

# Wildcat World News

## OUR MISSION:

To provide an exemplary education for all students to become productive participants in our community.

## OUR VISION:

West Newton Elementary School will continue to be a high performing school where all are motivated to make a difference in the school community.



## ***Principal's Reflections***

Dear Parent(s),

Parents our first nine weeks of school went extremely well here at West Newton. I consider it an honor to work with such awesome students. Our teachers are working diligently to make certain that our students are receiving an excellent education. Parents continue to support our students at home. Make certain that the students are completing their homework assignments and reading each evening. Also, we still offer afterschool services that focus on academics. The program takes place Monday through Friday from 2:30-6pm. Parents we have a Title I Parent Involvement Math Night on October 29 at 6pm. Please come out and learn how to support your child in math. Math is a weak area for West Newton as a whole and we are trying to do everything we can to change that and your help is needed. We will serve hotdogs, chips and a soda on that evening so that you will not have to be concerned with preparing a meal at home. We hope to see you at our program. As always if you need any assistance please feel free to contact me or stop by the school.

Sincerely,  
Takila Curry, Principal

## **SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. It

serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of our children through a commitment to drug prevention, education and a pledge to live drug free lives. This year, Red Ribbon Week will be celebrated October 26-30, 2009. More importantly, Red Ribbon Week commemorates the ultimate sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent, Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died at the hands of drug traffickers in Mexico, while fighting the battle against illegal drugs to keep our country and children safe; the ultimate goal being the creation of a drug free America.

Maria Moore, Ed. S.

School Guidance Counselor  
West Newton Elementary  
School

### *Quest*

The Quest students are studying oceanography this year. In correlation with this unit, we are building a classroom aquarium and are accepting donations for items to go into our aquarium. Please feel free to drop off any items that would assist us with our efforts. Thanks in advance!

KiTonya McCoy  
Quest Teacher

## **KINDERGARTEN FUN!**

During the month of October, our kindergarten students will be studying the letters Tt, Bb and Nn. We will begin focusing

on CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words with the short a vowel sound like cat, man, rap, pan, tap and sat. Please practice blending short (a) words at home with your child. Our students will also be learning how to connect numerals to the quantities they represent and will be practicing problem solving skills during math lessons. Please work with your child on identifying all numbers 0-30 and practice counting out objects for each number. During writer's workshop, we have been working on narrative writing. The children are being taught how to sound out words independently and are learning how to apply their learned phonics skills to write sentences and read stories. Continue to practice sight words nightly with your child and review over any letters/sounds/numbers that your child's teacher made you aware of during the September conferences. If you were unable to attend your conference please call your child's teacher to set up a new meeting. Thank you for your continued support at home. Please remember to check your child's folder every night and initial so we know you have received any papers, notes, etc. We look forward to seeing our children really begin to progress over the month of October.

-Kindergarten Team-

## **First Grade Team**

First graders have been very busy. We are working on graphs and will shortly begin working on place value. Even though we have finished the unit on addition and subtraction, please continue to practice the addition and subtraction facts with your child. Your child should be fluent with these and able to tell the answer without having to count on their fingers or other help. Please continue to practice sight words daily. This will increase the reading speed and helps with comprehension. Make a game of it by having them try to read the words faster than the time before. Have your child read you their favorite bedtime story. One thing every successful student needs is a supportive environment at home. In science, we have been discussing weather. Please talk about the weather with your child. Discuss temperature, rainfall, and storm patterns with them. Watch the weather on television together and talk about the forecast for the next day.

*First Grade Team*

## **SECOND GRADE Prowl!**

### ***English Language Learners (ELL)***

This year the ESOL program will be focusing on writing. Writing will help the students tap into their creativity and encourage them to think critically about topics. We will be covering everything from grammar basics to writing a paragraph with a main idea and details. We look forward to seeing all of the students' wonderful writing!

***ELL Team Leader***

### ***Specialist News***

#### ***Art Class***

**WNES ART DEPARTMENT**  
It's fall in the art room and we are getting busy! We have been working on self-portraits, patterns, buffalo hide paintings, and letting music inspire our art. Soon we will start a new unit on Pop Art. For the month of October, selected WNES students' work will be on display at the Newton County Board of Education Office. Visitors to the B.O.E. will be able to see just how talented West Newton is! Members of WNES Art Club: the next meetings are October 8 and November 12 from 2:30-3:30. Parents, please donate your used plastic containers (for water buckets), egg cartons, paper towel rolls, magazines, or anything else that you might have around. Your trash is our treasure. Volunteers are also welcome!

**Melissa Johns**  
**Art Teacher**

#### ***Physical Education***

A big thank you to everyone in the WNES family for your participation in our Box Tops/Campbell's Labels/Coke points savings

program! Last year the grand total for Coke points was 46,000. So far you have turned in over 20,000 Coke Points this year! **WOW!** There have also been thousands of Box Tops and Campbell's Labels turned in. Please continue to turn these in for the remainder of the year. Keep up the great work! Make sure to go to [www.boxtops4education.com/passion](http://www.boxtops4education.com/passion) and sign up. If you do then we get 5 free Box Tops! Last week in PE the students in grades 2-5 began the Presidential Physical Fitness pre-test. This information will be used to show each student what they need to improve on to receive an award from the President this spring. Make sure to ask your children how they did on the test! Please help them at home to improve in the areas where they did not score so well.

Thank you,  
***Coach Matthews***

#### ***Third Grade Parents***

Third grade students are continuing to work on multiplication. Ice-cream sundae parties will be coming soon!! As you know, multiplication is needed for almost every new mathematical topic that students will learn. These can really make or break their math confidence, so please continue to help your student master their multiplication facts. They need to continue practicing facts at home, especially during the break. Along with multiplication, please continue to practice basic math facts in addition and subtraction. Also remember that reading is a very important skill for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Please be sure that your student is reading at least 20-30 minutes a day. If their teacher requires a reading log, please be sure that you are signing it. Our in School field trip was a success. The students truly enjoyed our visitors from the Charlie Elliot Wildlife Center. We look forward to planning other educational experiences for the students. Please send info to teachers if you have any ideas!

Thanks You  
***Third Grade Team***

### **THE FOURTH GRADE TIMES**

Wow! Can you believe we've completed our second month of school? This year has gotten off to a great start. We would like to thank all parents for attending parent conferences and curriculum night. We are still striving toward excellence here at West Newton. This month your child will continue to read nonfiction stories. It's our goal as a grade level to increase reading fluency. In reading, students will continue to identify story elements as well as discuss literary skills such as: making inferences, generalizations, categorizing, classifying, and identifying the elements of a play. October's reading goals include reading two Early Explorers chapter books and two student choices. Math is an area of concern for our students. We are striving daily to improve students' understanding of math concepts. We are continuing to practice multiplication facts daily so that students can focus only on the procedures for solving multi-digit multiplication and long division. Practicing facts outside of school would be a great way to increase your child's fluency of facts. In Social Studies, we will conclude our unit on Native Americans and begin our next unit of study in science which is weather. Finally, as the cold season approaches, it would be helpful if you could donate a box of tissue to your child's classroom.

**4<sup>TH</sup> Grade Team**

### **Fabulous Fifth Grade News**

5<sup>th</sup> graders have been creating Personal Narratives during Writers

**Workshop.** As the first nine weeks come to a close, the students are identifying an excellent ending for their piece. We will begin report writing after fall break. Ask your child about **Bold Beginnings, Mighty Middles, and Excellent Endings!** And as always, reading nightly engages your child to become interested in all genres. Language Arts and spelling are incorporated into writing. The students identify verbs, nouns, and parts of speech during writing. Social studies and science are integrated with all content areas. The students are learning about the Civil War, Early People to Independence, Earth Science, and completing summaries for reading goals. Keep up with multiplication facts. This is part of our monthly math goal. Students are learning math skills in a context that is meaningful by making connections between their own knowledge and experience and mathematical concepts. Ask your child to name a few problem-solving strategies. The students also are learning about comparing, adding & subtracting, and identifying equivalent decimals.

**Fifth Grade Team**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**October 9-16-Fall Break/No School**

**October 23-Report Card Go Home**

**October 23-Fall Picture Retake**

**October 29- Title I MATH NIGHT: All parents are encouraged to participate: Dinner will be served: (Hotdogs, Soda and Chips)**

**October 5-9-Fire Prevention Week**

**October 19-23-Bus Safety Week**

**October 20-Fundraisers go home**

**October 26-30-Red Ribbon Week**

### **Important Reminders to Prevent the Spread of Flu:**

- Hand Washing or Alcohol Based Sanitizers
- Sneeze and Cough Etiquette
- Social Distancing/Stay Home When Sick

### **Congratulations Mrs. Kelly Keaton and Mrs. Rhonda Jackson Support Staff of the Month**

