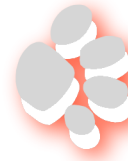
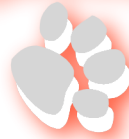
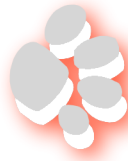
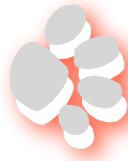


Westridge Wildcat Pawprints



March 2012

Inside This Issue

- 1 From the office
- 2 Testing Schedules
- 2 Cell Phones
- 3 March Calendar
- 4 Westridge PTO
- 5 Elkhorn Foundation
- 6 Fuel up to Play 60

From the office

Dear Westridge Families,

Thank you all for making attendance at Parent/Teacher Conferences a priority!

March is a very busy month in the classrooms at Westridge. Our students and teachers are gearing up for an assessment filled month of April, especially our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

Look for 3rd quarter report cards to come home during the week of March 19th.

Pastries for Parents has been canceled for this year due to breakfast now being served. It was scheduled for Friday, March 9th. Please make note of this.

Elkhorn Public Schools is no longer using High School Sports.Net as the website to make necessary changes and updates for all of our school calendar items.~ We are now using "R-School" which will provide you with all necessary updates and changes.~ The URL is:

<http://www.easternmidconference.org> – You can click on any of the district schools for the up to date information.~ Please do not use High School Sports.net anymore as we are no longer updating changes on that sight!

As always, please contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns at 402.289.2559 or email at tsidders@epsne.org.

Troy Sidders

The **Westridge Wildcat Pawprints** is a monthly newsletter published by the staff and volunteers of Westridge Elementary School,- Elkhorn Public Schools in Elkhorn, Nebraska. Article submissions are due on the 20th of each month.

3100 N. 206th Street
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Westridge Principal
Troy Sidders
tsidders@epsne.org

Secretary
Carol Campbell
ccampbell@epsne.org

Contact: 289-2559 for
more information.
www.elkhornweb.org

Upcoming Testing Schedules

April will be a very busy month for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders! They will all take the SAT 10 achievement test, the NeSA-R and the NeSA-M. Our 5th graders will also take the NeSA-S this year. Please take a look at the following schedule and get it put on your calendar.

3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will take the SAT 10 during the week of April 9th through the 13th.

The NeSA-R/M/S will be taken during the weeks of April 16th and April 23rd. Please be mindful of this schedule when planning trips or scheduling appointments. For a more detailed day and time of your child's tests, please contact his or her teacher.

The NeSA-Reading and NeSA-Mathematics tests are taken by all 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders in the state of Nebraska. The NeSA-Science is taken by all 5th graders in the state of Nebraska.

Cell Phones

The use of cell phones, at the elementary level, is not permitted throughout the day. Students may keep cell phones in their backpacks or in the office area and may only be used at the beginning or end of the day if prior arrangements have been made with the parent. Cell phones will be taken if this procedure is not followed and the parent may collect the cell phone from the office area. The last thing we want is for cell phones to be ringing throughout the day while they sit in backpacks.

March Calendar of Events

March 1 st :	Spring Pictures
March 6 th :	PTO Meeting at 6:30
March 8 th :	Dairy Queen Night
March 9 th :	Family Circles
March 15 th :	K/1 music program
March 16 th :	No School-Teacher In-Service
March 22 nd :	Sam and Louie's Day
March 26 th :	NeSA-R/M/S testing window opens

Staff Birthdays:

One staff member was left off of the February list. Kay Barmettler, 4th grade teacher, celebrated her birthday on February 19th! Sorry, Mrs. Barmettler!

March 13th: Liz Dolph (TA) and Carrie Barger (Spanish Language Associate)

March 19th: Cindi Marston (TA)

March 24th: Linda Bohn (TA)

March News from...

PTO Meeting

Westridge PTO is taking nominations for 2012-2013 officers (president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer) until March 2 to be voted on @ the next PTO meeting, March 6 @6:30. Nominations and /or questions can be sent to Toni Nichols.

Members of National Honor Society will provide childcare.

Remember if you have any questions regarding the PTO or the events we sponsor, please feel free to email Toni Nichols at stnichols@cox.net.

Sincerely,

Toni Nichols
Westridge PTO President
stnichols@cox.net

Other PTO happenings...

Upcoming Meetings:

April 3rd at 6:30

May 1st at 6:30

May 4th: Westridge Carnival!!!!

Key Information

- 1) Upcoming Dairy Queen family nights are Thursdays March 8th, April 12th and May 10th. Dairy Queen is located at 17101 Lakeside Hills Plaza. 10% of all purchases from 5 - 8 pm will go to Westridge. There is a coupon on the Smartcards for buy one treat, get the second free.
- 2) 2) The PTO would like to thank Hy-Vee (156th and Maple) for their donation of the ground beef for teacher conference meals. Mr. Goodcents at Village Pointe was very

generous in preparing sub sandwiches for the teacher conference meal. There is a coupon on the Smartcards for buy one sandwich, get one free.

- 3) 3) Thank you to everyone who brought a side dish for the teacher conference meals. Liza Grasz, Michelle Burkman, Trudy Joens, Debbie O'Dell, Jill Richmond, Lynette Dergan, Brenda Gamerl, Kim Patrick, Dawn Melcher, Jenny Oligmueller, Troy Sidders, Joni Kruntorad, Toni Nichols, Sarah Larson, Gina Flynn, Stephany Albritton, Rebecca Brink and Lynn Fast.

Westridge PTO is on Facebook!

Have a Facebook account? Look for the Westridge PTO on Facebook and request us as a friend. This will be a place to go for news, related events and happenings!

The following businesses sponsored the wonderful free t-shirts each Westridge student received this year. Please thank them by patronizing their businesses.

Sam and Louie's, American Interstate Bank, Douglas County Post-Gazette, McArdle Grading, Custon Inc., Bill Black @CBS Homes, Mrs. Joni's Cuddlebugs, BDB Waterproofing & Foundation Repair, Elkhorn Chiropractic, and Haver's Service Center

...the Westridge PTO

ELKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

The EPS Foundation Announces Executive Director!

The Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation has named Stacey L. Falk as its new Executive Director. Stacey has lived in the Elkhorn School District since 1999 and has experience in both non-profit and corporate leadership.

Stacey holds a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Kearney. She has worked for companies and organizations including: Union Pacific Railroad, the Rose Theater, the Omaha Symphony and most recently Duane Svec Advertising. Stacey is also active in her church, St. Andrews United Methodist.

Stacey and her husband Kevin have three children: Joshua, Jacob and Joey. Joshua is a 2010 graduate of EHS and Jacob and Joey will graduate from EHS in 2013 and 2021, respectively.

GOLF FORE GRANTS

Join the EPS Foundation Monday, June 11, 2012 at Shadow Ridge Country Club for our annual tournament. The event includes 18 holes of golf (with on-course games) followed by dinner with raffles and a silent auction.

All money raised at the event supports the classroom grant program. Previously funded grants include; reading/writing clubs, community outreach programs, classroom technology enhancements, robotics equipment and many more extraordinary educational opportunities.

Registration will be available at www.elkhornfoundation.org in early March. For sponsorship/donation opportunities call 402-289-1727 ext. 206 or email aroth@epsne.org.



Do You Know a 2012 EPS Graduate?



Honor your 2012 graduate with an EPS Foundation memorial brick. The EPS Foundation has brick pavilions at each high school to celebrate EPS students and alumni.

For \$50 you can recognize a special student, teacher or team by making them a part of Elkhorn history!

Order your brick by April 6 to have it installed before graduation.
To order your brick today visit www.elkhornfoundation.org.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FUEL UP TO PLAY 60

This is a national program whose purpose is to get kids to eat right and get active! The Elkhorn Schools were fortunate to receive a grant for each building from this organization. At Westridge we were able to purchase an additional milk cooler for our breakfast program and materials to increase physical activity. Teachers will get resources that will allow for short activity breaks in their classroom. In addition to those, I will be working with staff to teach them as well as the students some new games / activities to be played while at recess.

The final piece of this program is a website that students (and parents) can visit and track healthy eating and activity time. I will be working with 3-5th grades the first week of March to get them logged in. After that I will work to get 2nd grade online.

Meet Westridge's Fuel up to Play 60 Student team

These 12 students were selected to help me get the students of Westridge up and moving.

Braydon Lindsley- Lawver

Trevor Haugen

Mitchell Korbelik

Abbie Bliss

Ella Hoegh

Marissa Wheeler

Trey Frahm

Garrett Paxton

Kyler Beekman

Paige Joens

Lauren Bahe

Jamie Kalhoff

www.fueluptoplay60.com

Breakfast

I want to put in a plug for our breakfast program. Students can come at 7:35 for a great hot breakfast. I know how chaotic mornings can be with kids and this is a great program that can help get the kids the right fuel in their bodies to be the best students they can be in the classroom. Give it a try.

PE SHOES

I can't stress enough that students need to have the correct shoes on for PE. I am getting a fair number of girls wearing "UGG" style boots. Boots do not provide the proper support for all that we do in PE. I stress this issue of shoes because I want all kids to be safe in PE.

Jump Rope for Heart

Thank you to everyone who supported our event. Westridge raised close to \$1800 for the American Heart Association