



WILDCAT NEWS

www.wmms.net

November 14, 2008

What's Happening.....

Nov. 17-20...Basketball (Boys & Girls) –Tryouts After School
Nov. 17-21....Book Fair
Nov. 18....**PTA Meeting**
Nov. 18...Beginning Band & Orchestra Concert – 7pm (Gym)
Nov. 26, 27, 28.....**THANKSGIVING BREAK**
Dec. 8.....Basketball Home Game: East Wake vs. WMMS
3:45pm
Dec. 9.....Beta Club Officer Meeting, Media Center-7:40am
Dec. 9.....**PTA Meeting**
Dec. 10...Beta Club General Meeting – 7:40am
Dec. 11...Basketball: WMMS at Heritage – 3:45pm
Dec. 15...Basketball: WMMS at Zebulon – 3:45pm
Dec. 16...Fine Arts Winter Concert: Chorus in MPR at 6pm
Band/Orchestra in Gym at 7pm
Dec. 18...Basketball: Wakefield at WMMS
Dec. 22-Jan 2.....**WINTER BREAK**

A Message from Principal Mutillo

As you have probably read in the newspapers, last year's End of Grade (EOG) Reading scores have been released. Scores on this new assessment fell throughout the state and district. This new assessment was designed to be more difficult for students to pass. On the old reading test, about 87% of students statewide passed (by earning a Level III or higher). The state decided to push students and schools by setting the statewide passing rate so that only 50-60% of students would pass last year's test. At West Millbrook, we experienced a comparable drop in test scores going from a passing rate in 2006-2007 of 83.7% to a passing rate of 55.3% last year. As an instructional leader, I don't look at this and think our students necessarily learned less. In fact, it is difficult to compare the two years since the scoring was different and growth ratios were not calculated. Instead, I look at our 55.3% passing rate as a new baseline for improvement. The state has raised the bar and is expecting more from our students. At West Millbrook, we are committed to working with students to help them meet these new higher standards. In the next couple of weeks, we will distribute individual student scores, so you can see how your student performed in comparison to the standard and other students in the state.

Student Directories on Sale

The 2008-2009 WMMS Student Directory is still on sale. The cost is \$2 each. This is a great way to keep in touch with other students. Student Directories will be available for sale during the book fair 11/17-11/21.

Shop the Book Fair This Week!

The annual book fair is open this week in the media center--Monday, November 17 through Friday, November 21. Stop by and shop our great selection of books--all the popular fiction titles, non-fiction, classics, science, biography, bargain,

drawing books, magic kits, crafts, games, and other activities. School directories and spirit wear will also be sold. All proceeds from the book fair go directly toward purchasing new books for the media center. Get some holiday shopping done early! The hours are:

Monday, 11/17	noon - 3:30
Tuesday, 11/18	7:50 - 3:30 and 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (during evening band concert)
Wednesday, 11/19	7:50 - 3:30
Thursday, 11/20	7:50 - 3:30
Friday, 11/21	7:50 - 3:30

BAND NOTES

Ten of our WMMS band students auditioned for the Wake County Honor Band Clinic. This was a rigorous process that involved hours of preparation, and a long, difficult audition! The student auditioned on flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, trumpet, trombone, euphonium and, tuba. Five of those who auditioned will participate in the clinic on November 20 and 21. One student is a first alternate. Congratulations to all of you for your hard work!

We also have our 911 Emergency Jazz Band in place for the 2008-09 school year! These students will rehearse at 7:00 in the morning every Thursday. We look forward to performing for you at our concerts this year.

♥ LOVE YOUR JOB? ♥

Then come share it with us! WMMS will host its annual Career Day on Thursday, February 12, 2009. We need people from ALL walks of life to share with our students how they arrived at their chosen career. The students need to hear that education is important for EVERY job, that today's hobby can be tomorrow's career, and that true success doesn't necessarily depend on the size of the paycheck. If you can donate one morning of your time to speak to three groups of students about your professional journey, please email the Career Day Committee at beebe7769@yahoo.com. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

Pictures for the Yearbook !!!

Do you want to see you or your child's picture in the yearbook? Do you have pictures from WMMS sporting events, school dances, or concerts?

The WMMS yearbook now has an email account where you can send in the pictures you have taken. These pictures will be used for the Yearbook and for the end of the year slide shows.

Email you pictures to... WMMSYearbook@ncteacher.org

ATTENTION PARENTS

Do you work in a career that deals with science, technology, engineering or mathematics? If so, West Millbrook is looking for you to get involved in working with approximately 10 of our brightest math students. We would like to have a MATHCOUNTS team again this year. Our team last year placed 8th in the competition. This year, we need **you** to coach them to 1st place (with the assistance of Mrs. Seroka & Miss Reik)!

What is MATHCOUNTS? MATHCOUNTS is a national enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement through grassroots involvement and increases enthusiasm for achievement in middle school mathematics. It provides the extra incentive and the perfect atmosphere for students to push themselves to achieve more in mathematics. Consisting of fun and creative problems, the MATHCOUNTS competitions have written and oral rounds, as well as individual and team components. Though challenging and non-routine, the competition problems

focus on the 6th through 8th grade standards of the National Council of Teachers in Mathematics. MATHCOUNTS provides the materials for teachers and students to use as they prepare for the competition series. (for more information <http://mathcounts.org/Page.aspx?pid=195>)

If you are interested in working with our students, please contact A. Niebauer (AG Coordinator): aniebauer@wcpss.net / 870-4067

Basketball Tryouts

Basketball tryouts for boys and girls, grades 7th and 8th, will take place 11/17 – 11/20 after school in the gym. **Anyone interested in trying out must have a sports physical on file at the school or with you the day of tryouts.**

Attention Sixth Grade Dolphin Parents

Ms. Reik will now be offering a "Dolphins" math tutoring lab after school from 3:00 - 4:15 every Monday and Wednesday afternoon following the school day. Because the math tutoring lab has become so popular, I have offered to specifically tutor my students on Mondays and Wednesdays. Students will come to my room and have time to work with me one on one and in small groups. Please encourage your student to take advantage of this service especially if you notice that their grades have been slipping in math lately or if they are having a hard time completing their homework assignments.

Also, we are still accepting donations of any small prize items to our team treasure chest that we are using to reinforce positive behavior and the CATS matrix on our team. Make sure your donated items are valued at \$1 or less, and they can include candy (no gum!), pencils, fast food coupons, etc.

Math Tutoring Lab Update

Due to the high number of students attending math lab, attendance at math lab will be limited to the first 15 students who sign up before 3:00 on the sign up sheet at Mrs. Bonner's door.

You must sign up each day that you want to attend. You must come prepared with math materials.

Monday/Wednesday - 6th grade

Tuesday/Thursday - 7th/8th grade

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Katie Bonner at kbonner@wcpss.net

SPIRIT WEAR - Order Now!!!!!!

We have all your Fall and Winter covered with our Vintage and brand NEW WMMS Spirit Wear items. From pink, blue, and white sweatshirts to your classic blue sweatpants, we can keep all of our WMMS students, parents, and staff warm this season. We still have vintage sweatshirt styles with zippers, as well as our new "lightweight" sweatshirts with our new logo. We also have NEW pink t-shirts (regular cut) in stock. Whatever your need and comfort level, we are sure you will find something to keep you warm and more importantly show your "WMMS PRIDE".

WEST MILLBROOK SPIRITWEAR ORDER FORM

STUDENT NAME _____ HOMEROOM TEACHER _____
PARENT NAME _____ PHONE _____ GRADE _____

"Vintage design"(while supplies last)	S	M	L	XL	XXL	QTY	COLOR	PRICE	TOTAL
100% cotton t-shirt Adult S-XL, XXL Navy blue or heather gray								\$10.00/ 11.00	
Girls short-sleeve scoop-neck tee S-XL white, pink, or gray								\$12.00	
Hooded sweatshirt with muff pocket Adult S-XL, XXL Navy, pink, or gray								\$25.00/ 27.00	
Sweatpants, Navy blue Adult S-XL								\$20.00	
Embroidered toboggan, navy blue, one size fits all								\$10.00	
Large drawstring backpack, navy blue								\$12.00	
"New Design"									
100% cotton t-shirt Adult S-XL, XXL white, pink or navy blue								10.00/ 11.00	
Girls short-sleeve scoop neck tee S-XL, white or pink (runs small)								\$12.00	
Hooded sweatshirt with muff pocket Adult S-XL, XXL, white, pink, navy blue								25.00/ 27.00	
Oval auto magnet, white with navy blue printing (See design below) NEW!!!								\$3.00	

GRAND TOTAL: _____

PLEASE RETURN ORDER FORM AND EXACT CASH, CHECK, OR MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO WEST MILLBROOK PTA.