

Whittier Elementary School Family Weekly Newsletter
Wisconsin PBIS School of Merit
March 9-13, 2015

**“Excellence: Success is a direct reflection of the effort, pride,
and passion with which a person lives”**

*For the 2014-2015 school year, excellence is our motto.
Our staff and students are committed to setting and exceeding challenging goals.*



Kenosha Unified’s Annual Art Show Opens March 13th!

Congratulations to the following students who have their art work displayed in the annual KUSD Art Show: John Boss, Maddie Kimpel, McKenna LaChappelle, Vivian Haas, Jayanna Jackson, Bianka Tully, Dylan Ricchio, Landon Fonner, Sofia Rademacher, Ben Hightower, Marissa Schmitz, Tabitha Shaver, Kevin Bisciglia, Nolan Peltier, Tiffany White, Ayden Farmer, Angelina Palmer, Gabe Haas, Owen Keckler, Ryne Pucci, and Quentin Reeves! Outstanding Job!

KUSD Annual Black History Bee – March 11th!

Congratulations to Daniel Chiappetta, our 4th grade student, who will be representing Whittier in the KUSD Annual Black History Bee. We are proud of you! Additionally, congratulations to the top 20 finishers: Kaylie Klappa, Amber Olszewski, Lucy Foss, Jolie Rapier, Alayna Tetrick, Tabitha Schaver, Ava Preble, Wyatt Modory, Elysa Escribano, Danny Grotthuss, Jack Salisbury, Madison Nannini, Joey Stone, Grace Melichar, Cash Raethke, Gifah Banini, Josie Olsen, Landon Dyke, and Vivien Zgorzelski.

Deputy Friendly Safety Poster Winners!

All of our fourth grade students competed in this year’s 40 Annual Deputy Friendly’s Annual Safety Poster Contest. Over 1,500 students participated and 40 students were chosen across the district. Congratulations to Ava Preble, Reno Nannini, and Brynn Wierzbicki! Their posters have been chosen to represent Whittier Elementary. They will be recognized at the annual dinner on March 24th. BRAVO!

Freedom to Read Campaign

Outstanding Work, Freedom to Read Committee Members! Whittier had about 45 students, led by Mrs. VanDerKamp, organize and sponsor a Freedom to Read Campaign to collect books for the libraries for the islands in the Bahamas. The Kenosha News printed three great pictures of our students sorting and organizing the many books that were donated. Whittier collected 3, 735 books! We would like to give the Carmichael Family a special shout-out for donating 1, 357 books. Mrs. VanDerKamp and Mrs. Galley’s classes will be receiving a special ice cream treat!

Readers Are Leaders Visit Whittier!

To celebrate Dr. Seuss Week, the United Way sponsors a program every year where business people visit elementary schools and read Dr. Seuss books. What a wonderful day our children had with our special guests this past week! We would like to thank: Gary Hutchins, Kim Lishamer, Joe Kumpfer,

Debbie Davidson, JP Moran, Tammy Francis, Vince Incandela, Diane Brotz, David Zuelke, Wanda Seewald, Jacquie Klugiewicz, Sally Plzak, Patrick Strickland, Sally Simpson, and Donna Ives-Kimpel.

Annual St. Jude Mathathon Begins!

Whittier students are invited to participate in this year's St. Jude Mathathon. A permission slip and explanation went home this past week in the Thursday Folder. Permission slips need to be returned by March 13. Students who choose to do the online version of the Funbook can begin right away. Booklets, for those who would like the paper version, will be ordered on the 13th and will arrive at Whittier a few days later. They will be delivered to students so they can start the math problems right away. Monetary donations need to be returned to Whittier by April 13, 2015. You are invited to visit the website for more information:

http://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Math/Math?px=3350358&pg=personal&fr_id=29742. We would like to thank all of the children participating for helping the children at St. Jude's Hospital.

EXTRAORDINARY SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES!

Summer School Location Moved!

This summer, Prairie Lane will be the location for Whittier students attending summer school. For many years, Whittier has hosted summer school with Jeffery and Prairie Lane Schools attending at Whittier. This year, we will be moving the location. We will be sending home information regarding summer school soon.

Camp Invention Returns!

For the third year in a row, Whittier will host Camp Invention. This is a wonderful week-long program that provides the students with opportunities to be problem-solvers and creative thinkers. We will be hosting Camp Invention from June 16-19. We will be sending home information soon.

Lance Middle School To Host Three Camps!

Lance Middle School is offering 3 enrichment camps this summer for students going into grades 4-6. The camps are free. They will take up to 40 students per camp. The camps will run for one week, from 9:00 A.M.-Noon daily. The dates vary depending on the camps. The camps available are: Science Camp, STEM Camp, and Art Camp. Parents can drop off or mail completed registration forms to Lance. If our office receives any applications, we will forward them to Lance. Lance will contact the parents to verify their registration form and acceptance in the camp.

2nd Annual Kingfish Reading Incentive Program

Mark your calendars: May 27th is Whittier Night at the Kingfish Game! Students who participate in the reading incentive program will be awarded a free ticket and other incentives. Discounted tickets are available for family members. The reading incentive is from March 16-April 15.

WHAT IS VIGEOXCHANGE?

vigeoXchange is a new fundraiser, sponsored by our PTA, which allows you to earn cash back and support Whittier Elementary with purchases at participating businesses. Local businesses are being added every day. It's easy and free to use!

Thank you to all of the Whittier families who signed up for vigeoXchange at Parent Teacher Conferences. We are very close to reaching our goal of 200 people signing up. We are extremely excited to report we had over 150 family and staff signed up with vigeoXchange during conferences!

If you didn't have an opportunity to sign up at conferences, please contact support@vigeo.com or 262-656-6250, and they will help you get started. Remember to invite your friends and extended family to sign up too!

[SAVE THE DATE: MAY 16th](#)

[PTA is sponsoring their Second Annual Tiki-Torch Adult Evening! Stay tuned for more information!](#)

Whittier's Attendance

This year, Whittier's attendance goal is 97%. Whittier's goal is to increase time in class and increase student success. As we increase and improve our attendance, we also increase the number of days and minutes that our students get to learn. Quite frankly, Whittier's attendance is lower than it has been in the last few years. With the warm weather returning, we hope that we will be able to make our goal every week during the month of March.

September – 97.50% **(We met our goal!)**

October – 96.64%

November - 94.67%

December – 94.53%

January – 95.11%

First Semester – 95.88%

February -95.29%

March Incentive!

During the month of March, we will be looking at individual classrooms. Every classroom that reaches the goal of 97% (every week) will receive a special treat from Mrs. Schneider. We are encouraging all of our students to eat healthy, get plenty of rest, and wash their hands!

Thank you and Congratulations!

- Thank you to all of the staff and students who participated in our “Read Across America” Weekly Activities. And, a special thank you to all of the parents and guardians who helped with the each themed day! The students and staff had a good time!
- Thank you to all of the parents and guardians who chaperoned the second grade field trip to The Little Mermaid. It was a fantastic play and experience for our children.
- A very special thank you to 4H and the sensory toys they made for our children to recognize Autism Awareness Month. The children will love them!

Monday, March 9

120th Day of School

Tuesday, March 10

- 2:30 P.M.-3:45 P.M. – After School Bible Club
- 2:35 P.M.-3:35 P.M. – Chess Club
- 6:30 P.M. – PTA Meeting in the library (ATTENTION: THERE WILL BE NO DAYCARE AVAILABLE. We apologize.)

Wednesday, March 11

- 8:30 A.M.-11:00 A.M. – KUSD Black History Bee at Indian Trail (GOOD LUCK, Daniel Chiappetta!)
- 2:35 P.M.-3:15 P.M. – 4th and 5th Grade Choir (Meet in the library!)

Thursday, March 12

- 2:35 P.M. - 4th Grade Intramurals meets in the gym.
- 2:35 P.M. – KIDS CAN meets in the library.

Friday, March 13

**FULL DAY OF SCHOOL for Grade K-5!
4K and Early Childhood have the AM session only!
Return St. Jude Mathathon Permission Slips**

- **1:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M. – Trailblazer Family Celebrates PBIS Playground Incentive (Students should bring board games to school!)**
- **2:35 P.M. - 5th Grade Intramurals**
- **2:35 P.M. – Minecraft Club**

Upcoming March Dates

March 19 - Kindergarten Field Trip - SW Library and Festival Foods, from 8:30 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

March 20 – PTA Game Night from 6:30 P.M. -8:00 P.M.

March 20 - Minecraft Club

March 23-26 -Chili's Give Back Program - Bring your voucher to Chili's when you visit (dine in or carry out) and 15% of your purchase will benefit Whittier School. Chili's is located at 6903 75th Street (The voucher will be sent soon.

March 25 -Market Day Pick Up

March 26 -End of 3rd Quarter

March 27 –Teacher Workday – No School for Students

I wish all of you a sunny week!

Jo