

West Ridge Press

Feb.1, 2010

Dates to Remember

- Mon., Feb. 1-** Report cards go home
- Wed., Feb. 3-** DARE starts in 5th, 5th grade puppet night, Extreme Science 3:15- 4:30
- Thurs., Feb. 4-** Character ed assembly 1:30, Extreme Science 3:15- 4:30
- Fri., Feb. 5-** Talent show practice Pickup 5:00
- Wed., Feb. 10-** Extreme Science 3:15- 4:30
- Thurs., Feb. 11-** Valentines Day parties, Extreme Science 3:15- 4:30, Talent show practice pickup 5:00, McDonalds McTeacher Night 5:00- 7:00
- Fri., Feb. 12-** NO SCHOOL, Teacher in-service day
- Sat., Feb. 13-** Boys and Girls Club Movie Morning (No West Ridge Movie Morning this month)
- Mon., Feb. 15-** PRESIDENTS' DAY NO SCHOOL
- Wed., Feb. 17-** Extreme Science 3:15- 4:30, PTO meeting 6:00
- Thurs., Feb. 18-** Talent show Pickup 5:00
- Fri., Feb. 19-** TRIPLE PLAY FAMILY NIGHT 6:00- 9:00
- Wed., Feb. 24-** Extreme Science 3:15- 4:30
- Thurs., Feb. 25-** Extreme Science class 3:15- 4:30, Talent Show Pickup 5:00
- Fri., Feb. 26-** Moongazing for 4/5 grades 6:00

Principal's Pen



Dear Parents,

As you can see, we have a very busy February on our calendar. There is an excitement in the air! Students are preparing for the talent show, involved in scientific experiments in Extreme Science, performing puppet plays, collecting Pennies for Peace, preparing for a moon gazing evening, and beginning DARE. On top of all that, families are invited to join their teachers at McTeacher Night at McDonalds and have a great time together at Triple Play. And don't forget our Book Fair the first week of March!

I invite you to come and admire our new Cougar Mural. This beautiful mural, created with custom tiles of pictures of our students is now on display for all to see.

Thanks to Custom Tiles by XThings for the tiles and parent Mike Matteo from Matteo Tiling for installing the tiles. Special recognition should go to Chief James Allen, Coeur D'Alene Tribe Chairman, Bob Nonini, Idaho State Representative, and Ron Lahr, our PTO co-president for making this dream a reality. The Coeur D'Alene Tribe contributed \$10,000 to this project and a total of \$13,580 was received to upgrade technology and classroom supplies. After expenses that left the PTO \$10,980. Thanks to all our donors! Donors' names can be viewed on the mural. A hearty thank you to all involved!

Sincerely,

Upcoming Attractions

McDonalds McTeacher Night- Thurs., Feb. 11, 5– 7:00—Join us for a special night at the McDonalds on Seltice to benefit West Ridge. The following staff will be there to take your order: 5:00-6:00– Ms. Surratt, Ms. Bonds, Miss Jones, Mrs. Webster, Counselor Trina and Mr. Somers. From 6:00– 7:00 you can expect to see Mrs. Strom, Mr. Hoslett, Ms. Surratt, Ms. Adams and Ms. Jones. Other teachers may make guest appearances!

West Ridge Triple Play Night— Friday, February 19 — Proceeds from this will bring author *Karma Wilson* to our school to share her books and experiences with our children. Find more about her at <http://www.karmawilson.com>

Book Fair-March 1– 5. Book Fair Night– Thursday, March 4
This is a great time to purchase books for reading during Spring Break! As an incentive, Ms. Surratt has agreed to let selected students cover her with Silly String if we have a successful book fair. Student get a ticket for each book purchased for a chance to decorate Ms. Surratt with Silly String!

West Ridge Talent Show— Thursday, March 11. A showcase of our very own talented students!

STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to the following students for winning our West Ridge Spelling Bee and participating in the Post Falls School District Spelling Bee on January 26:

4th Gr. - Jessica Dawson, Abie Van Hyning

5th Gr. - Charlie Burnett, Brandon Nigh

I was very proud of our students! They all represented West Ridge well.

Students and staff honored at our January Character Education Assembly were:

Helpers from GAP---

(Austen Davis, Makenly Davis, Ashton Ozuna-Landers, Samantha Tanner, Jillian Woodward, Garret Telford, Kellen Dyer, Kameron Vordahl, Brock Zeller),

Mrs. Carlisle, Jenessa Schilling, Mandy Burke, Mr. Somers, Shelby Hollenbeck, Garret Richardson, Kaden Nelson, Austin Hagedorn, Mrs. Willy,

PENNIES FOR PEACE

The fifth grade student board enthusiastically chose to participate in the Pennies For Peace campaign to raise funds to educate girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Their teachers have been reading the young reader's version of Three Cups Of Tea by Greg Mortenson. Mr. Mortenson has been working with the people of rural villages in the rugged, mountainous regions of these countries to build schools. The two most frequent requests he receives from rural women are: "We don't want our babies to die and we want our children to go to school." When you educate a girl, the mortality rate of infants decrease, women have less children, the quality of life in the village improves and sons are less likely to join a militant jihad.

Our students are learning they have the power and means to help make a difference in the lives of children around the world. In Afghanistan one penny will buy a pencil and \$1.00 will pay a teacher's salary for one day. Jars to collect pennies or whatever money is donated will be located in each of the classrooms at West Ridge Elementary. The Pennies For Peace project will start February 4, and continue through March 19.