



**West Bridgewater Public Schools**  
**Rose L. MacDonald School, Stepping Stone Drive**  
**West Bridgewater, MA 02379**

Tel: 508 894-1240  
Fax: 508 894-1242  
[ldubin@wbridgewater.com](mailto:ldubin@wbridgewater.com)  
[www.wbridgewaterschools.org](http://www.wbridgewaterschools.org)

Mrs. Linda Dubin  
Principal

**Dear Parents and Families,**

**January 26, 2012**

The Governor proclaimed the fourth Wednesday in January (yesterday) as “NO NAME CALLING DAY” to increase public awareness of the devastating effects of verbal bullying, to encourage students to use positive dialogue and pledge not to use hurtful names, and to promote tolerance and respect for differences. Students wore the WB school colors of maroon and white as a show of support to the cause. Each classroom acknowledged the day with their own special event.

**CHINESE NEW YEAR** – Gung Hee Fa Tchoy – The New Year began on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> and the celebrations can last up to 15 days. Grade 2 began studying about China and Chinese New Year. This week they have been learning about the geography, the people and their special New Year traditions. Grade 2 has done some crafts, learned to speak and write a little Chinese, listened to some traditional music and celebrated the Year of the Dragon.

**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART:** The students at the Rose MacDonald School will be participating in the American Heart Association’s “Jump Rope for Heart” program again this year. During the month of February **ALL** students will be jumping rope during their recess time with Mrs. Moniz. Contribution envelopes need to be returned to their classroom by February 17th. ***This is a voluntary program. All students will be jumping rope regardless of whether they donate or not.*** Last year the students at the RLM School raised over \$3,000– my hats off to the parents and students who participated!!

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:** The next school council meeting will be February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the RLM in the reading room at 3:20pm. Other meeting dates are as follows: March 1<sup>st</sup> and the last meeting is a combined School Council & Strategic Planning Meeting at WBMSHS (5:30pm start time at the MSHS in the cafeteria).

**SNACK CHANGE:** This week brought a change of offerings to the snack selection at the early morning break. **Chips will no longer be sold at the first snack break** which runs from 10:00-10:20am. The selections remaining are: whole grain Pillsbury mini pancakes, whole grain Smart Choice assorted muffins, whole grain Single Strawberry/Cinnamon pop tarts, assorted Nutrigrain bars, Jump Start breakfast kit (Is offered as a complete breakfast for \$1.25), yogurt, assorted cereal bowls, Rice Krispy treat, 100 calorie pack Chip Ahoy, 100 calorie pack Oreo, Goldfish cheddar crackers, pretzels.

**PTO INFO:** The PTO is looking for someone to help coordinate raffle items for the Easter Bunny Breakfast on March 31st. If you are interested, please contact Darcie Fisher through the PTO website. Also, if you have any NEW children's toys, games, books, crafts, etc... that you'd like to donate to the raffle, please contact Mrs. Fisher. In today's mailings you should receive the volunteer signup sheet for our spring events today. Please consider being a part of our fundraisers. All fundraisers help pay for curriculum based programs as well as items needed in our schools. \*Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 7th in the Howard School library. All parents and staff are welcome!

**EMERGENCY FORMS:** Please look over your child’s emergency form. Make any necessary changes and have your child return it to his/her homeroom teacher. Before returning, the **emergency form must be signed and dated.**

**WINTER 2012 ENRICHMENT PROGRAM:** Brochures for the Winter Enrichment program were sent home recently with your child. Sign up for classes are on a ***first come, first served*** basis. Tuesday classes begin January 31<sup>st</sup> and Thursday classes begin February 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more information about registration and/or the classes, you may call or e-mail Ms. Theresa O’Loughlin at [toloughlin@wbridgewater.com](mailto:toloughlin@wbridgewater.com) or Mrs. Green at [mgreen@wbridgewater.com](mailto:mgreen@wbridgewater.com). They will be happy to help you.

**SCHOOL SURVEY:** The deadline for the survey form is tomorrow - Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Improvement Council considers the results of the survey in formulating a new improvement plan for the upcoming year.

**REPORT CARDS:** Report cards will be distributed on tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>.

*The West Bridgewater Public Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability.*

**SCHOOL VACATION:** *Mark your calendar.* Winter break: February 20<sup>th</sup> – February 24<sup>th</sup>.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:** The Strategic Planning Committee will be meeting on Wednesday evening May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30pm in the Middle/Senior High School cafeteria. Dinner will be served. Please contact Jodi Correia at 508 894-1230, ext. 118 if you need further information.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING:** Next School Committee Meeting will be Monday, February 13, 2012, at the WBMSHS in the media room at 6:30pm.

**EARLY RELEASE:** February 15<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, the students at the RLM School will be dismissed at NOON. Lunch will NOT be served. The staff will be attending a professional development workshop.

**MCAS INFORMATION NIGHT:** MCAS Information Night - Wednesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at the Rose L. MacDonald School. Grade 3 parents should try to attend (without their children, if possible). Grade 2 parents are invited if they would like to get a “sneak peek” of what their children will need to know next year to prepare for MCAS. The evening will encompass some MCAS information regarding the Massachusetts Curriculum Assessment System testing that begins in grade 3 and continues to the high stakes’ tests that students must pass for graduation. Teachers will present an overview of testing information.

**BIRTHDAYS WITH THE PRINCIPAL:** February 17<sup>th</sup>, I will be having birthdays with the principal by grade level for lunch in the conference room for students born in February. The children and I enjoy this special time together. The students bring a lunch from home or order their lunch at school. The food service provides a free ice cream for birthday students and they receive a little gift from the principal to enjoy! Any students with summer birthdays will be celebrated before the end of the school year.

**ANNUAL WINTER DANCE:** The WBMS Booster Club will be hosting their annual winter dance at the Canoe Club in West Bridgewater, on Saturday, March 3 from 7:00pm. 11:00 pm. To purchase tickets or for more information, please contact Francine Church at 508-580-4398 or email [zofo3@hotmail.com](mailto:zofo3@hotmail.com) The WB Booster Club supports the Middle/Senior High School Athletic Dept. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

**RIF WINTER DISTRIBUTION:** Friends of the Library along with parent volunteers and guests will be distributing books on January 31<sup>st</sup>. WE NEED VOLUTEERS FOR: Grades 1-3 @RLM 9-10AM- volunteers needed to place books on tables and Grades 4, 5 @Howard 12:30 -1:45PM to place books on tables in Art room. Mrs. Broderick, our reading specialist, is coordinating Middle school readers for the RLM. Mrs. Laura Hale Lawler is organizing the photo book marks for the Howard students. Contact Kristine Roberts at [kristineroberts@msn.com](mailto:kristineroberts@msn.com) to signup.

**BEN FRANKLIN:** Courtesy of the PTO, grade 3 will be entertained with a character performance of Ben Franklin, from *Historical Perspectives for Children*. As a part of third grade’s curriculum program, this event will bring to life an interesting period of history and his life events. The performer chronicles Ben Franklin’s life as a youngster, continues his trials of adulthood and concludes the story with his senior years. The students are looking forward to the welcoming Ben Franklin to our school on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

**GRADE 3 - MCAS TESTING:** The window for testing grade 3 MCAS Reading is March 20 to April 2 – Two test sessions administered during this period take about 60 minutes on average The window for testing grade 3 MCAS Math is May 7<sup>th</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Two sessions each 45 minutes on average are administered during this window. Tests may be administered anytime during those dates and we urge parents to not plan any family vacations during those windows of time. As we get closer to each test date, we will select the exact days and notify parents through the newsletter. There is also a lot of review and practice that leads up to the testing days so the weeks before are important preparation.

**CHILDCARE COSTS FOR 2011 TAX PURPOSES:** If you need information regarding childcare costs for 2011 tax purposes, Dependent Care Tax Information forms will be available at each school office. Please complete and return to school or mail directly to Ms. Sarah Smith at Spring Street School, 2 Spring St., West Bridgewater, MA 02379. A form must be completed for each child. Programs that children have attended include: Play & Learn Pre-School, Integrated Pre-school, All Day Kindergarten, RLM Enrichment, Surround Care Spring St, RLM, Howard, Let's Go Program, Ready, Set Go, and Howard After School Enrichment. Any questions should be directed to Ms. Sarah Smith at 508 894-1230 ext. 123.

Linda Dubin  
Principal