

DATES TO REMEMBER!



12/19/11 through 1/2/12—
Holiday Break. Back to school
on **1/3/12!**



1/5—Middle Village Parent
Meeting for Mackinac Island trip
right after school in 3/5 South

1/5—Family Council Meeting
6:30 p.m. in the Library.

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

2/8 & 2/9 —Middle Village
conferences after school by
appointment


2/15—Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**A NOTE ABOUT
PIZZA FRIDAYS**

Parents are encouraged to
place pizza orders for more than
one week at a time. If you order
for multiple weeks it is much
easier to record and track.

Also, if you are ordering pizza
for more than one child, you can
write just one check—simply
include the information for each
child and attach all to your check
or cash. No need to write multiple
checks!

SNOW DAY REMINDER

- Watch local television stations
or call the main school
number for cancellation/delay
information.
- If there is a one hour delay,
school begins at 9:25. If it is
a two hour delay, we will begin
at 10:25.
- Remember...  Woodland will
follow the lead of Traverse City
Area Public Schools for
weather-related delays and
cancellations.

**OFFICE HOLIDAY
SCHEDULE**

Woodland school buildings and
offices are closed between
December 17-January 1. Heat is
turned down low and maintenance
projects will be taking place. If you
have a need to come out to school
it is best to call first.

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Friends and Families,

I hope you were able to enjoy some of the holiday
concerts and the production of "A Year with Frog and
Toad". These events give us all an opportunity to
appreciate the talents of Woodland students and
teachers and provide a glimpse of what our younger
students can strive for as they progress through the
experience of Woodland School.

There have been many unique, exciting learning
experiences in the Villages since our last newsletter but
these stand in sharp contrast to the mis-information
and negative generalizations about charter school
education that have surfaced recently as legislation to
allow additional Michigan charter schools is debated.
We know better and I encourage you to continue
educating others by sharing *your* charter school
experiences.

At 50 degrees and with no snow in sight, Christmas
seems much further than ten days away. In spite of the
balmy weather we will take a break preceded by some
gift giving and a few celebrations at school. We wish
you all a wonderful Christmas and holiday season.

Nathan Tarsa



Primary Village students enjoyed their annual Harvest
Brunch on Tuesday, November 22nd. Each student had
the opportunity to say something they are thankful for.



PRIMARY VILLAGE NEWS

Thank you to all who donated items for the Hat, Mitten, & Socks Drive this month! All collected items will be donated to the Women's Resource Center.

As you know, the weather hasn't been so "wintery" thus far, but we sure do appreciate seeing all the hats and gloves/mittens being brought in to school—they have been needed as the winds have been chilly! Once the snow finally arrives and snow pants and boots come to school, rest assured that we require your children to wear them if you send them. An extra pair of gloves/mittens and socks is always a good idea in case one pair gets wet during recess or other outdoor learning times.

It's hard to believe that our next round of electives will begin the end of January! If you are interested in leading a class, please let your child's teacher know shortly after returning from break so we can plan accordingly. The session dates this time around are: Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17 & 24.

We wish you all a relaxing holiday season!



MIDDLE VILLAGE NEWS

The first term has come to an end and new electives have just begun. Some of the electives offered include Band, Heredity Soup, American Wild West, and Walk Like an Egyptian, just to name a few. Please become familiar with your student's new schedule so you can ask questions about their new electives and stay active in their education.

The first trimester report cards will be coming home with the students on Friday, December 16, 2011. We ask that all parents/guardians sign and return the envelope to acknowledge receipt of the report card. If you have any questions regarding the report



card please contact your student's advisement teacher.

The middle village teachers and students would like to thank all parent volunteers who helped with planning and preparation of the holiday party. The students enjoyed a movie in the morning. The afternoon was filled with snacks, crafts, and a gift exchange.

On Thursday, January 5, 2012 Middle Village parents should please plan on attending a meeting regarding the end of the year trip to Mackinaw Island. This meeting will take place at 3:30. We will be discussing fundraising options.

Have a safe holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone in the new year!

6-8 VILLAGE

A new trimester began on Monday, December 12, 2011. Evaluations for first trimester should be going home on Friday. You may keep the evaluations. Please send back the large envelope with your signature so we know you have seen your child's evaluations.

If your child is in *Exploring Nature in Winter* please remind him/her to come prepared to be outside every Tuesday and Thursday. We **will** be going outside no matter what the weather so they need to be prepared with appropriate winter gear.

All students who receive clothes for the holidays are asked to wear them on the Tuesday that they return to school. However, new small electronic gifts should be left at home and the temptation to show them off avoided. They are too easily lost and heartache is the common result.



Students should keep reading over the holiday break especially if they did not receive credit in Independent Reading.

Have a wonderful holiday break!!

LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks to all who purchased items in the recent “Buy One Get One Free” Scholastic Book Fair. Mrs. Opsasnick will post details of the sales results in the January newsletter.

Happy reading over the holiday break!



THANK YOU PARENTS!

The Woodland staff would like to say thank you to all the wonderful parents who do so much for us all year. Especially in this month of December we have been surprised with many delicious treats that have “appeared” in the lounge!

We know how busy everyone is at this time of year, and that makes your thoughtfulness even more gratifying.

Woodland families are THE BEST!



Mrs. Tilley and the Woodland choir serenaded the Primary Village with a beautiful rendition of *Carol of the Bells* on Thursday.

A NOTE FROM FAMILY COUNCIL

Please plan to join us on Thursday, January 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the school Library for our next Family Council Meeting. We will discuss plans for Winterfest (scheduled for Saturday, March 3rd) and vote on project funding. Childcare and supper will be provided. Mark your calendars and join us!

SURFING THE WEB? USE GOODSEARCH.COM & GOODSHOP.COM



An easy way to earn extra cash for Woodland School is to use Goodsearch.com whenever you do an internet search. Just select “Woodland School, Traverse City, MI” from the drop-down menu when you are asked “Who do you search for?” Each search generates one cent for the school. If everyone used this site for searches, it could generate quite a large donation to the school!

If you are an online shopper, please consider using Goodshop.com. A drop-down menu on their site will tell you if the online store you are interested in participates—if they do just enter their site from the Goodshop.com page and any purchases you make will automatically generate a donation for Woodland School if you have selected Woodland as the entity you search for. Hundreds of sites participate, including Lands End, Amazon, Staples, Kohls, and Best Buy.




Our current earning period runs from October 1, 2011 through September 31, 2012. Woodland recently received a check for over \$260 from last year’s searches and shopping. This money was put into the Family Council Helping Hands Fund to assist Woodland families in need.

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
18	19 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	20 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	21 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	22 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	23 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	24
25 	26 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	27 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	28 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	29 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	30 NO SCHOOL Holiday Break	31 New Year's Eve 

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 NO SCHOOL Teacher Prof. Development Day	3 BACK TO SCHOOL!	4	5 Middle Village Mackinac trip mtg. 3:30 p.m. Family Council meeting 6:30 p.m.	6 <i>Pizza Day</i>	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <i>Pizza Day</i>	14
15	16 NO SCHOOL Teacher Prof. Development Day	17	18 Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	19	20 <i>Pizza Day</i> Primary Semester 1 ends	21
22	23	24	25 6-8 conferences after school by appointment	26 6-8 conferences after school by appointment	27 <i>Pizza Day</i>	28
29	30	31 