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# WILLIAMS-CONE SCHOOL

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"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed." -Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-

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## **WCS: Learning to be Compassionate Learners**

*Our first trimester is now complete and we are beginning the second trimester. And as usual, the first trimester has flown by! During the first trimester our school community engaged in a wide variety of learning experiences and activities ranging from welcoming new students, introducing a new math curriculum to implementing our school's new shared vision (see above). To support this implementation, Amy Wallace, school counselor/social worker and I implemented social skills lessons that focused on our school's Code of Cooperation -Rights, Respect and Responsibility. Students also engaged in activities that promoted being "curious learners" with activities ranging from a traveling curiosity box to having items that peaked student interest and curiosity on display in the main entrance.*

*As the year progresses we will continue to learn how to live out our school's new shared vision. During the second trimester our focus will be on becoming "compassionate learners" through friendship activities, anti-bullying lessons and community service projects. Projects will range from the yearly "Have a Heart for Hunger" food drive benefitting the Mid-Coast Hunger Prevention Program to students writing letters of encouragement to those serving in the armed forces. Further details regarding these and other activities will be shared in the near future.*

*Winter Break I will be commencing in less than two weeks. All students are encouraged to participate in the Principal's Reading Challenge during the break. Our students have been working hard throughout the fall to increase their reading levels. The purpose of the reading challenge is to help foster a love for reading and to also help students maintain their current reading levels. Please consider how you can support your student(s) with this important activity. If you need assistance with selecting appropriate books for your student, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher. Information from Ms. Harlow, Literacy Teacher Leader, regarding how to help your student choose "just right" books will also be sent home along with the Principal's Reading Challenge.*

*Finally, I would like to wish everyone a blessed holiday season. Maine is such a special place year round, but especially during the holiday season. And what about that snow????*

*May you experience unexpected joy, hope and peace during this special time of the year.*

**Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal**



### Important Dates

12/9 Chorus Concert, 7:00 P.M., Gymnasium (Snow Date 12/17)

12/10 MSAD #75 School Board Meeting, WCS Gym, 6:30 P.M.

12/21-1/1 Winter Break 1

1/1 Happy New Year! 2016!

1/18 Martin Luther King Day, No School

1/27 FOWC Meeting, 7:00 P.M.



Happy  
Holidays!

### Coats for Kids

This month, the Merrymeeting Teachers Association is supporting a successful campaign, Coats for Kids. A box has been placed in the lobby of the school to collect gently used or new coats for students of all ages. Representatives will deliver the coats to Pratt Abbott Cleaners in Portland. The coats will be cleaned and distributed by the Salvation Army. If you have a coat to share, please drop it in the box. Thank you for helping us support this project.

-Mrs. Dunn, WCS 3rd Grade Teacher

## Variety Show Information

Time is running out to create an act for the Variety Show. Tryouts for the show are one month away. If your child is using music with lyrics, they must submit those lyrics to Mrs. Morneau for approval. All songs must be appropriate for school use. Students will not be allowed to tryout for the show if their lyrics have not been approved. Please help your child complete this important step in the tryout process. We are excited to see what our WCS students have created for this year's show.

Here is the schedule for the Variety Show.

- Help session - January 6 (3:30-5:00) optional
- Audition dates - January 13 and 20 (3:30-5:00)
- Rehearsal dates - Wednesday, January 27  
February 3 and 10 (all 3:30-5:30)

### VACATION WEEK

- Dress rehearsal - Tuesday, February 23  
(3:30-6:00 & mandatory to be in the show)
- School assembly - Wednesday, February 24
- Show date - Thursday, February 25 (6:30 PM)
- Snow date - March 1 (6:30 PM)
- Pizza Party - March 2 (3:30-4:30)



## 3rd GRADE RECORDER NEWS

Our recorder unit will begin in January. The students are very excited about learning to play the recorder. Please look for the blue recorder form in your child's backpack. It contains important information about how to order a instrument. Please return the bottom of the form to your child's classroom teacher by Friday, December 11. If the form did not make it home, the information can be found on the "General Music" section of the school website. Scroll to the bottom of the music page and click on "Recorder".

### Friends of Williams-Cone

Hello Friends,

The classroom baskets this year were absolutely amazing! Thank you to so many for the great donations of items and to the ones who donated money so we could do the shopping for you. We had great ticket sales this year and hope everyone enjoyed the new ticket system as much as we did. The winners for the baskets this year were: Emily Woodward, Krista Chase, Andrea Imrie, Joni Sloan, Deanna Ammons, Andrew Hanson, Connor Hardman, Judi Dauphinis, Avery Myrick, Connie Lameroux. The Smittys package was won by the Caton Family! Congratulations to you all! We greatly appreciate the families who donated to our silent auction and who helped reach out to local businesses.

We would like to give a huge THANK YOU to MAMS for allowing another wonderful pasta dinner to be held at their school. Our pasta dinner this year brought a total of \$3701.00. To all the volunteers we cannot THANK YOU enough! Without your help this wouldn't be possible. We hope all who attended enjoyed the flow much better this year and that the line moved incredibly fast making your wait very short! Our artworks brought in a total of \$924.47 a big Thank you to Ashley McBrady organizing this all! We will begin out teacher wish lists at the beginning of January to help fill classroom needs.

We will keep everyone posted with upcoming events we have in store for you!!

Andrea & Nyssa

### Hour of Code is Here Again!

It's hard to believe we are in our third year of Hour of Code in the Learning Commons! What is Hour of Code? It's an opportunity for students in all grades to become creators of computer programming. Students learn to create scripts to make objects move on the screen. There are many tutorials from which to choose: Angry Birds, Frozen, Star Wars and MindCraft are just a few of the backdrops students may select to learn about coding. Want to try it yourself? Just go to our school's Learning Commons webpage and select Grades 3-5 under Hour of Code.

Why do Hour of Code? By exposing our children to fundamental computing concepts on a level playing field, we can inspire today's generation of students to consider the field of technology as a career path. It's never too early to start.



