



Jan. & Feb. 2011

What's Inside

- ◆ *Principal's Message*
- ◆ *The Learning Lot*
- ◆ *Keyboarding*
- ◆ *Band News*
- ◆ *Jan. Feb. calendar*
- ◆ *Lunch Menu*

Phone Numbers

Main Office 743-7300

Attendance 743-7330

Secretary 743-7306

Principal 743-7305

School: <http://janesville.k12.wi.us/wil>

LMC:

janesville.k12.wi.us/lmc/wil



Happy January and February to our Wilson Wildcat Families!!

As you may have noticed, the district has decided to save some paper by sending out the newsletter every other month, so this is the newsletter for January and February. This year is certainly flying by!!

Behavior Booster Week:

The first week back to school we started off strong by doing "booster lessons" for our school wide expectations. The students visited the office, the hallway, the bathrooms, and the lunchroom to review the expectations of how to be safe, respectful and responsible. We also reviewed our assembly expectations during our welcome back attendance assembly on Monday. It might be fun to see if your student can tell you at least 2 of the expectations in each of the locations. Also, see if your child can tell you the Wilson Mission Statement.

Academic Achievement is #1:

January and February are extremely important months during the school year. Some of the greatest academic growth occurs during this time. The students are reading everyday and becoming smoother more fluent readers. It is important that not only are student fluent in their reading, but they also understand what they read. When students know how to read well, it impacts EVERY area in school. We can't say enough how important it is to make sure that your children are reading each and every night. At school we are continuing to look at how the children are performing and are looking for new and different ways to reach all of our learners.

Math is another area that is extremely important to practice. It doesn't require going out to buy flashcards to do this math practice. If you have a deck of playing cards, your child can practice math facts. If you have change in your pocket, please give your child opportunities to count the money. If you don't have a clock with hands in your house, please point out these clocks whenever you are in public so that your child can practice telling time. Finally, cooking with your child is a fun and practical way to practice measurement. Our Wildcats are sponges and it is all of our jobs to make sure we are helping them soak up as much knowledge as possible.

Thank you again for all of the help and support you give your children and our school daily. Please mark your calendars for our next Scoopy Night. It is Wednesday, February 9th from 4:00-8:00. We hope to see all of you there!!

Mrs. Bicha, Principal



The Learning Lot

By

Mrs. Peerenboom

Learning Support Teacher

Title I At-Home Family Activities

Wilson Elementary is a school-wide Title I school. Title I school-wide programs have the flexibility to organize the funding sources available to them. The funding is used to improve the academic achievement of all students while addressing the needs of the lowest performing students.

Thanks to Denise Jensen, Business Services secretary, parents can now find and access the Title I website and fun family activities very easily and quickly.

Go to the *School District of Janesville's* webpage: [http://
www.janesville.k12.wi.us/](http://www.janesville.k12.wi.us/)

Click on *For Parents*.

3. Scroll down in order to find *Title I/Family Activities* link.
4. Click on the link and it immediately brings up the Title I webpage.
5. The third link down is the monthly *At Home Family Activities*.

Enjoy doing some of the fun activities during these cold winter months!



Pictures from the Wilson School Attendance Assembly

Attention Parents:

Want to win a gas card???

**Correctly answer the trivia question below for your chance to win!! (Hint: ask your child)
Just fill out the entry form below with your name, phone number, and the correct answer to
be entered in the drawing for a FREE gas card. All entries need to be turned into the Wilson
Office by Friday, February 14th to be included in the drawing.**

Trivia Question: What is the Wilson Mission Statement?

Answer:



Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: _____

Return your entry to the Wilson Office by February 14th to be entered into the drawing!!!

4th Grade Information

Calling all Parents! You are invited to Wilson to watch your 4th graders present their Photo Story projects. Your Wilson 4th Grader is so excited to show you the many 21st Century Skills they learned while researching, writing about, and creating a Photo Story presentation on a woodland forest animal. Please come and relax with a snack of cheese and crackers with juice or cocoa.

Date: Thursday, January 13, 2011
Time: 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Location: Wilson School 4th grade classrooms
Essential Question: "How does my animal live and survive in the food chain within the forest ecosystem?"



3rd Grade News

Happy New Year! We are now into the cold winter months and it is really important that students are dressed appropriately. Please make sure that students are wearing warm clothing so they are able to enjoy their recess time.

We have just recently reviewed our expectations of being safe, respectful, and responsible in all areas of the school. We have had a good start to the new year after reviewing these important expectations. Please feel free to use these same expectations at home. This will help students when they are at home or school, to see that the expectations are the same no matter where they are.

As always please make sure that your child is reading at home each night. Research continues to show how important it is for children to read outside of school. We really appreciate your support and help in this area. Thank you for all you do.

3rd Grade Team



2nd Grade News

After a wonderful Holiday program and holiday break, second grade is back at work reading, writing, computing, and creating. The busy days find second graders hard at work learning addition and subtraction facts through 18 and challenging ourselves in Everyday Math.

Our journals are filled with reflections about books we've read, creative writing and small moment descriptions. Second graders are learning about sentence structure, parts of speech and descriptive words. We also like to edit our work so we become fluent readers and writers.

Academic Actions Plans are helping us to learn what to look for in our stories, answer comprehension questions, look for story details and reread for accuracy. We are also challenging ourselves with various math problem solving activities in our Academic Action Plans.

Our halls have been filled with holiday art projects and we are currently at work on winter projects such as gingerbread men, mitten projects and creative snowmen.

Reading at home each day is a special treat for every second grader. Thank you to our families for listening and encouraging us to be better readers.

Mrs. Drach
Mrs. Jones
Mrs. Medine
Mrs. Romstad

FREE FOOD!

YOUR CHILD CAN EARN A COUPON FOR A FREE MEAL AT

FAZOLI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT UP TO FOUR TIMES THIS YEAR!

How?

JUST BY SHOWING UP FOR SCHOOL!

EVERY QUARTER CHILDREN HAVE PERFECT ATTENDANCE, THEY WILL EARN A COUPON FOR A FREE MEAL AT FAZOLI'S!



Dear Band Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season. Did your child perform a little concert for your family celebrations last month? If not, it's never too late to ask your child to play for you!

January and February will be very busy months for us in band. Our "Mini Pep Band Night" will be at Parker High School on January 21st beginning at 6:15pm. We will be working hard to learn new notes and rhythms to play our music for this performance. Starting in February your child will begin to receive a few fun and unique band homework assignments. Your child will be asking you for a little help with these assignments (don't worry...there won't be too many, and they won't be too hard or time consuming!)

Soon your child will begin registering for 6th grade classes. Please encourage your child to select band as his or her music choice. We only begin to scratch the surface of instrumental study during fifth grade, so it's important that your child continue into middle school to get a more complete picture of what being in the band is all about!

Did you know that learning how to play an instrument makes a person smarter? According to a paper published in Nature Reviews Neuroscience in August 2010, scientists from Northwestern University believe that musical training actually adds neural connections in the brain. This means your child is increasing his or her brain power in all academic areas by being in band! We can see this right here in Janesville where Craig HS band students scored significantly higher on the WKCE test than the state and school average:

- 42 points higher on Reading
- 28 points higher on Language Arts
- 36 points higher on Math
- 31 points higher on Science
- 34 points higher on Social Studies

Thank you to David Rush, band director at Craig, for compiling this information. For more information on this topic, you can check out www.supportmusic.com.

Thank you for your continued support of music in our schools!

Sincerely,

Ms. Diana Johnson

Diana Johnson

Elementary Band Teacher



1st Grade Report



Happy New Year!

It has been a busy couple of months here in first grade! Since returning from holiday break our first grade students have been hard at work! In math, we have been learning to correctly answer addition facts (sums to 12 and double facts) and subtraction facts (-0,-1) and (z-z=0, Ex. 8-8=0). We've been calculating coin combinations with pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters, as well as telling time to the nearest quarter hour. In reading, our first graders have been practicing using effective reading strategies to become better readers, such as backing up and re-reading, looking for chunks within a word and checking their understanding! We are also working on using letter-sound correspondence to create words and have been practicing writing sentences with correct spacing and punctuation.

We are moving on to a new unit in Science, weather! The students are excited to dive into the world of weather! In this unit we will use tools to help predict and gage weather. We will also be discussing the water cycle.

Please remember to be reading with your child and signing their purple folder every night. Your child's book bag and purple folder should be returned to school daily. Thanks for your support!

1st Grade Teachers

5th Grade News



Welcome back to school! We hope your family had an enjoyable Winter break. In 5th grade, we are working hard on fractions in math. Students are learning how to add, subtract, and find equivalent fractions. In communication arts, we continue to work on using reading strategies to become better readers. The best way to become a good reader is to practice reading, so please encourage your child to read at home and ask them to tell you about their reading strategies. We are lucky enough to have a local author, Craig Pierce, coming to visit us on January 10th. Middle school counselors will also be visiting us on January 7th in order to get students thinking about some possible music electives. Yes, we are starting to look ahead at the upcoming transition to middle school. Please make sure to contact the school district office or Jessica Grant, here at Wilson, with any changes in your address because it could change where your child should be enrolled. It has been quite cold outside, so please make sure that your child comes to school dressed for the weather.

February will hopefully be a little warmer. Wishful thinking, I know. 5th grade will be taking a district "scrimmage", which is a practice test to prepare them for the standardized tests that they take throughout the year. This test does not affect their grades, it is only meant to serve as practice. Please continue to encourage your child to read each night. Conferences are upon us, so please make sure to return and conference slips that are sent home with your child. We look forward to seeing you.

Periodo de Inscripción Abierta para las Escuelas Públicas

El Estado de Wisconsin ha anunciado que el periodo de aplicaciones para inscripción abierta (también conocido como preferencia de escuela pública), comienza en febrero para el próximo año escolar. Las leyes de Inscripción Abierta permiten que los niños asistan a una escuela pública en un distrito escolar, fuera del distrito en el que viven.

El periodo de solicitud para Inscripción Abierta para el año escolar 2011-12, es del 7 al 25 de febrero de 2011. Se recomienda que los padres llenen su solicitud por internet en: <https://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/OpenEnrollApp>. Aunque se recomienda la solicitud por internet, pueden obtenerse los formularios de solicitud en el Departamento de Instrucción Pública o en cualquier distrito escolar, después del 4 de enero de 2011 y tienen que entregarse (se recomienda la entrega en persona) al distrito escolar de no residencia, durante el periodo de solicitud. Las solicitudes tienen que entregarse en el Departamento de Servicios Administrativos, antes de las 4:00 p.m. del 25 de febrero (un sello del correo no constituye la entrega oportuna). Las solicitudes entregadas antes del 7 de febrero, serán devueltas como no válidas y tendrán que ser presentadas de nuevo después del 7 de febrero, pero antes del 25 de febrero.

La inscripción en un programa o en una escuela que se solicita, está sujeta al espacio y a otras limitaciones y no está garantizada. La transportación es responsabilidad de los padres.

Bajo la política del comité del Distrito Escolar de Janesville, los estudiantes que asistieron al distrito bajo la inscripción abierta el año anterior, no necesitan llenar una solicitud de nuevo para el año escolar siguiente, a menos que estén por comenzar la escuela secundaria.

Se requiere una solicitud para cada niño en la familia. Por ejemplo, si una familia tiene un niño en la primaria que ha sido aprobado para la inscripción abierta y a un nuevo estudiante entrando al kínder el próximo año, el estudiante entrando al kínder tiene que aplicar para la inscripción abierta, para poder asistir al Distrito Escolar de Janesville.

Se les informará a los padres en el mes de Abril, si su solicitud de inscripción abierta ha sido aprobada o rechazada. La colocación en el programa o escuela del estudiante, será notificada en el mes de Mayo.

Si tiene preguntas, por favor llame a la Oficina de Servicios Administrativos al 743-5006.

Public School Open Enrollment Timelines

The State of Wisconsin has announced the application period for open enrollment (also known as public school choice) begins in February for the following school year. Open Enrollment laws permit children to attend a public school in a school district other than the one in which they live.

The open enrollment application period for the 2011-12 school year is from February 7-25, 2011. Parents are encouraged to apply online at <https://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/OpenEnrollApp>. Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction or any school district after January 4, 2011 and must be delivered (hand-delivery is recommended) to the nonresident school district during the application period. Paper applications to attend Janesville must be submitted to the Administrative Services Department no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 25th (a postmark does not constitute timely submission). Applications turned in prior to February 7th will be returned as not valid and must be resubmitted after February 7th but before February 25th.

Enrollment in a requested school or program is subject to space and other limitations and is not guaranteed. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent.

Under School District of Janesville board policy, students who attended the district under open enrollment the previous year are not required to reapply for the following school year, unless they will be entering middle school.

An application is required for each sibling in the family. For example, if a family has one child in elementary school that has been approved for open enrollment and a new student entering kindergarten next year, the student entering kindergarten must apply for open enrollment in order to attend the School District of Janesville.

Parents will be informed in April whether their open enrollment applications have been approved or denied. The student's school or program placement will be provided in May.

If you have questions, please contact the Administrative Services Office at 743-5006.

Request for School Transfer/Placement (Intra District Transfers) within the School District of Janesville Attendance Areas

If you move within the School District of Janesville during the school year and wish to remain at your current school please ask the school office for a Request to Remain in Current School Following Move to New Attendance Area Form (Blue). Complete the form and return it to the school office.

Due to Parent Choice:

If you wish to apply to have your student transferred/placed in another school within the district next school year (2011-2012), please ask the school office for a School Transfer/Placement Within the School District Form (Goldenrod). Completed forms will be accepted from **December 1 through December 15, 2010** only. Submit your Request for School Transfer/Placement Within the School District Form (Goldenrod) to your home school attendance area office. Parents applying for Requests for School Transfer/Placement Within the School District will be notified of approval or disapproval by January 15, 2010. Parents applying for Requests for School Transfer/Placement Within the School District for incoming Kindergarten students will be notified of approval or disapproval after they have en-rolled their child during the Kindergarten Enrollment period with the New Student Enrollment Office. If you have questions, please contact the school office of your home school attendance area.

Open Enrollment – Public School Choice – District to District Transfers

If during the school year, you move outside the School District of Janesville and you wish to remain at Adams school please contact the Administrative Services office at 743-5006 and request a tuition waiver form within two weeks of your move. This will allow you to be eligible to attend Adams school for the remainder of the current year tuition free. If your move occurs prior to February, you will also need to complete an open enrollment application. Applications are provided to the School District of Janesville by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and should be available by mid January 2010. This year applications will be accepted **February 7-25, 2011**. Early and/or late applications cannot be accepted.

If you have questions regarding Open Enrollment or Public School Choice please contact the Administrative Services Office at 743-5006.



JANUARY 2011

						1
2	3 SCHOOL RESUMES ATTENDANCE ASSEMBLY 9:30 IN GYM	4	5	6 MINORITY AFFINITY ACTIVITY ROOM 6:00-8:00 P.M.	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 4TH Grade Classrooms 4- 5:30 Research Projects	14 Favorite Color Day	15
16	17	18	19 Friday schedule	20 End of 2nd quarter	21 Teacher work day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS PHS Mini-Pep Band Night	22
23	24	25 Hoops for Heart Assembly All Grades in Gym at 1:30 p.m.	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Attendance Assembly 10:30 a.m. in Gym	3	4 Progress Report Distribution Favorite Team Day	5
6	7	8	9 Scoobie Night 4:00-8:00 p.m.	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Parent Teacher Conferences 3:20-8:00 p.m. Regular School Day for Students	24 Conferences 7:00a.m. -8:00 p.m. NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	25 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	26
27	28					