

DATES TO REMEMBER!

- 1/16**—NO SCHOOL—Teacher Professional Development Day
- 1/18**—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 1/25 & 26**—6-8 conferences after school by appointment
- 2/6**—Family Council Winterfest planning meeting 3:45-5:00 p.m.
- 2/8 & 2/9** —Middle Village conferences after school by appointment
- 2/10**—Family Council Movie Night 6:30 p.m.
- 2/15**—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 2/20**—Family Council Winterfest planning meeting 3:45-5:00 p.m.
- 2/21**—Information Night 7:00 p.m. (for prospective new parents)
- 2/29**—Information Night 7:00 p.m. (for prospective new parents)
- 3/1**—Band & Choir Concert 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. (moved to 3/2 in case of a snow day)
- 3/3**—Winterfest 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- 3/5**—Primary Village guest author visit 8:30-9:45 a.m./Theater
- 3/8**—Trimester 2 ends. Open application period for fall enrollment lottery ends
- 3/9**—NO SCHOOL—Teacher Work Day.
- 3/9**—Fall enrollment lottery in the Library 3:00 p.m.
- 3/12–3/16** Intensive Week #2 for Middle & 6-8 Villages
- 3/14 & 3/15**—Primary Conferences after school by appointment
- 3/15**—Performance of *Pirates of Penzance* 7:00 p.m. \$4.00 admission
- 3/16**—Performances of *Pirates of Penzance* 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., & 7:00 p.m. \$4.00 admission (no charge for Woodland students attending the daytime performances)
- 3/21**—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 3/26–3/30**—NO SCHOOL—SPRING BREAK. Back to School Monday, April 2nd.

CALLING ALL 2012 KINDERGARTEN SIBLINGS!

Siblings of our current students have priority in being offered Kindergarten slots at Woodland. If your child has a sibling who will be starting Kindergarten in September 2012, you must notify Mrs. Pataky in the office by the end of the open application period on March 8, 2012, so an application form can be completed and enrollment paperwork can be mailed to you. If we hear from you after March 8 your child is no longer guaranteed a Kindergarten slot, and will have to go through the lottery process so be sure to call prior to that date.

Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by December 1, 2012, and beginning this fall there will be no half-day option, due to changes made at the state level. Call Mrs. Pataky with any questions at 947-7474 ext. 3001.

INFORMATION NIGHTS SCHEDULED

Those interested in learning more about Woodland School and potential fall enrollment are encouraged to attend an Information Night (some of you may recall attending one in the past!). It is a great opportunity for potential new families to get their questions answered and fill out an application to be part of the 2012 lottery.

Information Nights are scheduled for Tuesday, February 21 and Wednesday, February 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Woodland Library. If you know someone who might be interested please let them know and have them call Mrs. Pataky at 947-7474.

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Friends and Families,

After the extended break it feels as though all of Woodland School has settled deep into a mode of preparation. We are *all* getting ready for something, not unlike what is quietly happening in nature.

The Primary Village is planning its next round of Friday electives. The Middle Village is working up to its Mackinaw excursion. The Theater Production class held its planning meeting and now props and costumes are being designed with many hours of acting, singing and dancing practice to come in preparation for the spring musical "Pirates of Penzance". The Family Council is preparing for a second fun Movie Night and another grand Winterfest (snow making is not yet on the agenda). The staff is preparing for new families by planning Woodland Information Nights. And, you can be assured, the teachers are looking very long term as they continue to prepare your children for success in life.

In addition to the idea of *preparation*, a common thread runs through everything I have mentioned – your involvement. Thank you for joining us so willingly and for being generous with your time, talents and resources which, of course, include your children.

Nathan Tarsa
 Director



MICHIGAN CHARTER SCHOOL SOLO & ENSEMBLE COMPETITION

This year's competition is scheduled at Woodland School on Saturday, April 14th from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and is open to Michigan charter school 5th through 12th grade musicians. See Mrs. Terhune or Mrs. Tilley right away if you are interested in participating.

PRIMARY VILLAGE NEWS

“Happy New Year!!!” to all of our families. We hope you had a warm and wonderful holiday break. We were excited to welcome the children back and they in turn were full of energy and happy to be with their friends.



On Friday, January 20th our first semester ends. Report cards will be sent home with children on Friday, January 27th. Please take time to look over your child’s report and contact us with any questions/concerns you may have.

It is time to begin our second round of elective classes. A very special part of the elective classes is having parents teach. The many wonderful classes offered are in large part due to our volunteers. We once again invite you to teach a small group of children (8-10) in an area of interest/expertise. Classes will be held from 12:45 – 1:45 on five consecutive Fridays beginning Friday, January 27th. If interested please contact your child’s teacher by Tuesday, January 18th.

MIDDLE VILLAGE NEWS

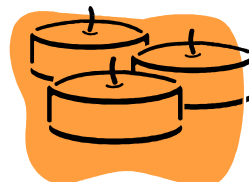
It’s already an exciting 2012. Happy New Year! Thank you to all of the parents who attended the January 5th parent information meeting on the Mackinaw trip. We have an amazing group of parents willing to help make this a great year. Here are some of the ways to make a positive difference:

- Participate in our fundraisers* for the Mackinaw trip.
- Attend student-led conferences on Feb. 8th or 9th.
- Plan on baking a cake, or helping to run the Middle Village Cake Walk at Winterfest 2012 (March 3, 2012).
- Sign up to help Family Council with one of their events.
- Encourage your student to read at least 20

minutes each night. (25 book goal).

- Keep your children home if they have a fever.
- Pack shoes for inside use during the school day.

*We are selling candles to make the Mackinaw Trip in June more affordable for our students. There is an order form in the office. The candles are of high quality, made by Fishcreek Soapworks, especially for us. They make a thoughtful gift (in more ways than one!).



6-8 VILLAGE

The 6-8 students have in their possession a sign-up sheet for student-led conferences. These conferences are scheduled for January 25th and 26th. If your student has not shown you this sheet please discipline them appropriately (!).

The 6-8 have decided to have a dance on Friday, February 3rd. Dances are from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Only dance committee members are allowed to stay after school until the dance time.

Remind students to come prepared for being outside for recess. We do go out every day.

Production students should be memorizing their lines—not just the dialogue but all the words of the songs, as well. Remember there will be a Saturday rehearsal on March 10. A big “thank you” to all the parents who came for the production parent meeting last Tuesday. If you were not able to come, ask your student about the parent info sheet we gave them on Thursday.



BLUE LAKE MUSIC CAMP AUDITIONS

A representative from Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp will be at Woodland School on Wednesday, February 22nd at 12:00 p.m. to hold scholarship auditions. Band students in grades 6-8 are welcome to audition for a scholarship to help defray costs for the Blue Lake summer camp program. Talk to Mrs. Terhune if you have any questions.



LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you everyone for making the December Scholastic BOGO Book Fair exceptional! Sales totaled \$2151.85 in books, passing last year's sales. That means everyone who bought books received close to that amount in free books. Remember, the profits from the Fair go back to you in the free book. It's Woodland's way of saying "thank you" to all our school families for their support. Many families generously gave to their favorite teacher utilizing the "Teacher Wish List" and some put their change into the One For Books box that goes to Toys for Tots.

Special thanks to the parents who helped make this Book Fair fun and successful: Kristin Amalfitano, Shawna Batcha, Nicki Bell, Shelly Boyd, Mandy DeBruyn, Meghan Flaska, Kristine Giem, Shelley Giovannangeli, Holly Hart, Kathy Kreykes, Jen May, Mary McGinnis, Mary Paul, and Carrilyn Stobert. Woodland families ROCK!

A NOTE FROM FAMILY COUNCIL

The Family Council meeting on January 5th had a great turnout! Thanks to all of the parents and teachers who attended. The meeting covered many important topics relevant to all of the parents and students at Woodland. The next main meeting for Family Council is scheduled for April 12th at 6:30 p.m. If you'd like to review the minutes from the January 5th meeting, please go to www.woodlandschool.ws, select the Student and Family Resources tab, and click on the Family Council link.

Some highlights of the meeting were:

- Funding approved for the printing of the Primary Photo Directory, headed up by Missy Smith.
- Funding approved for the Cross Country Team tent
- Mandy DeBruyn and Kevin DeBruyn to coordinate Teacher Appreciation Week
- Kathy Schliess to coordinate Staff TLC (lounge snacks)
- Steven Holl to coordinate Spring Clean-up
- Autum Rhoades to serve as Communications Coordinator

Woodland Movie Night – Friday, February 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Watch for details in the classroom notes. Coordinator is Heather Smith.

Winterfest – Saturday, March 3rd from 11:00 a. m.-2:00 p.m. – Save the Date!

Winterfest planning is underway! We would love to have your help. Planning dates are Monday, February 6th and February 20th from 3:45-5:00 p.m. in the Library.

*Activities for Winterfest include:

Free Raffle (Three grand prizes have already been donated - Charter boat excursion, Tall Ship sail & a family photo shoot. We are looking for donations of many additional smaller items to raffle. Please start collecting items that you think someone might appreciate.)

Cake Walk

Bake Sale

Snowshoeing

Ice Bowling

Sledding


Family Cardboard Sled Race (More info to come,

but the basic design rules are to create a Woodland School sled made of regular corrugate card board that can be pulled in a race. Other materials are limited to glue, duct tape (1 roll max), and a pull rope. Coordinators are the Reister and Wilson Families.



For more information about Winterfest, please contact coordinator Janet Wood. Phone: 935-1938

Interested in adding something to the next Family Council agenda? Contact Kevin DeBruyn at kdebruyn7@gmail.com.

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15	16 NO SCHOOL Teacher Prof. Development Day	17	18 Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	19	20 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Sem. 1 ends	21
22	23	24	25 6-8 conferences after school by appt.	26 6-8 conferences after school by appt.	27 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Electives 12:45-1:45 p.m.	28
29	30	31				

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 	3 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Electives 12:45-1:45 p.m. 6-8 Dance 6-8 p.m.	4
5	6 Family Council Winterfest mtg. 3:45-5:00—Library	7	8 3-5 conferences after school by appt.	9 3-5 conferences after school by appt.	10 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Electives 12:45-1:45 p.m. Family Council Movie Night 6:30 p.m.	11
12	13	14 	15 Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	16	17 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Electives 12:45-1:45 p.m.	18
19	20 Family Council Winterfest mtg. 3:45-5:00—Library	21 Information Night 7:00 p.m.	22 Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp auditions 6-8	23	24 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Electives 12:45-1:45 p.m.	25
26	27	28	29 Information Night 7:00 p.m.			