



December, 2011

Willow Glen Primary School

Principal's Corner

Dear Willow Glen Families,

I hope that November treated you and your families well and that by now you have fully recovered from Thanksgiving! I also hope that you find the information shared in this newsletter to be helpful as we try to keep you informed of all the wonderful things that are happening at Willow Glen, and how you can support our efforts at home.

For parents and students, report cards are coming home. This can be an opportunity to reflect on all the meaningful learning that has taken place. Have you seen your child grow in this first part of the year? It has been gratifying to see students' early work, side by side, with their most recent work. We are seeing many signs of student learning, growing and succeeding at Willow Glen!

Our WG family extends warm wishes for a beautiful holiday season to each of you and your loved ones!

In partnership,
Laurie Pogorzelski
Principal



School Goal

ALL STUDENTS WILL BECOME GREAT READERS!

Each month, you will receive an article that relates to our school wide goal. The articles selected will offer suggestions regarding how parents/caregivers can support their child at home.

This month's article is titled, Supporting Your Beginning Reader.
Enjoy!



READ, READ, READ!

**“No Subject is more important than reading...all other intellectual powers depend on it.”
Jacques Barzun**

This is a quote that fits nicely with an important message that I'd like to share with you. It cannot be emphasized enough what an important and lasting impact reading with your child has on them throughout their life. Countless studies continue to provide evidence that reading has many positive effects on student's performance, not only in the reading content area, but in all content areas. With the colder months upon us, I encourage you to spend some extra time with your child reading a good book. The benefits of improved fluency, comprehension, increased vocabulary and so much more, will help your child in school, and offer an opportunity for you and your child to spend special time together. I cannot think of a better way to spend a cold winter weekend!



More ideas for...

Reading and Writing through the Holidays

While December is a busy month for all of us, we can read and write our way through the season. In addition to reading together, here are a few more things that you can do at home:

- 1) Have your child write Holiday cards to family members. The people who receive them will be delighted to get a personal note from your child.
- 2) Have your child help write the grocery list for the Holiday meal. Little ones can draw pictures to accompany their words.
- 3) Have your child help read the recipes as you cook together.
- 4) When it is time for the Holiday meal, your child can write the names on place cards so people know where to sit.
- 5) Don't forget to have your child write thank-you letters for gifts received!
- 6) Books make excellent stocking stuffers. You can buy your child a book that will be treasured for years to come.

Important Dates

Dec. 2 – No School K-3
Dec. 7 – Early Dismissal 11:30am
Dec. 12 – Board of Education Meeting



Dec. 20 – Willow Glen Holiday Concert 6:30pm
Dec. 23 – Jan. 2 Winter Break!

Looking Ahead... January Newsletter...Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) testing is coming to St. Francis! Stay Tuned!