



WGES NEWS

February 2011

Principal's Talk

Dear Parents:



If you know of children in the district who will be 4 years of age by December 1 of this year, please help us to get the message out that we need current mailing information for our Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program. Parents are welcome to call the school at 535-3250, to make sure their child is in the system for future mailings. We are also offering special in-house registration days for parents to come into the school to fill out paperwork for preschool admittance. Parents of UPK-age children can come into the volunteer office on March 9th & 10th for help with registration.

Although we started the computerized accelerated reader program for the entire building in November, we are still going ahead with our 6-week reading program for Pre-Kindergarten through 1st grade. This will help students who are not able to participate in the regular program because of reading ability. It is also a way for families to get involved with the program. We will hold a kick-off assembly with these grade levels on February 17, and parents will receive reading logs that day with an explanation on how to participate. By working together, we can set a great example and give our children a gift that will affect them for the rest of their lives. Look for more information as we get closer to the date. Please remember you are able to check on the school wide AR program by going to our school website. The school goal this year is for students in all grades to take over 10,000 AR quizzes based on books they have read. As of January 31, our students have read and taken over 4,400 AR quizzes.

Sincerely,
Mr. Rod Weeden

Reading Corner

Improving Reading Fluency

Improving reading fluency is relatively simple, but it does take time. One of the most important tools for developing fluency is repeat reading. When selecting a piece for repeat reading, choose something that is at your child's reading level. My personal favorite for repeat reading is poetry, and the anthology that I use the most is *If Kids Ruled the School*, by Bruce Lansky. Students also love the Shel Silverstein collections such as *A Light in the Attic* or *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. Another great resource for repeat readings can be found at WWW.ReadNaturally.com They have developed an entire collection of one minute readers at a variety of grade levels.

Author - Jeanne Rutgers



Dropping Students Off at School

When dropping your child off at school, please consider safety first and be considerate of others. The front of the school has a drop off area for students. Please make sure children exit cars on the side closest to the side walk. If you plan on walking your child into the building, please park your car in one of the spots available. Do not leave your car running in the middle of the traffic area. This blocks other parents who are trying to drop their child off. A frustrated driver can lead to increased safety problems.



There is a Science Fair scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2011 in the Elementary cafeteria area. Students who submitted projects and have the go ahead to proceed, should be gathering research and materials during this month. Educators from the Science Center will be available after school on February 24th and March 3rd to help students in need of extra support with their projects.

Important Dates:

- Feb 4** – Report Cards Issued
- Feb 7** - BOE Mtg. 6:30 PM @ HS
- Feb 9** – PTO Mtg, 5:30, ES Library
- Feb 14** – Valentine's Day
- Feb 18-22** No School (Winter Recess)
- Feb 25** – Spirit Day (Hat Day)
- Feb 28** - SDM Mtg. 3:45 PM @ ES

