

Glider

WILBUR WRIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Fall 2009

Vol. 19, Issue 2

Mr. D. Knish, Principal
Mr. T. Sopko, Assistant Principal
Ms S. Szarmach, Dean
Mrs. E. Gallegos, Guidance Counselor
Mrs. J. Atkinson, Guidance Counselor

WWMS WEB PAGE LINKS:

Athletic Schedules:

<http://www.munster.k12.in.us/WWMS/WWMSFallSportSchedule/WWMSFallSportSchedule.html>

Student Handbook:

<http://www.munster.k12.in.us/WWMS/StudentHandbook08-09.pdf>

This year we have many new faces that are now members of our certified staff. Jean Franklin Magrou (Foreign Language), Kim Tansey (Science), Renee Passine (Language Arts), Sarah Krzus (FACS), Ashley Knowles (Language Arts), Jill Gajewski (Special Education), Dawn Anthony (Art), Marianne Orfanos (Special Education), Lindsay Evans (Special Education), Michele Stan (Social Worker), and Sarah



You can dial the
Guidance Office
direct at:
219-836-3230



From the Principal's Desk .

... Fall is my favorite season! Fall at WWMS is certainly very busy and exciting. Many activities are being planned or have already been completed. A special "THANK YOU" to our PTO for another successful Grandparent's Day. Grandparents are truly a blessing and very appreciated by all of us. Thanks to Pam Bailey and her PTO group for their hard work!

Szarmach (Dean of Students). All of our new faculty and administration professionals have worked diligently to provide the best for all of our students. After these first nine weeks hopefully they are feeling at home here at WWMS.

Congratulations to all of our fall sports teams! All enjoyed very successful seasons! Thanks coaches!

If you happen to get the opportunity while visiting our school, please view our daily announcements. They are simply "the best". Much hard work goes into these productions. A special thanks to Kathy Manno, Chris Nelson, Therese Dristas and Jill Gajewski for helping to supervise our students. The set design and production staff include: Kevin Yurasovich, Nick Siano, and Tyler Van Wieren. Audio and Teleprompter techs include: Zach Keslin, Megan Stone, Justin Bobos, and Chris Perez. News Anchors include: Payton Preboy,

Steven Rakich, Alyssa Wojcik, Nick Siano, Alyse Dittrich, Tyler Van Wieren, Alec Roquena, and Paige Pupilava. We are all proud of you!!!

Congratulations to Mrs. Brechner and the WWMS Players on their performances in "The Princess and the Pea". Everyone was "incredible"!!!

Make sure all of you attend the choir, band and orchestra concerts that are coming up this week! Our students are very talented ...don't miss the chance to be in the audience!!!

Good Luck to our Spell Bowl students and their sponsor, Mrs. Kalwasinski! Competition starts next week! Can Science Olympiad and We the People be far behind?

Next week we celebrate "Red Ribbon Week" as we dedicate ourselves to a life free from drugs! Thank you to Miss Caudle and Miss Gallegos for their work with our students in preparing for the weeks' activities.

"Hoops for Hearts" begin in our Physical Education classes next week. This American Heart Association program is a great way for our students to become more aware of how to keep our own hearts "healthy" and a great way to give back to our community. Thanks to our PE staff for all of their work in this area!

Acuity Assessments have begun this week in our core area subjects. Thanks to Mr. Ridgley and Miss Szarmach for their assistance in planning for these assessments. The data used will further help teachers to support our students and help meet their needs academically.

Reminders: No school on October 29th and 30th. Report cards sent home on Nov. 3rd. Parent-Teacher Conferences on Wed. Nov. 4th from 4-7 PM.

I told you that a lot was happening!!! Stay healthy and I hope to see you soon!

David Knish, Principal WWMS



From the President . .

. Happy Fall. School is in full swing, as Halloween draws near.

Committees are working hard planning events. Another thanks to all of you who have volunteered. Without our wonderful parents, these events would not be possible. A reminder: For those of you who have not yet picked up your committee folder, please do so at our next PTO meeting on October 13th at 9:15am. You can also make arrangements with me to pick it up another time. If you have reports for that meeting, and cannot attend, please email me at rainmom96@yahoo.com. with any info that you would like passed along.

Upcoming events for October are: Grandparent's Day on 10-16-09 from 8am to 10am. This event is for 6th grade families only. Next is: Our annual Halloween Dance, this begins at 7pm and ends at 9pm. This event is for all students. Please wear your costume. Remember: no inappropriate costumes that are revealing, or depict violence. Use good judgement.

In November, Taffy Apple sales will begin, and we will be honoring our teachers during American Education Week. Details to follow. Regarding committees, we still have some spots that need to be filled. We are looking for a Chairperson for Registration, and also need a few more volunteers to help us revise our Bylaws. If you are interested, please feel free to contact any member of the Board.

Spiritwear Sales will continue through the Holidays. Contact Shawn Mickow at greeneyegirl13@hotmail.com for additional details. You may also pick up an order form in the school office. She has added some wonderful products this year. What a great gift for the holidays.

Thanks to all the parents who joined the PTO. This enabled the board give every teacher and staff member a notebook with the board's information printed on it. Also,

every teacher received a \$50 voucher that they could use for something special to use with students in their Classroom.

Lastly, I would like to thank my board, Sheila Ward, Shawn Mickow, and Pam Bailey. Without their hard work and dedication I would not have been able to take on the job as President. It takes a team of great people, and we are fortunate to have that here at our school. Please take the time to read our newsletters, and check the website for updates.

Sincerely, Tammy Redman

Upcoming PTO Events in November

9th – 13th.....American Education Week
10th 9:15 a.m. PTO Meeting
11th Taffy Apple Day
12th 6:30 p.m. West Lake Meeting @ Eads



The Wilbur Wright Guidance Department . .

. has had a busy first quarter so far! All sixth grade students have participated in a 2-day study skills program. Sixth graders worked through the "What's Up With Starting Middle School" Magazine and should have taken those home to parents earlier in the quarter. We also were able to meet every sixth grader at his/her locker and make sure that they had a good system of organization. Remember to remind your students to take some time each week to do a quick clean-out of their locker.

All seventh grade first semester Quest students have participated in the 2-day Drive of Your Life Career Program. Students created a car and "drove through" three careers in order to find out more about education requirements, incomes, and the typical day of some of their top career choices. Students created career posters

which will be hung up in the school. Each student created a username and password which can be used to further explore careers at www.driveofyourlife.org



Red Ribbon Week is coming right up! We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week the week of October 26. The following activities have been planned:

"Red Ribbon" Decorating contest by study halls
Quest Poster Contest
Drug-Free Pledge will be signed at lunches

If students wear their red ribbons to school they are able to dress up. The following will be the dress-up days:

Monday, October 26

"Drugs are Ridiculous" Students can dress crazy...mismatched outfits and colors

Tuesday, October 27

"Being Drug Free is No Sweat" Students will wear sweatshirts and sweatpants

Wednesday, October 28

"Sock-It to Drugs" - students can wear crazy socks



Orchestra News . . . All

WWMS Orchestra students will participate in the All Schools Winter Orchestra Concert on Monday December 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the MHS Auditorium. Also, the 8th grade orchestra will perform with 8th grade choir and band members for the WWMS Combined concert on Wednesday, December 9th in the WWMS new gym.

Orchestra students are encouraged to play solos or in small ensembles for ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest on February 6th at Munster High School. The fee for solos is \$12 and ensembles are \$6. The registration fee and registration forms are due on November 6th. Participation in this event is optional.



MTV News . . . Calling all parents, grandparents, and community members! Do you have an interesting occupation or unusual job? Would you be willing to spend 30 minutes sharing career information with the WWMS students? If so, our own MTV News needs you! Read further to learn more.

Each day during Study Hall, our students watch a student produced announcement program, MTV News. As an addition to MTV News, we expanded coverage to include career exploration segments. To date, interviews with the School Town of Munster's superintendent, Mr. William Pfister, and Munster Police Officer James Ghrist, have aired on MTV News.

Interviews for the on air segments are taped at 3pm in the WWMS Studio, and the interview consists of a student anchor person asking five to six pre-scripted questions. From start to finish the interview takes no more than thirty minutes. For additional information or to schedule a time for an interview, please contact Kathy Manno at kmmanno@munster.k12.in.us or Chris Nelson at crnelson@munster.k12.in.us. We look forward to hearing from you.



News from the Nurse . . . The flu and cold season is in full swing. As usual, our schools are experiencing absenteeism in all grade levels. One of the problems most often confronting parents of school age children occurs when a child complains of not feeling well on a school day. A decision must be made as to whether the child stays home or goes to school. What do you do? How do you make the right decision? You don't want to keep your child home if he/she is not really sick, but you also can't want to send a sick child to school.

Here are some guidelines you may wish to follow in making your decision.



The Flu . . . With the event of N1H1, the School Town has implemented a return to school policy that requires the nurse to do a temperature check on the day the student returns. In the event the child's temp is above 99 degrees, and they still are displaying symptoms, they will be sent home. Remember to check the School Town's website to get up to the minute H1N1 information.



Fever . . . is a warning that all is not right with the body. The only reliable way to check for a fever is with a thermometer, which every home should have. No child with a fever over 99.6 degrees should be sent to school. Is it Influenza, The "Flu" or . . . The "Common Cold" . . . Actual flu symptoms start very quickly and may include:

- Headache
- Dry Cough
- Fever
- Sore Throat
- Chills
- Body Aches
- Stuffy Nose

If you suspect your child has the flu, be sure to keep him/her home. Not only can he/she infect others, but he/she is more likely to pick up any other illness present at the time. The illness that some people often call "stomach Flu" is not influenza (although some stomach symptoms may occur along with the above, especially in children).



The "Common Cold" . . . presents the most frequent problem to parents. Common cold symptoms are similar to flu symptoms but usually come on more gradually. A child with a "heavy" cold and/or deep persistent cough belongs home in bed, even though he/she has no fever. If your

child complains of sore throat and has no other symptoms, he/she may go to school. If white spots can be seen in the back of the throat or if fever is present, keep him/her home and call your doctor.



Stomachache, Vomiting, Diarrhea

Consult your physician if your child has a stomachache which is persistent or severe enough to limit his/her activity. If vomiting occurs, keep your child home until he/she can keep food down for 12 hours. A child with diarrhea should be kept at home.

This information is not intended as medical advice, but is merely designed to provide guidelines to be followed until your doctor can be consulted.



WWMS offers . . . a variety of small group opportunities for students.

These group activities are a good way for students to learn more about themselves, become better students and learn new skills. The voluntary groups are scheduled during the school day and are rotated so that students do not miss the same subject more than once. They meet once a week for six weeks and are facilitated by the school social worker. If your child is interested in any of the following topics they can pick up additional information in the guidance office. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Barbara Deiotte, School Social Worker at 836-3230, ext. 2214.

PROUD TO BE ME - Focuses on your own self-esteem. Learn to be a better friend to yourself and others. All relationships depend a lot on YOU. Learn to feel better about yourself and not be so critical on one's faults.

IN CONTROL - Anger sometimes gets the best of us. This group offers you a chance to learn skills to manage your anger. You

don't have to change the way you feel, just the way you behave.

STRESSBUSTERS - A group for students who would like to learn stress management skills. Between school, home, friends, and everyday pressures, it is important to learn how to cope with the stress in our lives.

LIFE SKILLS - This group tackles real life issues teenagers face. How do I say no when peer pressure is turned up? How do I set great goals, make good decisions, solve difficult problems, keep relationships healthy, and just be the best possible me?

RAINBOWS- We are pleased to offer the Rainbows program for youth who have experienced divorce - or separation in their family. This is a support group where students are encouraged to share their feelings about a variety of related issues.

ALL ABOUT ADD- group is designed for children professionally diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder with or without Hyperactivity. Understanding ADD, dealing with feelings and organization skills are taught.



MUNSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CRIME TIP LINE (836-1010)

. . . Do you have any information about recent or ongoing drug or crime activity in Munster? If so, the Munster Police Department would like for you to give them a call on their **ANONYMOUS** Crime Tip Line. The number is 836-1010, and you do not have to leave your name. Please help the department by doing your part to keep drugs and crime out of our community. For more information about the Crime Tip Line or Neighborhood Crime Watch Program, please contact Officer James Ghrist at 836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org.



MUNSTER POLICE SEEKING DONATIONS FOR THEIR ANNUAL "SHOP WITH A COP"

PROGRAM . . . Each December, the Munster Police Department joins up with several other area police departments in shopping for holiday gifts with underprivileged children. Last year, over fifty children were taken shopping with donations supplied by area residents, businesses, and community organizations.

We are currently seeking monetary donations towards this year's program. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to the Town of Munster and send them to the Munster Police Department, c/o Officer James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road- Munster, Indiana 46321. For more information please contact Officer Ghrist at 836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org. Thank you in advance for your generosity this season.