

Wilson Middle School | October 2026

WILDCAT NEWS

brought to you by the Paw Print staff

A MESSAGE FROM MR. FERGUSON

Dear Wildcat Families:

It is hard to believe November is already here, time flies when we are having fun! We have officially wrapped up the first quarter at Wilson, and activities both in and out of the classroom are moving along with great momentum. Thank you to every family who joined us for fall conferences to meet with staff, celebrate achievements, and set our students up for continued success.

Our fall athletic seasons concluded with outstanding accomplishments across all programs. Both 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams had remarkable seasons, highlighted by the 8th grade team bringing home the Conference Championship title. Boys Soccer completed an undefeated season, 7th and 8th grade football each secured winning records, and girls tennis showed great grit against challenging competition inside and outside the conference. At the state level, both the boys and girls cross country teams qualified for the State meet in Normal, Illinois, where 8th grader Chase Olson placed 24th overall in Class 4A becoming the first Wilson runner to place in the top 25 in the state. Backing it all up, our cheer team brought tremendous energy to the sidelines and is now gearing up for the arrival of winter sports, including boys basketball and wrestling.

Our Fine Arts department has had an active fall as well. We are thrilled to kick off the second season of our Wilson Show Stoppers show choir ahead of regional competitions later this year. Our 7th and 8th grade marching band put on outstanding performances at Browning Field alongside the John Deere and the High School bands.

November is a short, busy month. Please make note of the following upcoming dates: Election Day on Tuesday, November 3; Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11; and Thanksgiving Break from November 23–27. Even with the shortened weeks, consistent, on-time attendance remains vital to classroom achievement and student growth.

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the first quarter. We are proud to celebrate these milestones and look forward to many more #winsatWilson!

Best Regards,
Tom ***Ferguson, Principal***



Unforgettable Moments With WEB

By Haley Meeske

The last month has been very exciting for the Wilson 6th graders! They had the Fall Hangout on September 28, and the dance on October 16! For the Hangout, the 6th graders were invited to stay after school for games and snacks with their W.E.B. Leaders. The W.E.B. leaders put on a number of carnival-style games behind the school, including musical chairs, a basketball dunking challenge, volleyball, ring toss, and more! Many of the games had candy, and there was pop and pizza at a few as well.

The dance took place on October 16 and was a huge hit! It lasted from 6:00 to 7:30pm and took place in the Wilson gym. There was a ton of pizza and pop for the sixth graders, and Ms. House made an incredible neon balloon backdrop! Ms. A was the DJ, and she played some of the sixth graders' requests such as the Macerana and Church Clap!

I was able to talk to Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Moore, the school counselors here at Wilson, and ask them a couple of questions about the W.E.B. program! They said that W.E.B. was introduced at Wilson, "as a way to make sure that 6th graders can get acclimated, meet people, and make connections." They also said that W.E.B. had been a part of Wilson for at least 15 years, and that it is the middle school equivalent of the LINK Crew at the high school. W.E.B is funded by fundraisers and grants. Both the 6th grade dance and district Culver's fundraiser nights raise money for the program, and it receives two grants as well, one from the Moline Public Schools Foundation, and the other from the Moline Youth Commission. I asked them if there was anything that they wanted students at Wilson to know about W.E.B. and they said, "Both 6th and 8th graders benefit from W.E.B. The 8th graders learn leadership skills which in turn helps support the social culture and climate at Wilson, and it allows the new sixth graders to feel comfortable and connected in their new school!"

FALL HANGOUT













6th Grade Dance





Thank you, Ms. A for being an AMAZING D.J.











Wilson WEB Leaders



The Wilson Health Clinic is lucky to have Mrs. Mosher and Mrs. Clendenny



Meet the New School Nurse, Mrs. Mosher!

By Jocelyn Tessmer

Mrs. Mosher, our new school nurse, loves chaos. This is a good thing because she never knows what will happen during a school day. Mrs. Mosher previously worked at Willard Elementary School and as an assistant nurse at the University of Iowa. Her favorite food is sushi, and her favorite color is blue. She's married and has a baby who's only six months old. She also enjoys reading fantasy, and she'd rather go to the beach than the mountains. She says that the hardest part about being at Wilson so far is learning the school system, but she's learning fast. She also has three dogs, a cat, and her favorite quote is, "If it's meant to be, it will be."

A tip for staying healthy this school season is to stay hydrated.

Thank you, Mrs. Mosher for all you do to keep kids healthy and in school this year at Wilson. We're so glad you're here!



October is National Bullying Prevention Month!

Your paragraph text

Bullying doesn't always look like this, (let's be honest, it typically doesn't) but it is still important to learn how to defend yourself against a bully, whether the bullying is subtle or obvious.



Bullying comes in many different shapes and forms such as verbal bullying, social bullying, physical bullying, and cyberbullying, and it is very important to learn how to identify these types in order to learn how to protect yourself better.

Different Types of Bullying

1. *Verbal Bullying* - Verbal bullying uses spoken or written words such as name-calling, teasing, taunting, threats, and inappropriate comments. This can include making racist or sexist remarks and threatening to cause physical harm to someone.
2. *Social Bullying* - Social bullying involves hurting one's reputation or their relationships with their peers. Some examples of this are excluding someone from a conversation or gathering, spreading gossip or lies, and humiliating someone in front of a group.
3. *Physical Bullying* - Physical bullying uses physical force to hurt someone or damage their property such as assault , intimidation, force, and property damage. This can include hitting, kicking, punching, slapping, pinching, tripping, or any other action that can cause physical harm.
4. *Cyberbullying*- Cyberbullying happens on electronic devices such as phones, tablets, and computers and uses social media to hurt one's reputation or feelings. Some examples of this are online harassment which include sending threatening and abusive messages or emails and also sharing private photos and videos and personal information on the internet without one's consent.

What Do I Do If I'm Being Bullied?

There is no foolproof way to stop getting bullied or fight back against bullying, but there are a few tips and pieces of advice that could help.

1. Stay calm and don't give a reaction or response. Don't let the bully earn the satisfaction of getting a rise out of you.
2. Tell a trusted adult. You can inform a teacher or counselor at school and report the bully or bullies to the Crimestoppers club.
3. Being bullied doesn't define you. Take time to enjoy life because you deserve to feel happy no matter what anyone else thinks.

What Do I Do If I See Someone Being Bullied?

Whenever someone is being bullied always remember the rule, "Be an upstander, not a bystander." It can be hard to speak up and fight back against bullying, but a few brave, thoughtful words can completely change a person's life.

by Lakshya Chintapatla

WMS Showstoppers



A few of the students participating this year in Showstoppers.

Did you know that The Wilson Showstoppers are the first Show Choir in the Moline School District? This performance group started last year at Wilson and is excited to be in their second year. Danika McShane sat down with the director Mrs. Erb to find out more about this group.

1: What are you looking forward to with Showstoppers this season?
" Going into it since everyone now knows what it is which means there will be more excitement, and new costumes."

2: How did Showstoppers begin at Wilson?
"This had been a dream of mine since highschool and last year timin finally worked out so I tried it."

3: How is the Showstoppers choir selected?
"It is an audition process, all the students get music beforehand and they sing it and learn a dance, we look for vocal quality,dance ability, performance, and intergrity."

4: What made you want to bring Showstoppers to Wilson?
"I wanted it when I was a kid and I also know how many kids like musical theatre."

5: What is are the challenges of being in charge of Showstoppers?
"All the logistics since it's not just teaching kids the music"

6: What's your favorite musical you've directed at Wilson?
"Newsies"

7: How does participating in choir impact students?
" Choir and music ensembles help students in academics since you have to use so many parts of your brains."

8: What would be a fun thing for students to look up to see an example of what students in Showstoppers do?
"If any student is interested, they should look up Central High School in Davenport."

By Danika McShane

SPORTS SHORTS





Crossing The Finish Line

The Wilson cross country season came to an exciting end, with both the boys and girls teams achieving amazing accomplishments! The boys team became Heartland Conference Champions, showing their hard work and determination throughout the season.

Both the boys and girls teams also placed third at sectionals, earning their spots at the state meet! One athlete who made history was Chase Olson, who finished 24th at State and became the first cross country medalist in Wilson history.

Congratulations to all the runners and coaches on an incredible season!
Their dedication, teamwork, and perseverance made this a season to remember



Coach Spotlight: Coach Perkins

by Cora Balkovek



Since 2000, Mr. Perkins has been coaching cross country and sharing his love of running with athletes at Wilson. His passion for the sport began when he was a runner himself. One of his coaches would run alongside the team and cheer the runners on, which was always encouraging.

Now, Mr. Perkins hopes to give his own athletes that same feeling of support and motivation. He especially enjoys working with 6th and 7th graders because they are just beginning their running journeys. For him, coaching is about more than running miles. It is about helping young athletes discover their potential and enjoy the sport along the way.

Girl's Volleyball Signs Out for the Season





The girls' volleyball teams had an exciting season, with the 8th grade team winning conference and the 7th grade team earning second place in conference. The eighth graders also faced off against the staff in a special game held in memory of Gabe Perkins, earning a win while honoring his memory. Both teams showed teamwork, determination, and school spirit throughout the season. Well done ladies!





Serving Up A Season To Remember



After an amazing season the Wilson girls finish with a conference record of 3-3 and placing third at the conference tournament!

Our singles players, Meah Schaefer, Annabell Stoltz, Gabby Boland, Cori Whiting, and Javeria Noorstani played outstanding throughout the entire tournament. Highlighted by a 3rd place finish by Meah Schaefer!

Our doubles teams of Zaynab Nassoma and Tatianna Cruz, Max Johnson and Mila Erickson-Torres, Agnes Balkovek and Shona Vonoo, and Tessa Antle and Lily Wilkins showed amazing communication and effort throughout the season.
Great season Wildcats!

Morning Coffee Club-Book Review

By Evie Beach

Every year Mrs. Smice hosts and organizes Morning Coffee Club, which is a year-round event including reading a grant funded book and getting together before school to discuss it, drink coffee, and eat donuts. The idea for Morning Coffee Club was sparked when Mrs. Smice sat in on an Illinois reading conference session, meant to start book clubs directed to elementary schools, and she thought it could be easily adapted for middle school. To choose the book, she reads quite a few books with a variety of genres and picks one she thinks has a good message/theme that both guys and girls would enjoy. This year, there are 62 students participating. Mrs. Smice works very hard to ensure the meetings happen, and there are a lot of steps that go into the preparation. To formulate Morning Coffee Club, Mrs. Smice selects and distributes the books, finds discussion leaders, finds/writes discussion questions, sends dojo reminders for the meeting day, makes evaluation sheets for feedback, orders the donuts and picks them up, gets the juice and milk, and sets up the night before. The morning of, she arrives at 6 am to organize and make sure everything is ready. If she could be a character from the book this month, she would choose Queso, so she can time travel. Her favorite coffee places are the Rockstar Cafe (especially the chai latte) in Bettendorf, or the latte with lavender at Joh's. This is Morning Coffee Club's 20th year anniversary, but year 19 of meeting due to covid. Mrs. Smice's favorite authors are Nicholas Sparks(adult books), Gordon Corman, Alan Gratz, and Laurie Halse Anderson(middle school books). If you didn't sign up yet and want to, you still can, just talk to Mrs. Smice.

The selected book this quarter is called Queso, Just In Time by Ernesto Cisneros, which tells a story about a boy named Quetzalcóatl Castillo Anguiano, who goes by Queso (the Spanish word for cheese) for short. After his dad died, Queso regrets not spending much time with him. After an unexpected night including a full moon, a moon bow, and a bunny, his whole life changes. Could this be the exact opportunity he was wishing for to get to know his dad?



BUSSIN EATS

Bubba's 33



Hi Wildcats,

This month I went to Bubba's 33 in Davenport, IA. They had a very welcoming atmosphere, and the staff were very friendly. First, we ordered the Combo Appetizer which included the Corkscrew Cheese, Fried Pickles, and their boneless wings. The Corkscrew Cheese was pretty good, but it was a bit cold. The wings had a tangy sauce, which I LOVED! The fried pickles were also REALLY good and had a bit of a kick to them. For my entree, I ordered the fish and chips with a side of corn. The fish was pretty good, but it wasn't my favorite. The corn had a lovely blend of spices and was actually quite good. Lastly, for my drink I got a Doctor Pepper with coconut flavoring, and it was SO good y'all, although it had a bit too much coconut, and I didn't really taste the Doctor Pepper a whole lot. Overall, I would rate Bubba's 33 an 8.5/10!



See you next month Wildcats!
-Kennedy Waeyaert



Calling All Performers

Do you love singing, acting, or performing? Auditions for Matilda the Musical are coming up! Auditions will be held Monday, November 16th, Tuesday, November 17th, and Thursday, November 19th. There will also be an audition workshop on Friday, November 13th, to help students prepare. Get ready to show off your talent and bring this amazing story to life!

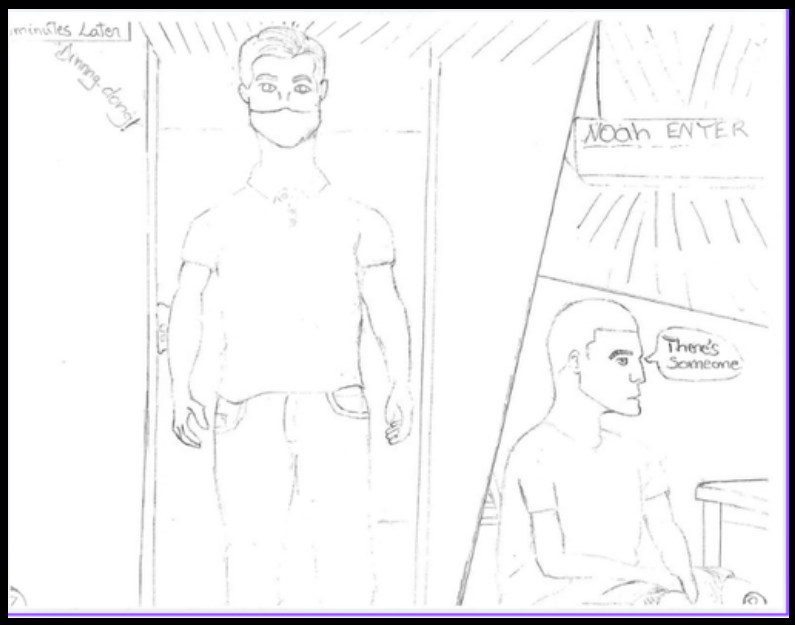


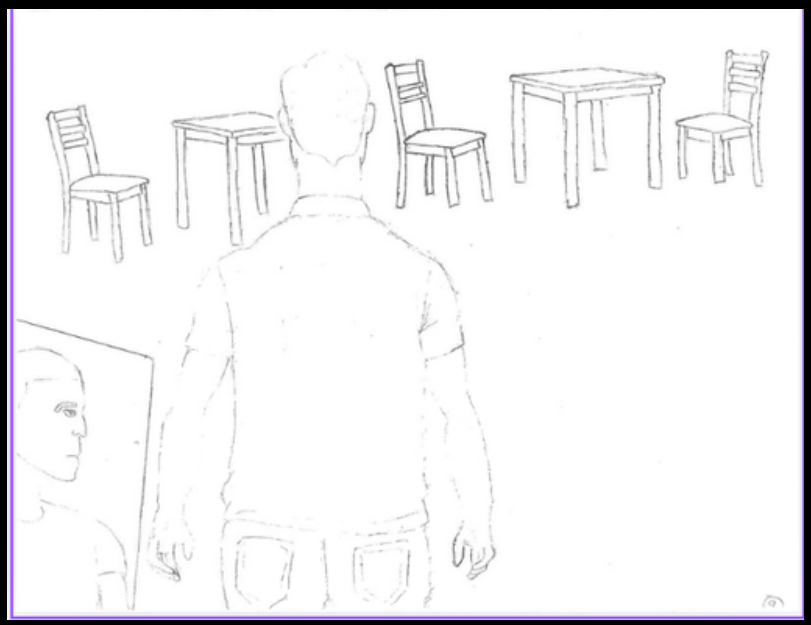
WILDCAT COMIC BY WINNER AGBESSIANAK

The Pokemon Comic Story Continues for October









LOOKING AHEAD...

- *Tuesday, November 3rd- Election Day No School*
- *Tuesday, November 10th- Veterans Day Assembly*
- *Wednesday, November 11th- No School Veterans Day*
- *Monday, November 23rd -Friday, November 27th -No School*