

January
2011

Together We Learn!
Together We Grow!

January
2011

Arboretum Elementary School

1350 Arboretum Drive

Waukegan, WI 53597

Ms. Sheila Weihert, Principal

608-849-1800

608-849-1820—Attendance



Self Discipline

During the month of January, boys and girls at Arboretum Elementary will focus on self-discipline for our character theme. January tends to be a month of New Year's resolutions and resolve for many people. Often, the new resolutions call for self-discipline in order to follow through. Families might discuss New Year's resolutions with each other and seek each other for support to boost their self-discipline. The key with elementary children is to talk about a resolution that involves self-discipline, support their efforts, and process at great length how good they are feeling about their accomplishments that relied upon self-discipline. It is particularly effective when parents can serve as role models with self-discipline and discuss it with their children. Whether it is responsible family spending, doing home work on time, or exercising on a regular basis, the examples abound about self-discipline and the discussion can be very rewarding.

Character Assembly
Monday, January 10
7:50 a.m.
Gym

Parents are welcome.

Happy New Year!

Sheila





Holiday Music Program

Special Showings on Waunakee Cable TV 98 of the
2010 Holiday Musical Program

Days and times to be determined.

If you don't have cable TV, consider asking a friend to tape the program for you. You may also send \$3.00 and a new, blank standard VHS video tape or blank DVD+R or DVD-R to the Arboretum School office by **January 21**. (Note: It cannot be a CD). Please label the tape with your child's name, their classroom teacher's name, and what grade levels you would like (if it is more than two grades, we will dub from our master tape of all grades). Please make a check payable to Waunakee School.

Congratulations to Mrs. Greven and all kindergarten- fourth grade students and teachers for a wonderful program.



Holiday Heroes
December 21, 2010



A special thank you to Angela Docherty, Decorations Coordinator and volunteers for all of your creative contributions. Thank you!!

Help Your Child Get Organized for School

Bulletin Board

Put all calendars, schedules, announcements, reminder sheets and invitations in one place for all family members to review.

Make Sure your Child is Organized the Night Before School

Make sure your child is organized and has everything he/she needs for the morning. Make "to do" lists and write down everything he/she needs to do before bedtime. Tack up a list of things to take or do hung by the door.

Designate only one area for your child's books/assignments, for example, a brightly colored box. As soon as kids walk in the door after school, they unload their backpack, books and assignments in the box. After homework is finished, it goes back in the box.

Family Meetings

Stop and talk. This is a great time to start a tradition of [family meetings](#). Sit down on a specific evening each week and plan your week together.

Homework Routine

Set a specific homework time. Provide a good work area with good lighting, supplies, reference materials and peace and quiet. Ask to see your child's homework and assignment notebook.

Winter Boot Season

Leave an extra pair of shoes in the locker at school in the event your child forgets to take his/her shoes.



Have Your Child Bundled Up When They Arrive at School

Please have your child dressed in all their outside winter wear in the morning when they arrive to school. Students have supervision outside, so we need them to be ready to head outside right away. Students should not arrive to school and then bundle up by their lockers. Thank you for your help. This gives your child more time for body movement (great for brain development and learning) and keeps our supervisors where they are needed.



Mismatch Day Friday, January 14

It's a perfect day to wear plaid with stripes, flowers with patterns, different color socks/shoes. Be creative!

Birthday Party

Both **July** and **January** birthdays will be celebrated on Monday, **January 31**. Grades 3-4 students will enjoy birthday sundaes at 1:00 p.m. and grades Kindergarten-2 students will enjoy their birthday sundaes at 1:35 p.m. Parents are invited to celebrate with their children.



Please Continue to Collect

- Box Tops for Education Box Tops
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Pop Tabs
- Empty printer cartridges
- Milk Caps: Milk Moola, Kemps, Kids N Cash, Swiss Valley

Early Learner Screening

If you have a child born between September 2, 2006 and September 1, 2007, this makes your child eligible to begin kindergarten in the 2012-2013 school year. Children who live in the Waunakee Community School District and meet the above age requirements, along with at least one parent/guardian, are requested to attend the Early Learner Screening.

Early Learner Screening is scheduled between 8:00 am and 2:30 pm on January 5, and 6, 2011, and from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on January 7, 2011, at Peace Lutheran Church, 701 Century Avenue. Waunakee. To schedule a time slot for your child, please call Joyce Endres at 849-2015.

Early Learner Screening is an informal screening that takes about one hour and 15 minutes. Professionals will observe children while they participate in preschool and play activities. While children are being observed, parents will have access to developmental and school information and have a one-on-one meeting with school staff to answer questions and discuss the observation results.

There are not any planned activities for brothers and sisters; please make child care arrangements for siblings. You should have received a letter explaining Early Learning Screening in early December. Parents will also have the opportunity to have their child's vision screened by the Waunakee-Westport Lion's Club at this time.

School Communication

Please make and review arrangements for after school activities with your child prior to the beginning of the school day. Please notify teachers via

a note of any changes in your child's after school routine.

Last minute changes or emergencies should be called into the office at least one hour

before school is dismissed.

Teachers may not have time to check their email, so please do not email teachers of any last minute changes.



Weather Information

Parents are reminded that students will be outdoors during the winter months. In the morning, students may enter the building and put their bags away then proceed immediately outdoors. At noon and during the morning and afternoon recess, children will also be outdoors.

Our general rule of thumb is when the temperature is 0° or below OR -10° with the wind-chill, students will stay inside. At all other times, we will expect that your child go outdoors to get the fresh air and exercise they need. Please have your child dress appropriately. If your son/daughter wants to play on the snow covered fields; they must wear boots, snow pants and an appropriate jacket. Children without this attire must stay on the blacktop portion of the playground.

Students with medical concerns for illness will be allowed to stay indoors in the office area if they have a written doctor's excuse. **In the event school is closed early due to inclement weather, your child will be directed to go to the location listed on your child's "Early Dismissal Form" that was in your beginning of the year registration packet. Be sure to keep us informed if you have any changes during the school year.**

Class Begins at 7:40 a.m.

One of the most important things you can do as a parent is to get your child to school on time every day.

Children should be here by 7:35 a.m. to allow enough time to go to their locker and start class on time. Parents, we need your help insuring your child is here on time. Students who are late miss out on the morning announcements. They also miss out on important directions and instructions from the teacher. Students who arrive late interrupt the classroom. Learning to be punctual and responsible is an important lifelong skill. Students who arrive late to school should go to the office for a pass. Please call the attendance line at 849-1820 before 8:30 a.m. if your child is absent.

Lost and Found Clothing At School

Please write your child's name on clothing.

Please remember to check for your child's lost and found clothing by the computer grade 3-4 lab and neighborhoods. Clothing with names marked will be returned. During winter break, school is open December 28 and 29 from 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Please check lost and found clothing by Monday, January 24. Any unclaimed clothing will be given to a local charity on Tuesday, January 25.

Did your child lose clothes on the Bus?

The Bus Barn at 217 Raemisch Road

850-5253 (Extension 2)

Open Monday—Friday from 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Please check for your child's lost and found clothing at the Bus Barn. During winter break, the bus barn is open Monday, December 27—Thursday, December 30 from 7:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Any unclaimed clothing will be given to a local charity on January 8.

Coats!
Mittens
Snowpants!
Boots
Sweatshirts
Hats!

Cookie Dough Sale Coming

Sale begins January 28
Sale ends February 14
Pick Up during
conferences on
February 28 and March 3.



Bullying In Schools Workshop

When: Tuesday, January 4, 2011
Where: High School Small Aud
Time: 6:00-8:00 pm
Cost: FREE to parents and educators

Does it seem like no matter what you do or say, you are powerless in helping your child in dealing with bullying and teasing? In this timely and much-needed workshop, you will be provided with practical and easy to learn strategies for the next time you face this type of challenge with your child. Have confidence in knowing what to say and how to say it.

This free workshop, sponsored by our PTOs, will be presented by Paul Gasser. Paul is a Marriage and Family Therapist for the Mile Bluff Medical Center and instructor for the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and the Love and Logic Institute of Golden, Colorado. His experience with children and their families comes as a result of working over 30 years as a therapist and educator both in the United States and Russia. He currently teaches a variety of workshops and courses throughout the United States on the topic of children and behavioral issues.

Paul's workshops are lighthearted and filled with practical ideas to use with your child. His information, skills, and strategies that will be offered will help parents to immediately feel more in control. He is also a former principal and classroom teacher. Paul and his wife are the parents of four children.

Health Guidelines For Attendance

A student should remain at home if:

- There have been episodes of vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours and the student is not yet tolerating regular diet.
- The student's temperature is not normal (approximately 100 degrees or higher) and the student feels ill. Students need to be fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
- The student is aching and fatigued enough to be unable to participate in class and school activities.
- The student has uncontrollable cough or runny nose so that s/he cannot care for it in a sanitary manner.
- The student has been diagnosed with strep throat or other treatable contagious disease and has not yet had 24 hours of treatment.
- The student has an untreated contagious disease (impetigo, scabies, draining pink eye, etc.).
- The student has a recent injury that causes enough discomfort to significantly distract him/her from being able to focus on school activities in class.

We encourage parents to send students to school each day if injury or illness does not significantly compromise the student's health and there is no threat of communicable disease to others. A phone call to the school attendance line (849-1820) to explain an absence is required on the day your child will remain at home.

Remember -- the school needs to have up-to-date phone numbers available to call should a student become ill or be injured at school. If you have any questions about the guidelines, please call the school nurse.

Box Tops Winter Break Contest

Thank you to everyone who participated in the December Box Tops Holiday Blitz. We earned a total of \$658, and met our original goal of \$500 within just a few days of announcing the contest. Quite a few grandparents, aunts and uncles sent in their Box Tops contest sheets. If somebody you love helped earn Box Tops cash for our school, be sure to give them a big hug or high five when you see them over break! Our winter break goal is \$500 by **Monday, January 17**. A collection sheet was distributed in Thursday folders. Our students inspired a bit of poetry for this month's contest....

It is Winter Break Box Tops Blizzard time,
So let's work together to gather more dimes.

Our total this month was a whopping \$658,
When it comes to clipping Box Tops, Arboretum kids are
great!

In December the school earned a Read-in-the Dark day,
The rules are the same and you know how to play.

Staple, glue or tape Box Tops in each row
And Arboretum will earn more Box Tops dough!

Arboretum has earned a total of \$1448 to date. Our school goal is \$5000 by the end of May. Thank you all for your help --- every Box Top counts!

**Read in the
Dark Party
Coming!**

Congratulations
Arboretum
students!

Lunch

Parents are invited to eat lunch with their child. **Advance notice is appreciated by calling the office at 849-1800 or please call before 10:00 a.m.** The cost for an adult lunch is \$3.25. Please remember to sign in at the office.

Lunch/Recess Times

11:00-11:45 Grade 4
11:10-11:55 Grade 2
11:20-12:05 Grade 1
11:30-12:15 Grade 3
11:40-12:25 Kindergarten



**Professor Numbers
Mathemagic Show
Thursday, January 13**

Kindergarten 8:00 a.m.
Grade 1 9:05 a.m.
Grade 2 10:10 a.m.
Grade 3-4 12:00 noon

Volunteers Needed!



Volunteers are asked to help supervise the assembly. Please email Brian Hauke, PTO Volunteer Coordinator, at bhauke@charter.net if you are available to help.

**Taher Food Service
Second Semester
Morning Milk**

Payment for 2nd Semester milk is due by **January 24**

For those families who wish to have their student(s) purchase milk for consumption during morning snack break, the cost is \$31.50. Payment for 2nd Semester milk is due by January 24, 2011. At this time, the Infinite Campus Online Payment system only accepts Food Service payments for breakfast & lunch fees. We request that 2nd semester milk fees be paid via cash or check made payable to Waunakee Schools and delivered or mailed to: Attn: F/S, 101 School Drive, Waunakee, WI 53597. In the future, we are hopeful that the online payment system will be utilized for milk fees. Thank you for your continued participation in the Food Service program.



You Thought

By Steven C. Staats

You thought that you were happily smiling at your child from a hard stadium seat or a hot packed auditorium, But your child looked at your face and saw approval of him and joy in what he was doing.

You thought that you were just patting him on the back or on the head, or just ruffling his hair, but your child cherished the warm loving touch and his heart was brightened.

You thought you were reading a bedtime story with all the funny and scary voices, but your child enjoyed the fact you read every word even though he had heard them a hundred times before.

You thought you were letting your child help paint the house even though the paint got kind of runny and drippy in places, but your child knew that your were working together as a family and felt a sense of accomplishment as a family.

You thought you were singing silly songs or counting the cows on a long boring trip, but your child learned that it was fun being together no matter where you were.

You thought you were spending a few minutes of your time by throwing a ball in the back yard or baking some cookies, but your child, who realized that your time is precious, knew you were investing it in him.

You thought that you asked your child's opinion about something that wasn't too important, but you child thought you asked because his opinions and thoughts were important.

You thought you were being a good host by inviting your child's friends in for a cool snack on a warm summer day, but your child knew that his friends were important to you and always welcome in your home.

You thought the tears in your eyes went unnoticed when your child accomplished an important goal in his life, but your child knew that he was deeply imbedded in your heart and you sensed his accomplishment.

You thought that the refrigerator was as good of a place as any for hanging all the art work and "well done" papers that came home from school, but your child felt important when he came home from school each day with something to show you and tack up in his personal hall of fame.

You thought you gave your child some simple chore or job to do and told him, "Well done," with a smile when he did it, but your child learned responsibility and began to realize he could tackle even tougher things.

You thought you were helping a troubled, restless child get some sleep by fixing a cup of hot cocoa, but your child felt that you were opening your heart around a kitchen table and making all the problems a lot smaller.

You thought the vacation wasn't much of a success because the fish didn't bite and the sun didn't shine, but your child still remembers everything that happened and he still laughs at all the funny parts.

You thought you were just giving him a quick hug at a special moment or "just because," but your child carried it with him for a long time, because what you really said was, "I'm proud of you!" or "I love you!"

You thought you were just giving him a little kiss on the cheek to tell him good bye as he left for school, but your child felt warm and loved because he knew there would be another one waiting for him when he got home.

Come to think of it, there are a lot of times when parents really are misunderstood!

Early Riser Reader December 3, 2010



Please come to our next Early Riser Reader on **February 11**.



More pictures are posted on the web.



Cocoa Mocha Monday November 22, 2010



Recess Fun



More pictures are
on the
website!

**PTO Family Fun Fitness
Friday, February 4, 2011
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Mark your calendars: February 4th, from 6-8 p.m. for the third annual "Family Night of Fun" sponsored by the PTO and Physical Education department. This will take place in the Waunakee High School Field House, dance room, and commons area. Arboretum Elementary School is coordinating all the food for the event. The PTO is bringing back the big jumping blow up toys. The PE department will have DDR dancing, games, and of course, a D.J. to lead us in dancing. More information will follow closer to the date!

Thank you PTO!

PTO President	Jessica Miller
Birthday Books	Katie Dotzler
Box Tops	Kristin Runge
Campbell Soup Label	Kelly Statz
Carnival	Denise Mehlhoff
Display Case	Angela Docherty
Early Riser Reader	Kathy Hoopes
Facebook	Jessica Miller
Gardening	Jen Black
Moola Caps	Tammy Langendorf
Newsletter	Amie Damon
Spring Basket Drawing	Erica Meganck
	Sarah Lee
Square 1 Art	Lynne Van Hollen
Staff Birthday Cards	Mary Favre
Volunteer Coordinator	Brian Hauke

Thank You!

We would like to thank Lynne Van Hollen for organizing the Square One Art sale.





Pick Up and Drop Off

No children are allowed to walk through the parking lot unless escorted by an adult. The parent drop off loop is the perimeter of the parking lot. Children are to be dropped off directly in front of the main entrance. Parents are encouraged to drive up to the stop sign in front of the main entrance to keep the flow steady. The drop off loop in front of the school is a single lane drop off where parents stay inside the vehicles and children get out. If parents need to assist their child by getting out and getting all the gear, parents need to park in the parking lot and walk their child to the main entrance. Parents are always welcome to park their vehicles and walk their children into school.

Please Use Cross Walks

It is very important to use the cross walks. By the bus loop, safety patrol students safely walk students and parents across. Our goal is to keep everyone safe!

Elementary Science Night

Friday, April 8

5:30-7:30 p.m. at Prairie Elementary School

Please mark your calendar.

Any questions, please email Jodi Ryan at jryan@waunakee.k12.wi.us.

Winter Break

December 24-January 2

School resumes

Monday, January 3

No School

Monday, January 17

Monday, January 24

First Semester

ends on

Friday, January 21.

Arboretum Elementary School
1350 Arboretum Drive
Waunakee, WI 53597



Office 608-849-1800
Attendance 608-849-1820
Fax 608-849-1810

**Report Cards go home
Thursday, January 27.**