

# WAYLEE RAP-UP



Waylee Elementary School  
8106 Waylee Street  
Portage, Michigan 49002  
269-323-6500  
269-323-6590

Mr. Ron Jones Principal

February 2008

## **ENROLL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN**

To help us plan for next fall, we need the names and addresses of all potential kindergartners NOW!

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before December 1, 2008, please call the Waylee Office at 323-6500. If you have a friend or neighbor who will not be receiving this Wrap-Up, please pass the message along to them.

## **INCOMING KINDERGARTNERS MEETING**

A meeting for all parents of incoming kindergarten and Young-5 students will be held March 19, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the Waylee Cafeteria. All parents of students on our list of potential enrollees will be sent information about this meeting and the enrollment requirements as you register your child.

**LOST AND FOUND** - Please check our "Lost & Found" box in the front lobby when you are at school. It has a lot of treasures in it that you have probably been searching for! Also, we have a few electronic toys in the office. A parent must come in and identify by color & game to retrieve, as they are not supposed to be brought to school in the first place. (Rules & Responsibilities Booklet, pg. 2, Section 1E.)

**TARDINESS** – We appreciate your attempts to get your children to school on time. Coming into school late disrupts the entire classroom. Stress to your children that school is their "job" and punctuality is a requirement on any job.

## **SISTER KINDERGARTEN**

Portage Public Schools encourage parents to have their children enrolled for kindergarten in the spring prior to their first year of school. We then try hard to create balanced class sizes for all students. This year in order to help us accomplish this goal, we will continue to implement sister school concept when necessary. As students enroll they will be placed in a school where the numbers can best accommodate additional students. Transportation will be provided if the district places a child at a sister school. Contact your home school for enrollment information.



**FEBRUARY: CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY**  
**TOGETHER WE MAKE ONE WORLD**  
**CARE, CELEBRATE & RESPECT EVERYONE**

**SPRING VACATION WILL BE FROM**  
**APRIL 5 – APRIL 13, 2008.**  
**WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL ON**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2008.**

**SPRING CONFERENCES**

Your spring conference appointments were sent home in mid-January with your student(s), one per family.

Conferences that were scheduled on **Monday evening** during fall conferences will be scheduled for **Wednesday, February 27th.**

If your conference was scheduled for **Tuesday evening** during fall conferences, it will be scheduled for **Tuesday, February 26th.**

If you were scheduled for a **Tuesday afternoon** conference in the fall, you will be scheduled for a conference on **Tuesday, afternoon, February 26th.**

Please contact Missy Griffioen in the Waylee office immediately if this will not work for you. Her number is 323-6559.

There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 25 for Mid Winter Break. Students will attend school in the **morning only** on February 26<sup>th</sup> because of conferences. Students come all day on February 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be no school on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, as this is Record's Day for Elementary Teachers.

**The Kindergarten/Y5's schedule will be as follows:**

**January 25–** Records Day  
No School for Students

**February 26 –** Conference Day  
½ Day for Students  
A.M. comes in morning  
**P.M. stays home**

**February 27 –** Conference Day  
Regular Schedule

**March 28–** Elementary Records Day  
No School for Students

**April 4-** Spring Break Begins  
½ Day for Students  
P.M. come in the morning  
**A.M. stays home**

**April 14 -** Back to School  
Regular Schedule

**ROLLER SKATE SHOES (HEELEYS) MAY NOT BE WORN TO SCHOOL. THEY ARE CAUSING TOO MANY PROBLEMS HERE. STUDENTS ARE FALLING AND BUMPING INTO OTHER PEOPLE AND GETTING HURT. WE WANT EVERYONE TO BE SAFE AT SCHOOL.**

## Helping Kids Get Physical

It goes without saying, parents want their children to be healthy and happy. Physical activity is a great way to help kids stay strong and healthy. Lack of exercise can lead to weight gain, obesity and even health problems. It's also been shown that overweight kids are more likely to experience depression and low self-esteem.

For these reasons and more, it's important for parents to turn off the television or computer and become active. Being active as a family is a great way to spend time together and create life-long healthy habits.

There are numerous ways families can be physically active together, like going for a walk around the block, riding bikes, playing tennis, and dancing to favorite songs. Just be sure to start gradually. One of the main reasons people don't stick to an exercise program is because they overdo it. Start by dedicating 20 to 30 minutes three times a week to physical activity. Be sure kids have water so they don't dehydrate. And remember: Whatever you do, keep it fun.

Your children can also be active on their own. If they are interested in team sports such as soccer, hockey, or volleyball, look into leagues or opportunities within your community or neighborhood. Team sports help children exercise, build friendships, and learn about teamwork. Kids can also play basketball in the driveway or baseball in the backyard with friends. Encouraging children to go outside and play can help increase their physical activity levels.

As parents, you need to set good examples for your children and provide them with plenty of opportunities to move their bodies. Children who are physically active are preparing themselves for a lifetime of good health habits.

Amy Geib, MA, is wellness coordinator at the Bronson Athletic Club (BAC), located at The Groves, 6789 Elm Valley Drive, off 9<sup>th</sup> Street and I-94. For more information about fitness in children, call the BAC at 544-3200.



### **READING & WRITING NEWS...**

Playing games with letters and numbers is a good way to help your child get ready to read. On the refrigerator or a cookie sheet, help your child put magnetic letters and numbers in order. Teach her to spell her name. Or mix up the letters and ask her to pick out specific ones.

When your child is old enough to read, but has trouble focusing on his reading assignments, try setting a timer. Have the child read for 10 minutes or until the timer goes off. Have him take a short break and read for 10 more minutes. Reading short time segments can help your child focus.

A writer's tool box can encourage your child to write more. Include different kinds of paper, pens and pencils. Make some special notebooks or a journal she can write in each day, too.

Science Night 2008 at Waylee Elementary

Friday February 8<sup>th</sup> 6-8 p.m.

*Sponsored by: Pfizer, Portage Central IB Students and WMU Chem Club.*



- This is a **FREE** family event.
- Taco Bob's will be serving dinner (several items available for purchase) starting at 5:30 in the Waylee cafeteria. Taco Bob's will donate 10% of sales to Waylee.
- There will be **13** hands-on experiments for children of all ages and the World of Freeze in the gym.
- We need parents to donate **200 cupcakes** with white frosting, any flavor, for the periodic chart. Please contact Mindy Griffin by February 1<sup>st</sup> at [mindygg@yahoo.com](mailto:mindygg@yahoo.com) if you can donate 2-4 dozen. They will need to be delivered to the cafeteria by 5:30 on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Shop at D&W January 20<sup>th</sup>-January 26<sup>th</sup>

3% of your purchase during this time will be donated to Waylee.  
You must provide the following code when making your purchases:

Waylee Code: **96491**

Also added pages for LIFESKILLS: Empathy  
Portage Empty Bowls Event & Letter from PCC

