December 4, 2014

Principal’s Message

Well done Woodside Students! You worked together and were able to donate over 2,000 food items for the Kids Can Food Drive! Our local Citrus Heights families will benefit greatly by your hard work and generous contributions. On behalf of everyone- thank you! Also, I’d like to thank Mrs. Jane Taff for all her work in coordinating the entire food drive and boxing everything up! This is her fifth food drive in a row. Thank you, Jane!

Next week is our first ever Winter Book Fair. It’ll be full of great deals on books and other fun items. Plus, next Tuesday night is our Parent Book Fair Night from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Teachers will be reading books to kids, there will be crafts and candy canes, and opportunities to have pictures taken with our very own Stamps the Cougar. You don’t want to miss out!

The month of December is a festive month for many people. It’s also a time for great learning. Thank you to parents who help keep their children focused on learning, while at the same time enjoying the traditions of the season. Also, winter break (December 20th through January 4th) is a great time to read, read, and read. Be sure to ask your child to read to you 5-10 minutes a night and to read to themselves an additional 10-minutes. Reading is a key building block to academic success!

Lastly, I encourage you to swing by the office and select a star or two off of our Giving Tree. It’s a Woodside tradition and a great way to help out several of our needy school families. Each year when parents come to pick up the presents and meals, tears of appreciation are often. Each and every family is eternally grateful. Thank you very much!

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at school.

PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)

Greetings Woodside Community! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and had time to spend with family, friends and found some time to relax. We missed the last newsletter but would like to take this opportunity to say thank you! Our Woodside ‘giving tree’ is full and bountiful and we are grateful! Without you, the wonderful students & families and countless volunteers, we wouldn’t be able to give back! PTO’s ‘giving tree’ is able to keep giving because of you - here are just a few things that you have contributed:

• Turned in a total of 6,929 Box Tops. That’s a total of $692.90.
• Participation in fundraisers: All for the Kids, Flower Power, ZBest Coupon Books, Harvest Festival
• Use of your Save Mart cards, Target cards

All of this has raised about $7,000.00. This allows PTO to give back to our students and teachers! Thank you!

Kid’s Night Out (KNO) is this tomorrow night, December 5th, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. for K-5th grades. This will be a Christmas/Winter themed KNO. Please be sure to check your student’s backpack for registration forms. We have also sent home a flyer for our Elf Shelf requesting donations. Our Elf Shelf is a ‘shopping’ area where the kids can ‘buy’ gifts with their stamps. The kids love it but, we need donations desperately. It’s not too late!

Our first Book Fair is next week, December 8th-12th, with Family Night on Tuesday, Dec. 9th, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Amy Bous has sent out flyers with all the information! We look forward to seeing you throughout the week and especially on Family Night. It’s a great time to do some Christmas shopping!

And finally, our next PTO meeting is next Wednesday, December 10th, from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. This is an ‘open to the public’ meeting and we invite you to come! We will be providing snacks and beverages for all and crafts for the kids. See you there!

As always, PTO welcomes your input! You can contact me at wesfirecracker@comcast.net. We also have a Facebook page – http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=197985580340544.

- Wendy Syberg, PTO President!
**AVID Elementary Information/Tips!**

As you may or may not know, Woodside K-8 School is proud to be one of just three schools in the district that have successfully implemented AVID Elementary (AE). But don’t let the word “elementary” throw you. Generally speaking, K-8 schools don’t have enough students to maintain an AVID elective program. As a result, we decided several years ago to implement AE in 4th through 8th grade. For a first introduction into what AE is all about, here’s what all students learn about using the AVID WICOR acronym: W-writing and how to integrate writing across all content areas; I-inquiry and knowing Costa’s levels of questioning; C-collaboration with other students; O-organizing/managing materials and using a planner as part of taking control of their learning; and, R-reading. There will be a parent information night in early 2015. And, be sure to keep an eye on our newsletters for more AVID tips! ☼

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**Perfect Attendance Month- January!**

In an effort to increase our attendance during a great month of learning, our second Perfect Attendance Month will take place during the entire month of January! Woodside would like to once again highlight the importance of having all students at school and on-time, as well as increase our attendance rate this year.

Please share with your student that this will be a really active incentive month. We’ll have drawings each week for a lot of great prizes- free ice cream, lunch with the principal, gift cards, Principal for a Day, and at the end of the month, a top prize of a brand new, full color, HD, Kindle Fire! Students at school every day during the week and on-time will be entered into the weekly drawings. Those who are at school, on-time, during the entire month will be entered into the drawing for big prizes. ☼

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**No School On…**

There is no school December 20th through January 4th for Winter Break. We WILL be back in session on Monday, January 5th. Only traditional middle schools and high schools have no school. All elementary and K-8 schools ARE in session. Please ensure students come to school on January 5th. Thank you! ☼

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**Smile.Amazon.Com! PTO $$**

Woodside’s PTO is very excited to announce that they are now listed as a non-profit on Smile.Amazon.com! So many of us shop at Amazon.com. NOW, all you have to do is type in the address smile.amazon.com, pick your charitable organization, and Woodside’s PTO will earn .5% on EVERY purchase you make. You only need to select it once! After that, just always remember to type smile.amazon.com. When you search for our PTO, please enter the name as follows: Woodside School Parent-Teacher Organization. It will also state Citrus Hts, CA. That way you know it’s the correct Woodside PTO. There are a few out there. Be sure to sign up TODAY! Any purchase helps our PTO earn money, which always goes back into the school! Thank you! ☼

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**PBIS Student Store Donations Needed**

Our new K-8 PBIS Cougar Store needs your help. We’re looking for on-going donations from parent and community partnershipto stock the store with items that students purchase with the Cougar Cash they earn while in school. So far, it’s been a huge success. The overall goal is to improve student behaviors and increase our positive school climate. All donations are run through the Woodside PTO and people/businesses that make donations will receive a donation letter for tax purposes. Please let the office know when you drop off items in the box in front of the office so we can be sure to thank you! Any new or slightly used items are accepted! Thank you for helping us make our Cougar Store a huge success. ☼

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**Woodside Giving Tree**

Numerous years ago, we began the tradition of having a “Giving Tree” at Woodside in an effort to provide assistance during the holidays to needy families in our community. This year we have several families we would like to support with gifts for the children and food for the family.

If you would like to participate in this worthwhile effort, you will need to come into the office and pick one or more stars off the “Giving Tree.” Each of the stars has information about the child’s gender, age, and a specific gift that the parent thought the child would like. Then, you may purchase a gift or gift certificate anytime between now and December 12th, and return it (wrapped) to Woodside. Special note: students may not pick up stars without being accompanied by an adult, except 7th & 8th graders.

Over the past nine-years, the response to this effort has been truly overwhelming. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile program! Choose a star from the tree and bring back your wrapped gift by December 17th. Thank you! ☼

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**PTO Book Fair Family Night!**

Next week we’re holding the first of two Book Fairs. Our first Winter Book Fair will be held December 8th through 12th during the day. There will be great deals on books and other fun items. Plus, next Tuesday night, December 9th, is our Parent Book Fair Night from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Teachers will be reading books to kids, there will be crafts and candy canes, and opportunities to have pictures taken with Santa “Claws”, Clifford, and our very own Stampy the Cougar. You don’t want to miss out! ☼

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**Lost and Found - Lots of Items!**

Attention everyone….Our Lost and Found is packed full of clothes. If your child has lost or forgotten something at school, please check in at the main office during school and check out our Lost and Found in the Multi-Purpose Room. Any items left unclaimed by December 19th will be donated to the district’s clothes closet. ☼

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**Marquee Birthday Greetings!**

This year, we’re continuing something fun and new at Woodside- Marquee Birthday Greetings! Here’s how it works. For just $20, you can have your student’s name on the marquee all day to wish him or her Happy Birthday or to congratulate them on some achievement. All proceeds are deposited into the school office supply account to assist with purchasing office and as-needed classroom supplies.

If you’d like to join the fun, simply email Mr. Barge at gbarge@sanjuan.edu to reserve your marquee booking! ☼