



Window on Woodcrest

January 11, 2012

Woodcrest Elementary

Judi Kahoun, Principal

880 Osborne Rd. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

www.springlakeparkschools.org

Important Phone Numbers

Main Office
763-784-9293

Attendance
763-783-5204

Transportation
763-785-5512

Lorenz Bus Company
763-201-8888

Food Service
763-785-5529

District Service Center
763-786-5570

Community Education
763-786-1338

Learning Ventures
763-783-5227

Early Childhood Center
763-785-5560

Mrs. Kahoun's Corner

As the children returned to school following winter break, many of them revisited the hopes and dreams they identified at the beginning of the school year. As part of the Responsive Classroom curriculum adopted by Spring Lake Park Schools, students think about what it is they want to accomplish during the school year. They set these goals as a result of conversations about all the possibilities of what one can achieve, along with what it will take to meet these goals. These hopes and dreams are identified first at the beginning of the school year, and often are evaluated and perhaps modified following Winter Break. Students and staff alike consider their hopes and dreams, what it takes to realize them, and how we can support one another along the way. Please talk with your child about their hopes and dreams for this school year and discuss ways you can support them at home. If you happen to have any questions about the goals your child identified for themselves, please ask their teacher. They are working hard at school with your child to ensure these hopes and dreams are realized.

Communications and Connections: How to Stay Informed

Whether you are a parent or a community member, student or staff, there are many ways to stay informed about the Spring Lake Park School District, including.....

SpringLakeParkSchools.org

We invite you to visit SpringLakeParkSchools.org where you'll find district news, school news, program and department information, calendars, menus, athletic schedules, enrollment information, video presentations, financial reports, Community Education offerings, and much more. We hope to debut Phase I of a newly-designed website in the coming months.

School-Community Connections Newsletter

This district newsletter is mailed to all homes and businesses in the school community. The goal of *School-Community Connections* is to inform, engage, and involve the entire community in the school district's current and future plans, as well as the great things taking place in our classrooms and schools. Regular editions are produced and mailed at least quarterly, along with additional special editions.

District and School News delivered to your computer or mobile device

School district parents with email addresses receive weekly district and school E-News Updates automatically. Anyone, however, can subscribe to this same news service by going to the E-News Updates section on the homepage of the website. We deliver news about the community's schools straight to your computer or internet-enabled mobile device.

Continued on page 2

Coming Up January

16 NO SCHOOL—
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

19 Kindergarten Information
General Session 6-7 p.m.
Spanish Immersion Session 7-8 p.m.

23 Kindergarten Information
General Session 9:45-10:45 a.m.
Spanish Immersion Session 11-12

26 Early Release Day—2 Hrs.
NO PM Kindergarten

27 NO SCHOOL

Greetings from the Art Room

This year I see K+, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students on a 5 day cycle for 45 minutes one time per week. Also, I teach at Park Terrace, Westwood Intermediate, and the Spanish Immersion School the times that I am not at Woodcrest. Therefore, the best way to reach me is by e-mail at spfahl@district16.org.

All day Kindergarten is currently putting some finishing touches on some snowmen (or women) such as ribbons for scarves and pom-poms on hats. Last we will add a little painted snow! We are also learning to draw all kinds of fish for our next big project.

First grade made some very cool clay self-portraits. Clay takes a while to dry, fire (cook), and be glazed, so they will come home in a few weeks. We have been learning about facial expressions and how to draw different emotions. Instead of putting them on humans, we are putting them on snow characters such as a snowlady, snowdog, snowYoda, and even a snowSmurf! Woodcrest has some very creative 1st graders!

Second grades finished their self-portraits, learned how to draw four-legged animals, and are now making clay animals. The students are learning that sculpting something from clay that can stand up on legs can be tricky! I have assured them that if we keep working at it, the animals all will turn out great.

Third grades are almost done with their animal collages. Some projects take a long time, but the finished product is well worth it. Perseverance, or continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, is an important part of art and life! These finished animal pictures will be awesome!

You may have noticed that not much artwork has gone home yet. Woodcrest is having an Art Fair on February 23 (along with Family Reading Night) so I am choosing some fabulous project examples so each child will have something featured that night!

Have a colorful day!

- Ms. Pfahl J

Communications and Connections: How to Stay Informed *continued from page 1*

Facebook

The Spring Lake Park School District is on Facebook, providing another way to keep parents, students, community, and alumni informed. You can become a "fan" of the school district or its schools by going to the district website.

Blogs/Twitter

More and more administrators, teachers, and others have begun to utilize newer ways to communicate with the school community, such as Twitter and blogs. On the website under "Ideas, Insights, Pride," you'll find Supt. Jeff Ronneberg's blog, tweets, and monthly columns. With the soon-to-arrive updated website will come increased opportunities for this kind of communication.

School Board meetings online and on cable TV

View an entire School Board meeting --or choose what portion of the meeting to view from a menu of agenda items-- online by going to "Panther TV on the website. Blaine and Spring Lake Park residents can view School Board meeting rebroadcasts on Comcast Ch. 19. Replays begin the following day of each meeting at 10 am and 8 pm. Fridley residents can view programming online, or can request a DVD.

PantherTV & YouTube

In addition to the PantherTV, the district has begun utilizing YouTube to expand its programming reach. Here you can find choir and band concerts, topical programming, and our "Education Today: Inside Our Schools" series. Video series: "Education Today: Inside Our Schools" Periodically, the district produces video segments that take you inside the district's schools and programs, hallways and classrooms, play practices, concert rehearsals, and athletic contests. Supt. Jeff Ronneberg and others host. Visit "Panther TV" on the website.

Local newspapers

School district news appears regularly in the *Blaine Banner*, *Blaine-Spring Lake Park Life*, and the *SunFocus News*.

Information Provided by Jim Elert, Communications Coordinator

PTA News

We would like to invite everyone to come to our next PTA meeting tomorrow, Thursday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m. We would love to have input from all of you about our upcoming activities. The Scholastic Book Fair is coming up during conferences at the end of January and beginning of February. We have a Fun Fair on the calendar for April and we are planning a Walk-a-thon for sometime this Spring. We need your ideas so please join us!