March—April

Tuesday, March 1st
World Math Day

Thursday, March 3rd
Parents (only) orientation to Finley 7pm @ Finley

Monday, March 7th
PARP Begins
BOE Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Tuesday, March 8th
PTA Meeting 7:00pm (time change)
For ELA Presentation by Angela Berner

Wednesday, March 9th
BOE Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Monday, March 14th
BOE Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Tuesday, March 22nd-Friday, March 25th
Greenfield Trip 1st w/Mr. Meyers

Monday, March 28th
BOE Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Wednesday, March 30th
Annual Science Fair— all day until 6pm

Friday, April 1st
March Madness on April Fools Day

Monday, April 4th
BOE Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Tuesday, April 5th-Friday, April 8th
Greenfield Trip 2nd w/Mrs. VonVange

Monday, April 11th
BOE/Budget Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Wednesday, March 30th
Annual Science Fair— all day until 6pm

Friday, April 1st
March Madness on April Fools Day

Monday, April 4th
BOE Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Tuesday, April 5th-Friday, April 8th
Greenfield Trip 2nd w/Mrs. VonVange

Monday, April 11th
BOE/Budget Meeting 7:30pm @ JAI

Wednesday, April 13th
Spring Pictures

Monday, April 18th—Monday, April 25th
Spring Recess—School Closed

Huntington High School’s
“Stuff The Bus” Food Drive
We will be collecting food donations every week for the local food bank. Unpack and whatever you can. The food banks need your help all throughout the year.

Indoor Recess Donations
Any donations of (Bop-It, Life, Don’t Break The Ice, Sorry, Clue, Guess Who) would be great for recess time.

Student Council has been raising money for a local hero. Marine Lt. James Byler, a Huntington HS graduate, returned from Afghanistan in December after suffering a life changing injury in defense of our country. For several afternoons in January, student council members sold bracelets to students and staff to benefit a charity that is providing monetary assistance to Lt. Byler and his family to offset the cost of making his home more accessible. The first order of 200 bracelets were sold in just 3 days. Another 100 bracelets were ordered and will be on sale for $3 each beginning February 28th. The student council was able to solicit a matching donation from the Bethpage Federal Credit Union for up to $1,000. Please help us reach our goal.

Woodhull Intermediate School
MESSAGE FROM MRS. STOKKERS

Dear Parents and Staff,
Spring is almost here! Our playgrounds are thawing out and hopefully our PE classes and recess will be back outside soon. Until then, we still face the indoor recess challenge. A big thanks goes to our Aides who ducked many basketballs in the gym and danced along with our students in the “Wii” games and most importantly guided students in creative play. Parents volunteered their time to run Book Clubs and Scramble games. Thank you to Ms. Gaitings, Ms. Drace, Ms. Levine and Ms. Simpson.

Mrs. Marino, our art teacher, painted with a group of fifth graders in designing a mural at the entrance to the first courtyard during recess. The students came up with the idea to make a club called “Friends for Change”. They offered to fix up the courtyard with Mr. Hiscox and myself by making it an environmentally friendly place to play and grow. Please take a look at the beautiful mural they painted. Their idea grew and grew and now we have a group researching endangered frogs for this courtyard to raise awareness for their plight. A group of 6th graders have expressed interest in decorating the 6th grade hallway entrance with paintings of their endangered species. Mr. Hiscox has volunteered to work on this project with them.

Learning has come alive, literally at Woodhull. Our 6th graders walked through Asia last week on a 90’x60’ floor map at “Geographical Awareness Day”, coordinated by Mr. Leavy, our Humanities Director and Mr. Armyn, Mr. Dierking, Mrs. Nowack and Mrs. Myers, our 6th grade social studies teachers.

Fifth graders are going back in time to the days of the “Western Movement” and packing their own covered wagons by going on a field trip to the Long Island Museum in Stonybrook. Mr. Myers, Mrs. Nowack and Mr. Myers, our 6th grade social studies teachers.

Our musical, “Music Man Jr.” was a real show stopper. The talent and the support from parents and staff was incredible. Mrs. Von Vange, Mr. Hiscox and Ms. Jaconuina joined together to direct a memorable performance. The dedication and commitment shown was all inspiring. They also took their show on the road to Carillon Nursing Home. They sung their hearts out to our seniors. The smiles and accolades they received were over whelming. If you didn’t see it, we have it on a DVD.

March Madness is coming, but not until April 1st! This year Mr. Suarez is coordinating this fund raising event to purchase more Smartboard equipment for our classrooms. Mr. Armony will be coaching and Mr. Amoto will be soliciting players from Finley. Mr. Stein is coordinating a Pep Rally the day of the basketball game. Don’t miss this event of the year!

The PTA will be sponsoring a 6th grade event “Pasta Night” on March 11th. Each team is collecting items for a basket “theme” to be raffled off. Red Team is collecting “sumertime” items, White Team is collecting “Music and Movies” items and Blue Team is collecting any “Sports Related” items. Please send in whatever you can for the baskets or cash donations would be greatly appreciated also. Flyers will be sent home, please respond ASAP.

ANGEL FUND

Would you like to sponsor a child that can’t afford a field trip? If so, please send in an envelope marked Angel Fund to Ms. Stokkers. Thank you.
**Sixth Grade News**

**Greenkill**

Our sixth graders will be participating in our outdoor environmental education program in March and April. We have two trips planned for 4 days and 3 nights each trip. Our “stay at home” program will have field trips and activities that parallel the Greenkill program. Donations to sponsor students will be greatly appreciated. The following dates indicate when each class will be participating in each program:

**March 22nd (coordinated by Mr. Meyers)**
- Mr. Armin
- Mrs. Anderson/Mrs. Kinane
- Mrs. Holscaw/Mrs. Turner
- Mr. Helstrom
- Mrs. Reilly
- Mr. Esposito
- Mrs. Myers

**April 5th (coordinated by Ms. VonVange)**
- Mrs. VonVange
- Mr. Suarez
- Mr. Dierking
- Mrs. Lipow
- Mrs. Jovans/Ms. Connors
- Mrs. Nowack

**Social Studies**

Geographic Awareness Program—a huge map measuring 90’x60’ covered the gym floor on February 16th & 17th. Students walked on this map of Asia to locate countries, mountain ranges, cities and waterways. We are looking into getting the map for the 5th grade.

**Too Good For Drugs Program**

Ms. Spatafora and Ms. Guthrie will be teaching this 10 week program. This is an evidence based school “prevention program” for 6th graders that correlates with New York Health Standards and Performance Indicators. Its objective is to reduce risk factors and enhance protective factors related to alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, as well as other “at risk” behaviors.

**School of Rock**—Every Thursday 3:45-4:45pm. Features 6th grade students playing guitars, drums, keyboards as well as flutes, saxophone, violins and other traditional instruments. Students learn and perform 4-6 classic rock songs and also write an original composition. A day and an evening performance is scheduled for June. Currently, the band is voting on its name and is leaning “Gimme Some Lovin’” by Spencer Davis Group and “D’yer Maker” by Led Zeppelin. Mr. Esposito is the club advisor and his assistant is Mr. Mark Dara, a parent of a club member, Katie Dara.

**HFPE MINI GRANTS AWARDED TO WOODHULL**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**
- Christine Barresi—Educational Math Games at Woodhull
- Tara Adams—Pod Touch for the Instrumental Music Department at Woodhull
- Maryann Daly—The Power of the Rubik’s Cube for all 6th Grade Math Teachers

**Anti-Bullying Presentation by Suffolk County Police Department**

The last scheduled presentation was snowed out. Please put this new date on your calendar: May 11th, 7-9pm @ Huntington High School. Until then, closely monitor your child’s computer sites and history of where they have been. Computers should be in a family area where parents can oversee. Cyberbullying is prevalent and very dangerous. We have reviewed safety precautions while using computers, but they need to be reinforced at home. Please see technology E-board for more information or Ms. Stokkers E-board by going to Hufsd.edu website go to click bar and scroll down to e-boards, find the name of department or specific name.

**SCHOOL WIDE EVENTS**

**Math**
Thank you to our AIS Math teachers, Mrs. Barresi and Mrs. Mahoney for organizing “World Math Day” on March 1st. Winners will be announced March 3rd.

**English Language Arts**

**“Race To Mount Skills”**
Our reading teachers Mrs. Swanson, Ms. Karivalis and Mrs. Fioriallaisi have organized a fun ELA skills competition to promote and practice English language arts skills. Each Monday morning, a specific skill will be announced and the TEAMS will compete against each other by logging onto Survey Monkey and answering five multiple choice questions similar to questions on the New York State English Language Arts test.

Every Friday, each team’s score will be tallied and the winning team on each grade level will be highlighted with school announcements and a flag hanging near the winning classroom doors.

Mrs. Marino, our art teacher, created a bulletin board by the gym and cafeteria to display how each team is doing. Each team will have a mountain climber and students can watch them climb the mountains.

“Race to Mount Skills” will last from 4-6 weeks. The ELA skills that our students will be quizzed on are: figurative language, content clues, making inferences, finding the main idea, fact or opinion, cause and effect, compare and contrast. Students and teachers will be able to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses.

**Science Fair—March 30th**

5th and 6th graders will be participating in Woodhull’s 2011 Science Fair on March 30th. Each 5th grade class will do a project as a class and if 5th graders would like to submit an individual project to be submitted to the Brookhaven National Laboratory Science Fair they may, but it is not mandatory. 6th graders will do individual projects and winners will be awarded and move on to Brookhaven Science Fair. A schedule of each class will be sent home.

**Fifth Grade News**

**Field Trip**
The 5th grade classes are learning about westward expansion in their social studies classes. They are learning how the pioneers travelled west in covered wagons during the 1800’s. In March, they will be going to the Long Island Museum in Stony Brook to see a real covered wagon. Two classes at a time will visit the museum. The students will experience the hopes and fears of a 19th century family preparing to leave their farm and travel to a new life in Oregon. Students will help the family pack, then visit authentic vehicles to learn about overland travel to reach the “jumping off point” at St. Joseph, Missouri. They will explore a real wagon and visit the blacksmith shop to learn more about the wagons and their wheels. Finally, they will pack a model wagon with everything needed for the six month journey on the Oregon Trail. We are looking forward to this trip. Permission slips have been sent home. Sponsors would be greatly appreciated for students not able to afford the trip.

**Choices Program**
The 5th grade will be participating in a 10 week program of an interactive, late elementary school curriculum to prevent destructive behaviors including bullying and the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The curriculum to promote wellness is taught by trained, highly skilled Prevention Specialists.

**Banana Splits** Ms. Matos our social worker is organizing a 5th grade Banana Splits Group for students of separated or divorced families. The group will meet for the rest of this year on Thursdays from 3-3:30. Should the number of referrals be over 8 students, she will have to do 2 separate groups that meet alternating weeks. If you are interested in referring your child, please call Vilma Matos, school social worker @ 673-2063 or 673-2113.

**Panpipes—sponsored by Arts in Education**
All 5th grade students at Woodhull will have the opportunity to participate in a special program this spring during their general music classes. Students will be learning how to build and play their very own Andean mountain panpipe. This panpipe and the music they learn are authentic, and just like the instruments and music that are played by many people in the Andean Mountains. There will be an in school assembly/ perfor mance with Pepe Santana, an expert in Andean Music, with his musical group, “Inkhay”. Students will have the opportunity to learn the Andean Music and culture as well as perform with Mr. Santana and Inkhay.