



## FEBRUARY PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Mother Nature gave us a bit of a curve ball with the snow and ice in January, but we are now only 49 days away from the official first day of spring! Staff and students have been very busy during the month of January with math and reading assessments and scoring. CAST (Collaborative Academic Support Team) meetings with specialists and grade level instructors will occur this month to review student progress and achievement. Listed below are some of the things you can look forward to this month. For more information, please visit our website at <http://resources.wwps.org/prospectpoint/> or call us at 527-3088.

**GIRLS' BASKETBALL**—Our fifth grade girls' basketball team has had a terrific season, under the instruction of Coach Keith Reardon, and Assistant Coach David Parodi. There are four more games during the month of February. All games will begin as close to 3:30 pm as possible. We hope you can catch some of the SuperStar action and cheer for the home team at one or all of the remaining games:



**Thursday, Feb. 2nd**

**Monday, Feb. 6th**

**Tuesday, Feb. 7th**

**Thursday, Feb. 9th**

**Green Park at Prospect Point**

**Berney at Prospect Point**

**Meadowbrook at Prospect Point**

**Prospect Point at Edison**

**CHOIR RESUMES**—The sounds of music are in the air! Any 4th or 5th grade students interested in joining Choir are welcome to attend the first practice of the new year on **Monday, February 6th**. Practices will be held every **Monday** and **Wednesday** morning in the **Music room** from **7:45-8:10 am**.

**ART FAMILY FUN NIGHT**—Come join the fun and unleash the artist in you at the PTA Family Fun Art Night on **February 9th** from **6:00-7:00 pm** in the **cafeteria/gym**. There will be three art stations set up that students will rotate through. There will also be ice cream treats for everyone's enjoyment. All students in attendance will be eligible to enter an exciting Art Excursion raffle. Two student names from each grade level will be drawn to accompany Mr. Gardea on a visit to the Carnegie Art Center Pottery Studio with a pizza luncheon included. The **Art Excursion** is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 15th** from **11:00 am — 1:00 pm**. Students will be transported in district vans. Depending on your child's height and weight, parents will need to provide the school with a car seat your child can use that morning.




**FREE PARENTING WORKSHOP**—The Mom's Network, in conjunction with Walla Walla Public Schools and the YMCA, is sponsoring a workshop for local parents entitled, **"Resilience Trumps Trauma"** with guest speakers Mark Brown and Teri Barila of the Children's Resilience Initiative. This workshop will be held at the **YMCA** on **Thursday, February 9th at 7:00 pm**. Mark and Teri will discuss how parents can foster resilience in their own children to make them stronger, and identify local resources that are available to families and how to access them. The Mom's Network President, Beth Swanson, explains this workshop will be an open forum where parenting issues can be openly discussed and realistic solutions provided. The workshop is free and open to all families in the community, and will also provide Spanish language translation and free childcare services. To register for this event or for more information, contact Beth Swanson at 301-7471 or e-mail: [beth@themomsnetworkww.com](mailto:beth@themomsnetworkww.com).

**TOPPS PERFORMANCE**—Our TOPPs team students, directed by PE teacher Keith Reardon, have scheduled performances during the half-time programs of the Men’s and Women’s basketball games at WaHi, Whitman College, Walla Walla Community College, and Walla Walla University. Upcoming scheduled performances are as follows:

<b>Friday, Feb. 3rd</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Whitman College Women’s Basketball</b> <i>(Sherwood Center)</i>
<b>Monday, Feb. 13th</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Walla Walla University Men’s Basketball</b> <i>(College Place)</i>
<b>Friday, Feb. 14th</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Whitman College Women’s Basketball</b> <i>(Sherwood Center)</i>

A BIG thanks to all TOPPs parents for your support and attendance at these scheduled performances.

**MUFFINS WITH MOMS**—Mark your calendars for our annual **Muffins with Moms** social on **Friday, February 10th** from **7:15-8:15 am** in the **library**. If moms are not able to attend, another relative or special friend may accompany students to enjoy reading a good book and eating a muffin together. What a wonderful way to start the day! 

**ELECTION DAY**—Don’t forget to cast your ballot for the **February 14th** Walla Walla Public Schools Educational Programs and Operations Replacement levy. Ballots must be post-marked by midnight on Tuesday, February 14th!

**MID-WINTER BREAK**—The school district calendar has provided students with a mid-winter break on **Friday, February 17th**. This break ties in to the **President’s Day Holiday on Monday, February 20th**. Whatever your plans or travels may be on this long weekend, we hope you have a relaxing and safe time.

**AR STORE #1**—The first AR (Accelerated Reader) Store for the year will be held on **Thursday, February 23rd** all day in the E3 portable. Students who have earned points reading books and taking AR tests in the library will be eligible to “spend” the points they’ve earned on all sorts of fun prizes and toys at the store. The last day for students to count AR points for the store will be Thursday, February 16th.

**IMPORTANCE OF READING**— Research has shown that children who read even ten minutes a day outside of school experience substantially have higher rates of vocabulary growth between second and fifth grades than children who do little or no reading. (Anderson & Nagy, 1992)

Percentile Rank	Minutes Per Day		Words Read Per Year	
	Books	Text	Books	Text
98	65	67.3	4,358,000	4,733,000
90	21.2	33.4	1,823,000	2,357,000
80	14.2	24.6	1,146,000	1,697,000
70	9.6	16.9	622,000	1,168,000
60	6.5	13.1	432,000	722,000
50	4.6	9.2	282,000	601,000
40	3.2	6.2	200,000	421,000
30	1.8	4.3	106,000	251,000
20	0.7	2.4	21,000	134,000
10	0.1	1.0	8,000	51,000
2	0	0	0	8,000

**MATH CAN BE FUN!**—To provide your children with the skills they need to be competitive in a demanding and ever changing world, it is critical they acquire a solid foundation of math knowledge on which to build. We hope you find the Math-Science Connection activities e-mailed to you monthly to be informative and full of fun math activities that you and your children can do at home. Ask your children what math concepts they are working on at school, and set aside time at home to work with them if they are struggling. We welcome you to join us in the classroom to learn more about how you can be a partner in your child's learning.

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**

