

December 2019 Wilson/WSTEM Newsletter



Dear Wilson/WSTEM Families,

Happy Holidays from our family to yours!

The festive times are upon us and we have been working together to maintain a high level of learning. It has been wonderful seeing what our schools in the building have to offer. Soon we will have the concerts, the holiday activities, and classroom projects lining our halls. Our staff has been hard at work planning and trying to sustain an element of structure for our students during this exciting time.

A lot has happened in the month of November. I can't thank enough the PTSA for their organization of our third Service Learning Day! It was amazing to see all of the great things that our students did for others in the community. We hope that our students will continue to look for ways to serve others in the future.

Our students have come to school very well dressed and prepared for the cold weather. As a district, we will be adopting the National Health Center's rating scale of safe time outdoors. The "magic" number to keep children indoors is -5 degrees wind-chill. Please continue to send your children with appropriate attire and thank you for helping us out! Children will not be allowed to play in the snow unless they have snow pants and boots.

Report cards are coming home on December 13 in backpacks so please look for them on that date. I want to challenge the families and staff of Wilson/WSTEM to continue to have ongoing and engaging conversations about our children's learning. We are committed to focusing on a growth mindset for learning for all of our students and feel that the report cards are one way to inform you of your child's progress.

This time of year brings us to reflect on things to be thankful for... I am very thankful for my family and for the relationships that have been built over my time here at Wilson/WSTEM.

Wilson/WSTEM has had a wonderful year in 2019, and we look forward to the promise and excitement that a new year brings and having a great 2020. Thank you for your continued partnership in providing the best education we can for all children! Enjoy your holidays.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Heun".

Mike Heun
Principal

Save the Dates

December 2

No school-Teacher Work Day

December 9

Winter Concert JK-3rd Grade

December 10

Winter Concert 4th and 5th Grade

December 11

WSTEM K/1 and 4/5 to Zoo

December 16

WSTEM 2/3 to Zoo

December 23-January 1

No School-Winter Break

January 2

School Resumes

Birthdays

Gavyn Davidson

Madelyn Boeding

Dominic Carter

Oliver Landgraf

Vivian Jensen

Alexander Harrison

Charlotte Nunag

Rowan O'Neal

Grace Burns

Cecilia Ziemer

Landon Acevedo

Grace Trevey

Cole Marszalkowski

Camilla O'Brien

Savannah Hunker

Sanskar Kumar

Adam Handrich

Philomena Konshak

Eleanor Schacht

Ali Rudnitzki

Kella Wattenbach

Sean McAvoy

June Ellen Katch

Avery Gerhardt

Natalie Dopp

Joey Konshak

Violet Boress

Attendance Phone Line (414) 773-1902

When your child is absent, please make sure to call in.

If your child is late (the bell has rung), you must come to the office and sign them in. Thank you.

Find us on Twitter and Facebook

www.facebook.com/TosaWilson

Twitter @TosaWilson

www.facebook.com/WauwatosaSTEM

Twitter @WauwatosaSTEM

News

GREEN TEAM

Calling all mugs! Cute ones, ugly ones, little ones, travel ones. We want them all for the days when we have many adult visitors. We are getting acquainted with the three percolators in the PTSA kitchen to minimize waste and the cost of treating people to coffee at school events. We can brew our own Colectivo coffee at almost no cost, and eliminate waste by using mugs from our growing collection – bring your own when you come to school. If you have mugs to offload, please drop them at the office.

Thanks so much for all the support from faculty, staff and parents for these waste-reducing ideas. What a lovely community!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Friday, January 24, 6–8pm, for a night of games and fun for your family at school.

LIBRARY HELP

Bridget High is coordinating ongoing volunteers for the library. If you would like to sign up to help sort and organize books, please sign up here: www.signup.com/go/WilsonWstemPTSA

COOKIE EXCHANGE

Save the Date: Annual Cookie Exchange for our Teachers and Staff will be on Thursday, December 19. Please consider baking or buying cookies for our wonderful teachers, and they can handpick their favorites to fill a cookie tin. Baked goods are due in the PTSA kitchen anytime on Wednesday, December 18 or by 10am on Thursday, December 19. Link for cookie donation signup coming soon! Questions? Contact Julia.hornung6@gmail.com.

SERVICE LEARNING DAY

Shout-out to our Parent Sponsors for their generous donations to help purchase supplies and provide buses for our students for a successful Service Learning Day:

- Wisconsin Athletic Club (Derek Deprey)
- King Legal Group (Mark King)
- McAvoy Chiropractic (Katie McAvoy)
- UPS Store Downtown (Erran Bennett)
- Lakefront Brewery (Chris Larson)
- Molly Catlin Interiors, LLC (Molly Catlin)
- CZ Technologies (Cale Ziemer)
- Firefly Realty (Karla Krueger & Heather Kyte)
- Watton Law Group (Tim Hassell)

Service Learning Day Recap:

- **JK:** Students put together 200 bag lunches for the Guest House of Milwaukee.
- **SK:** Visited St. Camillus where students gifted the seniors with crafts, played BINGO and sang holiday tunes! Thanks to Mr. Ulrich for leading the music!
- **1st:** Students hand-cut and tied 15 fleece blankets for the Ronald McDonald House and had a speaker.
- **2nd:** Students worked with DreamBikes mechanics to collect, clean, repair, and then donate used bikes to the DreamBikes store.
- **3rd:** Students made care packages and wrote cards for children of deployed soldiers or those in disaster zones.
- **4th:** One group of students visited the Guest House and made over 250 sandwiches and baked desserts for those overcoming homelessness. The second group visited the Fisher House and made soup, cornbread and dessert for veteran family residents.
- **5th:** One group held a book drive and donated those books to the Next Door Foundation where a group of our students partnered up with children to aid in their literacy program. The next group of students held a toy drive for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which they also visited and participated in the Letters to Santa program.
- **ALL STUDENTS** ended the morning with a reflection project where they could share highlights of their day and engage in conversation as a class. Be sure to check out our “We Are Thankful” Tree on the bulletin board by the gym! Thank you to Mrs. Adams for coordinating this!

WSTEM Governance Council Corner

WSTEM EQUITY GROUP

This December we are featuring books in the library to learn more about holidays around the world. Please check them out and remind your children to as well! Also if you would like to join this group or to get involved please contact Maggie Anderson: maggieanderson@ymail.com

2020–21 SPOOKY LAB PLANNING COMMITTEE

Interested in participating on the Spooky Lab planning committee for next year? Our team leaders will be moving on, and we need some people to help lead! There are many ways to get involved! You can help choose and run experiments, possibly facilitate Or co-facilitate a lab, organize schedules and volunteers. Please contact Brooke DeLassus for more information: brookedelassus@gmail.com

GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MEETING

December 4, 5:30–6:30pm in the library. Please come and see what we are planning for December! So far this year we have approved to purchase drones for the 4/5 classroom as well as 23 iPad minis for 2/3 and 1 iPad mini for K/1. We also purchased charger cubes and iPad mini charging cords for 2/3. Thank you for your tech donation to keep our devices current. Come and check it out, we would love to see more parents involved in Governance Council! Everyone is welcome.

WSTEM SKI TRIPS

Our ski trips are right around the corner. We will be traveling to Little Switzerland on January 10, 17, 24 and The Rock for tubing on January 31, 2020. These are site-based learning experiences! Please remember to find the email that went out and register online. Student forms and payment get turned into his/her teacher. Parent forms and papers get turned into the office. If you are planning to chaperone there will be a mandatory meeting on December 16 at 6:15 pm. in the 2/3 classroom. Please direct any questions to Rebecca Paxton: rebapaxt@gmail.com.

AMAZON SMILE

Please search for WSTEM on Amazon Smile as you make purchases for the holidays! We can earn money for our school.

COLECTIVO COFFEE SALES!

Please consider purchasing coffee whole bean or ground online at www.wstem.org. Bags are \$13 each with \$6 going back to our school! Bags will be placed in your child's backpack at school once ordered and paid! This is a big fundraiser for us, please consider being a coffee subscriber.

From The PTSA President

Dear Wilson and WSTEM parents,

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends! As you know we held our third PTSA-sponsored Service Learning Day before break. Together, our teachers, students and over 50 volunteers completed nine service projects in one morning. I am amazed at the dedication from so many parents who were part of making this day happen. To see so many people giving back as one community was incredible!

We were able to purchase supplies and provide buses for this year's service projects thanks to the generous donations of our parent partners (see full list in newsletter). Thank you to everyone who supported our vision of connecting our students to the local community through service.

So what's next for the PTSA? We're planning to keep the service buzz going with our 2nd-annual Parent Service Social. Spend a night out (no kids!) connecting with other parents, drinking hot cocoa, listening to holiday tunes all while serving needs of the Meta House, Ronald McDonald House and Kids Matter, Inc. I invite you all to come and kick off the holiday season with us!

Lastly, be on the lookout to sign up for our annual Teacher Cookie Exchange. Got a sweet tooth and knack for baking? We'll need lots of cookies to say Thank You and Happy Holidays to our teachers!

Have a wonderful holiday season and join us on January 8 for our next PTSA meeting. We have more great events lined up for 2020. Stay tuned!

With Gratitude,

Ali Wergin
Wilson/WSTEM PTSA President

Reading Specialist Update

Dear Parents,

How can I support my child's writing skills at home?

Oral story-telling is a fun way to support your child's writing skill development! Your child can easily try out different scenarios and adjust to add more detail or clarity. Whether you are in the car, waiting to pick up a sibling, or cooking dinner, try creating stories together, such as those from some of the bedtime story prompts at <https://www.readbrightly.com/bedtime-story-prompts-for-parents/>. Invite your child to help add details to important scenes or events, tell about characters' feelings, or add descriptions based on our five senses. Challenge your child to help find just the right words, or to add what characters might say. Keep it light and fun, and watch your child's ability to expand ideas grow!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Metz
Reading Specialist

PE Update

Dear Parents,

The students of Wilson/WSTEM are doing an amazing job during bowling. Many of them could be coming home and asking to go to the lanes! As we move onto basketball in December, it's very important for all students to continue to come to the gym in tennis shoes. Boots will not work and could cause a safety concern.

I look forward to seeing all the students' skills when playing hoops! As always, stay active and enjoy winter recreation opportunities.

Sincerely,

Mr. Formanek
Physical Education Specialist

Calendar

December 2	No school-Teacher Work Day		
December 3	Early Band	7:30-8:15 am	Band Room
	DI-Malcom	3:20-4:45 pm	PTSA Kitchen
	Daisy Scouts Meeting	3:30-4:30 pm	Library
	Young Rembrandts	3:25-4:25 pm	Art Room
December 4	4th Grade Early Orchestra	7:30-8:15 am	Orchestra Room
	ICWW-Karate	2:20-4 pm	Gym
	DI-Lawson	2:20-4 pm	Room 116
	DI-Boshart	2:20-3:45 pm	PTSA Kitchen
	DI-Danielson	2:20-3:45 pm	Library
	DI-Johnson	4-5 pm	PTSA Kitchen
	WSTEM Governance Board Mtg.	5:30-7 pm	Library
	PTSA Meeting	7-8:15 pm	Library
December 5	5th Grade Early Orchestra	7:30-8:15 am	Orchestra Room
December 6	3rd Grade Girl Scouts Meeting	3:20-4:50 pm	Library
	4th Grade Girl Scouts Meeting	3:20-5 pm	Art Room
December 9	Early Choir	7:30-8:15 am	Music Room
	Winter Concert JK-3rd Grade	10-11:30 am	Gym
December 10	Early Band	7:30-8:15 am	Band Room
	Winter Concert 4th and 5th Grade	1:30-3 pm	Gym
	Green Team Meeting	3:20-4:30 pm	Room 116
	Young Rembrandts	3:25-4:25 pm	Art Room
	DI-Malcom	3:20-4:45 pm	PTSA Kitchen
	Brownie Troop #11172 Meeting	3:20-4:30 pm	Library
	Winter Concert 4th and 5th Grade	7-8 pm	Gym
December 11	WSTEM K/1 and 4/5 to Zoo	9:30-12:30 pm	Zoo
	ICWW-Karate	2:20-4 pm	Gym
	DI-Lawson	2:20-4 pm	Room 116
	DI-Boshart	2:20-3:45 pm	PTSA Kitchen
	DI-Danielson	2:20-3:45 pm	Library
	DI-Johnson	4-5 pm	PTSA Kitchen
December 12	4th Grade Early Orchestra	7:30-8:15 am	Orchestra Room
December 16	Early Choir	7:30-8:15 am	Music Room
	WSTEM 2/3 to Zoo	9:30-12:30 pm	Zoo
	Battle of the Books	3:20-4 pm	Library
December 17	Early Band	7:30-8:15 am	Band Room
	Young Rembrandts	3:25-4:25 pm	Art Room
	1st Grade Daisy Scouts Meeting	3:30-5 pm	Library
December 18	4th Grade Early Orchestra	7:30-8:15 am	Orchestra Room
	ICWW-Karate	2:20-4 pm	Gym
	DI-Lawson	2:20-4 pm	Room 116
	DI-Boshart	2:20-3:45 pm	PTSA Kitchen
	DI-Danielson	2:20-3:45 pm	Library
	DI-Johnson	4-5 pm	PTSA Kitchen
December 19	5th Grade Girl Scouts Meeting	3:20-4:45 pm	Library
	Cub Scout Engineering Challenge	6-8:30 pm	Cafeteria
Dec 23-Jan 1	No School-Winter Break		
January 2	Classes Resume		