

DATES TO REMEMBER!

11/21—Hearing & Vision re-tests by the Health Department

11/22—Primary Village Harvest Brunch 11:15 a.m.

11/23 thru 11/25 NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Break



12/5–12/9 Scholastic BOGO Book Fair; open all week before and after school.

12/6—Primary Holiday Music Concert 6:30 p.m. followed by Production approx. 7:15 p.m. (if 12/6 is a snow day, the concert & production will take place **12/7**).

12/8—Auditions for spring musical during block 6 & 7 for Grades 4-8

12/9—Trimester 1 ends for Middle & 6-8 Villages.

12/12—Band/Choir Holiday Concert. 7:00 p.m. (if 12/12 is a snow day, the concert will take place **12/14**).

12/13—Band/Choir concert repeated for students 10:30 a.m.

12/14—Board Meeting—7:00 p.m.

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

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

WEATHER-RELATED SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS/DELAYS

With winter weather approaching, we wanted to remind parents of our snow day policy. Woodland School follows the lead of Traverse City Area Public Schools for weather cancellations....if they close or delay school, Woodland will do the same. Example: if there is a 2 hour delay, Woodland would start classes at 10:30 a.m. If they are closed, so is Woodland.

If for some reason Woodland needed to cancel school due to another reason (water/heat problem, etc.) you would get this information on the local news channels (9 and 10, Fox 32, 29-8, or 7-4) or by listening to local radio stations WTCM, Lite 96.3 FM, or WKLT.

When Woodland's school day is delayed or canceled we change the message on our telephone, so if you call the main number you will hear a recorded message notifying you of what is happening. Mrs. Pataky records this from home, and normally it is on the phone message system by 6:00 a.m.

We have never had a situation where we sent students home early due to inclement weather. However, you are always free to pick up your child early if you are concerned about weather conditions.

If you have any questions on how our snow day procedures work, feel free to call the office.



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Friends and Families,

Some of you may have noticed that the 6-8 Village teachers vanished for two days. Although well deserved, they were not on a group vacation but instead were helping other educators learn the value and the *how to* of collaborative teaching. They heeded the request from Michigan's charter school association to share their expertise with other charter school teachers at Cobo Center in Detroit. Woodland School is unique because of its teachers and that is something to truly be thankful for as we head into our first holiday break.

And we are thankful for all of you. Conference meals, Movie Night, primary intensives, Hike-a-thon, field trips, classroom help, reading coaches, etc. all happen because of your willingness to share your time and talents.

Be extra alert as the roads get slippery and have a great Thanksgiving!

Nathan Tarsa
 Director



Mr. Post, Mrs. DeBruyn, Mrs. Ruopp, & Mr. Milne presenting at the annual Michigan Association of Public School Academies conference on November 7-8.



Happy Birthday to Woodland students Emerson Holmes and Logan Keely, who both turned 11 years old on 11/11/11!!!



Woodland Community,

We just wanted you to know our gratitude for your generosity and support at the fundraiser for our daughter, Nora on November 5th. We are still processing the magnitude of this blessing and are "floating" from the experience. Thank you for all your support.

The McGrew Family

PRIMARY VILLAGE NEWS



Primary students just finished up their conferences this past week. They had a wonderful time sharing their portfolios with their families as well as sharing other important aspects of their school life. Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to share this experience with your child!

Our annual Harvest Brunch is next Tuesday Nov. 22nd during our regular lunch period. It is a time when we come together as a village and share things that we are thankful for, as well as partake in a delicious meal! Each child is asked to bring in a food item the morning of the brunch. It's a great way to kick off our Thanksgiving Break!

We need your help in the lunchroom! In order to keep things running smoothly it's important that you send food items for your child's lunch that are easy for your child to eat in a timely manner. It is also important to make sure your child has all the proper utensils for their meals. We will gladly hand out an occasional forgotten spoon, however the forgotten utensils seem to be happening on a more regular basis. Microwaves are also available to heat

up food items but to save on time we try to keep the "warm up" to a maximum of one minute. Thank you for your help in this matter. We try our best to make our lunchtimes together a pleasant experience for all!

With colder weather fast approaching please make sure your child is coming to school dressed appropriately for outside recess. It's not too soon to begin sending hats and gloves/mittens along with winter boots. Please, if appropriate, label your child's clothing with his/her last name. If something is lost it makes it much easier to return things to their proper owner.

In December our village will be collecting hats, socks, and gloves for the Women's Resource Center. We will have a tree displayed out in the lobby area where children can place their donated items. The collected items will go to families in need over the holiday season. More information will be coming home with your child's teacher on December 2nd.

We would like to thank all the wonderful parents who brought in food for teachers on the conference evenings. What a wonderful treat!!! It was so appreciated.

MIDDLE VILLAGE NEWS

The Middle Village has been a busy place in the past few weeks. We all had a blast at History Fair showing off what we had learned about Ancient Greece! It is always fun to transport ourselves to a different time and place for a day.☺ It was great to see so many parents at conferences; this is a valuable time for parents and teachers to learn from each other so we can better help our children to succeed.

The end of the first trimester is approaching – already?? Wow! New course selection grids will go home right after Thanksgiving and will be due back with a parent signature on Wednesday, November 30th. A reminder that even if your child does not have any specific assigned homework on a given night, there are still many ways to spend some quiet time after school effectively. Study spelling words, practice rocket math facts, or read an AR book.

The weather is getting chilly and snow is in the forecast. Please encourage your children to dress for the weather! The days of leaving the house without a coat, hat, or gloves are over for awhile, sadly, and boots and snow pants are not far away!

It's never too early to plan for a party! Our holiday party will be Friday, December 16th. We ask for parent volunteers to help students in the craft room, with the gift exchange, and with food. Creative ideas for crafts and holiday activities are welcome, also. Let your child's advisement teacher know if you are interested in volunteering for the day of the party.

We hope to see everyone at movie night this Friday for *Cars 2*! Vroom!



6-8 VILLAGE



Please keep your students reading at home, especially those students who were not on track for getting reading credit at conference time.

The end of Trimester 1 is December 9th. Please help your child by asking about projects and tests that may be due.

The Art Room is still accepting donations of magazines (especially *National Geographic*), as well as newspaper. Thank you to all who have donated so far!

Now that the weather is getting colder, please remind your student to bring warm clothes and appropriate footwear for recess and outdoor classes. We go out even in very cold, snowy weather!

Students in Mr. Post's electricity class next trimester will be bringing home electricity usage meters to measure various appliances. If your student is not in the electricity class but you would like to borrow one of the meters, please email Mr. Post (chrispostteacher@yahoo.com). Please help ensure students take good care of the meters so we can continue to use them for some time. Thank you!

LIBRARY NEWS

It's almost here! Come to the Scholastic Buy One Get One Free Book Fair, December 5 - 9, just in time for Christmas. We'll have plenty of books to choose from so everyone can find something of interest. Plus, you'll leave the Fair with twice as many books because every item is Buy One Get One Free! Show your child how enjoyable reading can be with reading-related gifts. The BOGO Book Fair has a great selection of reading for all ages and super stocking stuffers. Remember to look for the "Teacher Wish List" display to find gift ideas for a favorite teacher. Gift certificates are available also. The Fair will be open at the beginning and end of each school day.

If you would like to volunteer to work the Fair please watch for the Volunteer flyer sent home with your child or contact Julie Opsasnick; jopsasnick@ymail.com or call 947-7474. We look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair where you can get two books for the price of one!

CONCERT MAKEUP DATES IN CASE OF SNOW DAYS

Each year our Woodland families enjoy the special holiday programs planned, and students work hard preparing for them. Unfortunately, good weather cannot always be guaranteed!

The Primary Village will perform it's holiday music concert on Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30 p.m.. The Production program will take place immediately following (at approximately 7:15). However, if the 6th should happen to be a "snow day" — a day where school is canceled due to the weather—the concert and play will take place on December 7th instead.

The Band/Choir holiday concert will take place on Monday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. In case of an official snow day, these will be moved to December 14th. The concert will be repeated on Tuesday, December 13th at 10:30 a.m. for Woodland students.

We are hoping for good weather so the makeup dates won't have to be used....but it's good to have a backup plan, just in case!

SOME NOTES FOR BAND/CHOIR STUDENTS FROM MRS. POSLER—On December 12th report at 6:30 p.m. to warm-up and tune. Concert attire is white shirt or blouse, dark slacks or skirt, black socks and shoes. All performances are required. Contact Mrs. Posler at ext. 3041 or email at mposler@yahoo.com with any questions.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Vision and hearing screenings are offered monthly at the Grand Traverse County Health Department for preschool children between the ages of 3-5 years and all school age children. There is no charge for this service. If you would like to schedule an appointment, please call (231) 922-4831. Mention the child's date of birth, school (if applicable) and whether the screening is for vision and/or hearing.

Any questions or concerns can be addressed to

GLEN'S CASH FOR CLASS PROGRAM

Glen's Market Cash for Class program is tied to their "yes" card. Yes card members designate a school group to credit their purchases toward. Yes card members need to log onto www.myvesrewards.com and click the "yes" card on the right side of the screen. Use Woodland School's Cash for Class Code, which is **89894**.

Yes cards are scanned at the time of purchase, and our rebate will be determined by the total.

The next program week for Woodland School is **November 20-26**.

If you have questions you may call Dawn Bredeweg, Community Relations Coordinator, at 616-878-2235.

A NOTE FROM FAMILY COUNCIL

Thanks to our wonderful students, Hike-A-Thon 2011 was a great success! Even though the weather was less than desirable, the hikers persevered and we were able to raise a grand total of \$9,573.42! These earnings will help to purchase new playground equipment and replenish the various Family Council funds that support Woodland School. **Thank you to all of the students who participated and to all the parent volunteers who made the day such a success!** A special thanks to Nicole Bell, Steven Holl, Marie Barr, Nancy Colliver, Neil Streeter, Jim Amalfitano, Kevin DeBruyn, Cary Paul, Andrea Novarro, Missy Smith, Mandy DeBruyn, Robin Groothuis, Bob Willette, Stephanie Volz, Janet Wood, Holly Hart, and Mary McGinnis. Please don't forget to thank your donors as well as the companies that supported our school.

We gratefully acknowledge the donations received from the businesses/individuals listed below. Their generosity enabled us to give some wonderful prizes to our top pledge collectors and helped make the hike special for all our students.


- **Oryana Natural Foods Market**
- **Neighborhood Video**
- **Park Place Hotel**
- **T.C. Golf Center**
- **Crystal Mountain**
- **McGinnis Family**
- **Mike Groothuis**
- **Lucky Jacks**
- **Qdoba**

The next Family Council meeting will be Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. This is one of our main meetings with Neil Streeter and Kevin DeBruyn serving as meeting leaders. A full agenda will be provided a week in advance but Winterfest will be the focus. Remember, child care will be available and we'll have a snack. Mark your calendar and come share your talents.

Heather Smith/2011 Hike-A-Thon Coordinator
(editor's note: thank you for all your work, Heather!)

WOODLAND SCHOOL HAS A NUMBER OF USED 4-FOOT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (T-12'S) LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME, GARAGE, POLE BARN, ETC. IF YOU CAN USE SOME, GIVE US A CALL!

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
20	21 Hearing & Vision re-tests	22 Primary Village Harvest Brunch 11:15 a.m.	23 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday	24 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday 	25 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 <i>Pizza Day</i>	3
4	5 Scholastic BOGO Book Fair all week	6 Primary Music Concert 6:30 p.m. followed by Production 7:15ish	7 Makeup date for Primary concert & Production in case of a snow day 12/6	8 Spring Musical auditions block 6&7 for grades 4-8	9 <i>Pizza Day</i> Trimester 1 ends	10
11	12 2-3 Class Polar Express 8:30-10:00 a.m. Band/Choir holiday concert 7:00 p.m.	13 Band/Choir holiday concert repeated for students at 10:30 a.m.	14 Snow makeup date for Band/Choir concert in case of a snow day 12/12 Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	15	16 <i>Pizza Day</i>	17
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 1, 2012 	2—NO SCHOOL Teacher Professional Development Day	3—Back to School!!	4	5 Family Council regular meeting 6:30 p.m.	6	7