



Willie E. Brown PTA e-Newsletter

First Six Weeks—September 2009

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From Our Principal...

Dear Willie Brown Families,

This has been a wonderful beginning to a new school year. We have 630 students this year which is smaller than last year. The best thing we notice about having less students is that we don't need classrooms using the outdoor portables this year! That makes life sweeter especially on a rainy day!

We would like to welcome our new counselor and school nurse this year. Ms. Lisa Arnold is the counselor and she taught 4th grade on our campus last year. She is a natural in dealing with students and adults and we are very lucky to have her on our campus. Ms. Jill Ricketts is our new nurse and she is very experienced in working in the nursing field and with children. She is another positive asset to join our campus..

Our PTA Bookfair will be from September 21st - 25th. There will be a PTA Bookfair Dinner on Monday, 9/21, from 6:00 - 8:00. Dad's & Donuts will be 2 mornings that week from 6:45 - 8:00 on September 23rd and 24th. Come join us for some fun and shopping time!!

The next student holiday is Monday, October 12th. That will be a teacher/parent conference day and it is a good time to touch base with your child's teacher and check on progress.

Thank you to all of our Willie Brown families for all of your support and being so helpful with so many things for the students. PTA makes us all very proud to be a part of our "Eagle Family".

Sincerely,
Marilyn Varner
varnma@mansfield.org

Calendar of Events at WBE



September

- 17 M.A.P.P.S Meeting 7:00 pm
- 18 Chit Chat and Coffee with Mom's Club 8:30 am
- 21 Book Fair Dinner 6:00 pm
- 21-25 Book Fair

October

- 8 Reading for the Record
- 12 Fall Holiday—No School
- 23 Program—Dennis Mitchell: Making Homework Painless 9:30am

November

- 6 2nd Annual "Eagle Run"

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Happy Birthday /Teachers And Staff!



- 8/26 Gail Baker - Music
- 8/27 Chaundra Saenz - Art
- 8/30 Lynn Dodson - 4th Grade
- 8/30 Scott Schmidt - ESL
- 9/4 Gale Johnston - 3rd Grade
- 9/5 Byron Johnson - Custodian
- 9/15 Christi Grossklaus - Music
- 9/26 Jill Ricketts - Nurse
- 10/3 Haley Stenftenagel - P.E.
- 10/7 Kim Everhart - PPCD
- 10/18 Faye McCoy - 1st Grade
- 10/18 Joelle Martin - PPCD
- 10/23 Jill Coble - Secretary

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Teacher Appreciation Committee. I will be sending an email soon with details about upcoming events I am planning for our great faculty! If anyone is still interested in being on the committee who hasn't already signed up, please send me an email. Thanks!

Christine Lewis, christinelewis@tx.rr.com WBPTA Teacher Appreciation

What's Going on in our Classrooms?



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Willie Brown third graders have gotten off to a fantastic start this year! We spent the first few days going over routines and procedures with our new classes. On that note, please review your student's folder with him or her each day after school to check for homework assignments, monitor reading minutes, and note any other important information. Remember that the Reading Response Logs are due each Tuesday.

In Language Arts, we have started our work with weekly spelling lists, Daily Language Reviews as well as reading comprehension skills. Our first topic in math has jumped our students all the way to the hundred thousands' place. Ask your child how to write a number in word form, standard form or expanded form! Social Studies has focused on map skills and types of communities. In science, we will discuss the properties of matter and science safety rules.

Our first field trip is right around the corner - LITERALLY! On October 1st, we will walk across the street for a short visit to Dr. Rick Herrmann's orthodontist office. Each class will also visit the M.I.S.D. Natatorium toward the middle of October. This is a water safety class which each third grader in Mansfield ISD takes every year. Watch for information about these two exciting trips to come home soon.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with our students. We appreciate all of the support that you provide at home.

- The Third Grade Team

PROGRAMS

Student Programs

Willie Brown PTA has some wonderful programs planned for the children this upcoming year. They are as follows:

The Inspector Iwannano Show

Inspector Iwannano, a live character actor, delivers a strong message within a comedy-packed magic-filled program. It is a Character building show where the children use “character clues: such as respect, trustworthiness, caring, responsibility, fairness and good citizenship.

Sky Dome Planetarium

Student will enter an inflatable Planetarium dome and be introduced to a star filled sky. This will dazzle the budding astronomers as they are taken on a tour of the solar system.

Dinosaurs Rock

Student will experience prehistoric life like never before. This Interactive presentation involves the students. They get to touch real dinosaur eggs, meteorites and prehistoric coprolite (poop). They will then get to do a Dinosaur dig for bones, petrified wood and fossils.

Body Works

The student body will all become white blood cells as they travel through the human body hunting down germs. Hillary the Heart and Larry the Liver help students discover how their bodies work and how to keep them healthy. This program has a lot of Audience participation.

Dennis Lee

Always a Favorite, formally known as Nana Pudding, Dennis Lee will mix music, fun and message enriched programs in a ventriloquist act. Everyone will sing and laugh with his full life puppets.

Nutrition Magician

Richard Right focuses on helping youth to understand the importance of nutrition. He teaches core lessons while entertaining with amazing magic tricks. He will focus on Nutrition, Recycling, Respect/Behavior, and Self Esteem.

The Ocean Adventure- The Australia White Shark

Expedition

This Assemblies brings the excitement, beauty and wonder of the undersea exploration into your school. Wayne and Karen Brown bring exciting, real-life adventures to you with fast-paced and entertaining multimedia presentation. Students will discover the riches of the oceans and gain a better appreciation for the survival of life on earth. Workbooks and color sheets will be available for children if Teachers would like.

Randi Waldo
Programs Chairman

Corporate Incentives

Welcome Back to school and a Big Welcome to all the new families here at Willie Brown!

I am the Corporate Incentives coordinator for the school. It is my job to make you aware of the many opportunities from corporate sponsors that support our children's education.



- Box Tops- Please save those box tops! To see the products that participate visit **btf.com**. The first deadline to turn them in to your teacher is **October 2nd** **The class with the most box tops wins a free ice cream coupon to use at lunch.**



- Campbell's –Save the labels. Please visit **labelsforeducation.com**.
- Tyson – **ProjectAplus.tyson.com**
- Tom Thumb - Our Charity # is **7411**, please stop by the customer service center to add it to your Tom Thumb reward card.
- Target- If you have a Target Red Card, check to see if Willie Brown is listed as your school of choice. They are very generous to children's education.

We are still in the application process for **Kroger**. I will keep you all updated.

These are just a few easy ways to earn cash for our school. I know that everyone is busy but please take a few minutes to check out these programs.

Please feel free to email or call me if you have any questions. Thank you for all your support in making these programs successful.

Krista Osmus
Corporate Incentives
mkosmus@charter.net
682-518-7956



Mom's Club

Thanks for the great turnout at our first Mom's Club event at Crumbs/America's Best Coffee

Mom's Club is a great way to meet new friends and connect with other Eagle Moms!

Contact allisonparsons@sbcglobal.net for further information

Stay tuned for other WBE Mom's Club Events!

WBE-TV

Save The Date!

Mark Your Calendars!

Spring Fling will take place March 27th from 4-8 p.m.

We'll be flashing back to the 50's and are looking forward to having you there!!

Nicole Wooldridge, Festival Chair

Need a Night Out or Time Alone?

Contact Jill, your Willie Brown Nurse, for your babysitting needs.

Jill Ricketts, R.N.

WBE-Clinic Nurse

Willie Brown Eagle Store

LOOK WHAT'S NEW AT WB ELEMENTARY!

“WILLIE BROWN EAGLE STORE”



I HOPE EVERYONE IS SETTling BACK INTO A NORMAL ROUTINE WITH SCHOOL, HOMEWORK, SPORTS, ETC. I WANTED TO LET EVERYONE KNOW THAT WE WILL BE CHANGING SOME THINGS UP THIS YEAR.

IN AN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE AND REWARD GOOD GRADES, GOOD BEHAVIOR, AND BETTER READING HABITS, WE WILL INTRODUCE OUR NEW WILLIE BROWN EAGLE STORE.

STUDENTS WILL NOW RECEIVE POINTS IN THE AREAS OF “A” HONOR ROLL, “A/B” HONOR ROLL, GOOD CITIZENSHIP, PERFECT ATTENDANCE AND ACCELERATED READING. EACH CATEGORY WILL CARRY POINTS AND WITH EACH GOAL THE STUDENT ACHIEVES THAT WILL DETERMINE HOW MANY POINTS THEY WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND AT THE WB EAGLE STORE. AT THE END OF EACH 6 WEEKS WE WILL OPEN UP OUR WILLIE BROWN EAGLE STORE AND THEY WILL BE ABLE TO SHOP FOR FUN ITEMS.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO DISCUSS THIS REWARD SYSTEM WITH YOUR CHILD AND GET THEM EXCITED ABOUT DOING THEIR BEST IN SCHOOL. ALTHOUGH OUR CHILDREN ARE YOUNG, IT IS NOW WHEN GOOD READING AND STUDY HABITS WILL CARRY THEM INTO THEIR HIGHER EDUCATION YEARS.

THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT YEAR!!

**LINDA JONES
WBPTA
SPIRIT AND CHARACTER AWARDS**

****IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THE STORE THEN PLEASE CONTACT ME AT GRMJONES@SBCGLOBAL.NET.**

Message From the WBE Library

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child has been visiting the school library and will soon be bringing home a book he or she has checked out. Your child has been learning how to select books and use the library. We have discussed responsible use of library materials and the correct treatment of books.

In order to make this a successful and enjoyable experience, you can help your child in the following ways:

Encourage your child to share the books with you. Read together.

Remind your child to return books on time.

Have a special place to keep library books. Keep them away from possible damage by food, liquids, younger children or animals.

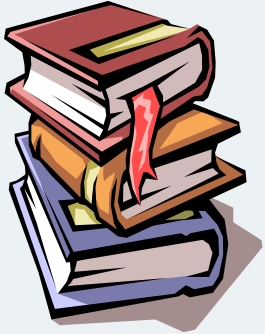
If a book is accidentally damaged, do not attempt to repair it at home.

Please be aware that the library operates on a flexible schedule and is open from 8:15 AM to 3:15 PM. In addition to class library visits, students may come to the library on their own, with teacher permission. Only one book may be checked out at a time in grades K-2. Grades 3 - 4 may have two books at a time. Books are due one week from the date of check out. No fines are charged for late books, but another book cannot be checked out until the first one is returned. The current replacement cost for books that are lost or damaged beyond reasonable repair will be charged and payment is expected in a timely manner.

Thank you for your cooperation. We know you will both enjoy this experience.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. Gray
Brown Elementary Librarian



Scott Frizzell, D.C.

408-B South Main Street
Mansfield, TX 76063
Phone: 817-453-9797
Fax: 817-453-9780
mansfieldmainchiropractic.com

WBE Dad's Club

Calling All WBE Dad's—We want you for the WBE Dad's Club!



The Dad's club helps promote and develop new friendships among dad's while supporting student, school and PTA activities. This year is our 2nd year, and through all of you, we can continue our momentum from last year. Our activities focus on low frequency and high impact events, along with standing ready to support teachers, students and the PTA when called upon. Dad's club activities include:

- Helping with morning drop-off and traffic control (as requested by staff)
 - Supporting events like field-day, Eagle Run, and others events
 - Hosting "Movie Night" in the WBE cafeteria/gym
- Hosting the "Father/Daughter & Parent/Child" dance in the cafeteria/gym
 - And any other events that we may wish to coordinate

We are all busy, but please consider lending your time to this group of likeminded dad's. We will meet monthly at a local venue to discuss events, ideas for activities, and to just plain socialize as guys do.

Please contact Steve Lindsey at slindsey@qrinc.com or slindseydad@gmail.com . I can also be reached directly at 682-225-4030. Thanks and I look forward to seeing you all for the 09-10 school year!

Steve Lindsey—Dad's Club

Parent Programs

Need Help Making Homework Painless?

Mark your calendar for the Parent Program

Making Homework Painless

9:30-10:30 Friday, October 23rd in the WB Library

Mr. Dennis Mitchell will teach us effective communication and study strategies to help our children succeed and provide other helpful hints we can implement immediately.

Angie McCarthy, Parent Programs

PTA Membership



Get Back to the Basics

It is not too late to join PTA and enjoy the many benefits available to you as a member.

Thanks to all of the families who have already joined!

- To join the Willie Brown PTA, please complete the following information.
- If you have more than one child at Willie Brown, please fill out one flier per child. Each child will receive one in their back-to-school packet.
- Only one student directory per family will be given free.
- Please make checks out to "Willie Brown Elementary PTA",
\$7 for each membership (don't forget to ask grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc.).
- PTA membership dues should be returned by Wednesday, Sept. 30th, 2009.

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Student's name: _____

Student's grade and teacher name: _____

Check all that apply:

- Student
- Parent/guardian
- Faculty/staff
- Community member
- Texas Life member
- I would like to be contacted about volunteering

PTA Reflections Program

Celebrate Creativity and Diversity by Having Your Child Participate in This Year's PTA Reflections Program



The Reflections Program is an opportunity for students to express themselves and showcase their talents. PTA believes that all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual Reflections Program. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to submit works of art in six art areas: literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography, and the visual art (which includes, but is not limited to, art forms such as drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage).

Kids who participate in Arts and Culture thrive in the learning environment. The Reflections Program is designed to enhance arts in education. It provides opportunities for students to express themselves and receive positive recognition for their artistic efforts.

This year's Reflections contest theme is *"Beauty is...."* Students may submit an entry in any or all six art areas listed. Only original works of art are accepted. Participation in the Reflections Program is organized by grade level. Student works are critiqued against others in the same grade division. This allows recognition and judging of artwork according to appropriate developmental age and skill levels. More information will be coming home in the next few weeks. If you have questions or for specific category guidelines, you may e-mail me at klyndz@aol.com.

Kim Lindsey
Chairman, Cultural Arts



Don't Forget Your Child's Birthday!

Celebrate Your Child's Birthday Month with a
Poster!

Parents,

Have you seen the Birthday Hall? If not, come check it out! It's full of color and lots of wonderful Willie Brown Birthday Smiles! Send me your child's name, age, birthday and a \$12.00 donation and I'll make sure your child's smile gets placed in our Birthday Hall!

Posters are \$10.00 if you order before Sept. 4th!

Questions?

Call Jennifer Clements at 817-473-9868 or send me an e-mail at sweetjn@sbcglobal.net



Thank You to our playground sponsors!

Along with our PTA gift to school and our amazing sponsors, we were able to provide an addition to our playground this year.

We are thrilled and excited to see the joy on the faces of our Willie Brown students as they explore their new play area.

The playground would not have been possible without the help of our WB parents. Because of the support we continuously receive, the PTA is able to raise money from fundraisers and activities which help us provide a gift to school each year.

To help us reach our goal, we had generous sponsors come to our aid so that the 2009-2010 Willie Brown students would have something to look forward to! We realize that there are many choices when it comes to making donations.

Our sponsors chose to help us create something **BIG** for our students.

Your support is awesome and appreciated.

We **thank** each of you for helping the PTA give back to Willie Brown!

We want to recognize and thank each of our playground sponsors...

Waddell Excavating Inc.
IMS Experts
Mansfield Bible Church
Cosmetic Labs
Irving, Stephenson & Curtis, D.D.S.
Medical Clinic of North Texas:
Dr. Fikkert, Dr. Gibson-Hull, Dr. Meyer, Dr. Wallace
Cute Stuff Boutique
Element Enterprises
Brownie Troop 2109

Thank you for helping the WBPTA
make a difference in the lives of our children!

Michelle Johnson
PTA President

THANK YOU

From Our PTA President...

Wow... It is hard to believe that we have started another school year. It looks like everyone is getting into the swing of things for 2009-2010.

A new school year brings new schedules, new challenges and new friends. Although it is always hard to say goodbye to that comfort zone of your previous teachers and classmates, it is also exciting to face and conquer change.

No matter what grade your child may be in, we are all in the same boat. It often feels like an experiment. We try to get our children to school on time but usually have to add a few minutes to our departure from home or even delete a few minutes if we are ever so lucky until we find that "exact" time. I have found that I must leave my house no later than 7:40. If I leave at 7:43, the traffic is 100 times worse than it was only 3 minutes before.

On the way to school, I find myself crossing my fingers and toes in hopes that my children will have a good day. Before we hit the school zone speed limit sign, we are saying our prayers for guidance in making good choices and focusing on our daily learning. I glance at my kiddos and make sure they did not leave any leftover toothpaste or breakfast on their mouths. Once the car door shuts and they walk through the WB doors, I realize it is all out of my hands.

No matter what your morning ritual is or how your children get to school in the mornings, we all face the same challenges of raising our children and providing them with the best elementary education possible. We are so fortunate to be a part of Willie Brown Elementary. Not only are our teachers & staff the absolute greatest, it is one big family.

My wish for each of you is that these elementary years will create some of your greatest memories and that you will find a way to get involved in PTA. We have many new faces on the PTA Board this year but one thing remains the same...our common goal is to make a difference in the lives of every child at Willie Brown. We invite you to join us in making this another great year!

Enjoy your days at Willie Brown! Enjoy your teachers, staff and all of the parents that are a part of the WB family! They are the best!

If you would like to get involved or have questions, please feel free to contact me!

Michelle Johnson
PTA President
dmj37@charter.net

WBE 2009-2010 PTA General Meetings

October 13 @ 7pm
February 9 @ 7pm
April 13 @ 7pm
May 11 @ 7pm
June 2 @ 9am

We hope to see you there!

