

Dear Wilson/WSTEM Family,



The first month of 2021 was a busy one as we got back into our school routines after the winter break and welcomed so many students back to five-day in-person instruction. We had a lot of fun with our Harry Potter theme. A big thank you to Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Walczak who really took the lead and did an amazing job with this themed month.

We hope that you and your family had a great break and have settled back into the school routine. I can't thank you all enough for the help and support that you have given your children and us during this school year. We continue to monitor our students learning through other daily and weekly assessments in the classroom.

As a district, we are no longer utilizing the MAP Assessment, so our classroom assessments will be our main source of guiding our instruction with students. Due to the COVID pandemic, we also have needed to narrow our focus on the priority standards that we are instructing and assessing on.

We utilize these four main questions when planning and assessing student work:

- What do we want each student to learn?
- How do we know each student has learned the targeted standards and benchmarks?
- How do we respond when students do not learn?
- How do we respond when students have mastered the standards and benchmarks?

We continue to reinforce respect for all members of our learning community at all times. This ties in with our emphasis on the safety of all students in school, including mask wearing, social distancing, and frequent hand washing. Outside of school, we ask for your help and support with drop-off and pick-up procedures. We need everyone's patience while driving so that students can be dropped off and picked up, while ensuring the safety of our crossing guards, students, parents, and staff. Please don't leave your car unattended on Gridley Avenue; if needed, park somewhere else and then walk to drop off or get your child. We need all cars to pull as far forward as possible in the hug-and-go cutout and to not unload/load directly in front of the school, which causes additional backups. If a long line has formed and there is no spot in the hug-and-go cutout, please drive around the block until a spot is available. We all really appreciate your help and support in making Wilson and WSTEM the safest it can be!

Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to give their best attitude and effort in all that they do as that is the only way they can reach their potential and accomplish the great things we know all our students are capable of!

Registration for the 2021-22 school year is now open, so please register any junior kindergarten and senior kindergarten students for Wilson. The WSTEM application window runs from February 1 to February 19. If you need assistance with any of this please contact our office. Thank you for spreading the word about enrollment into our brand new building next year!

Sincerely,

Mike Heun
Principal



MESSAGE FROM THE PTSA

Dear Wilson and WSTEM Families,

I hope you enjoyed the holidays and ringing in the New Year despite the current circumstances! For those families who are back to school in-person, I hope the transition to five days is going well for both your students and for you.

The PTSA has continued to work on providing enriching activities for the students and families. Between the holiday cookie exchange, Battle of the Books, the Equity Team, the Green Team, the Family Road Race, and more, we have tried to continue to provide opportunities for students to have new experiences and to provide parents opportunities to volunteer while not actually being able to physically volunteer in the school building.

With the help of each of you the PTSA has been able to show continued support to our amazing teachers and staff through monthly lunches, holiday cookie boxes, teacher grant requests, and coming in May, teacher appreciation week.

There are many committees that are doing tremendous work that impact our entire Wilson/WSTEM community. If you would like to learn more about any of the committees or would like to join any of them, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Sincerely,
Anna Hassell
annahassell@gmail.com

SHOUT-OUTS

Thank you to Julia Hornung for making the amazing holiday cookie recipe books! Families who sent in a recipe or purchased a box of holiday cookies for a teacher from Miss Molly's were able to receive their own copy! And thank you to Catie Webster for designing the front cover!

Thank you to all the families who have contributed to the Miss Molly's lunches and the holiday cookie boxes for teachers!

Thank you to Martha Handrich for planning the Family Road Race! She worked with a friend, Ben Weiler, to create the course. If you would like to book a similar event for another group, please reach out to Ben at bengweiler@gmail.com.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Rachel Broeckert
Eloise Cockerham
Harper High
Daniel Mei
Nathan Nilles
Harper Storlie
Leo Webster
Graham Combs
Nicole Dahlberg
Hawthorne Dziuk-Blanco
Greyson Gerhardt
Amira Mosley
Miles Nelson
Harrison Petroff
Lincoln Petroff
Juniper Platt
Emerson Ryan
Oscar Veth

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Wilson/WSTEM newsletter
Editor: Melissa Adams
Editing assistance & design:
Kristen Scheuing

ATTENDANCE PHONE LINE: (414) 773-1902

Don't forget to call to report any absence. Please state your child's name, classroom teacher, and reason for absence. In the event of an illness, please list all symptoms. The office staff will follow up if a 10-day quarantine is needed based on the information provided.

SAVE THE DATE

February 3

PTSA Board Meeting

February 3

WSTEM Governance Council Meeting

February 11–16

Elementary evening conferences

February 15

No school – professional learning day

March 12

No school – professional learning day

March 29–April 2

Spring Break

April 16

No school – professional learning day

May 28

No school – if no snow make-up day

May 31

No school – Memorial Day

June 11

Last day of school – 1/2 day only

SCHOOL NEWS

GREEN TEAM

The virtual Green Team kids have learned and engaged with environmentally-friendly ideas via an online document with links to videos, crafts, projects and ways to advocate. They are encouraged to share what they've learned/done/made on our team Flipgrid page to share with other team members. Most recently, the team crafted dog toys from old t-shirts to repurpose the fabric into something new and save it from the landfill. It was a great way to team up with the 4th grade Girl Scout troop's January drive for the Humane Society! All 4th and 5th graders are welcome to join the team and parents are also welcome to join our committee at any time! Email wwgreenies@gmail.com with questions/interest/ideas.

PARENTS' NIGHT OFF

This year the PTSA would like Wilson/WSTEM families to join us in Parents Night Off. In lieu of Parents Night Out this year we are asking that, if you can, our Wilson/WSTEM families help some of the businesses that have helped our school over the years. The month of February will be dedicated to partnering with local small businesses and try to give back to them for all of the years they have given to us. More details to follow.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Battle of the Books is in full swing, with our 4th and 5th grade participants "battling" weekly in a trivia contest to answer questions about a list of 20 books. Listen closely to the announcements every Monday to hear the current standings of our teams. Our first-place team will participate in the state battle at the end of February. Good luck to all of the Wilson/WSTEM teams!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Why is February Black History Month? Dr. Carter G. Woodson was the founder of Black History Month. It began as one week in February in 1926 and evolved into a month in 1970. It was made official by President Ford in 1976. One of its purposes is to learn about the history and contributions of African Americans to create awareness and bring about respect. Woodson selected February because it includes the birthdays of Abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln. Frederick Douglass was an abolitionist (a person who fought against slavery) and author. He was born a slave, but later escaped to the north. He was an amazing, intelligent speaker who fought for human rights. He became a consultant to President Abraham Lincoln. Abraham Lincoln was the 16th president. He was the president during the Civil War, during which time he signed the Emancipation Proclamation which freed the people that were enslaved in the Confederate states.

What can you do this February and all year long? Check out all of the ideas created by the Wilson/WSTEM PTSA Equity Committee: Black History Month 2021

The Hill We Climb

We will rise from the golden hills of the west.

We will rise from the windswept north, east where our forefathers first realized revolution.

We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern states.

We will rise from the sun-baked south.

We will rebuild, reconcile, and recover.

And every known nook of our nation and every corner called our country, our people diverse and beautiful, will emerge battered and beautiful.

When day comes, we step out of the shade of flame and unafraid.

—National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman (poem delivered at 2021 Presidential Inauguration)

BLACK

H-ave courage like Medgar

I-nquire like Langston

S-peak like Sojourner

T-riumph like Serena

O-vercome like Martin

R-ise like Madame CJ

Y-earn for justice like Thurgood

FOR FAMILIES: BOOKS & FILMS

BOOKS

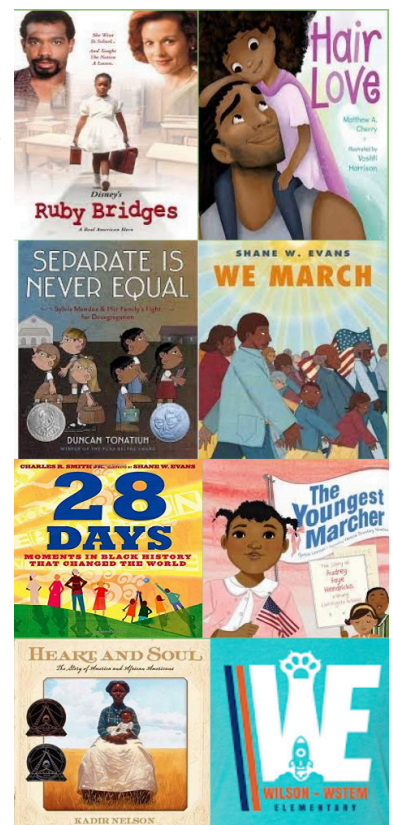
- Heart and Soul, by Kadir Nelson
- We March, by Shane W. Evans
- 28 Days: Moments in Black History that Changed the World, by Charles R. Smith Jr.
- The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, A Young Civil Rights Activist, by Cynthia Levinson

AUDIO BOOKS

- Separate is Never Equal, by Duncan Tonatui
- Underground, by Shane W. Evans

MOVIES

- Hair Love, by Matthew A. Cherry
- Ruby Bridges, by Disney (available on Disney Plus)



Check out other recommendations at todaysparent.com.