

WILDCAT WATCH

Volume 8
December 22, 2008

Mr. Hunsinger's Wildcat Wisdom

As we get set to bring 2008 to a close, it is a time to reflect on the year past. We continue to do everything possible to become good members of the community. We have collected food items, saved pennies and did many other things to help make people live happier lives. Our students and parents always are willing to go far beyond what is expected to help others. We raised a lot of money for *Jump Rope for the Heart* that was given to the Heart Association last February. It is one of many reasons why we are the best school anywhere. The year has brought us some joys as well as some sorrows. We also must reflect on the students and staff members that are facing some difficult times with their health, and there are families with financial struggles due to the poor economy. Let's hope and pray that 2009 will be a better year for everyone and *Peace and Goodwill* will flow throughout the land.

The following note is from my son D. Keith Hunsinger:

I want to thank the students, teachers and parents for sending so many books to the USS New Orleans (LPD 18). As part of the program, it allows men and women to read books to their children and to record the stories so children can hear their parents and loved ones reading to them while they are stationed in the Persian Gulf. We expect to leave our port in San Diego in early January and plan to return in August. On behalf of the entire crew I say thanks to HWES.

LPO FC1 (SW) Dale Hunsinger

Make sure you pay close attention to the weather in the upcoming months as the winter weather is upon us. Late starts, early dismissals and closings could be here before we know it. It is very important that we know if there are any changes in plans for sending children home on emergency closing days. Unless we have a confirmation of change from the parents, children will be dismissed just like we do on a full day.

Parents—Sign up for Eschoolnewsletter. It is on the home page of the HCPS website or visit www.eschoolnewsletter.com. You can sign up for different email accounts-- work or home-- to receive school closing messages.

Remember that we have an early dismissal on Tuesday December 23, at 1 o'clock.

The Gianni Pizza order forms will be coming home on Monday, January 5. The sale will take place until January 21. Make sure you send your completed orders and money in to your child's homeroom teacher. Distribution will be from 3:00 -6:00 p.m. on January 28 in the Homestead building cafeteria. Just a reminder the Super Bowl is on February 1 just in time for some good pizza and other Gianni goodies. Profits from this year will go to the kindergarten classrooms for supplemental classroom reading books.

It is difficult to stop buses and get a child off once we are ready to go. Please do not call the school to try to remove a student once the buses are loaded.

They Say It's Your Birthday... The Homestead-Wakefield Elementary School Media Centers would like to welcome the newest Birthday Book Club Members for the month of December. The following people had birthdays recently and their parents purchased books for the libraries in their honor. The books they selected display a special plate with their names on the inside cover. Happy Birthday and a big Birthday Book Club welcome to the following students:

Grade K: Shelby G, Eli S

Grade 1: Travis K, Sarah L, Keegan P, Michal S, Matthew Y

Grade 2: Brian D, Isabel L

Grade 3: Jared H, Alex V

Grade 4: Beth S, Angela S

If your birthday is in January, NOW is your chance to join the Birthday Book Club. May will be the last Birthday Book Club of the 2008-09 school year. Ask your teacher or school librarians (Homestead Building: Mrs. Walker; Wakefield Building: Mrs. Miller) for an application today!

From the Art Department

Congratulations to first graders Sydney K, Brady A, Savannah H, Ann-Marie A, John P. Their collage artworks will represent Wakefield at the next County Wide Art Show in Bel Air throughout the Winter Holiday Season. We are very proud of all of you.