



# Wakefield Elementary School PTA Newsletter

November, 2011

Issue #: 1



## A letter from Mrs. Dennen:

*Our school year is well under way. Track 1 has completed the first quarter of school and the other tracks are nearing the completion of their second quarter. By now, you should have had a conference with your child's teachers to determine their current level of academic performance. Parental involvement is essential to student success.*

*Our data from End of Grade Tests last year showed growth in reading and math. Our performance composite continues to rise each year and we earned high growth status overall. We met annual yearly progress for 82% of our subgroups. We will monitor student achievement to provide differentiated instruction for all students as we progress through the school year.*

*We maintained the majority of our staff from last year and hired several new teachers and teacher assistants. Please welcome our newcomers when you are in the building.*

*Our PTA has many activities planned this year for family involvement. We hope to see you at each of these events. If you are willing to volunteer in any capacity, contact the PTA representatives. You must register each year to be a WES volunteer. There are volunteer opportunities in various areas.*

*Thank you in advance for the role you play in your child's education. I look forward to working with each of you this year for a successful educational experience.*

### *In This Issue*

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## **CLASSROOM NEWS:**

### **Mrs. McIntosh's Second Grade Annual Pumpkin Book Report**



**Arthur**

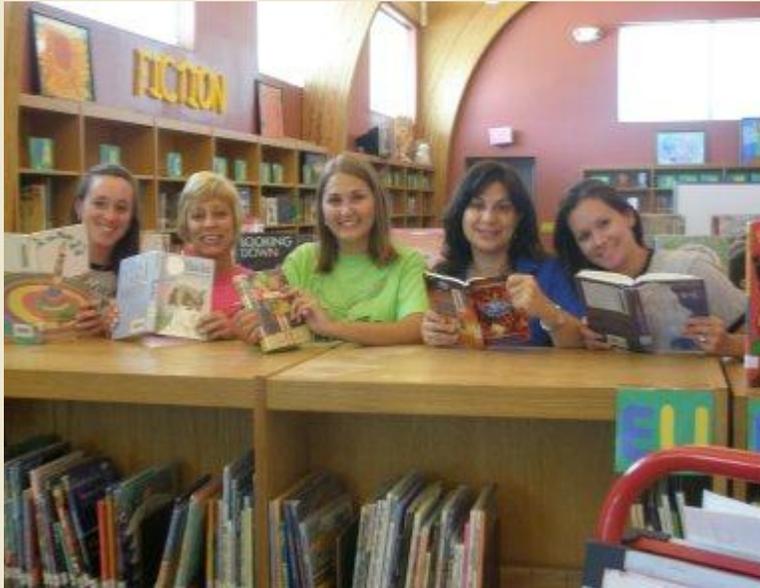


**Santa**



**Little Old Lady Who  
Swallowed a Fly**

**The Fourth Grade Teachers Love to Read!**



The fourth grade teachers are excited about sharing their love for books with their students this year. Ms. Clark, Ms. Gaffney, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Coveleski, and Ms. Doyle want their students to find books they love and become excited about reading in fourth grade. One of the fourth grade goals is to help students see that reading can be as fun as watching a movie or playing a video game. The teachers will help their students become excited by sharing some of their favorite books with their classes during read aloud times and book clubs. Ms. Gaffney is eager to share her favorite author, Margaret Haddix, with her class. Ms. Doyle loves to read *Hoot* and *Flush* by Carl Hiaasen. Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Coveleski both love adventure and mystery books such as the *39 Clues Series* and *The Ghost of Fossil Glen*. Ms. Clark is enjoying reading *It Only Looks Easy* by Pamela Curtis Swallow to her class. The fourth grade team hopes their fourth graders will share their love for reading with them by the end of the year!

**WES Red Ribbon Week Was Celebrated by All!**



Wakefield fifth graders proudly show off a red ribbon signifying the pledge to say "no" to drugs.

Wakefield Elementary Students are took Red Ribbon Week to heart. Red Ribbon Week is a drug,tobacco, alcohol and violence awareness campaign. The celebration week is a time for students,teachers, staff, and community to take a stand against drug use. Students are not only learning about the issues that their community faces, but also pledging to be drug-free. Although traditionally the week is the last week of October, WES has designated two weeks to include all of their four tracks inthe year round schedule.

“Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug campaign in America with over 80 million people celebrating each year, “ stated Sara Carpenter, School Counselor at Wakefield Elementary, “I focus all my lessons on the choices they have...from kindergarten choices about healthy foods to fifth grade choices about drugs and the future hope of high-school graduation.”

Each student is given the opportunity to participate in many ways including an essay contest, poster contest, wearing a school-supplied, red ribbon on their back pack, and writing out their pledge. A large, red, paper chain adorns the entryhalls at the elementary school. The chain is made solely of the interlocking pledges from the students. Handmade posters, some made by staff and others by students joining in the plight also add “red” to throughout the school.

Although they are learning about a serious subject, the students had fun too. Each day WES students eagerly await the morning announcements to hear a winning number called. They check the ribbons attached to their backpack to see if the number on their ribbon matches the one called... if so, they get their choice of donated prizes. Each day is a designated “Say No To Drugs”day. Monday was crazy sock day for “Sockit to Drugs.” Tuesday the students wear sneakers or gym shoes for “Don’t Let Drugs Sneak Up on You”.

Wednesday the kids wear sweatshirts to reflect that “Living Drug-Free Is No Sweat”. Thursday, they will wear boots, for “Boot Out Drugs” and on Friday they all wear red, “Red To Remember”.

## Poems from Mrs. Boozer's Class

### Thunder

Noisy and loud  
Booming, flashing, lightning  
Thunder storms are terrifying  
KaBoom!

### Cinquain Poem

by  
Nate Viele

My  
Bike was  
The best bike  
And I loved it.  
Crash!

### Lanterne Poem

by  
Oliver Flynn

PTA FALL EVENTS  
WHAT FUN WE HAVE HAD!

**FAMILY FUN DAY**

**At the beginning of October, Wakefield families enjoyed lots of fun with inflatables, games, and Dave the Magician!**





## **COSTUME BINGO!**

**Students and parents joined the PTA in late October to play BINGO in costume!  
Bingo was great fun with lots winners!**







### ***Upcoming Events***

November 16th to December 2nd  
*Purchase "Giving Tree" presents and return to school*

November 23rd  
*ALL YEARBOOK ORDERS ARE DUE \$15.00*

November 29th  
*Spirit Night - Texas Road House*



### ***PTA Board***

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### **PE NEWS:**

*The new physical education year is off to a rousing start. The 3rd-5th grades have begun the Presidential Physical Fitness Challenge which tests students in the area of curl-ups, push-ups, shuttle run, sit-and-reach, and the mile run. The data developed will also help create a Fitnessgram for each student that will help parents track their child's personal physical fitness. I am also hoping to have lessons in bowling and volleyball before the end of the semester. The Kindergarten-2nd grades have been introduced to personal and general spaces, boundaries, locomotor movements, levels, and*



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*The PTA Board  
would like to wish  
everyone in the  
Wakefield  
Elementary School  
family  
a very  
Happy  
Thanksgiving!*

*pathways. I hope to  
spend time in the coming  
weeks on fitness and  
sports skills. I also hope  
to see you throughout the  
year at our PE-themed  
Family Nights. Feel free  
to visit our classroom  
and see the exciting  
activities at Wakefield  
Elementary. We Are  
Wakefield!  
Carl Hill  
Physical Education  
Teacher  
Wakefield Year-Round  
Elementary School*



[www.wespta.org](http://www.wespta.org)

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