Greetings, Woodland Families

It's hard to believe we are nearly two-thirds of the way through our school year. In February, we hit two milestones. One was the halfway point of the year. The other was the 100th day of school. We are on the downslope, closer to the end of the school year than the beginning. In addition, the last two months have been unusually cold and snowy, causing many days of indoor recess and families to stay home and warm. March signals the transition away from bitter cold toward slightly more comfortable weather transition brings hope. I hope that the remainder of this year and this transition moves us all forward.

Thank you families for attending parent teacher conferences in February, I can not emphasize the importance of our partnership and collaboration. Together, we can work together to ensure the growth and success of your child. A big shout out to our wonderful PTO for bringing forth delicious dinner for our teachers during all three conference nights. In February, we also celebrated Black History month. We were grateful for all the special guest speakers that came to Woodland to share their time, journeys, talents and stories. It was wonderful to have our scholars see the beautiful contributions of our everyday heroes right here in our community. February was I love to Read Month, our school community enjoyed a variety of extra fun reading events throughout the month. Please look for the PTO sponsored Read-A-Thon event that will be forthcoming in March!

Lastly, March 25th -April 2nd will be our Spring Break. I would like to wish you all a very joyful and rejuvenating week with your family.

Your Principal,

Terri Jackson
From the Office

Parent Pick Up Reminders:

Dismissal for the end-of-the-day parent pickup is at 3:55 pm each day. Beginning at 4:10 pm, students will be brought back inside the building, and we will call parents and all emergency numbers that you have provided to us to secure a ride home for your student. The Woodland School office closes at 4:30 pm each day.

If a student has not been picked up after a significant amount of time, and there has been no communication with parents or emergency contact, the Brooklyn Park Police Department will be called.

If you have been late to pick up your child more than three times, you will need to consider other extended day/childcare options.

MCA Math, Reading & Science Testing:
MCA testing for math, reading & science will be taking place in April. **It is very important that your child is at school for these assessments. Please look for information from your student’s classroom teacher for the exact days your student will test and avoid making appointments during these times. Please let your teachers know if there is an unavoidable conflict prior to the test dates.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woodland MCA MATH, READING and SCIENCE TESTING schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd, 4th &amp; 5th</td>
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<td>3rd, 4th &amp; 5th</td>
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<tr>
<td>ONLY 5th</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Report Cards
To be able to access your student’s electronic report card you must have a ParentVUE account. Report cards will be posted in ParentVUE by the end of day on March 15th. When you are in
your ParentVUE account, click the documents tab to view the report card. Contact the office if you need help accessing your ParentVUE account.

Kindergarteners for the 2023-2024 School Year:
Enrollment for kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year is currently underway. If you have a future Woodland Eagle, that will be attending kindergarten with us, please enroll online via district279.org/enroll. Our Kindergarten Orientation will be on Wednesday, April 26th, 2023 from 5:30-6:30 PM. Doors will open at 5:00 with information regarding our school available. If you have any questions about enrollment, or orientation, please contact Terry Derksen in our school office at: 763-315-6400 or derksen@district279.org

PE Huddle
What's Happening in PE
March is championship month! A lot of college sports will be coming to an end, championship tournament time in college basketball is called March Madness! This month we will focus on our Basketball and Bowling skills. During basketball we will work on ball handling/dribbling, passing, and shooting skills. We will use these skills in various skill-specific basketball games. In our bowling unit we will cover how to use proper form, rules/etiquette, safety, and game play. We will also cover basic strategies and tactics of bowling.

Ideas to be Active at Home
March is winter sports championship time! Try to get in the championship spirit by playing a game of basketball, a game of H-O-R-S-E, or a game of lightning or thunder! Inside your home, you can use things like storage containers, laundry baskets, or boxes as your basket and paper balls or rolled up socks for a ball. You can practice bowling at home using items such as plastic cups, empty plastic water bottles, or empty food boxes as the pins and rolled up socks or a ball that is allowed indoors for your bowling ball.

Physical Education Teachers,
Michelle Sibinski & Adam Whirley
March is "Music In Our Schools Month!"
What a privilege it has been to teach Music to our amazing Woodland scholars! Over the past month, we have been playing and naming several classroom instruments in Kindergarten, identifying and playing rhythmic patterns in Grades 1-5.

3rd Grade Sing for Seniors
3rd graders performed for the residents of St. Therese at Oxbow Lake on Feburary 28th. A digital link is being shared with families so they can watch their students perform. Students did a great job performing classics like “Here Comes the Sun” and old favorites like “The Green Grass Grows”. We are so proud of our students for bringing joy to our community members!

4th Grade Recorder Concert- March 16th
Our 4th graders have been busy rehearsing several songs for their upcoming performance! I am so proud of their progress in learning new music while mastering a warm tone of recorders! That is no easy task!! As of now, our 30-minute concert will be on March 16th at 8:30am. Please stay tuned for concert information and logistics.

Grade-Level Programs:
Below are our remaining concerts for this school year.

1st Grade “Spring Sing”: April 20st
Family and school performance - 10:15 a.m.

2nd Grade program: May 11th
School performance - 3:00 p.m.
Community performance- 6:30 p.m.

4th Grade Recorder Concert: March 16th
Community performance - 8:30 a.m.
School performance 3:00 p.m.

Musically yours,
Mrs. Drymalski & Mrs. Zirbes
From The School Counselor

Our Character trait for March is CITIZENSHIP!

Our scholars will be learning about what citizenship is and how to make our school and community better, protect the environment and respect the rules and authority around us. Try some of the strategies below to practice this trait and talk about it with your child.

Read about it

Try some of these literature resources to learn more about citizenship!

- Many: The Diversity of Life on Earth by Nicola Davies
- What Can a Citizen Do? by Dave Eggers
- A Castle on Viola Street by DyAnne Disalvo
- Her Right Foot by Dave Eggers
- Granddaddy’s Turn: A Journey to the Ballot Box by Michael S. Bandy

Talk about it

Use some guiding questions to have family discussions about kindness at home!

- What does citizenship mean to you?
- Why is it important?
- How can we be a good citizen at school? In the community? To our earth?
- Talk about who you see as a stand up citizen in your school? Community? On tv/the world?

Practice it!

Talk about ways you could be a good citizen in your community. Maybe it’s donating food or clothing to a shelter? Going around your neighborhood park to pick up trash? Helping to bag someone’s groceries at the store? Volunteer to help at school and community events? The possibilities are endless!

Love, Mrs. Larson
**Research Resources**

It is important to use quality sources of information when doing research. We encourage students to begin their research with Woodland's online databases. Databases are not Internet search engines. Here are some differences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Databases</th>
<th>Internet Search Engines and Websites</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Databases are electronic collections of information from encyclopedias, journals, magazines, almanacs, etc. Examples of Woodland's databases include PebbleGo, CultureGrams, and Britannica School Elementary.</td>
<td>Search engines are software programs that look for information (websites) on the Internet. The most famous Search Engine is Google.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Databases are assembled by experts who have high standards.</td>
<td>Anyone can create a website. Some are excellent. Many contain biased or untrue information. Many contain words and images inappropriate for young people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Databases are tailored to specific age groups and interest areas. For example, Woodland students have access to databases designed for elementary students. The content and reading levels are appropriate for elementary students.</td>
<td>Most search engines are not tailored to specific age groups. So, when children search the Internet, they receive many websites that are not appropriate for children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries subscribe to them. Students can use them for free at school and at home. (Some require a username and password. Ask Ms. Cobb if you need help.)</td>
<td>Free.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Databases do not contain advertisements.</td>
<td>Most websites contain advertisements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students receive manageable numbers of search results. The results are of high quality.</td>
<td>Students may receive millions of search results. Students must sort through them to find websites of high quality.</td>
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</table>

Students can find links to Woodland's databases by logging into Clever. I encourage you to look at our databases with your children. They are wonderful sources of interesting non-fiction information!
Talent Development

**3rd grade:** Students will participate in [Visual Thinking](#) lessons this month! Students will practice visual thinking through mental and physical manipulation of shapes. Students will use pentomino shapes to solve a variety of puzzles.

**4th grade:** [TED ED Riddles and LOGIC puzzles](#) This group will be challenged to use critical thinking skills to solve riddles and find answers to logic puzzles. Students will use technology to access riddles. Logic games will be both hands-on and digital; depending on student choice.

**5th grade:** [Robotics](#) Students have one last lesson using LEGOs to create and coding software to make the creations come to life. Ask your child what they learned about coding and building.

**TED ED Riddles and LOGIC puzzles** This group will be challenged to use critical thinking skills to solve riddles and solve logic puzzles. Students will use technology to access riddles. Logic games will be both hands on and digital; depending on student choice.

**Academic Challenge**

**3rd Grade:** ELA-Students are beginning to analyze primary and secondary source documents. While interacting with the documents, students are gathering information to support their thinking. With each small unit we investigate, students need to find an answer to a bigger question.

**4th Grade:** ELA- Students will continue learning Greek and Latin word parts as we explore Caesar's English classical words and stems. During the second half of the month, we will dive into another research project!

**5th Grade:** ELA- Students will continue working with analogies in preparation for their final Word Master test! Students that have participated in all 3 rounds will have learned 75 new multiple-meaning vocabulary words and many unique analogous relationships! Students will also begin to think about taking action- How can a 5th grader make a difference?

Math: All 3-5 graders who choose to participate in Concept Quest, a math academic challenge, are supported by both the classroom teacher and myself.

Looking for more activities for your child? Check out my webpage [https://sites.google.com/apps.district279.org/tag/activity-choice-boards_1](https://sites.google.com/apps.district279.org/tag/activity-choice-boards_1)

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Mrs. Krysta Wahl
TAG Specialist
wahlk@district279.org
From Your PTO

The PTO is chock full of exciting things happening this spring!

I Scream, You Scream, We all Scream for Ice Cream!! The Woodland PTO Read-a-Thon is coming March 6-March 19th. Get your kids excited about reading and some fun ice cream-themed prizes! Online registration and tracking of minutes read will be done through Fund Hub (same platform as the Fun Run). More information and an optional paper tracker will be coming home on Wednesday. Our school-wide reading goal is 50,000 minutes. This year we are excited to collaborate with Reading4Research and together we have a goal of raising $12,000. Woodland PTO will donate 25% of the funds raised to this great organization that is dedicated to making a difference in pediatric cancer research and was started by a previous Woodland teacher! Remaining funds will go towards all-school learning applications like IXL and Raz Kids. Get some good books ready and have fun reading!!

The March Community Supper is at Raising Cane’s Brooklyn Park on Monday, March 6th from 4-pm-9pm! Mention the fundraiser at the register or put “Fundraiser” in the special request section of your mobile order.

Our PTO Meeting will take place on March 7 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Woodland Media Center! Please email wdptomn@gmail.com for a link to join virtually if you are unable to attend in person.

The PTO needs your help! Our wonderful Treasurer-Elect stepped down and we are in need of a Treasurer for the 2023-2024 school year! The Treasurer-Elect would spend the remainder of this school year learning from the Treasurer, Megan Sing, who will also be available in the first part of next year to assist. Please email wdptomn@gmail.com if you are interested.

On that note….It’s that time of year when the PTO starts to get ready for the next school year. Parents sign up to chair events, there are elections for PTO Board positions, and planning starts already! PTO Open Positions For the 2023-2024 School Year: President-Elect, Communications, Marketing, Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, Events & Fundraising Chair, DPAC. Please reach out to wdptomn@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions!

Upcoming Events:
March Community Supper: March 6th from 4-9:00 p.m. at Raising Cane’s Brooklyn Park
Woodland Read-A-Thon: March 6-March 19th
March PTO Meeting: March 7 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Woodland Media Center
Woodland Carnival: April 14th - mark your calendars!

2022-2023 Board
President: Aaron Ledebuhr
President Elect: Jenna Maurer
Secretary: Megan Fordice
Treasurer: Megan Sing
Treasurer Elect: Open
DPAC: Jenn Broden
Communications Chair: Devon Siegel
Marketing Chair: Kandace Heitland
Teacher Reps: Scott Lund and Jody Levy
Treasurer: Megan Sing
I joined the board after volunteering at a few events. I served as treasurer elect, and this year treasurer. My background is in accounting, and I thought, I could leverage that skillset to help the PTO. Multiple talents are needed to make the PTO a success, I encourage you to join in on the fun and drive change for your community. It takes a village, and I want to build that village for my children. I am so happy I have joined such a wonderful group of people. People dedicated to making a positive impact on Woodland teachers, staff, students and community.

Secretary: Megan Fordice
I have always been active with the PTO and volunteered for events since my daughter was in Kindergarten. Once both my children were at Woodland I wanted to become more involved. I decided to sign up for the position of Secretary on the PTO as I enjoy record keeping and note taking, while still having time to volunteer at events. It's important for me to be actively involved at the school my children attend, and for them to see their parents at school. I enjoy making Woodland a positive and welcoming space for all students and their families. My kids benefit from being part of a strong community. It's important to me to help keep the community and spirit of Woodland going strong. Woodland Eagles SOAR!