

Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 13

March 26, 2021



"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed. "
-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-

HAPPY SPRING!

Hello WCS Community!

Here are highlights and updates of things taking place at WCS:

Return to Five Days Per Week of In-Person Learning

Last evening, the MSAD #75 board of directors supported a proposal put forward by Interim Superintendent Mr. Bob Lucy to return to five day per week in person learning beginning the week of April 5, 2021. This will be for elementary students in PreKindergarten through grade five. This change will continue through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

*Students will have a modified schedule on Wednesdays to allow for teacher planning and preparation. Please note the following Wednesday arrival schedule beginning Wednesday, April 7, 2021:

PreK: 10:00 A.M. Arrival

K-5: 10:40-10:50 A.M. Bus Arrival

10:50-11:05 A.M. Walker & Car Rider Arrival

*Breakfast and lunch will offered on Wednesdays.

*Our dismissal procedures will remain the same for all five days with PreK dismissing at 1:45 P.M., K-5 Buses dismissing from 2:55-3:05 P.M. and Walkers/Car Riders dismissing from 3:05-3:30 P.M.

*The weekly schedule for Option #2 Remote Students will not change.

*If you have any questions regarding this upcoming schedule change, please do not hesitate to contact our school team.



Gratitude:

*It's officially spring!

*Parent-Teacher Conferences: Thank-you for your support and participation!

*Conference treats from WCS families.

*Smooth morning arrivals and end of day student dismissals.

*Picnic tables to support outdoor lunches when warmer weather returns (see photo below)



If you are in need of anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself and/or any of the WCS staff. We are here to help!

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

rineerr@link75.org

(207)725-4391





Schedule for week of 3/29-4/2

3/29 & 3/30 K-5, Cohort A PreK

3/31 Hybrid Wednesday

4/1 & 4/2 K-5 Cohort B PreK

Schedule for week of 4/5-4/9

4/5 & 4/6 PreK-5

4/7 2 Hour Delayed Start, PreK-5

PreK: 10:00 A.M. Arrival

K-5: 10:40-10:50 A.M. Bus Arrival, 10:50-11:05 A.M. Walkers & Car Riders

4/8 & 4/9 PreK-5

Schedule for week of 4/12-4/16

4/12 & 4/13 PreK-5

4/14 2 Hour Delayed Start, PreK-5

PreK: 10:00 A.M. Arrival

K-5: 10:40-10:50 A.M. Bus Arrival, 10:50-11:05 A.M. Walkers & Car Riders

4/15 PreK-5

4/16 Teacher In-Service, No School for Students

WCS 5th Grade Families: Option #1 & Option #2

5th Grade End of the Year Celebration Planning Meeting

Thursday, April 1st, 5:00 P.M. Via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/92706636457?pwd=YWh0ajdCWU80Y1UyMzRpV2NxWW1Xdz09>

Meeting ID: 927 0663 6457

Passcode: 923685

Other Important Dates:

Trimester 2 Report Cards Sent Home: April 2

No School for Students/Professional Development Day: Friday, April 16

Spring Break: April 19-April 23



Free breakfasts and lunches continue to be available. Please note the dates and times for meal distribution at WCS over the next few weeks:

Wednesday, March 31st: 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, April 7th: 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, April 14th: 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Kindergarten

If you have a child who will turn 5 no later than October 15, 2021, he/she is eligible to attend kindergarten beginning the 2021-2022 school year.

Kindergarten students can be registered electronically at:

<https://ic.link75.org/campus/OLRLoginKiosk/msad75>



In an effort to increase access to high-quality early childhood learning opportunities for students prior to entering Kindergarten, M.S.A.D. No. 75 provides two PreK classes, for a total of 32 students. Students must be 4 years old by October 15, 2021. The program uses the same calendar as grades K-12, runs five days a week and approximately 6 hours per day. Transportation is not provided. One class is at the Williams-Cone School in Topsham, while the other is at Midcoast Maine Community Action's (MMCA) Head Start location at Cook's Corner in Brunswick.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2021-2022 school year. Additional information is available through the following link:

http://link75.org/parents/student_registration/prek_registration

Message from Mr. Cardoza & Ms. Carin
WCS School Counselor & Social Worker



Now presenting....

Mr. Cardoza and Ms. Carin's Virtual Counseling Office! Please use the link or find it on our schools website to access our virtual office with many different resources for you and your child. Students can watch calming videos, play fun games and fill out an on-line form to say hi or meet virtually with Ms. Carin or I! Use the left and right arrows on your keyboard to switch between rooms. Almost everything in our 4 "rooms" is clickable. Enjoy, click on and stay calm

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vSThG6PkxPQYTZ-hV7PillSMnYtKcB93owO_NqFfjPkvfd22_oqdrJV-QcnkjrPZOrcEEOlYrg--OBK/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000

WCS Help for Families 2021

The pandemic has created many needs for many families. We are thinking about all of you and want to offer support and assistance as we continue to live through this difficult time. If you are in need of assistance for your family we hope you will feel comfortable being in touch with us or accessing community resources.

Jeff Cardoza, our School Counselor, and Carin Stromgren, our Social Worker are familiar with resources in our community that help families meet their basic needs for food, shelter and heat, and other needs related to holidays, divorce, job loss, moving, etc.

Easy Steps for Getting Help:

Midcoast Hunger Prevention Program offers our students and families snacks at school and bags of extra food to help over the weekend. Snacks can be accessed through the classroom teacher, and weekend bags of food can be requested on Wednesdays at the lunch pick up at Williams-Cone School. Please call Mr. C or Carin if you are interested in some food help.

United Way and Other Community Groups are organizations committed to offering help of many kinds, for things such as housing, heat, and food. Calling the number **211** will connect you with a friendly person at United Way who can hear what you need and steer you to the best place. Particularly due to changes in the ways community groups are operating right now, calling **211** is an excellent starting place.

Linda Dumont at the Topsham Town Office at: 725-1725, ldumont@topshammaine.com, can help families access general help for basic needs, heating help and can be a general resource for Topsham families.

Mental Health Supports: A reminder that if you, your student, or someone close to you needs mental health support, here are some resources to help:

NAMI Maine HELPLINE: 1-800-464-5767 (press 1)

Crisis Assistance: 1-888-568-1112

Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741-741
Trevor Text Line: Text START to 678-678

Jeff Cardoza, School Counselor

cardozac@link75.org 725-4391, ext 6009

Carin Stromgren, School Social Worker

stromgrenc@link75.org 725-4391, ext 6041

Message from Mrs. Chamberland

WCS Nurse



Here are some reminders to help keep our school community safe and healthy:

***Conduct the daily Covid-19 screener before sending your student to school and report all student absence to the office. If you have questions about whether or not your student is well enough for school, please contact the health office to discuss.**

- Let the health office know if your student is sick with Covid-19 symptoms, or has tested positive for the virus.

- Stay home and quarantine immediately if identified as a close contact to someone testing positive to Covid-19.
- Follow Governor Mills' executive order for testing/quarantining if your family travels out of Maine to non exempt states.
- Continue to wear face coverings, wash hands, maintain social distance, and stay home when sick.

WCS Staff Interview

Featuring: Mrs. Therese Chamberland
WCS School Nurse



Number of years at WCS: 11 years

Family: My husband's name is Glen and I have two teenage boys. Andrew is age 17 and is

graduating from MTA this year and Caleb is age 15.

Pets: My sweet dog Sadie.

Favorite Colors: Green and Blue

Hobbies: My favorite hobbies are walking my dog, hiking, yoga and reading a good book.

Favorite Book or Types of Books: I love to read historical fiction. It is hard to pick a favorite book but if I had to choose it would be "Homegoing" By Yaa Gyasi.

One to Three Facts That are Unique to You:

*My favorite place to be is the beach. I love listening to the waves, swimming and combing for treasures.

* When I was in my late teens I spent a year living on an island off the coast of Maine, Isle Au Haut. I spent much of my time there exploring and looking for treasures on its many beaches. I was able to return to Isle Au Haut this summer and share many memories with my family.

Gratitude-Something You are Grateful For: I am grateful for my family, friends and of course my dog Sadie!





Friends of Williams-Cone

2020-2021 Yearbook

This is surely a year to remember and what better way to do that than order a yearbook!? It's easy, just click [here](https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1015059372991326): <https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1015059372991326>

5th graders, you will receive a free yearbook at graduation! More details to come!

Because this is a year like no other, we need your help with pictures! 📷 From First Days, Remote

Learning or proudly showing your Tiger Pride 🐅, please share pics! Be sure to let us know what grade

your student is in and email pictures to: WCSYearbook@yahoo.com

Thank you!

Next FOWC Meeting, Tuesday, April 6th, 5:00 P.M. via zoom (link will TBA)

CLYNK THAT'S WHAT CHANGE SOUNDS LIKE

10th Annual CLYNK for Schools Recycling Challenge

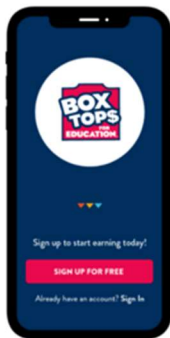
February 1st to March 31st 2021

**During this time period, for every \$1 raised,
WCS will get an added .50 cent match!**

Let's CLYNK all year long to help raise money for WCS! Pick up bags from the bin outside the front door at school. Fill up the bag and drop off at Hannaford. Easy as that!

You can donate to WCS through your personal online CLYNK account too! Visit www.clynk.com for more information.

Note: Bags are always available year-round for WCS Fundraising. Just pop by school and grab them from the bin outside the front door. Every nickel counts!



Box Tops For Education Has Gone Digital!

The box tops clippings are becoming more few and far between as they transition the program to be fully digital.

Download the app to your phone and scan your grocery receipts to earn easy money for WCS! The app will find participating products that you purchased at any store and instantly add cash to our WCS account.

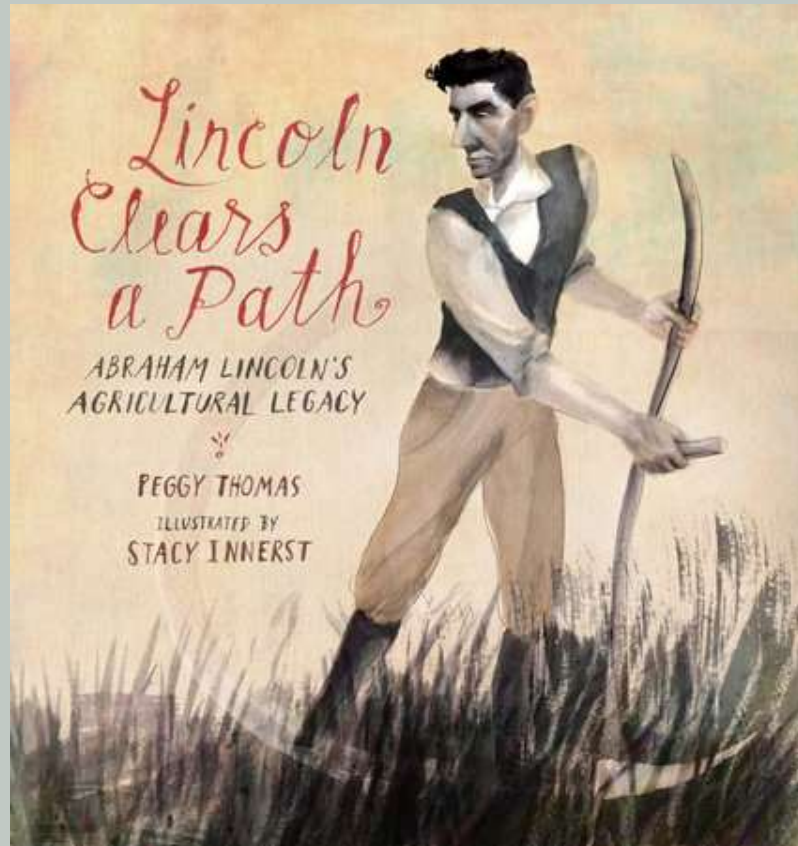
Scan the receipts within 14 days of purchase.

There are special bonus offers on top of your Box Tops earnings too!



Staff Picks

Do you know which President was a farmer and was a driving force for America's Agricultural Revolution? In 1862 four congressional acts were passed that are instrumental in Agricultural growth and development of policies



we still use today. These congressional Acts are the The Department of Agriculture Act, the Homestead Act, the Pacific Railway Act and The Morrill Act. In the biography *Lincoln Clears a Path: Abraham Lincoln's Agricultural Legacy* we learn how Lincoln directly influenced America's Agriculture past, present, and future. We start off learning who Lincoln grew in a farming family where hard times and hard work influenced him. Lincoln sets out to clear his own path with a "Thwack! Swish! Thwump!" in life by becoming not just a farmer but an educated man, lawyer and then president. This book shows us another side of Abraham Lincoln's legacy as well as a brief biography of his life. *Lincoln Clears a Path* by Peggy Thomas is an engaging picture book biography with lots of historical information and flowing illustrations by Stacy Innerst. This book is a fascinating read for any age.

Recommended By Mrs. Bellina

MSAD #75 Elementary Technology Integrator