

# Wakanda News

C.A.R.E.S. (cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, respect.)

## What is Social and Emotional Learning?

Social and emotional learning is the process through which children and adults acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to:

- Recognize and manage their emotions
  - Set and achieve positive goals
- Demonstrate caring and concern for others
- Establish and maintain positive relationships
  - Make responsible decisions
- Handle interpersonal situations effectively

Student Social and Emotional Wellness is pillar #2 of the SDMA 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. This pillar focuses on assisting all students to be healthy and well, so they can learn, thrive, and reach their goals. Social interactions and relationships are extremely important for healthy social and emotional development. The ability to form positive relationships with adults directly supports children in developing healthy relationships with peers, and helps build children's self-concept.

1

### DON'T FORGET...

PTO will be offering a lottery for front row seats and parking ... more info to come.

2

### JUST A HEADS UP...

Our early performance (9:30) is always less crowded.

3

### CHECK OUT...

Our lost and found. Mittens, hats, boots and snow pants that have lost their owner!

## Important Dates...

**12/2** - Craft Night for K & 3rd  
3:30-4:15pm

**12/4** - Craft Night for 2nd & 5th  
3:30-4:15pm

**12/5** - Craft Night for 1st & 4th  
3:30-4:15pm

**12/9-12/12** - Book Fair

**12/11** - K-2 Concert at 9:30am & 2pm

**12/17** - Leadership Club from 3:30-4:30pm

**12/21-1/1** - NO SCHOOL

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Wakanda staff and students will continue to focus on Social Emotional Learning. In addition to caring relationships that staff have built with students, we have implemented our Color Family/Star Squads, as an opportunity for students to continue to form positive relationships with staff and students throughout the building.

As we move through the 2019-2020 school year, we have a number of practices that we are implementing with various students to give additional opportunities to develop extended relationships and learn specific social skills. Examples of these practices could include:

- Students having breakfast or lunch with a staff member.
- Students conferencing with a selected staff member at the beginning and end of the day, to prepare for the day and to celebrate daily successes, as well as to make plans for continued improvement in their school performance.
- Students bringing home positive notes about their successes throughout the week.
- Students participating in a small group setting, with peers, to learn social skills.
- Students working to meet specific goals via a behavior contract.
- Students practicing giving positive recognition to fellow classmates.

By addressing Social Emotional Learning, our goal is to promote social-emotional skills and positive attitudes, which in turn should lead to improved classroom behavior and increased academic achievement for all of our Wakanda Stars! We look forward to your continued support!

## COUNSELING NEWS

Students have been working hard on expressing how they are feeling, being a buddy - not a bully, figuring out to solve little problems, and how we should be treating our friends. Here is what we will be discussing in December!:

K - Self-Esteem and Friendship

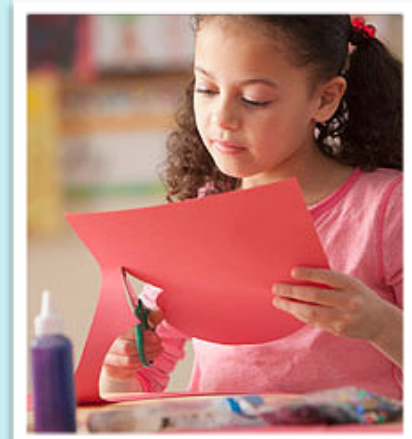
1st - Bullying

2nd - Conflict Resolution and Anger/Upset

3rd - Self-Esteem and Teamwork

4th - Sportsmanship and Cooperation

5th - Self-Esteem



## Grade Level News

**Kindergarten** spent the month of November being thankful for our teachers, family, and friends! We recently started our Life Long Ago unit by taking a walk over to the Rassbach Heritage Museum. The children greatly enjoyed seeing signs from long ago in artifacts from home, school, and various types of transportation. In addition, our kindergartners have been working hard reading their snap word books as they are learning to use Superpower Strategies when reading. We have also been learning to identify and explore 2D and 3D shapes in math.

The **first graders** are turning into quite the mathematicians learning how to add three numbers together by looking for groups of 10. In writer's workshop, these authors have begun to work on "how-to" writing. If you need step by step instructions, find a first grader! They have already written: how to blow a bubble, how to make pizza, and much more. In Readers Workshop and Phonics we continue to get messages from the SSDA (Super Secret Detective Agency) that challenge us to be word detectives as we learn new skills and strategies in decoding, solving tricky words, and reading non-fiction text.

**Second grade** is zooming into winter! In literacy we have been learning all about characters in stories. We are going deeper to understand the characters and why they do the things we do. We have been reading stories about pioneers and their journey westward. In math we are adding and subtracting two digit numbers unit. We started with place value discs to visually see the numbers when adding. We are practicing more efficient strategies for adding, including the standard algorithm you are familiar with. Last, we are continuing our

unit on pioneers. The students really enjoyed our pioneer simulations. Some of us fell in a river and some of us ended up with cholera! :) We will be making model covered wagons and log cabins soon which is always a hit.

In November, **third graders** learned about measurement and rounding in Math. Students were busy writing all different types of poetry. In Social Studies, the students learned about Early American History beginning with the establishment of the Jamestown Colony in 1607 until 1776 when the colonies declared independence. They played some games similar to games colonial children would have played. They made butter and tasted the butter on biscuits. They also had a visit from "Betsy Ross" who taught students how to make a 5 pointed star with one snip of their scissors.

This month has been a busy one in **Fourth Grade**. We have been working hard on learning multiplication and division in math. In writing it has been fun seeing and hearing the creative minds of our students in our poetry unit. This unit will culminate with a poetry and punch recital on the morning of December 20th. We want to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

This is a big week for **Wakanda 5th Grade Park Rangers!** Each park ranger will present an Interpretive Ranger Talk highlighting the wonderful things that happen in all four seasons in their parks. We have been using Erik Palmer's PVLEGS to become more confident public speakers. Our study of Non-Fiction is also coming to an end in Grade 5. We have also had a lot of fun with the morphology of the words we read! All in all, we're proud of the work done in Term One in Grade 5.