



The Walker's Grove Wire

Expect Excellence

February 2012



Walker's Grove Office Information

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Friendship Party Reminder: Just a reminder to our families that edible treats can not be given out in Valentine's cards or in any other way during our Friendship Parties nor on Valentine's Day. As stated in the beginning of the year letter: *no edible treats can be sent to school for any of the parties or holidays that occur throughout the year. For instance, no Valentine candy or food items can be brought into the classroom.* As always, we appreciate your understanding of our wish to sustain a healthy and safe environment for all of our students.

2011-2012

Music and Art Curriculum Programs

2nd Grade "Habitats Fun" Music Program
Thurs., Feb. 16, 2012, W.G. Gym
6:45-7:15 P.M.

5th Grade "Art Program"
Thurs., Apr. 26, 2012, W.G.
6:45-7:45 P.M.

4th Grade "Art Program"
Thurs., May 17, 2012, W.G.
6:45-7:45 P.M.

Music Class Notes for February 2012

1st Grade: We have had fun singing the song and playing the game, "Apple Tree." Ask your child to share their new song with you. Students will begin to study the composer of "Carnival of the Animals", Mr. Camille Saint-Saens. They will learn about his youth and when he began to write music at the tender age of four.

2nd Grade: Students are excited about their Thurs., Feb. 16, 2012 "Habitats Fun" Music Program. They are anxious to share with you their habitat selections and other surprises. After their program, students will begin to study Sergei Prokofiev, the composer of "Peter and the Wolf".

3rd Grade: Students are continuing their study of Mr. George Handel and his most popular work, "The Messiah". We will continue to discuss this most interesting composer

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and his music. Students will also evaluate several song selections by reviewing their form, AB or ABA.

4th Grade: Recorder time is here!!! Students have done wonderfully on reading their recorder music and are transferring these notes on Glockspiel instruments. We are getting our music minds ready for our February 2012 Recorder Unit Study. Please make sure that your child has their recorder and music folder ready for music class.

5th Grade: 5th Graders began the year off with reviewing band instruments and their families. This prepared them for the Ira Jones Band & Choir concert that was presented to our 5th graders in January. These are two performing groups that our 5th graders may take part in, in middle school.

On Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012, the following 5th graders participated in the at "2nd Annual Red House 5th Grade Sing Out!" held at Heritage Grove Middle School. The students did an awesome job in singing and had the opportunity to sing with other 5th graders and middle school choir members from the Red House. Congrats on a wonderful concert! Ali Kwiecien, Madeline Hacker, Aria Benzinger, Jessica Little, Sarah Lau, Anastasia Konsoer, Andrew Mosier, and Trevor Greek.

We will spend some time focusing on the "Stomp" video, to give us ideas for instruments that the students will create for the month of May. Students will also begin the process of composing their melody compositions. We will start with a class composition and then individual composition.

"If Music be the food of Love....Play on. Play on."

Mrs. Goolsby

Physical Education and Health News for February

February is National Heart month, and Walker's Grove students will once again participate in our school's Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart program. Heart disease is a leading cause for loss of life in our country. We, as a Physical Education Team, look forward to this event and its focus on maintaining a healthy body and heart through healthy eating habits and exercise.

Our Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart event will take place during your child's Physical Education class February 13- February 17th, 2012. Our school has done a marvelous job supporting this worthy fundraiser of the American Heart Association. Last year our school community raised **\$12,995.00**, and has raised over **\$80,000** in the past eight years!!! As always, Walker's Grove community has shown that we are a caring school. Please consider supporting this fundraiser through your son/daughters participation in this event.

In February, Hockey and Basketball activities will continue. Our K-3 Grades are incorporating specific Hockey and Basketball skills in a station activity approach. Our 4th and 5th Graders will also be practicing these sport skills through modified games and

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activities. Jump Roping skills will also be introduced and practiced leading up to our JRFH/ HFH event.

The Walker's Grove Physical Education Team is working to achieve a goal of providing every Physical Education Student the most optimal amount of active time during their Physical Education class.

Health Units for February are:

Grade 1- Happy, sad, and in between

Grade 2- Babies... and how you grew

Grade 3- Your family, my family

Grade 4- Be cool, Keep Clean

Grade 5- Growing up



Stay warm and active!

The Physical Education and Health Team

ART STROKES

There are many new things your child will be doing in art class during this year. Please ask them at home about their art experiences!

1st Grade: First grade students have finished their COMPLEX PATTERN SNOWFLAKES. We finally have had some snow for inspiration! Students have also completed a MITTEN PILE project furthering their understanding of pattern with the element of flipping and turning objects and where the patterns would be. First grade has begun a project focusing on EMPHASIS in artwork. Students are creating an OVERLAPPING winter scene that will have one element of EMPHASIS.

2nd Grade: Second grade students have continued their classroom paralled study of HABITATS in art class. Students have completed their PAPER MACARONI PENGUINS. Second grade is also working on an IDITAROD DOG drawing. Students are focusing on COMPARING line qualities in art. Second grade will then jump to the RAINFOREST, and we will be constructing paper PARROTS. Students will focus on creating 3D FORM.

3rd Grade: Third Grade students did amazing MUPPET DOODLES. Students took the creative thought process of creating creatures from the work of puppeteer JIM HENSON. Students took GEOMETRIC and ORGANIC shapes and created flying, hopping, slithering, and bouncing creatures. Students are now creating MONOCHROMATIC still lifes. Students are developing their understanding of NEUTRAL colors in artwork. Third Grade will be looking at the work of various CUBIST style painters.

4th Grade: Fourth Grade students are finishing their WATERCOLOR FISH KITES. The colors are beautiful! Students have been viewing the various styles of watercolor in this culture. The next country we will be looking at for INSPIRATION is Italy. Students will be creating paper MOSAICS and STAINED GLASS. Don't worry, it's all paper...only risk is a paper cut! Chicago has many examples of both types of artwork, and it is good to see many students have seen some examples in their travels!

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5th Grade: 5th Grade students are in the middle of their Georgia O' Keefe inspired paintings. Students are using the PATTERN or SHAPE from their scientific drawing to create their paintings. The soap carving will begin soon. Students will be looking at positive and negative space in a 3D form. Students will also begin the discovery of ABSTRACT ART, with the study of artists like JACKSON POLLOCK.

Please make sure your child has a paint shirt here at school. We are doing lots of fun things this year, and sometimes fun things are messy!

HELPFUL INFORMATION from Nurse Karen

All students in Kindergarten, second and sixth grades must have a Dental exam performed by a licensed dentist. For this school year (2011-2012) the exam must be performed after November 15, 2010, and by May 15, 2012.

Following your child's exam, please have your dentist fill out the form required by the State and return it to the Health Office at Walker's Grove no later than May 1, 2012. Exam forms are available by linking to the **Dental Examination Record** ([English](#) | [Spanish](#)) from www.psd202.org – Health Services section.

Local health and dental [resources](#) who offer services based on a sliding scale and/or accept Medicaid and KidCare are available from your school's nurse or by linking to the above site.

A waiver for the dental exam can be obtained by accessing these links ([Dental waiver-English](#) or [Dental waiver- Spanish](#)) from www.psd202.org – Health Services section.

Dressing for the Cold

- Protect your kids' faces with sunscreen. The idea of a sunburn in January can seem odd, but snow can reflect up to 85% of the [sun's ultraviolet rays](#).
- Kids should dress warmly in layers of clothes. If the top layer gets wet from snow or freezing rain, they can peel off some clothes down to a dry layer.
- Avoid cotton clothing because it won't keep the kids very warm. Stick with wool or other fabrics. Dress them in long underwear, a turtleneck, and a sweater and coat. Add more layers depending on the temperature. Waterproof pants and jackets are great top layers because they don't let the wetness seep into the other clothing. The cold-weather ensemble wouldn't be complete without warm socks and boots to keep feet dry and a hat to top it off.
- There's no set amount of time kids should be allowed to stay out in the cold. However, when being cold becomes unpleasant, it's time to go inside. Sometimes, though, kids may just need some dry gloves. It helps to have an extra pair of gloves or mittens tucked into their pockets if they plan to be outdoors for a while.

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www.kidshealth.com/cold,iceandsnowsafety

~ Nurse Karen ~

February Happenings

2.3.12	F	CHARACTER COUNTS! Caring Video to be aired throughout WG	
2.9.12	Th	PTO Meeting	7:00 pm
2.10.12	F	Friendship Classroom Parties	2:10-3:10 pm
2.13-17	M-F	Jump Rope for Heart & Hoops for Heart	
2.15.12	W	Spring Pictures	
2.16.12	Th	2 nd Grade Music Program	6:45 – 7:15
2.20.12	M	President's Day: No School	
2.21.12	T	Teacher's Institute – No Student Attendance	Full Day
2.28.12	T	Market Day	5:30-7:00
2.29.12	W	CHARACTER COUNTS! Day – Wear Red for Caring	