



December, 2009
Volume 2, Issue 4

Windham Center School
2 Lowell Road
Windham, NH 03087
603-432-7312

Andrew Desrosiers, Principal
Cherrie Fulton, Assistant Principal

Contents:

Grade 3	2
Grade 4	2
Grade 5	3
Music	3
Counselors' Corner	4
Media Center	5

From the Principal's Corner....

Happy Holidays!

•Our holiday break will be December 24-January 4. Enjoy your vacation and please return safely to us on Monday, January 4, 2010.

•Please mark you calendars!

1. Tuesday, January 12th – Early Release Day – 12:00
2. Monday, January 18th – Off – Civil Rights Day
3. Thursday, January 21st – Grade 4 Winter Concert - 9:30
4. Tuesday, January 26th – 4th Grade Band Concert at 7:00PM (WCS)
5. Wednesday, January 27th – 3rd Grade Violin Concert at 7:00PM (WCS)
6. Thursday, January 28th – 5th Grade Band Concert at 7:00PM (WHS)
7. Friday, January 29th – Jump Rope For Heart

•Thank you for all of your donations of food items. Your generosity helped keep many people fed this Thanksgiving season!

•Please make every effort to insure your child has all the items they will need for the school day before they leave for school in the morning. However, if you must drop off an item for your child at school, please let us know what time they will need the article. We are trying hard not to disturb our classrooms during the 90 minute reading block. The teachers check the office 3 times a day for mail or items dropped off. Thank you for your understanding!

•Please consider making some Reading Resolutions this new year!

1. Make reading a part of everyday for your children.
2. Read aloud to your child many times during the day.
3. Keep lots of reading materials available, variety keeps children interested.



Grade 3

Happy Holidays to everyone! We're bringing in holiday joy in third grade this month.

We are enjoying our immigration units and learning lots about family traditions and celebrations. Our ancestor dolls are wonderful and we hope the students can share their research on family trees, traditions, and stories with their children some day.



Immigration unit starts in December

With the start of the New Year, we will be really learning our multiplication and division facts. The old-fashioned method of memorizing will be used, as well as understanding the concept of "times and divided-by". Use of flashcards and daily practice at home is encouraged.

The third graders have been reading various genres and we encourage any reading during

free time at home. Whether it's a magazine article, poetry, a chapter book or story book, or even a comic book – all reading is beneficial!!!

A special reminder that all third graders will be expected to dress appropriately for the upcoming winter recesses! If there is snow on the ground, students will be expected to wear boots. If there is DEEP snow, students will need to have snow pants on with the boots. Children who wear just sneakers outside when there is snow coverage will be getting awfully bored holding onto the fence.

Happy Holidays to all and a wonderful New Year.

-The Third Grade Team

"A special reminder that all third graders will be expected to dress appropriately for the upcoming winter recesses!"



Grade 4

We are back from our Thanksgiving weekend, and are getting ready for the holiday season! Students are busy finishing up writing prompts... the first real writing assignment where they needed to work independently on a complete assignment: writing web, rough draft, and final draft. What hard workers!

Fit Kids is just about over in all classrooms, a great program to go along with our science curriculum. We are starting to focus on measurement and division in

math! Everyday Math moves along quickly! Holiday parties will be held on Wednesday, December 23rd.



The Fit Kids Program runs for 7 weeks.



Grade 5

The fifth graders continue to stay busy with various school activities. We are currently covering long division in math, weather systems in science, the 13 colonies in social studies and various projects with reading and writing.

As we enter the holiday season, it is a busy time for the 5th grade. Classrooms will be participating in Holiday Happenings throughout the month of December. Students have received a calendar with the date for their Holiday Happening. Each student shares a special holiday treat with their classmates. The food can be a dessert item that your family shares during the holiday season or a special food other than a sweet that your family shares. Students are asked to bring in a copy of the recipe of their holiday treat so that a recipe book for each student can be created.

Musically Speaking

The third graders are currently learning how to play their recorders. You may ask them to play the first three notes they have learned for you!

Our fourth graders have been busy preparing for their Winter Concert. This year, they will be playing more challenging songs on their recorders and performing songs from the musical comedy, "Mighty Minds!" on Thursday, **January 21st at 9:30am.**

The fifth graders have finished their note review and

During the week of December 15-December 22nd, any student who chooses to do so, can participate in the "Unknown Gnome" activity. Students will be randomly matched with someone in their class. Students are responsible for leaving secret notes and small treats for their partner and on the final day a gift, this gift should not exceed \$8 in price.

December 17th (snow date, 18th) is the date for our annual Gingerbread House building in the cafeteria. Students will be constructing Gingerbread Houses from 8:30-11:00. If you are interested in volunteering for this activity, please notify your classroom teacher.

We hope you all have a restful holiday break and that you are able to spend quality time with family and friends this season.

begun learning about opera by dramatizing "The Phantom of the Opera" during music class. Soon they will be studying the history of Jazz music and learning how to write music by utilizing music composition software.

The fifth grade chorus students have been busy preparing for their showing of the musical, "Wicked." This performance will combine acting, singing and, thanks to Mrs. Middleton and the art department, incredible costumes, props and scenery in a performance on Thursday, February 4th!





Notes from the Counselors' Corner



Happy Holidays to everyone!

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We want to congratulate Center School for keeping the Turkey Trophy here at Center School for another year! Thank you for all of your support and donations for the Food Drive this year. We had a record amount of food. The total amount of food for our school was over 2600 and the total for the district was over 7600. It was an outstanding contribution to Helping Hands and the Shepard's Food Pantry this year, Thank you!

for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade will focus on community, respect, manners, communication skills, helping others and inclusion.

Belonging to a community means getting along with others, having a special place, and knowing what others expect of you. It is important for children to understand that as active participants of their school community they help create a safe and caring environment. The more we teach children to get along, the more responsible and productive they will become.

We want to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday and a very Happy New Year!

December's Theme for Classroom Lessons: Respect Yourself and Others

The guidance morning meetings

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call!

"We want to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday and a very Happy New Year!"



Amy Wagoner Windham Center School 3rd & 4th Grade Guidance Counselor Counselor (603) 432-4296	Elizabeth Jodoin Windham Center School 5th & 6th Grade Guidance (603) 432-4296
---	---



Media Center

Book Fair Thank you for your continued support of our Scholastic Book Fair, both in purchasing and volunteering. This November we raised \$3,881 (for library technology and the principal's funding of student activities) and \$1,176 in free books for teachers, students, and the library. Enjoy your new books!

Tricycle Race/ Waiting Tables Congratulations to Mrs. Fulton for winning the Great Tricycle Race. Mr. Desrosiers and Mrs. Fulton both did a fine job waiting tables at the Thanksgiving feast. Both events were rewards for students meeting the quarter-million minute summer reading goal.

Book Groups The current Breakfast Book Club title is *Sent*, the sequel to *Found*. This club meets every other Monday morning. Grade 3 lunch book group meets every other Thursday, and is reading *Never Glue Your Friends to Chairs*. Grade 4 Lunch Book Group meets on alternate Fridays is reading *Zoobreak*. All groups use Moodle for online discussions. It's not too late to sign up!

Great Stone Face

Award: To be eligible to vote in April, 4th & 5th graders must read 3+ books from the list of 25 nominees, posted at <http://destiny.windhamsd.org> under "Windham Center School"—Reading Lists.

Writing Contests

1) Monthly contests are found at Scholastic Storyworks: <http://storyworks.scholastic.com/contests>

2) **Scholastic's "Kids Are Authors"** group author/illustrator contest is back. Groups of 3 or more K-8 students write a book together. See <http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/kaa/> Entries due March 15.



"Thank you for your continued support of our Scholastic Book Fair."

