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# The Clark-Wilkins Villager

February 4, 2020

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## HIGHLIGHTS & HAPPENINGS FROM SECOND GRADE

The January weather outside of our classroom windows has been warm, cold, wet, windy, snowy, sunny...pretty much different every day! However, inside of our second grade classrooms each morning, there is something that does not change: our Morning Meetings to start our day. The Morning Meeting is a time when students and their teachers greet each other, share news, practice academic and social skills and prepare for the day ahead.

Each classroom's Meeting looks slightly different in its structure or specific activities, but the overall purpose is to establish a classroom community in which the children feel confident, safe, and excited to learn. Through a few key components of Morning Meeting, second grade teachers teach much more than "just the facts" of academia. Students are learning social skills, communication skills, collaboration, and critical thinking.

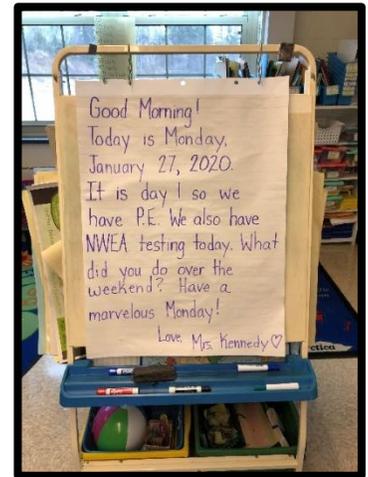


Mrs. Bennett's Class is doing the Morning Greeting. Morning Greeting can be as simple as a proper handshake, good eye contact and "Good Morning" around the circle.

All students feel welcomed and acknowledged right away each day.



Mrs. Ladeau's class is doing a ball-toss greeting. Students say "Good Morning" to one another and can choose to toss, bounce or roll a ball to their classmate. It's a class favorite!



Mrs. Kennedy's class reads a Morning Message. Morning Message is a shared literacy activity in which students read about the upcoming day. The Morning Message can also be used to introduce new ideas, review concepts already learned or extend their understanding of a

"From the moment our second graders enter our classrooms in the morning, they deserve to be part of a supportive community where they can feel connected, safe and happy. Starting our days with Morning Meeting sets us all up for a successful day of learning." Your 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Team



Mrs. Richardson's class does an activity called Coseeki. Activities like Coseeki during Morning Meeting can set a positive tone for the day, and reinforce social and academic skills while having fun



Mrs. Vaillancourt's class has Share time twice a week as part of Morning Meeting. Students practice speaking skills and the traits of good listening while learning more about their classmates.



Mrs. Bevilacqua's class has Calendar Time. During Calendar Time, students learn more than just the days of the week and months of the year. The calendar components are used to teach concepts such as odd / even numbers, recognizing patterns and skip counting.

### INVENTION CONVENTION IS GETTING UNDER WAY – JOIN US FOR THE FUN

Sign up ends Monday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>

Get more info at the Clark Wilkins School website-look for Invention Convention links to an informational video, 2019 Inventor slideshow, Inventor's Packet, and Intent to Invent registration.

Stretch those problem-solving, creativity, and communication skills.

Join us Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020 6:00 pm

## Health Office Flu/Illness Update!

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We are asking for your help to

prevent the spread of flu/flu-like illness in our school. The flu spreads from person to person and children in schools are among the most affected. We want to keep the school open during the flu season and we cannot do it without you. Here are a few ways to help:

- Know the signs of the flu: Signs may be fever greater than 100 degrees, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- **Keep sick children at home. Children should stay at home for at least 24 hours after the last signs of a fever without the use of medicine.** They should not return to school within 24 hours of the last sign of vomiting or diarrhea. Those who have a constant cough should stay home until medicine relieves it. Any child that is sick at school should go home.
- Report their absence to the nurse. If your child is out sick with the flu or flu-like illness, please let the nurse know.
- Reinforce teaching with your children to wash their hands. Hand washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer is the best way to reduce the spread of germs.
- Reinforce teaching your children to cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or their elbow.
- Reinforce teaching your child not to share personal items like their food or water bottles.

Our school works closely with the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control (BIDC) to monitor flu events/flu-like illness. For more information, visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov), or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu.

Sincerely, Deanna Cordts and Nance Panasiti, Clark-Wilkins School Nurses

# PTA NEWS!



## Upcoming Events:

February 5 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting at AMS at 9am
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Appreciation Winter Pick Me Up
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Lions Club Fire & Ice 5-7pm at AMS
February 16 <sup>th</sup> – March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Read-A-Thon Fundraiser
March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	General Meeting at Wilkins at 7pm
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Amherst Elections
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Math and Science Night at Wilkins from 6-8pm
March 13 <sup>th</sup> – March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	SilverGraphics Student Artwork Fundraiser
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting

The Amherst PTA hosts the SAU Joint Facilities Advisory Committee on Wednesday, February 5th at 9am at AMS. Learn more about the needs of our school buildings during a guided tour of AMS. Younger siblings are welcome during daytime meetings.

**February 7<sup>th</sup>** Staff Appreciation Winter Pick Me Up Time

Please join The Staff Appreciation Committee in breaking up the winter blues to shower our Teachers and Staff with a Winter Pick Me Up! We are looking for donations of individually wrapped items (popcorn, pretzels, clementines, etc) for Friday, February 7th. We are asking that all snacks be prepackaged to avoid the sharing of any germs during this cold and flu season!  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4dabaf2dabfd0-staff1>

**February 7<sup>th</sup>** Fire & Ice Chili Cookoff

The Amherst Lions Club is looking for the best chili around. The fifth annual Fire & Ice -- chili cook-off and all-you-can-eat sundaes -- is set for Friday, Feb 7. Chili cooks wishing to enter his or her chili recipe (two-gallon minimum) for one year's bragging rights should contact Reed Flowers at [amherstlionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:amherstlionsclub@gmail.com) for more details. We also added a restaurant category and last year's winner has already signed up. Any restaurants are welcome to enter as well. Deadline to register is February 5<sup>th</sup>. The event is at the Amherst Middle School, 14 Cross Road, from 5-7 pm. Instead of ticket purchase, the Lions are asking for a donation with all proceeds going to local charities. In addition to chili, there will be corn bread, salad with all the fixings, drinks, and hot dogs. For dessert, you may make your own ice cream sundae. A balloon clown and AMS music entertainment is also planned. This event is hosted by the Amherst Lions Club and supported by the Amherst PTA.

- **Read-A-Thon and Silver Graphics** information will be coming home near Valentine's Day in your student's backpack.
- **Amherst Election** - Learn more about the March 10th Amherst Town Election: [www.amherstnhpta.org](http://www.amherstnhpta.org)
- **PTA Elections** - The PTA executive board members are announced in March and elected in April. The Nominating Committee is seeking nominees for the following positions: President, Vice President of Operations, and Vice President of PTA Play. If you're interested, please email [amherstptanh@gmail.com](mailto:amherstptanh@gmail.com). Additionally, planning for next year happens during the spring and summer. If you'd like to learn more, this link will bring you to descriptions of committee chair positions: <http://amherstnhpta.org/committee-positions.html>
- **Wilkins Art Volunteers**  
Lots of classes still need art help. It would be great to have this schedule fill up to support Ms. Anderson and your student's art class. Do you have a day here and there to help out?  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4fafac2ba1f49-wilkins>

[www.amherstnhpta.org](http://www.amherstnhpta.org)  
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