

# Whitefield Wildcat Weekly



Issue 14

January 17, 2020



## Principal's Message

### **2020 WinterKids Student / Parent Winter Outdoor Afternoon**

All students have received invitational letters to be brought home related to next Wednesday's (January 22nd) WinterKids Student / Parent Winter Outdoor Afternoon to be held here at school and at the Hidden Valley Nature Center in Jefferson. Please read over the invitation and, hopefully, find a way to participate in some or all of the program. Our PreK to Grade 2 students will be participating in a variety of activities here at WHES while our students in grades 3-8 will be bussed to HVNC at 1:00 p.m. with our program concluding at 4:20 p.m. with a final clean up and walk out to the parking lot. The Pre K-2 program at WHES will conclude at 4:00 p.m., at which point students using our transportation will board busses to HVNC to pick up the older students and then returned home. This WinterKids programming is the major activity of our Parent Engagement Week of WinterKids and the plans call for a great deal of fun outdoor winter activities. The agenda holds time for students / parents to participate in activities such as: snow shoeing, sledding, snow art, shelter building, cross country skiing, sledding and fat tire biking. Snacks will also be provided during the afternoon. Unless parents make other plans, transportation home will be on the students' regular WHES bus, beginning at approximately 4:30 p.m. Parents can communicate their transportation plans on the invitation form and those parents who will have their child(ren) use school transportation will need to plan accordingly for their child's return home at a unique time and with very low light.

The long range weather forecast plays right into the WinterKids theme with predictions for some accumulating snow reaching our area both on Sunday. With that said, the long range forecast points the temperature for January 22nd having a high of 20 degrees. This would indicate that all participants in our program will need to be dressed for those conditions. HVNC does have some warming huts and our Pre K-2 students will have the school available. Students in grades 3-8 will be scheduled into the HVNC warming huts during the afternoon but please make sure your child(ren), as well as yourself, come appropriately dressed for a Maine winter afternoon.

I want to personally thank Andy Bezon and the Midcoast Conservancy for being such great partners in the planning and operating of this very special program. Our 4th grade class participates in HVNC's Outdoor Education Program each year and Midcoast Conservancy provides Americorps volunteers to WHES to run our Outdoor PE Program that includes fat tire biking, cross country skiing and orienteering. Midcoast is also partnering with the school and Town of Whitefield in applying for grants to, hopefully, build a four season trail that would utilize both town and school property with the benefits to both school children and citizens being significant.

**Office:** Please remember to send your child to school with a note if they are going to a different destination on the bus after school. It helps to avoid last minute phone calls to the school, which can make dismissal very chaotic. We appreciate the advance notice and thank you for not calling with these changes after 2:00 p.m.

**Food Pantry:** Please consider donating! Our community appreciates it!

**Health:** Vision and hearing screenings are starting. Please be aware that if your student does not pass, a letter will be sent home.

**PBIS News-** January is in full swing here at Whitefield School. We have been focusing on specific subjects such as working as a team and peer pressure. WinterKids has brought some amazing opportunities for the kids to practice working together to increase classroom collaboration. To all the 8th grade students and parents/guardians - a message from Erskine Academy: Erskine will be holding its annual open house on Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30 (snow date 2/27). We will be looking to schedule a shadow day prior to the open house in the next couple of weeks, look for permission slips from your child. Have a great weekend everyone!! More snow Saturday!!

Click below to check out the Whitefield School Collaborative Problem-Solving Project!

<http://www.svrsu.org/o/whes/page/whitefield-collaborative-problem-solving-project>

### Grades Pre K- 2

**Pre K:** This week in Pre K we have been exploring winter for our WinterKids Challenge. We have measured how tall we are with mittens and displayed them in the hall outside our room. We also explored and made predictions as to what will happen to snow when it is brought inside. Just a reminder that we will be having Read With Me NEXT Thursday the 23rd!

**Beck:** The K Krew is gearing up for another week of Winter Kids. We loved our activities last week...especially the sledding on Friday! Our kitchen center is in full swing during Center Time in Kindergarten. We have been making pizza and cake. We have been writing orders for lunch and breakfast too. Many thanks to Blake Gilbert for giving us dishes, food and a cash register for our center! Please remember to send a snack and a drink each day for your child. Have a great weekend!

**Lamothe:** First graders did NWEA testing this week in both Reading and Math. We reviewed common and proper nouns. The children especially enjoyed writing this week as we are working on fact and opinion. In Math we are working on doubles plus one. We are in need of plastic spoons and extra snacks for our snack bucket. Star Student: Dallee. Happy Birthday to Skyler on the 10th.

**S. Brewer:** Grade 2 had another super week of Winter Kids. A favorite was sledding Friday afternoon. We hope to make this an "Every Friday" event through the month of January. Grade 2 students are becoming very proficient time tellers. We have begun preparations for our next writing unit: Opinion Writing. This is always a favorite of the students. We focused on common and proper nouns as well. Grade 2 worked with Ms. Vicki in the kitchen and planned Wednesday's meal this week. We included foods from all the food groups. It was fun planning the menu. Thank you, Vicki, for allowing us to do this! Please remind your students to pack mittens/gloves everyday. We are still seeing students coming to school each day without them.

### Grades 3-5

**Northrup:** Winter in Maine is cold!! PLEASE be sure your child has the gear he/she needs for outdoor recess. I am finding that many kiddos do not have mittens/hats, a WARM jacket, or are wearing "rain" boots and not winter boots. PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS THE NEEDED ATTIRE FOR THE HIDDEN VALLEY NATURE CENTER TRIP. For WINTERKIDS we played a new version of red light green light!! Ask your child about red light, green light, and yellow light foods. We have started chapter 4 in math and next week will begin a new unit in writing-Opinion. Student of the Week- Ava

**Trask:** Grade 4 has been busy taking the NWEA tests this week. Most of the kids have finished the Reading and Math parts of the test.

Next week, the class will be going to HVNC on Thursday, January 23, 2020 in addition to the school trip on Wednesday. They will study the different animal tracks and how wildlife survives the winter season.

**M. Brewer:** 5th graders have been working hard to master long division. We have been learning different strategies to solve problems, like drawing pictures, using the distributive property, as well as the standard algorithm. We have also been learning to read nutrition labels, and make healthier choices based off the information we discover from them.

### Middle School News

**McCormick:** The NJHS would like to extend a huge thank you to Ms. Dill and Mrs. Brann for all of their cooking help last Saturday. There are 100 community members who will be enjoying a hot turkey dinner, thanks to their help. Our middle school science students would like to thank Mr. Andy Wilson and Baruch for helping build the hoop house for us. It will be amazing to have this in place for our spring season.

**Capen:** In ELA students are working on their social issues books and focusing on theme. In writing, 8th grade is continuing with their literary analysis essays. 7th grade just finished their rough drafts of fictional stories!

**Crowell:** Students in 6th grade are taking roles and reading lines in a mini classroom play to learn more about Ancient Egypt and the Pharaoh's.

In math we have incorporated a new resource called quizlet to practice skills and encourage group work.

### Resource News

**Brann:** We are pleased with the progress students have made on the Winter NWEA! We will continue administering them next week. Try to get outside this weekend and participate in at least one of the #WinterKids Challenge activities.

**Grady/Richards:** It's been a busy week with NWEA and the winter kids program. Please continue to read with your children even if new books do not make it home. It is also ok to sign the reading logs twice for the same book, or add a book from home at their level. Have a wonderful, long weekend.

## Art - Learning Commons - Music - PE

**Howard:** Lower grades have been listening to stories about Winter and this week's author study was Eve Bunting - we will continue with her work next week as well.

Some classes were challenged in MakerSpace to create a tall structure using newspaper and masking tape - working as a team was very important. Others were given choice - 3D printing and creating their own products.

We are also doing NWEA testing and will be completed next week.

Please click the following link to go to the Whitefield Town Library's homepage! <https://whitefieldlibrary.org/>

**Simpson:** Our 2020 WinterKids challenge is in full swing! We hope you will join us for our family event on Wednesday at Hidden Valley Nature Center. This week we need YOUR help getting your kids outside and active. Please review the BINGO card that your child will come home with today and encourage them to earn a BINGO by doing some or all of the activities. There are lots of incentives for students who return a BINGO card with a completed line. There will also be many activities that can be accomplished on our Hidden Valley Nature Center trip. This would also be a great time for you to join the WinterKids Winter Games facebook page and share photos of your children enjoying their time outside. Don't forget to use our school's custom hashtag! #WHES\_winterkids

*Have a great weekend!*