



Waylee Elementary School  
 8106 Waylee Street  
 Portage, Michigan 49002  
 269-323-6500  
 269-323-6590  
 Mr. Ron Jones  
 Principal

# WAYLEE RAP-UP

**MAY/JUNE/  
JULY 2008**



Dear Parents & Students:

Put Reading First. Helping your child learn to read is really hard work, but when children become good readers in the early grades, they are more likely to become better learners throughout their school years and beyond. Becoming a reader involves the development of important skills, including learning to:

- **use** language in conversation
- **listen** and respond to stories read aloud
- **recognize** and name the letters of the alphabet
- **listen** to the sounds of spoken language
- **connect** sounds to letters to figure out the "code" of reading
- **read** often so that recognizing words becomes easy and automatic
- **learn** and **use** new words
- **understand** what is read

**Please take the time to read to your children this summer.**

Well, here we are at the end of another school year! I would like to bid a fond farewell to our fifth graders moving to middle school and other students moving to other schools. Best Wishes! To all other Waylee students, have a great safe summer, and we'll see you back here on Tuesday, September 2nd!

Mr. Ron Jones

## LOST AND FOUND

Parents, we gave you all a chance to come in and check out the Lost and Found Bins near the front doors of the school during the Ice Cream Social. There were so many nice articles of clothing thrown in there. Whatever was not claimed that evening was packed up and given to the Portage Community Outreach Center or some other charity. Jackets and snow pants in good conditions have been washed up and we will give them to those in need next winter.

## SCHOOL HOURS FOR FALL:

- 8:35 a.m.** - Students enter building
- 8:43 a.m.** - School starts
- 11:45 a.m.** - AM Kdg./Y5 dismissal
- 12:40 p.m.** - PM Kdg. starts
- 3:42 p.m.** - School ends

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 26<sup>th</sup> NO SCHOOL – HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
- June 4<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Cook Out
- 2:00 p.m. 5<sup>th</sup> Graders to Soccer Zone

## Please Note This Change...

**June 6<sup>th</sup> 2:30 p.m. Students visit new teachers for Next year (approx. 20 minutes)**

- June 10th Last day for P.M. Kindergarteners
  - June 11th Last day of school for all students  
Dismissal at 11:57 a.m. ½ Day  
A.M. Kindergarteners come in A.M.  
11:00 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Ceremony  
Teacher's Luncheon sponsored by PTO
  - June 12th Last Day for Teachers
  - June 19th Last Day for Office
  - Sept. 1st No School Labor Day
  - Sept. 2nd School Begins – ½ day  
Dismissal @ 11:57 a.m.
- DISTRICT CHANGED OPEN HOUSE DATE BACK TO Sept. 11th** Open House 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
 October 2nd Fall Picture Day ☺

## NEW PTO OFFICERS FOR 2008-2009

- President:** Tina Richmond 324-2961
- Vice-President:** Amy Sherman 323-3527
- Treasurer:** Holly Boyd 324-9939
- Secretary:** Christy DeHaan 329-0284

## 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.

**Thank you** to the many parents, grandparents & mentors who volunteered to help with the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Track & Field Day which was scheduled on May 20th. Hopefully a fun time was had by all. The students had several stations to run through and afterwards there was a Tug-of-War.

## Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Program:

During this school year the Portage Board of Education made available a voluntary student accident insurance program. Since the District has made this insurance available, an increasing number of parents/guardians have been taking advantage of this inexpensive policy. This fact dictates that as a community service, we will continue to offer this voluntary insurance.

The District offers this program because of trends in rising family health and dental insurance costs, increased deductibles, and co-payments. Furthermore, in an attempt to limit the Districts' rising insurance costs, this program provides an alternative for claims due to accidental injuries that unfortunately occur on our property. This is the case for both during and after school hours.

The plan described in the brochure you'll receive in the fall has been designed to respond to diverse family insurance needs. Coverage provided can help decrease the burden of unexpected medical and dental expenses, including those left unpaid due to family insurance deductibles and co-payments.

Please watch for the enrollment forms at the start of the next school year.



## RECIPIES FOR SUCCESS

### **Spelling: Picture This!**

Your child can practice spelling and phonics by making these spelling pictures.

*Ingredients: spelling list, old magazines, scissors, paper, glue or tape.*

Let your child cut out magazine pictures that start with each letter of his spelling words. Example: For "cat" he could use a (c)ar, an (a)pple, and a (t)rain. Have him glue the pictures on a piece of paper and write each letter of the spelling word under the pictures.

*Variation for older children:* Glue the pictures on separate pieces of paper. Then, scramble the pictures for a word and have your youngster put them in order.

## Attention Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade Bus Riders

Do you want your middle or high school student to ride the school bus next year?

All middle and high school students must register for bus service. Obtaining an accurate list of students who will actually be riding our buses is very important for us to design efficient, low cost bus routes.

If you would like your middle and/or high school students to ride the bus next year, please sign up early. You may sign up online after May 1 at [www.portageps.org](http://www.portageps.org) or use the pre addressed postcards distributed by the school bus drivers during the last two weeks of school.

As a reminder, middle and senior high school students grades 6-12, may be expected to walk up to 1-½ miles to school or up to 1 mile to a bus stop wherever appropriate walkways and traffic signs are available. Eligible students signing up for transportation will be assigned to bus stops based on their home address.

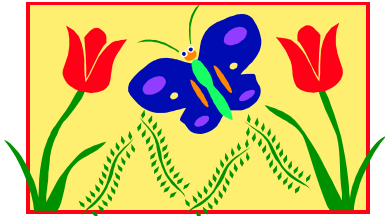
Students signing up by June 30 will receive a postcard in mid-August with specific transportation information.

**Students not replying by June 30 may compromise our ability to provide timely bus service for you in the fall.**

For more information, please ask your bus driver or call Transportation at 323-5151. Thank you in advance for your timely responses.

**Don't delay, sign up today. You don't want to miss the bus!**





Thank you Waylee Brownies and their families for distributing more mulch and planting a few more flowers in May for the Waylee Beautification Project.

Come Celebrate the end of the School Year With

Girl Scouts of Glowing Embers District #3

And

**JUNGLE JOES FAMILY FUN CENTER**

7255 South Sprinkle Road, Portage, MI 49002

**Monday, June 9th  
6:00pm - 8:00pm**

All Girl Scouts, families and friends are invited to attend this evening of fun!

The cost is \$8.00 per child and \$2.00 per adult with a portion of the proceeds donated to the Family Partnership fund on behalf of District Three Girl Scouts and their families

Pre-registration is required for this event  
Contact Michelle Jackson-Long,

## Wanted

Girl Scout Leaders for 2008-2009 school year and beyond interested in beating the rush in the fall and taking advantage of a way to help your daughter, their friends and others in the community? Contact Michelle, 343-1516 ext. 3030 for more information. 9 out of 10 Leaders report they get more out of Girl Scouting than they thought they would.

Become a part of an organization that does great things for girls today!



## Try Day Camp at Wonder Woode!!

Looking for a safe, positive, and unforgettable experience for your daughter this summer?

Wonder Woode Day Camp, an extension of Girl Scout Camp Merrie Woode is your place. The camp experience is designed to provide opportunities for all girls to succeed, group activities help them gain important life skills and they learn to work cooperatively to accomplish goals. Each week they have the opportunity to swim, boat, practice archery, cook out over a campfire, hike, horseback ride and much more.

Transportation is provided from a variety of locations near you. Wonder Woode offers financial assistance to those who qualify.

Interested in giving the girl in your life the opportunity of a lifetime and a summer to remember? Contact Ashleigh C. 1-800-788-4919 or [acrisp@gsgec.org](mailto:acrisp@gsgec.org) for more information.

