

Wasco Kindness Project-Week #2

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. ~Aesop

When you are kind to others, it not only changes you, it changes the world. ~Harold Kushner

Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits put together that overwhelm the world. ~Desmond Tutu

Wasco School has launched a school-wide kindness project for the month of February. The Wasco Kindness Project (WKP) encourages all students and staff members to perform acts of kindness, big or small, during the month of February. Whole grade-levels and classrooms are joining together to develop kindness projects to benefit the whole school. Ideas such as:

- 5th grade created a kindness video and shared with the whole school;
- 1st grade designed bookmarks with a message of kindness and slipped them into random books in the LRC;
- 5th grade kindness helpers are helping teachers and students throughout the school;
- 2nd and 3rd graders are helping to keep our school extra clean and tidy by keeping classrooms clean, picking up and helping out in the cafeteria, hallways and around the school;
- 4th graders are designing kindness posters to display throughout the school;
- 5th graders are creating and sending cards to servicemen/women, elderly, sick children;
- 4th graders are making somebody's "Monday Marvelous" by writing kind notes/cards-students deliver to student/staff on Mondays;
- 5th graders are making cards for hospitalized children (Service project out of Chicago);

During the International Random Act of Kindness Week (RAK), Feb. 12-18, Wasco students and staff are encouraged to perform random acts of kindness. Recipients of an

act of kindness are encouraged to write the act on a heart and display on our RAK bulletin board in our front lobby.

Each Friday during February Wasco School hosts a Kindness Raffle. Students and staff nominate students each week whose names are then entered into a raffle. 12 students' names are randomly selected and will receive a certificate and wolf. In early March, students and their parents will be invited to a breakfast recognizing and honoring student kindness.

Our goal is to improve our overall school culture of positivity and inclusiveness through kindness.

From our Orchestra Director, Mr. Masters: Faculty Recital TONIGHT! (2/10/17)

Just wanted to spread the word....if you're looking for something to do TONIGHT!!!! , come on down to North High School for a fabulous concert from your's truly and the rest of the D303 orchestra teachers! It's our annual faculty recital. We're doing some fun pieces this year (and a few surprises.) Love to see you there!

[**D303 Orchestra Faculty Recital link**](#)

A+ Parents!

Thank you parents for supporting your child's growth and development toward independence. Students have demonstrated an increased level of responsibility... walking to their classrooms on their own, remembering their homework and materials, showing perseverance, following through with learning tasks, etc. We are very proud of the progress they have made and we know that parents are behind them every step of the way to support them! Thank you!

A++ Parking Lot!

Again, thank you parents and caregivers-our parking lot procedures are vastly improving because of you! Safety is #1 and parents are doing a great job ensuring that all safety protocols are followed. Thank you!

Valentine's Day

At Wasco School, our classes celebrate Valentine's Day with a small valentines exchange at the end of the school day. It is not a party but rather a fun classroom event that the teacher directs. Please know that bringing and exchanging valentines is optional, not required.

Reading at Home-Tips for Parents

We field many questions each year from parents asking how they can support their readers at home. I've attached an article that we've found useful in supporting readers to build a reading life at home.

An announcement from Team Polaris: Project Dance Elite

Team Polaris is club that focuses efforts on socialization and awareness for individuals with special needs. We will be hosting an event called Project Dance Elite. It's an awesome dance party and fundraiser. We invite resources from our community that benefit from our fundraising such as Marklund, Easter Seals, Fox Valley Special Recreation Association, and many more to come and share the day with us. These individuals come and are buddied up with a high school student and have a blast! Mark your calendars and tell your students and their families! Everyone is invited...

What: Project Dance Elite hosted by Team Polaris Members and Their Families from St. Charles North High School

When: February 25th from 1-5 pm. Doors open @ 12:45 pm.

Where: St. Charles North High School, Main Gym/Athletic Entrance, 255 Red Gate Road St. Charles, IL 60175.

Who: Anyone and Everyone is invited, the event is open to the Public. It costs \$5/person and \$15 for families of 3+.

Why: Dance party to raise both awareness and funds for community resources that support individuals with special needs.

This year we will also be having Theme Hours, Hula Hooping, games and much more... You don't want to miss this event! Sensory and Changing rooms are also available for individuals with those specific needs.

*Limited Edition **Elite** T-Shirts will be sold at the event for \$10.*

As hosts, we offer an environment where everyone feels welcome and surrounded by positivity. **You could help us by doing the following:**

- Encouraging students between the ages of 14-18 to volunteer as a buddy with an individual with special needs for the day. Here is the link to sign up: [Buddy Sign Up](#)
 - Buddies will be trained, given free entry to the event and leave with a memory they will never forget. They must be available Feb 22nd from 2:30-3:30 or 7:00-8:00pm or an hour prior to the event for training at St. Charles North LRC and volunteer for the event on February 25th from 1-5 pm for the event.
- Attend the event with your family! The kids love seeing as many smiling faces and "Go To" dance moves.

Check out the [Team Polaris Website](#) for more details and ways to help out! Thank you and see you on February 25th!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Attachments:

 [Raising Readers-Tips for Parents.pdf](#) (276.6 KB)