



6th Grade News

The sixth graders have just returned from a FANTASTIC trip to Wolf Ridge. It was an awesome sight seeing the students supporting one another throughout the trip. Students were able to see one another excel in areas and push themselves beyond their own expectations. They were also able to apply a lot of what they have learned in science throughout the year and see the affects humans have had and continue to have on the environment.

Our group won the conservation award for being conscientious of waste and recycling all products and energy. As their teacher, it was a joy to see the students outside the classroom and watching them succeed at extreme challenges. I came away with lasting memories of each and every student. A big thank you to everyone who had a role in making this trip 100% successful it was well worth the work to get there. Each student left there with a new confidence in themselves and their classmates.

A lot of the sixth graders have begun a novel unit in their reading class. Some of the novels we have read in my class include; *The Giver*, *Fever*, *Number the Stars*, *Twenty and Ten*, *Out of the Dust*, and currently *Treasure Island*. We are all enjoying each of the books. Be sure to have your child spend some time reading at home or sharing with you what they are reading about in class. Our

Sixth graders have just undertaken our last service learning project for the year. The students will be collecting items for the St. Cloud Humane Society and the Salvation Army. Some of the items that are needed at the humane society include; hand soap, garbage bags, newspapers, and any pet food. Some of the items for the Salvation Army include; shampoo and conditioner, toothpaste, and soap. STRIDE students will be bringing home a letter explaining the project.

The MCA's are well underway and the students have been working very hard on each test. Just a reminder to make sure your child gets enough sleep and a good breakfast each morning.

Don't forget 6th graders still have spelling each week. They should be practicing their words nightly in order to do well on the tests on Fridays.

Enjoy the spring weather!

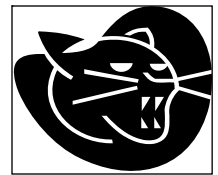
Lisa Wallwork

Stride Academy

6th Grade Teacher

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STRIDE Pride Newsletter



April 30, 2009



Parents:

Don't forget to turn in your intersession forms as soon as you can. It is a first come, first serve basis, so be sure to get them in along with your payment.



May 1st, all of our Sauk Rapids students who ride bus will have an alternate bus schedule. Please see Thursday folders for bus information.



Parents, as stated in our Student/Parent handbook, students can not be dropped off before 7:45 a.m. in the morning. We have been having students dropped off as early as 7:30. We are not staffed that early for these children. Thanks.

We are also having too many people parking in the Student drop off zone to pick their kids up after school, this causes a traffic jam so we ask that parents park to pick their kids up in the gym.



After School Program Intersession Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11. Intersession Activities Normal After School Program Hours (3:00-5:30)	12. Intersession Activities Normal After School Program Hours (3:00-5:30)	13. Intersession Activities Normal After School Program Hours (3:00-5:30)	14. Intersession Activities Normal After School Program Hours (3:00-5:30)	15. Intersession Activities Normal After School Program Hours (3:00-5:30)
18. All Day After School Program (8:00-5:30)	19. All Day After School Program (8:00-5:30)	20. All Day After School Program (8:00-5:30)	21. All Day After School Program (8:00-5:30)	22. All Day After School Program (8:00-5:30)
25. No After School Program.				

The all day program has a fee of \$18.00 and a packed lunch is required. If you have questions please feel free to contact us.

Valerie Weyer & Luke Lutterman
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The Pennies for Patients drive was a huge success! Our school raised \$865.11! Thank you to all who donated. Mrs. Weyer's class collected the most pennies and won the pizza party. The 3rd grade classes were responsible for collecting the donations from each classroom while reading numerous facts about leukemia. They thoroughly enjoyed helping out. The proceeds from Pennies for Patients fund research grants and patient services like financial aid and family support groups. Because of all our efforts The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is moving closer to finding a cure!

In other news, we just finished our social studies unit on Ancient Rome and have started our new unit on the Vikings. In level 3 math, students are learning their multiplication facts. They are expected to complete 100 facts in 5 minutes. They have also started learning division facts.

The 3rd grade will be going to see Disney's *Earth* on May 5th. This goes along nicely with our Core Knowledge science curriculum. It is a story of three animal families and their amazing journey across the planet.

Thank you again for all of the great donations! This is the time of year that our supplies start running low.

Deb Northburg
3rd Grade Teacher



Student Handbook

We understand the warmer weather is on its way and the students are preparing to bring out some cooler clothes. Please keep in mind the following per the handbook.



Uniform

STRIDE Academy will require the children to wear uniforms. The uniform consists of any colored polo shirt. A polo shirt is defined as a collared shirt (no prints or stripes). It may consist of buttons, preferable no more than five, but it can be button less. The children may wear long, short or sleeveless polo shirts. Students may wear a solid colored sweater over the polo shirt (collar showing). The uniform bottoms must be khaki colored pants, skirts, skorts, shorts or capris. Any shade of tan khaki is acceptable. Any style is also acceptable (ex. Cargo, relaxed, straight leg). **All skirts and shorts must be at least mid-thigh in length.** STRIDE Academy staff will monitor the uniform and will notify students and parents if the child is not meeting the qualifications for the dress code. If a student is not wearing the correct uniform, they will be asked to change clothes into the correct uniform at school. We do have limited extra clothes. Parents will then be called to ensure that the uniform policy is followed.



The environment is on the minds of many people nowadays and this holds true with the students at STRIDE Academy. During the past two months, the fourth grade classes have learn about a simple, easy, and very affordable project to help the environment and their school. With the assistance of a Master Gardener from the University of Minnesota Extension Office, the fourth graders began a service project during March and April with the hopes of reusing food wastes which will turn into dirt. This process is called composting.

During the first week of the project, the students collected data on how much waste is ending up in trash bins solely from the cafeteria. They found our school throws away on average 75 pounds of trash per day, including food, trays, milk cartons and other waste products. Following this, the Master Gardener, Barth Buehrer, came to school and introduced how to collect foods which can be composted, such as fruits, vegetables, egg shells, peelings, and more. The students collected these items from the school cafeteria and dumped them, along with leaves and grass, into a compost bin on the school grounds, donated by PATHS.

This collection will continue through the rest of the school year with the hopes of using this nutrient rich material for other projects around the school, such as a flower or vegetable garden.

After the students collect the food and dump it into the bin with the layers of leaves and grasses, all of this organic matter begins to decay, or compost. Throughout the spring and summer, the students will continue to add to the bin. With rain from Mother Nature, the materials will eventually turn into compost, a form of organic fertilizer overflowing with nutrients.

During this entire process, the students have learned how composting takes place, how to collect information on their project, and how simple it is to have a compost bin at home. The excitement of the fourth grade classes during this service learning project has been a blessing. The students are very willing to do what is right, although watching food decay may be a little disgusting to watch.

The most important message the students have learned is that the environment needs the help of everyone involved and it does not take a massive amount of funds or people to do the right things. It simply takes the willingness of a small group of people to contemplate their future and to consider how to make this world better. At STRIDE, that is one banana peel at a time.

Written by Mr. Goebel
Fourth Grade Teacher



