

WCMS NEWS

WORLD CULTURES MAGNET SCHOOL



Winter 2006 • 1075 East Third Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55106 • (651) 778-3200

Around our World...

GO FOURTH!

If you see any 4th graders shaking out their wrists, it's probably because of their hard work writing the final copy of their memoirs -- all in cursive. What started as a tiny seed idea has been gradually transformed into a first draft, second draft, and now the finished product. In Art they designed block prints to go with the memoirs. (Be sure to look for the memoir display at our upcoming Culture Fair.) In Social Studies, students are busy becoming experts on states and regions. If your child comes home humming a tune, it's likely to be the "Fifty Nifty United States" song that they're learning in Music!

The **fifth grade** classes have all sorts of art-related activities coming up. We will go to the Ordway Center for the Arts on February 15th. We will see Vocal Essence. This program combines the singing of spirituals with the art of ballet dancing. We are continuing a study of European Art, which the students began in Culture Class. This study will culminate in our field trip to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts on February 21st. We have also begun a joint Social Studies, Technology and Writing Project. In Social Studies we have been learning about American Colonial Life. In Writing we have begun to further research the various aspects of colonial life. These studies will come together in our slide show presentations, which will be ready for the upcoming Culture Fair. Hope to see you then!

Students in Mrs. Schultz's **Kindergarten** classroom continue to work hard on learning letter names and sounds. They are then using their knowledge of letters and sounds in their writing. Currently the students are learning and writing about things in the sky, on the ground and in space. Counting, identifying and writing numbers is another area the Kindergartners are working hard at. In February, we will be celebrating 100 days in school. That week many of our activities will be focused on the numbers from 1 to 100.

First graders just finished writing their personal narrative/ memoirs. We had a Publishing Party on Friday, January 15, and the first graders read their published piece to Mrs. Braithwaites's class. It was fun and exciting. We're so proud of them. Last week we talked about Martin Luther King Jr. and his dream, then we wrote what we could do in our classroom and at home to keep his dream alive. Come and see our wall outside our classroom to see their dreams.

Early Kindergarten: Winter is the area of study for Early Kindergarten. They have learned from a fun friend named Froggy about how to keep warm by wearing the right clothes. The book, The Mitten, has been the focus of two weeks of wild activities including trying to squeeze as many kids into a giant mitten as we can. See if your child can name all eight animals that squeeze into the mitten in the story and about what happens once they are all inside. Next, a study of animals in the winter and hibernation will begin. The children will learn lots about squirrels and bears in this unit. It will be "beary" fun!

The **Sixth Graders** have been making papier mache sculptures in the style of Claes Oldenburg. He's the artist who made the "Spoonbridge and Cherry" sculpture in the sculpture garden at the Walker Art Center. We've also been writing and producing plays based on folktales from India.

GYM TIME!

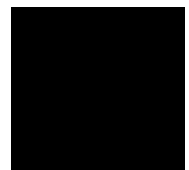
I am very proud to announce that we have been awarded a PEP Grant for 2005-2008 at WCMS. The focus of the program created with the money will be to connect World Cultures 4th grade students and their families to the various St. Paul Recreation Centers. The program will include these benefits for our students:

- Nutrition education at WCMS
- Additional fitness education at WCMS
- 9 Family nights at the school and/or Margaret Recreation Center
- IMPROVED FITNESS
- IMPROVED NUTRITION
- IMPROVED ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Look for more information later in the year.

Brooke Magill

Physical Education Teacher



Principal Weyandt's update

Saint Paul Public Schools:

Celebrating 150 Years of Excellence

Saint Paul Public Schools will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2006. We are honored that the Saint Paul Winter Carnival has chosen as their signature ice sculpture a replica of one of our early schools. It will be dedicated on the first day of the Winter Carnival -- Friday, Jan. 27 at 10a.m. in Rice Park. A reception will follow at Landmark Center. The Wells Fargo Winter Skate Ice Rink will offer free ice-skating that day from 10 a.m. – 10p.m (skate rentals are \$2). We hope you can join us at the coolest celebration on earth!

- ◇ Saint Paul Public Schools' board of education met for the first time in 1856. Throughout this year we will keep you up-to-date on fun activities and events at our school and throughout the city as we mark 150 years of delivering education services to our community. We will also share fun facts about our history here in the newsletter.
- ◇ The Mounds Park building has a rich history among St. Paul Public Schools! First, the building was Harding High School, then Mounds Park Junior High School, and currently American Indian Magnet and World Cultures Magnet Schools. If you know anyone who has attended our school, please invite them to stop in for a tour and an opportunity to share in the history of our wonderful building during this celebration of 150 years of St. Paul Public Schools!

DID YOU KNOW...

that Saint Paul Public Schools' Parent Information Fair is on January 21?

- ◇ Saint Paul parents will have a chance to meet representatives from more than 150 Saint Paul schools and programs at the 2006 Parent Information Fair from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 21, at Saint Paul RiverCentre's Roy Wilkins Auditorium, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd. Free shuttle busses and parking during fair hours are available at Sears (425 Rice St.) and the Saint Paul Public Schools' administration building (360 Colborne St.).
- ◇ **If you have a child to register, who has a sibling attending World Cultures, please call Lisa at 778-3200 for an application. Please note: MARCH 10 IS THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION TO WORLD CULTURES MAGNET SCHOOL.**

ETC...

- ◇ **STAFFING UPDATE:** Please welcome Mr. James Graves, Student Development Support Assistant.
- ◇ <http://worldcultures.spps.org/>

Important Dates

January 2006

Saturday, January 21, 9:30AM - 2PM
Parent Information Fair
Roy Wilkins Auditorium

Friday, January 27, No School
Staff Training Day

Tuesday, January 31, 6-7PM
Site Council Meeting, Library

February 2006

Wednesday, February 8, Early Release Day
Dismissal @ 1:40 PM

Thursday, February 9, 5:30 PM
Hmong PTO Meeting

Monday, February 13
African American Parent Involvement Day

Thursday, February 16, 5:30 - 7:30 PM
Culture Fair and Magnet Open House

Monday, February 20, No School
Presidents Day

Tuesday, February 28, 6-7 PM
Site Council Meeting

2006 Board of Education

Elona Street-Stewart	Chair
Kazoua Kong-Thao	Vice Chair
John Brodrick	Clerk
Tom Conlon	Treasurer
Anne Carroll	Director
Tom Goldstein	Director
Al Oertwig	Director

Superintendent

Lou Kanavati
Area B Superintendent
Denise Quinlan
Principal
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