



WMMS Wildcat News

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<http://www.wmms.net>

September 21, 2009

What's Happening....

September 21: Parent Education workshop –
"Survival Tips for School Success",
7-8 p.m., Media Center

October 5 - 9: Book Fair, Media Center

October 9: Fall Frenzy (Family Fun Night),
5:30–8 p.m.

Parent Education Workshop Scheduled for Sept. 21

A parent education workshop, "Survival Tips for School Success" will be held, Monday, September 21, 7:00-8:00 pm, in the Media Center. Malia Dodson of Sylvan Learning Center will provide parents with strategies to help their child identify and achieve success.

A registration form is available online at <http://www.wmms.net>. For more information, please contact Rae Jeanette Kelly, 7th Grade Guidance Counselor, at 870-4057, or Teresa Longenecker, WMMS PTA Parent Education, at 847-9124.

Book Fair Comes To WMMS October 5-9!

Mark your calendars - the 2009-2010 Book Fair is coming in October! Encourage the love of reading and support your school through the purchase of great books!

Visit the Book Fair in the Media Center during the week of October 5-9, ending the evening of the October 9 with the Fall Frenzy. Hours are Monday 12-3:30 p.m., Tuesday 7:30-3:30 p.m., Wednesday 7:30-2:30 p.m., Thursday 7:30-3:30 p.m., and Friday 7:30-3:30 and 5-8 p.m.

We also welcome your help! If you are interested in volunteering at the Book Fair, please contact Amy Nagle at amynagle@hotmail.com or 803-3785, Rebecca Keen at 844-5590, or Lynda Buddenbaum at 518-1361.

"Fall Frenzy" Set For Evening of Friday, October 9!

The WMMS PTA and Booster Club brings you our "First Annual Fall Frenzy" on the EVENING of Friday, October 9!

This event will go from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and will take place on our WMMS Athletic Fields with events in our Media Center as well. ALL WMMS students, families,

faculty, friends, and community are welcome to this FREE Event.

The night will include the following events:

- DJ
- Chili & Pie Tasting and Contest (no big prize, so no big pressure)
- Staff Pie Auction (we already have 15 participants)
- Powder-Puff Football with 2009 Girls Fall Sport players
- Cheerleaders with 2009 Football Team
- Field Events for All
- JDRF Kick-off
- Concessions
- Book Fair
- Spirit Wear
- And much, much more!

If you would like to enter your chili or pie in our contest (oh, what fun), or help in any way to make this event the success we know it can and will be, please contact Stacy at ssymes@wcpss.net or Dawn at bentoddsam@nc.rr.com.

There is LOTS to do, and LOTS and LOTS of ways to help. With YOUR support, it is going to be "HUGE"!!! Oh, did we mention that there is "FREE ENTRY"? Thanks so much!

Sixth Graders Must Prove Tdap Booster by Sept. 25!

According to North Carolina state law, all 6th grade students must provide proof within the first 30 days of school of receiving the Tdap booster! As of September 25, 2009, all 6th grade students who have not provided the required documentation will be excluded from school until the law is met. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Gayle Starkey, RN our School Based Public Health Nurse @ 870-4070.

Responsibility is Character Trait of the Month!

WCPSS has adopted eight character traits that summarize key principles surrounding good character and make up an effective character education program. Students can find the Trait of the Month, its definition and related quotes on the school TV monitors every month. September's trait is Responsibility!

At West Millbrook Middle School, good character is promoted throughout the school year. One way is through a PTA-sponsored Character Education Committee.

The last Thursday of every month, the Character Education Committee hosts a luncheon honoring students who have been selected by their team teachers for consistently demonstrating the WCPSS character trait of the month.

Teachers will be looking for students who are consistently being responsible and making the right choices all month long. Two students per team, grades sixth through eight, are then selected by their teachers and honored by being invited to attend a Character Education luncheon.

Students are treated to pizza, drinks, a healthy snack and a desert. Students also receive an awards certificate, and a goody bag filled with area coupons and prizes. They may even win an exclusive character education T-shirt. This is our way of saying thank you to those students for making excellent choices.

Last year, the Character Education Committee took it a step further and included a cultural and/or educational experience during each of the luncheons. We creatively introduce students to foods, facts and at times live demonstrations one might find in a particular country.

The luncheon is held at 12 noon, outside the cafeteria at the "Character Cafe," weather permitting. Otherwise, we hold the luncheon in the media center.

If you would like more information about the Character Education Program or would like to volunteer by sending items in for the goody bags, the luncheon, or you would like to help serve please contact the committee chairs. Courtney Florian at 870-9577, Susan Bradshaw at 866-1252, or Patty Steinke 878-3426.

From the Healthful Living Department

Physical Education uniforms are mandatory for all WMMS students. This ensures children are following good health practices by changing clothes for physical activity as well as ensuring the standards of the WCPSS dress code are met.

Uniform order forms are available from your child's Healthful Living teacher. We are in the process of putting in another order, so it is important orders are placed as soon as possible. We are filling orders as they come in, provided we have the correct size on hand.

Until uniform orders are filled, students must still change clothes for Physical Education into appropriate clothing of elastic-waisted shorts (no Softe), a regular length and regular cut T-shirt, and tennis shoes.

The Healthful Living Department would like to thank you for your patience as we work to fill orders in a timely manner. If any of you have WMMS apparel that is too small and are willing to donate, it can be given to your child's Healthful Living teacher.

Support the Lady Wildcat Volleyball Team!

Congratulations to the girls that made the Lady Wildcat Volleyball team!

Names are available on our print edition.

We look forward to an exciting and fun year, so come out and support our girls and have a blast! GO WILDCATS!

PTA Membership Raffle Winners!

The PTA Membership Committee held a raffle drawing on Thursday, September 17 for those memberships received by the 16th Congratulations to the following winners:

- Staff Winner: Mrs. Robinson, 7th grade Science teacher, won a basket of fun notepads and magnets donated by Shoestring Studio
- Bronze Winner: The Sauls Family won a Spirit Basket full of WMMS items, including a t-shirt, license plates, magnets and more
- Silver Winner: The Keen Family won a 2009-2010 WMMS Athletic Pass
- Gold Winner: The Bradshaw Family won a 2009-2010 WMMS Family Athletic Pass (set of 4)

If you haven't joined PTA yet, it's not too late to make a difference! PTA membership is a two-way street. Not only does it give you a voice but it helps to fund many programs that help make our school great! Join today and help make a difference at WMMS!

All donations except \$3.50 stay here at WMMS to fund many exciting and rewarding programs and school needs. You may get involved as little or as much as you like. You can go online at www.wmms.net to print the form and send to school with your child. Forms also available in the front office. Show your child you care about WMMS - join today!

District 3 BAC Report

Our first meeting of the 2009-2010 District 3 Board Advisory Council (BAC) was held on September 14 at Wildwood Forest Elementary.

Our speaker was Bethany Smith, an Instructional Technologist at NCSU. She presented many ways for technology to be integrated into the classroom. She introduced walled gardens, wikis, podcasting, glogster, voicethread, skype, moddle, and ning.

To learn more, be sure to visit her website: <http://bethanyvsmith.pbworks.com/Board-Advisory-Council>.

The overall theme for District 3 this year will be engaging our parents in conversation. We will be using anonymous online surveys to get parent, teacher and administrator

feedback on key issues the Board of Education will be discussing this year.

Our first topic will be "Recruitment and retention of effective teachers in high poverty schools & incentives to attract more minority and male teachers." Our first online survey will solicit your opinion on merit-based pay for teachers. In a few weeks I will provide the link to the survey. The results of this survey will be discussed at the November 9th BAC meeting.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Leslie Koscielniak, WMMS parent representative to the District 3 BAC, at Koscielniak@nc.rr.com.

Attention Parents! We Need Your Minds!

We need YOU to support some of our best and brightest Wildcats! Get involved in our school community!

We are looking for parents willing to help coach our Odyssey of the Mind and Math Counts teams. Both the Odyssey and Math Counts programs are academic competitions that engage students in higher-level, rigorous thinking. Math Counts is strictly math centered, while Odyssey leans more toward creative, collaborative problem solving.

Under the guidance of an adult coach, teams work throughout the school year and present in organized competitions in the spring. These two programs offer great experiences and opportunities for students to get involved and challenge themselves.

For more information, check out Math Counts at www.mathcounts.org and Odyssey of the Mind at www.odysseyofthemind.com. If you are interested, contact A. Niebauer, AG Coordinator/IRT and school sponsor, at aniebauer@wcpss.net, or call 518-0111.

Positive Behavior Support Team Seeks Prizes

The PBS (Positive Behavior Support) team needs your help! We are seeking prizes of all types to reward students for demonstrating positive/appropriate behavior on campus. Examples include school supplies, small food items like ice pops or granola bars, inexpensive gift cards (e.g., \$1 coupon for McDonald's, movie rentals), or anything you would like to donate.

Please bring your donations to Lynn Midthun in the front office. For questions, contact Kim Getty, kgetty@wcpss.net, or Katie Bonner, kbonner@wcpss.net. PBS thanks you in advance and is greatly appreciative of your support!

Thanks to Our WMMS Work Crew!

Wow, what a difference a couple cans of paint, some fabric, and some folks willing to give their time can make!

Thanks to all the WMMS parents, a couple of students, and even one grandparent for giving their time to painting our front office, making curtains, and recovering chairs. Also, thanks to a WMMS parent, who works at Lowes, for donating the paint for our project.

Hey, have you noticed our WMMS sign at our entrance? Another parent's handy work! It all shows our "Wildcat Pride" to all those who visit, or even drive by, WMMS!

Join the WMMS Outreach Program!

Many of you showed great interest and generosity last year when we first began our "Outreach Program" at WMMS. This year we will continue our efforts to support our students at WMMS, in partnership with the Food Bank of N.C. and our counselors and support staff at WMMS.

If you would like an opportunity to be a part of this program, and have from one hour a month to a couple of hours a week, please contact Dawn at bentoddsam@nc.rr.com or Stacy at ssymes@wcpss.net. We look forward to hearing from you! Thanks for all your past and future support of all our WMMS students.

Save Your Box Tops for Education!

Earn cash for our school every time you shop for groceries. Clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products. Each coupon is worth 10 cents when our school redeems them from General Mills.

Visit <http://www.boxtops4education.com> for even more great ideas to earn cash for our school including shopping at the Box Tops Marketplace, which includes your favorite online stores. Tell your family and neighbors to help you collect!! By next week, each class will have a special Box Tops depository for their team. A special prize will be given to the team who collects the most Box Tops. You may also drop Box Tops off in the front office.

If you have any questions, contact the Box Tops Coordinator, Julie Sande at (919) 676-7362 or e-mail at sandej@bellsouth.net. Thanks for your support!

Get the Latest News and Information Online!

Be sure to regularly visit the WMMS web site at <http://www.wmms.net> and the WMMS PTA site at <http://www.wmms/parents/pta> for more information, order forms and other news!