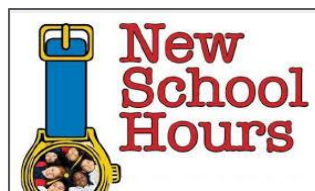


**No school from  
Dec. 25-Jan.5**



**Mondays 9:50-3:30 pm  
Tuesday-Friday  
8:50-3:30 pm**



**January 24th  
6-7:30 pm**

\*

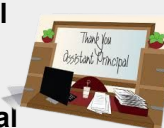
# ALL Star Points



From Christine Irwin, Principal

&

Donna Moats, Assistant Principal



Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Bodhi, Happy Diwali, Happy Omisoka, Happy Kwanzaa, Mele Kalikimaka and Happy Holidays! I love the diversity we have here at Wonder Park and all of the family traditions celebrated!

December goes by quickly and is very exciting. Please help your children be successful in school by reminding them that they still have work to do and that we need them to focus and to do their best. We will be taking tests Dec. 4 - 13 to check their progress from the beginning of the year. Some student don't take these tests seriously and race through them by guessing. You were given information on their academic progress during Parent/Teacher conferences and these tests track their progress.

Thank you for checking the news and District website for school closures when we had Remote Learning Days. Teachers will send home new packets for you to save in case there is another Remote Learning Day, if they haven't already sent one home.

Winter Break is nearly here! The last day of school is December 21st and, we return on January 8th, 2024. Please remember to keep normal routines at home during break - including bedtime. Students who get enough sleep and have consistent routines perform and learn better at school.



## EVENTS

### December

- 13 **Family Night 6-7:30**
- 21 **Award Ceremony 9:30**  
**Music Concert 2:00**
- 22 **Inservice Day/no school**
- 25-29 **Winter Break**

### January

- 1-5 **Winter Break**
- 15 **Holiday/no school**
- 24 **Science Family**  
**Night 6-7:30 pm**
- 20 **Inservice/no school**



### Rescheduled Family Night-December 13th 6-7:30 pm.

Lots of fun activities,  
games to take home,  
prizes, and a light  
dinner to go.



# COUNSELOR'S

## CORNER



With MS. ADDY

In the blink of an eye, it is December! The holiday season can be a time to make some great memories as a family and it can also be a challenging time filled with stress. If your family have needs as we approach the holiday season there are many resources within our community available to help lighten the load. If you have a need or have questions about how to access resources, reach out any time. You can visit the 211 website and look up specific programs or call 211.

With the approaching holiday and festivities starting and over the break itself, now is a good reminder for us all to provide consistency as much as possible. It is good for us as adults and particularly for our kids! Consistency in schedules (bedtimes, daily routines, etc.), daily activity, and healthy eating. Of course, the nature of the holiday season means there will be changes at times, but strive to make it the exception rather than the rule so that when it is time to jump back into the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the school year, your kids are ready and don't have a bad case of the post-holiday slumps! Plan ahead as much as possible as a family for the upcoming break and discuss a daily routine for your kids, the expectations for things like screen time vs. outside or other creative play, choices for healthy meals and snacks and their bedtime routines, etc. If kids know ahead of time what the expectations are they will follow and adjust much better. And when we as adults are consistent to follow through with those expectations it will create a healthy environment for all.

These things aren't always easy! Plan ahead now and reach out if you are in need of any support or resources!



Ms. Addy



Top Row-L-R Dave Donley, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Andy Holleman

Bottom L-R Dora Wilson, President Margo Bellamy, and Pat Higgins



School Business Partners  
Children's Lunchbox  
Mt. View Lions Club

Dr. Jharrett Bryantt  
Superintendent





## Musical Notes with Mrs. Bustamante

HERE'S TO A GREAT YEAR! MRS. BUSTAMANTE

**You are all invited to the Winter Concert here at Wonder Park Elementary: Dec. 21, 2023 at 2:00 pm. All grades are included in the program and we would love to see you there!**

*I hope that all of our Wonder Park families had a beautiful Thanksgiving. There are so many holidays in the winter from many cultures that bring messages of light and kindness that are reflected in the music that is used to celebrate them.*

*We are adding bells and drums and recorders to our voices to celebrate the holidays during these winter months. The added benefit to this work is we are learning to read the printed language of music as well!*

*K-2 classes are working on matching pitch and making a beautiful vocal tone. Grades 3-5 are practicing reading the music notes on the staff and playing them on an instrument or singing the notes. 4th and 5th grade classes will be using soprano recorders. Please see the link below for a recorder methods book if you would like to practice with your child. If you buy a recorder please make sure that it is a baroque recorder. Please click the link, press the green launch button and advance the slides by clicking the arrows. Enjoy!*

<https://www.eemusicclass.com/shared/ROLD5VPzOXFyzQqN>

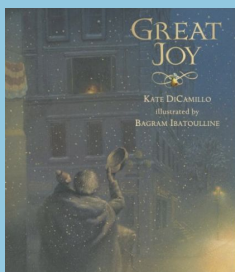


## Between the lines with Mrs. Benson

*December book recommendations to read as a family:*

### **Great Joy**

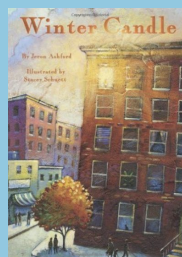
by Kate DiCamillo



A wonderful story of compassion and joy partnered with beautiful illustrations.

### **Winter Candle**

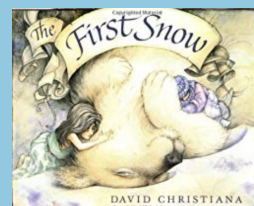
by Jeron Ashford



The story of a candle that brings families and neighbors together during the holiday season.

### **The First Snow**

by David Christiana



This lovely illustrated book tells a story of young Mother Nature and her encounter with Winter.

Check them out from the library or click on the book covers for a read aloud video.







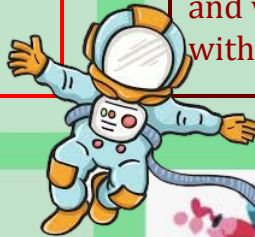
## AROUND THE TRACK WITH MR. MESTAS

Hi Wonder Park Families,

We are working on our basketball skills in P.E. this month, and that will be our final unit until after winter break.

Basketball club went very well and I think all 34 of our club kids learned and had fun.

Basketball team has now started and our first game is this Friday at Muldoon Elementary. Our first home game at Wonder Park will be on December 8th. All games from 4-5 pm. Have a great holiday season.



## 21st CCLC After school **highlights**

with Ms. Berns

In December, 21st Century is going to have 2 visits from the Campbell Creek Science Center along with a visit from the Botanical Gardens! We are so excited for these activities and hope that students enjoy the fun!

December 21st, 2023 will be our last day of program until January 16, 2024!

Please remember that you will need to re-enroll for 2nd semester, so make sure you talk to your child's teacher about joining again!



For the HEALTH of it

with Ms. Mordini



## Simple overnight oats recipe

\* $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  c milk

\* $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  c. old fashioned oats

\* $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  c. yogurt, optional

\* $\frac{1}{2}$  mashed banana, optional

\*Serving size for toppers:

Fresh or dried fruit, nuts, nut butter, seeds, granola, coconut, citrus zest and vanilla extract.

To a jar add desired amounts of milk, oats, yogurt, banana and stir. Refrigerate for at least 5 hours.

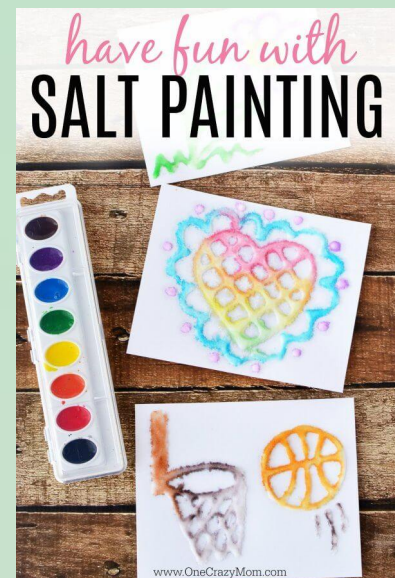
In the morning, add additional liquid if you like, Top with fresh or dried fruit, nuts, nut butter, seeds, granola, coconut, citrus zest and vanilla extract. Mixture keeps for 2 days with no banana 4 days.



Creative minds with Mr. Daniel

Link to pinterest directions

<https://www.onecrazymom.com/salt-painting/?8581800293>





## Nurse's Nook with Jennifer Mabry, RN, NCSN



### *Holiday Health and Safety Tips posted by Scotty Baugh*

The holidays are a great opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends, celebrate life, to be grateful, and reflect on what's important. They are also a time to appreciate the gift of health. Here are some holiday tips to support your efforts for health and safety this season.

#### **Wash your hands often.**

Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Wash your hands with soap and clean running water, and rub them together for at least 20 seconds. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.

Cold temperatures can cause serious health problems, especially in infants and older adults. Stay dry, and dress warmly in several layers.

#### **Manage stress.**

The holidays don't need to take a toll on your health and pocketbook. Keep your commitments and spending in check. Balance work, home, and play. Get support from family and friends. Keep a relaxed and positive outlook. Make sure to get proper sleep.

#### **Travel safely.**

Whether you're traveling across town or around the world, help ensure your trip is safe. Don't drink and drive, and don't let someone else drink and drive. Wear a seat belt every time you drive or ride in a motor vehicle. Always buckle your child in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt appropriate for his/her height, weight, and age.

#### **Be smoke-free.**

Avoid smoking and breathing other people's smoke. If you smoke, quit today! Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or talk to your health care provider for help.

#### **Watch the kids.**

Children are at high risk for injuries. Keep a watchful eye on your kids when they're eating and playing. Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items, choking hazards (like coins and hard candy), and other objects out of kids' reach. Learn how to provide early treatment for children who are choking. Make sure toys are used properly. Develop rules about acceptable and safe behaviors, including using electronic media.

#### **Prevent injuries.**

Injuries can happen anywhere, and some often occur around the holidays. Use step stools instead of climbing on furniture when hanging decorations. Leave the fireworks to the professionals. Wear a helmet when riding a bicycle or skateboarding to help prevent head injuries. Keep vaccinations up to date.

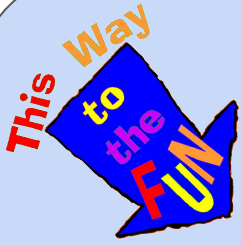
Most residential fires occur during the winter months. Keep candles away from children, pets, walkways, trees, and curtains. Never leave fireplaces, stoves, or candles unattended. Don't use generators, grills, or other gasoline- or charcoal-burning devices inside your home or garage. Install a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector in your home. Test them once a month, and replace batteries twice a year.

#### **Handle and prepare food safely.**

As you prepare holiday meals, keep yourself and your family safe from food-related illness. Wash hands and surfaces often. Avoid cross-contamination by keeping raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs (including their juices) away from ready-to-eat foods and eating surfaces. Cook foods to the proper temperature. Refrigerate promptly. Do not leave perishable foods out for more than two hours.

#### **Eat healthy, and be active.**

With balance and moderation, you can enjoy the holidays the healthy way. Choose With balance and moderation, you can enjoy the holidays the healthy way. Choose fresh fruit as a festive and sweet substitute for candy. Limit fats, salt, and sugary foods. Find fun ways to stay active, such as dancing to your favorite holiday music. Be active for at least 2½ hours a week. Help kids and teens be active for at least 1 hour a day.



## Family Fun Night December 13, 6-7:30 pm

Join us for a fun filled game night. A light to go dinner, fun activities and prizes.



Mark your calendars. Family Night January 24, 6-7:30 pm

Join us for Science Night.

# Look ahead to next school year.....

For the 2024/2025 school year, school start times will look like this:

| PLC Monday Schedule | Start Time | Release Time |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| Elementary School   | 9:00 a.m.  | 2:30 p.m.    |
| High School         | 9:45 a.m.  | 3:15 p.m.    |
| Middle School       | 10:30 a.m. | 4:00 p.m.    |

| Tuesday-Friday Schedule | Start Time | Release Time |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Elementary School       | 8:00 a.m.  | 2:30 p.m.    |
| High School             | 8:45 a.m.  | 3:15 p.m.    |
| Middle School           | 9:30 a.m.  | 4:00 p.m.    |





# Performers Wanted



In May-last week  
of school

**PRACTICE!**

**PRACTICE!**



**PRACTICE!**



**PRACTICE!**

