**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Thank you all for your warm wishes and great support during our holiday festivities. December began with a very successful Barnes and Noble PTA fund raising evening. Our ensemble groups, directed by Ms. Adams, Ms. Jablon, Ms. Bhasin and Mr. Pomponio played holiday music. Mrs. Gasparino and Mrs. Hearn served in the Starbucks cafe while Ms. Amodeo read “Big Dog Little Dog” and Mr. Esposito with his friend Mr. Cohen sang original songs. The PTA raised over $1,000 that night.

Mr. Hiscox and his art club students created large snowflakes that were displayed in Fairmeadows Park on the corner of Pulaski and Park Avenue as a community service project. They were honored at Town Hall by Councilwoman Jackson.

Ms. Jacovina and Ms. Reichenbach directed the most beautiful choral performance on December 15th. Mrs. Canales (chorus teacher) had her baby the week of the concert and a song was dedicated to her baby girl. I would like to “THANK” everyone for making December a time for “giving”. Our band and orchestra performance will be on January 27th at Huntington High School.

Our student council supported Girl Scout Troop #250 by collecting toys for donation to the Family Service League for their Holiday Shopping Boutique.

Mr. Scannello and Ms. Marlow organized the donations of gifts for 11 families. They delivered bags of holiday gifts and certificates to ensure all Huntington families enjoyed the holiday season.

Indoor recess may be on a more regular basis these next few months. I would like to make it as enjoyable and active as possible. We have a Wii game from a HFEE grant and will be setting it up in the gym for physical activities. So far we have JustDance 2 and Dance Workout. If anyone would like to donate other physically active games, please let me know or drop off at the office.

Basketball is also being offered on a rotating basis when the gym is available.

The classrooms are in need of board games, playing cards or dominoes. Please donate games that have all the pieces and are in good condition.

We have great parent volunteers to run our Scrabble Club on Wednesdays and a Book Club every other Friday during lunch/recess. Students that would like to join the book club should see the attached form and send it in this week. Scrabble Club will be every Wednesday and students can participate any week.

Do you shop at Value Drugs? Just say you are from Woodhull and the school gets a portion of your purchase. We have already received a check for $117.00. Remember to keep sending in those Box Tops.

Students should not bring electronics to school. If your child must bring a phone, please instruct them to have them OFF during school. Any phone out or used in school or on the bus, will be held in my office for parents to pick up. Please advise your children about the legal implications of video taping or taking pictures on their phone and posting to internet sites.

**Student Council News**

Members of the Student Council will be conducting a community service project that is near and dear to our hearts. James Byler is a former Huntington student who while serving in Afghanistan this past Fall was seriously injured. His injuries caused him to lose both his legs and two fingers. Our Student Council will be selling bracelets for $3.00 each to benefit James and the challenges he faces ahead. Send money in an envelope if you would like to purchase one. Label your envelope “James Byler bracelet”.

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**Woodhull Intermediate School**

**MESSAGE FROM MRS. STOKKERS**

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6th Grade News

Ms. VonVange Greenkill—Health forms and payment of $290 is due by February 4th. Any questions please call 673-2030 or contact Ms. VonVange at avonvange@hufsd.edu. Please E-mail Ms. VonVange if you are interested in sponsoring a student. PS: Keep bringing in those Box Tops, Campbell Labels, Coke Rewards and Tyson A+ Labels! We just ordered two Smartboards thanks to Box Tops!

5th Grade News

Science—Fifth grade is in the process of completing the ESP Light Kit. Students are looking forward to participating in the various labs incorporated within the study of light and sound.

Social Studies—Fifth grade students are currently learning about the development of our nation starting with George Washington as our first President. Further study will include; westward expansion Manifest Destiny!

Math—Thinkcentral.com (see attached flyer from our Parent University Workshop at the last PTA meeting)

English— the students are reading non-fiction texts in order to prepare for the upcoming ELA exam. The students are focused on adding sensory details to their writing. The students are reading a historical fiction piece and distinguishing between fact and opinion to evaluate the text. They are also drafting their expository writing on a holiday they’ve researched.

Dismissal Procedures

If you are picking up your son/daughter at dismissal, please enter the cafeteria doors after 3:30pm.

We also need your cooperation in not asking the secretaries to call into classrooms to have your child dismissed early unless it is an emergency. Ninth period is a teaching period and important “end of the day instruction” time with class pack up and homework instructions. I am requested that children stay until dismissal and only leave early if a student is given a note that morning. We can not be calling into classes after 3:20pm. Please help our teachers teach without so many interruptions unless it is unavoidable. Early pick up should not be done on a regular basis.

School Closings or Delays

School closings, weather related early dismissal and emergency evacuations will be on Channel 12, radio WALKFM and Connect-Ed (automated phone recording) to those phone numbers that have been given at registration or on the blue cards handed in. The phone number that is listed as primary number will be the only number called when a message from our school or district is sent. If you have not received a phone call this quarter, please email Lindsay (lfitzpatrick@hufsd.edu) to update the phone number you would like to receive messages on.

PTA Corner

Membership—LAST CALL

Please become a member of the Woodhull Parent Teacher Association. Membership is only $8.00 for the year. The PTA makes $3.50 for every membership. Contact Norma Gorecki with any questions npkg@aol.com 424-2152. We almost have 100% of our teachers and parents! Help us reach our goal. February is Focus on Fathers month, please encourage Father and all VIP men to join.

E-Mail Address List

If you would like to receive notices from the Woodhull PTA regarding events and meetings, please contact Susan Reilly 424-5077 psreilly1@verizon.net. We do not share our addresses with any other groups.

Reflections Contest

Caroline Tonks a sixth grader in Ms. Reilly’s class won an Award of Excellence for her dance choreography performance. She was given her award at a ceremony on December 18th at Northport High School and her work is being on to the state level of competition.

Congratulations Caroline!

Good Job to all Participants in this year’s Reflections Competition:

Quinn Blackburn Alize Lerner William Hebert
Christopher Piazza Logan Rice Jacob LaBarge
Kyle Chin Hannah Olsen Cloe Stevens
Alexa Cassar Emma Pipolo

Thank you Debbie Chin for coordinating this very worth while PTA event.

HFEE

The Huntington Foundation raises money to fund innovative and exciting educational opportunities for all children in the district. This funding affords our teachers access to educational programs that are not funded by the school budget. Most often these new items are then incorporated into the curriculum on an ongoing basis.

HFEE (Huntington Foundation for Excellence in Education) Our annual “Reach for the Stars” dinner and fundraiser is Friday, January 21, 2011 at the Woodlands. It is an evening of fun with dinner, music, raffles, psychic and a live auction. This year’s recipient of the Spirit Award is Barbara Cutrone. If you have any questions or to make a donation, call Karen Dwyer at 631-421-4037 or Linda Leake at 549-7026.

Library News

We have covered hyperboles, onomatopoeia, metaphors, similes, idioms, alliteration, and personification. Some classes may be slightly behind others because of the school calendar and testing schedules. We started our review of figurative language last week. We will continue to review this week and next week.