

# WILDCAT WATCH

Volume 13  
May 5, 2008

## Mr. Hunsinger's Wildcat Wisdom

Here we are into the month of May. Where has the school year gone? Even though we are beginning our end-of-year countdown, there is still a lot to be done here at HWES. Student attendance is important right up to the last day of school, June 12.

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I have a few topics to share at this time. First of all, due to hard times with the budget for 2008-2009, we have been informed that we will be losing a classroom teacher at first and fourth grades for next school year. We will keep everyone informed if there will be other changes that will affect our school in the future.

Another topic to share is regarding student placement for next school year. As you know, much time and effort goes into this process, including information from the current teacher, student records, test results and much more as we work together to get the proper placement for your children. If there is something you want to share with me about your child and the placement, feel free to send me a note or an e-mail. Please remember that parents cannot ask for a particular teacher for their child; proper placement will be determined by the school team.

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There is a message included in this edition from the art department regarding the special night, *ART WITH A GREEN HEART*. As principal I want everyone to know how proud I am of the many hours of work the art department, music department, physical education teachers, librarians, enrichment team, as well as classroom teachers and other staff put into this event. This is well above and beyond what is expected of the staff. They do it because they care about the children here at HWES, and it is another thing that makes our school so great. I also want to reflect on the hours of work parent volunteers put into the event for weeks leading up to the event as well as working during the evening. GREAT JOB EVERYONE.

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As I arrived to school early on Monday morning, I noticed more than 50 large trash bags filled with leaves and brush that were raked from the front of the Homestead building by volunteers. Kim Kellager, a parent here at HWES, and her mother did this, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. Parental involvement is special and really something we are proud of. On behalf of the students and staff I say "Thank You."

### FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

A BIG THANK YOU to all the parent volunteers, interns, teachers, staff, and students who helped to make this year's art show "Art with a Green Heart" another success. Visitors enjoyed beautiful art displays and installations, crafts, "green" activities, informative presentations, and even a runway fashion show. Fabulous!

Congratulations to Ellen V, Nathan H, Hannah T, Emma E and Caitlyn M. These students will be representing Wakefield in the upcoming Countywide Art Show in the fall of 2008, next school year. Wonderful job students!

Congratulations to the following Homestead artists whose drawings placed in the Bel Air Historic Preservation Commission drawing contest: Margo S, First Place; Emma S, Second Place; Matthew W, Honorable Mention; and Amber M, Honorable Mention.

### FROM THE ENRICHMENT TEACHERS

On Saturday, April 5, 14 students from HWES represented Harford County in the Maryland State Engineering Challenge held at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. As mentioned in the last Wildcat Watch, we had one team that placed third in the Theme Park Challenge out of 25 teams! We would like to recognize all 14 of the participants for their dedication, time spent after school preparing for the challenge and their commitment to the task to design a working, small-scale theme park ride. Congratulations to all participants!

Andrew W- DeHart	Adam C-Coppage	Wilson P-Peregoy
Morgan D-DeHart	Jonathan N-Mascari	Scott O-Bohlman
Tyler N-Lyons	Zach C-Healey	Jake D-Bohlman
Hunter G-Bohlman	Ben W-LaRue	

## Science Fair Results!!

Our Annual 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair was a great success. Over 70 students in the fifth grade participated in the event. A special thank you must go out to our judges who volunteered their time to conduct the interviews and to participate in the final judging process. They were so impressed by the amazing work done by all of the students! Congratulations to everyone who participated! The following students were honored for their projects:

**First Place-** "What Causes Steel to Rust?" By Haley B & Jenny S

**Second Place-** "Is the Grass Greener on the Other Side" by Morgan D & Olivia S

**Third Place-** "Distracted" by Brendan M

**Fourth Place-** "What Kind of Memory do you Have" by Will P

**Fifth Place-** "Composting: Nature's Way of Recycling" by Elena M

**Sixth Place-** "Oysters, Clams & Mussels: Saving the Chesapeake Bay" by Jake D & Shane S

**Honorable Mentions-**

"Does Microwaved Water Have an Effect on Plants" by Carly B

"Grass Growth Experiment" by Ben W

"What Color Light Shines Brightest Through Fog" by Cole McD & Billy B

"Germination" by Hunter G & Carrie G

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 April. 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:

**Kindergarten:** Logan B, Madison B, Owen F, Sydney F, Keiyenn G, Madelyn J, Bradley M, Dylan S

**Grade 1:** Sophia D, Emma E, Alexander E, Andrew L, Jacob R, Kaitlyn S, Anthony W

**Grade 2:** Samantha B, Samantha J, Evan M, Brooke M, Jack O, Gavin W, Kevin W

**Grade 3:** Cooper M, Ashleigh S

**Grade 4:** Kaleigh D, Josh P

**Grade 5:** Parker S

If your birthday is in May, June or July, NOW is your chance to join the Birthday Book Club. May will be the last Birthday Book Club of the 2007-08 school year. Ask your teacher or school librarians (Homestead Building: Mrs. Walker; Wakefield Building: Mrs. Miller) for an application today!

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