

# Woodland West Elementary School 17-18 Eagle Times Newsletter

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LaTonga Watts-Toney, Principal  
Fateshia Fredericks, Assistant Principal



## Ms. Toney's Nest

Season's Greetings WWE Families,

It is with great excitement that we begin the month of December. I want to begin by sharing some great news about our school. The Louisiana Department of Education released its 2016-2017 school performance scores. Our school performance score grew 3.5 points from a 73.9 in 2015- 2016 to a 77.4 for the 2016-2017 school year. This is wonderful news, and we are so proud! During this season of thanksgiving, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our students, faculty members, and community stakeholders for striving to make a difference at our school. Your dedication and commitment to Woodland West does not go unnoticed.

During this very busy month staying focused on our goal for academic achievement can be even more difficult. We must continue to work together to help our students remain focused on their school work and not let the preparations for the upcoming holiday distract us. Continue to complete homework, arrive to school on time, and attend class ready to learn with a positive attitude each day. Even though we believe in enriching our students' lives with extra-curricular activities and celebrations, please help us keep our students focused on our core business of TEACHING and LEARNING as the second quarter of this school year comes to a close. Over the next few days our teachers will continue to work diligently to prepare students for end of the unit common summative assessments.

We would like to thank our WWE families who attended the Superhero Family Literacy night and Scholastic Book fair. Our families were awarded the opportunity to experience some

very interesting and engaging hands on learning activities while spending some quality time with each other. We hope that you will continue to use those activities and games with your children at home. Ms. Stephanie Johnson's 2<sup>nd</sup> year Community Service project collected over 1,000 canned goods. Several families in our community were the recipients of these canned food items. I am also very proud to share that we did an excellent job with our contributions to the Jefferson Parish United Way campaign. In the month of January, we will participate in two community service projects the American Heart Association with our Jump Rope for Heart and Jefferson's Dollars for Scholars. Helping to promote kindness is one of our school's goals each year. When others are treated with kindness and respect they are likely to reciprocate these actions. Let our WWE family be that positive example for others! As we close out this calendar year and prepare to welcome 2018, know that the faculty and staff of Woodland West Elementary remains committed to providing our students with a positive and supportive environment to enable students to reach their full academic potential. Learning is our top priority. Working together our students will continue "SOAR to Excellence." Please have a Merry Christmas and wonderful winter break. Take time to celebrate this special season and please be safe during our winter vacation. I look forward to seeing all of you again in the New Year on Thursday, January 4, 2018, the day classes resume for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of this school year.

Respectfully yours,

LaTonga Toney

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#### ◆ Mission

Woodland West community exist to provide all students with explicit and systematic standards-based instruction so that all students can reach their maximum, academic potential.

#### ◆ Vision

Woodland West Elementary envisions a positive and supportive partnership with all stakeholders (parents, students, teachers, and all community members) that will provide a safe and nurturing learning environment to establish a solid academic, emotional, and social foundation where all students will demonstrate mastery or above on all essential standards in every subject as they continue to achieve excellence.

We are gearing up for another exciting month of learning and growing in Pre-K! In the last few weeks, we continued to investigate all the environmental changes we see around us. We are currently studying and comparing classic stories and fairy tales. We talked about the differences in "Little Red" and the classic "Little Red Riding Hood". We continue to work on counting and recognizing our numbers in print.

We have some important events coming up and we want you to "save the date". On Friday, we will have our annual family lunch. This year, the event will be on Friday, December 15 at 11:00am. The lunch will be held at Piccadilly Cafeteria on Lapalco Blvd. Additionally, we will have our winter pajama celebration on Wednesday, December 20. All bus riding students must wear their purple shirt and we can change them into their pajama shirt once they arrive at school. More details for both exciting events are coming soon!

From our families to yours, we wish you warm holiday wishes!

It's all  
about  
PRE-K

## Kindergarten

is an important step to reading and writing. We are learning the difference between fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, and how to recognize each genre.

In Math, we learned all about 2D and 3D shapes and their attributes. This week, we are comparing length and height of objects, so we can tell which is shorter than, taller than, or longer than the other. Learning is happening in Kindergarten! Thank you for sharing your children with us.

Kindergarten teachers

Mrs. Nichols, Mrs. Begin, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Matter

We hope you all had a wonderful fall break. The students had a great week back and were happy to see all their friends! We have begun thinking about our holiday party in December before we are out for the winter break. We will send a note home with the party details soon. Please be checking your child's folder for this important information.

Please continue reading with your child every night. If you do not have a reading log, it's o.k. Read anyway! It's such important practice. The students have been learning to blend simple CVC words (bug, hen, cup, cat, etc.) and learning to pick out the beginning, middle and ending sounds of these kids of words. This

This month we will be learning about how other cultures around the world celebrate Christmas.

We will began working on adding 3 numbers and continue to work on missing addend problems. Please continue to practice addition and subtraction math facts nightly.

In Reading, we are focusing on learning the steps of the writing process. Students will also

learn to identify and understand a story's central message.

Please log on to Core 5 and i- Ready if you have internet access.

We hope that you have a wonderful holiday with your family.



The second graders at Woodland West are hard at work learning how to ask and answer questions about literary text. They are being exposed to a variety of fairy tales and folktales, and they are learning how and why good readers ask questions about the text they are reading. They are also practicing answering questions in clear and complete sentences, and they are learning how to use

the text to find answers to many of the questions they are asking.

They have learned how to choose "good-fit books" to read to themselves and they are working hard to use what they have learned about asking and answering questions to help themselves better understand the books they are choosing to read during reading workshop time.





Hello!

Happy December! We are pleased to welcome Ms. Zeno to our 3rd grade team. We hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving break.

For the month of December we will be working on solving two-step word problems and using the mathematical practices.

In Language Arts, we will be learning how to use context clues to improve our vocabulary and

comprehension when reading literary and informational texts.

Progress reports were sent home November 17 along with test papers the week before. Please review this information and return signed.

Respectfully,

3rd grade team



Dear 4th grade parents,

We only have a couple more weeks left in the 2nd nine weeks. Students need to continue working hard and trying their best.

In Math, 4th graders are learning different ways to divide multi-digit numbers by one-digit numbers. Students will be taking a common summative assessment on both multiplication and division on December 13th. In science, we are learning about external and internal animal and plant structures. In ELA, students are determining the theme of a text and summarizing the text. In Social Studies, we are analyzing primary sources dealing with immigration between the 1800's to early 1900's. We would also like to welcome Ms. Payne to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade team as the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade ELL teacher!

Students should be practicing what they learn in class at home, completing homework, and studying notes daily.

Thank you,

Your Fourth Grade Teachers



The weather will soon be turning chilly, but our brains are really warming up! Here's what we are learning in 5th grade!

Happy December to all our Parents,

**Math News:**

We just finished learning about numerical expressions, multiplying whole number and dividing whole number. We are currently learning about Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying and Dividing Decimals. In the next 2 weeks coming, we are going to start learning about Fractions.

**Science News:**

In Science we just finished learning about Ecosystems. We are now going to learn about Earth's Feature, the sun and the solar systems.

Please continue working on IReady at home for at least 30 minutes every day to practice their Math skills and concept, this will improve their knowledge on the aligned skills that 5th graders need in preparation to their next level of learning.

**ELA/Social Studies News:**

In Reading we are reading literary text. We are learning how to compare and contrast story elements and we are learning how to identify themes in stories and relate the theme to our everyday lives.

In Social Studies we are learning about the impact of the Spanish

Conquest on the Americas and the many explorers that visited the Americas. We are studying how the Columbian Exchange changed the world and we are learning how this phenomenon had both positive and negative effects.

**Ms. Johnson's class has a Columbian Exchange Project that is due December 18, 2017.**

Please remind your student that it is extremely important that they do well in all classes. All subjects are equally important, so please help us stress the importance of doing homework and studying for test in all subject areas.

If you need to meet with 5th grade teachers, you can schedule a meeting Monday, Tuesday, or Friday from 3:05-3:40 (Ms. Brown & Ms. Custodio) or 2:20-2:55 (Ms. Johnson, Ms. McCormick, & Ms. Lewis).

Thank you for all that you do,  
Ms. Custodio, Ms. Brown,  
Ms. Johnson, Ms. McCormick, and Ms. Lewis



School is now in full swing and so are our PE classes! K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students have been being active by participating in fun cardio workouts to music. Our 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students have been working hard to complete their fitness gram pre-test. This test will be given again at the end of the year to see how much your child has grown. It is truly amazing to watch them become active and healthy learners. We've had a fantastic start, let's keep it up!



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**Every Student,  
Every Day!  
Whatever or  
Whoever it TAKES!**

**We're on the Web!**  
<http://woodlandwest.jpsschools.org/>

## SPED News

Ms. Jaufre's class has been learning about the past and the present. We are looking forward to this month's holiday theme!

Ms. Kemmerer is happy to announce Donor's Choose fully funded her project. Her class received 2 ipads with cases. The class is so excited to have them!

## November's Soaring Eagles

We would like to congratulate the following students for being selected for November's Soaring Eagles. These students were treated to a pizza lunch from Little Caesars Pizza in Harvey. Their names are: Londyn Simmon, Avery Packnett, Sydney Stewart, Maddox Dupre, Gwendolyn Pierce, Aiden Roussel, Devin Marchetta, Michael Thiel, and Kaitlyn Nguyen.

Happy December Everyone!

## The Counselor's Corner

Wow, it is already December! This month is always a busy month for our families. Although this month can be very busy, it is also a great time to visit with family and friends. December is a great month to make precious and priceless memories with our children. It can be a time to reflect and show gratitude. It can be a time where we decide to leave the busy world if just for a while and focus on family and friends. Think back to your childhood memories. Which memories are your favorites? Most of these memories are of people and moments rather than stuff or things. It is so awesome when we can recreate our best memories with our children. Using these memories to create new traditions is special and important to our children and our families. Enjoy this beautiful season and celebrate moments with family and friends. Don't forget to capture these moments on camera. These moments become memories. These memories become priceless traditions.

Happy Holidays

Ms. Thompson  
Cindy.thompson@jppss.k12.la.us

# DECEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Test papers go home	15 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Dance 6:30- 8:30	16
17	18	19	20 ½ Day for Students Dismissal @12:30	21 Winter Break	22 Winter Break	23
24	25 Winter Break	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break	29 Winter Break	30
31						