



## THE BUZZ AT WESTBROOK...

m-psd57

December 16, 2011

Our annual Holiday Helper effort was a phenomenal success thanks to the generous donations from Westbrook families and staff! We received over 200 gifts! Unbelievable! Special thanks for our fabulous school social worker, Lisa Ryno, for coordinating this massive undertaking that will spread joy and good will throughout our community.

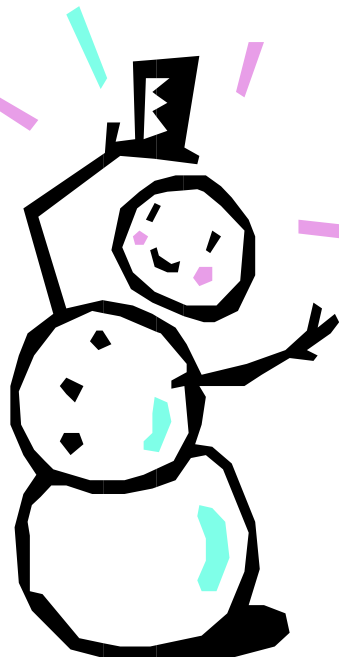
From all of the Westbrook Staff, we wish you a peaceful Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year! We will see you in 2012!



### Safety Concerns

Please read over the following safety concerns:

- Only use designated parking spots in our lot so as not to tie up traffic or create a safety hazard.
- Please always use the crosswalk. We need to set a safe example for our students.
- In the interest of making unloading of the cars at arrival move quickly, please make sure students are on the right-side of your vehicle so they don't have to crossover car seats, etc. The cars/buses are backing up on Busse Road and we would like to have arrival go as smoothly as possible.
- Our drop off lane operates from 9:10-9:20/1:10-1:20. If you arrive to school later, please park and walk your child to the office.



LET IT SNOW!!!

Spread the Word!

Kindergarten Enrollment will take place on Monday, January 23, 2012.

More info attached!

#### Recess

***Our students will be enjoying recess outdoors unless the temperature outside is 15 degrees or lower including wind chill.***

***Please remember to dress your student s appropriately.***

***Also, remember to label coats, hats, boots, etc. We have quite a collection in our lost & found.***

***Thanks for your help with these matters!***





## Music Notes

December was a short, but busy month for our first graders in Music! We started the month by singing and playing a song called “What’s on the Train”. It involved alternating hand playing on the xylophones, singing, and steady beat work on egg shakers. Students had to also read simple rhythms and switch instruments while doing the song.

The rest of the month first grade started a Jungle unit where we discussed jungle animals, sang, and played jungle songs. One of the songs classes did was called “Sleep, baby, Sleep” and it was about a mother softly singing a baby to sleep, by listening to the flowing river. As a class we talked about lullabies and why they are so soothing, the classes added an appropriate accompaniment to make the sound of the river.

I want to wish everyone a safe winter break.

Keep on Groovin’

Mr. Richards (Westbrook Music)





## Notes from the Nurse

*If your child has an acute respiratory infection (a cold), sore throat, earache, upset stomach, diarrhea, or an elevated temperature, please keep him/her at home. Children should remain at home for 24 hours following any episode of fever, vomiting, or diarrhea to help ensure a full recovery. Thank you for your cooperation with these standards. Feel free to call me with any questions at 847-394-7340 x2003. Have a happy, healthy New Year!*

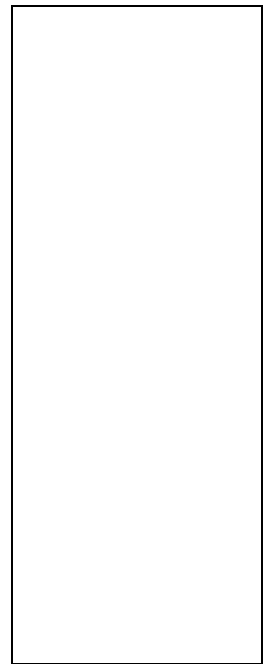


**Pam Biasco**

## Circle of Friends Openings

Our Circle of Friends Pre-School Program has a few openings for the 2011/12 school year. This program provides a naturalistic early childhood environment that is rich in language and literacy experiences and recognizes children as active learners. Our program combines children with and without special needs in a developmentally appropriate pre-school class.

Please stop by the Westbrook office to fill out the application. An application is complete only when a completed application form, a completed Home Language Survey, an original birth certificate (will copy and return original), a completed enrollment form and a registration fee of \$100 are all received in our office. We are also asking that proof of residency (state-issued picture ID, one of the following lease/mortgage statement/current tax bill, and 2 consecutive months of 2 different utilities) be provided at this time. If your child is three years old at this time, they can join our program.



## **Gym Shorts**

December has been a fast month in the gym and one filled with excitement! We started the month by learning how to jump rope! This is one of my most favorite curricular units, as I love teaching each student the skill of jump roping. We started off jumping very slow, and I am amazed at how far they have come. Jump roping is a hard skill to learn but many students persevered and are amazing jump ropers. At the end of our unit we watched a short video showing a half time performance at a basketball game in which the performers were a very talented and energetic jump rope group. It was very motivating to say the least.

We then put our ropes away and moved on to our gymnastics unit. We learned how to do many rolls on a mat- a tuck roll, stretch roll, log roll, and a forward roll (a.k.a. Mickey Mouse forward roll). The students did a great job on their rolls. I then introduced the cartwheel for those who felt comfortable trying it. I reminded them that the 4-part sequence for a cartwheel is: hand-hand, foot-foot. BEWARE; they may have fun trying the rolls and cartwheels at home!

We also were fortunate to work on balance beams walking forward, backwards, practicing fancy steps, kicks, and turns. I'd like to thank the **Education Foundation** for these balance beams as they purchased them for us a few years back. Our students love the balance beams and they are very beneficial to our curriculum.

I would like to thank Mrs. Amy Baltes (Julia's Mom and a registered dietitian) for her very beneficial presentation to our students on Nutrition and Healthy Eating. She had a wonderful presentation with some helpful information for all of us regarding healthy eating. Thank you.

To top off the year 2011, we heard some exciting news.....IT'S OFFICIAL, WEST-BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL is part of the Guinness World Record Book for jumping jacks! Your children are World Record Breakers along with 300,000 other jumpers across the world. If you recall we attempted to set the record back in October and it is now official! **Congratulations to Westbrook!!!**

To that end, I wish each of you a Happy Holiday filled with precious time spent with family and friends. I look forward to seeing all my students in 2012!

Exercise and Eat Healthy, Mrs. Lori Many





December has gone by so quickly in the Art room! We started the month by learning about artist Marc Chagall. We explored his paintings and stained glass windows he created. Students learned that Chagall created abstract works using imagery from his memories and imagination.

We began the project by brainstorming what was important to us. Each person came up with an image representing nature, home, fun and family. Then we sketched our drawings onto a clear acetate sheet to create our compositions. Finally we used glue and tissue paper to add color and details to our own “stained glass windows”. I am so excited to see them decorate the windows of Westbrook!

When we come back from Winter Break we will be exploring the work of another one of our table artists, Aminah Robinson. We will explore her mixed media work, particularly her “memory maps”.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday, and a creative new year!

Ms. McAllister



# Emergency School Closing Info

Westbrook School  
103 South Busse Road  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
Phone: 847-394-7340  
Fax: 847-394-7349

*There is a tab on the District website specifically for the reporting of emergency school closing information. The information on this page will be updated as necessary. During the winter months (through April), we will enable quick access to this page so parents and staff will be better informed about the status of our schools during questionably inclement weather.*



*For further information, please tune to local media outlets, including AM radio stations WMAQ (670), WGN (720), and WBBM (780), and TV stations CBS (2), NBC (5), WGN (9), Fox (32), and CLTV News on cable. A facility search is available at the on-line Emergency Closing Center at <http://www.emergencyclosings.com>.*



## Calendar of Events

- December 17-January 2.....Winter Break
- January 3.....Classes Resume
- January 4.....1st Grade Special Lunch
- January 16.....No School-MLK Birthday
- January 18.....PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- January 19.....Board of Education Meeting, Fairview, 7:00 p.m.
- January 23.....No School-Staff Institute Day  
Kindergarten Enrollment 9-3:30 p.m.
- January 27.....1st Grade Light Show
- February 1.....1st Grade Special Lunch





## ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

---

701 West Gregory Street - Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056  
P (847) 394-7300 | F (847) 394-7311 | [www.d57.org](http://www.d57.org)

### Kindergarten Enrollment

Dear Parents:

District 57 will be utilizing a new enrollment and registration process for kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. There will be two components to this process: an enrollment at Westbrook School in January and an online registration in May. In order to enroll in kindergarten, children must be five years old by September 1, 2012. All District 57 kindergarten students attend Westbrook School, 103 South Busse Road.

#### January Enrollment

##### *Online Pre-Enrollment Intake*

Beginning on January 11th, our new Online Intake will be accessible to parents through links on our District and Westbrook websites to submit basic information and download forms of interest. This required, online component allows for a more efficient experience during our in person registration portion.

##### *In-Person Enrollment*

For the second portion of this process, parents will need to come to Westbrook School on January 23, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. During this time parents will be required to bring in proof of residency; state-issued picture ID, two different current utility bills for two consecutive recent months and either a copy of a lease, mortgage statement or current tax bill.

#### May Registration

Parents who have completed the enrollment process in January and proven residency will be allowed to take part in the district online registration scheduled for May. This step will give kindergarten parents a chance to review and update information collected in January, as well as pay necessary fees. Additional information about May Registration will be sent out at a later date.

#### Dates To Remember:

**January 11th:** Online Intake open (links off District and Westbrook websites)

**January 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Westbrook Enrollment for all Kindergarten Parents- 9:00 – 3:30



## PTA Character Counts at Westbrook

Do you have any chores around the house that you want your kids to complete? We have an idea...

We are collecting money to help children in the Dominican Republic. Ms. Senn, a former Westbrook teacher is currently living in the Dominican Republic teaching English. She visits a nearby orphanage where she has developed numerous relationships. Last year, the community at Westbrook raised over \$1,000 to help this particular orphanage. The money went towards food, water, transportation, and Christmas presents (which they loved!!). We want to help them again this year!

They desperately need school supplies, but shipping them is cost prohibitive - it's simply easier to send money. Our idea is to have the kids help raise the money by earning it themselves. This will teach them two of the pillars of Character Counts – **caring** and **citizenship**. Please have your children earn money by helping around the house and donate that money to Westbrook.

**Caring - Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need**

**Citizenship - Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed; vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment • Volunteer**

If you can think of any other way for the kids to earn money please do! Also, this is a voluntary project – participation is greatly appreciated, but not mandatory.

Students can bring the money to Westbrook in either a Ziploc bag or a sealed envelope marked PTA – Character Counts. Parents can also drop the money off at the main office in a bin marked “Character Counts.” The collection will run until the end of January.

Thank you for making Westbrook a school where Character Counts!!!

If you have any questions please contact Kathy O'Brien (847) 590-8142 or Mae DiBenedetto (847)259-2637

**Prospect High School  
Poms Clinic  
FOR ALL GIRLS IN GRADES K THROUGH 8**

Come and dance with the **PROSPECT POMS** and perform at  
halftime during the January 21 basketball game!

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 21, 2012

Registration 12:00 p.m.

Clinic 12:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\*Clinic includes T-shirt, drink, and a snack.

\*All girls will perform a dance routine at halftime  
of the Boys' Varsity game, which begins at  
6:00 p.m. (the girls need to arrive at 5:45 p.m.)

**WHERE:** Prospect High School (Fieldhouse Foyer)

**REGISTRATION:** \$35.00 per girl

\*Make checks payable to Prospect High School

Send checks to: Prospect High School  
801 West Kensington  
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

\*If you pre-register, you will receive a free cd.

Any questions?

Please contact Mrs. Fleaka at 847-550-9931 or [courtneyfleaka@yahoo.com](mailto:courtneyfleaka@yahoo.com)

---

\*Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, January 16

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**PTA Environmental Committee - Coming Soon:**

# **Marker Recycling Drive**

**Monday, January 9 through  
Friday, January 13**

**Bring your Old, Used-Up, Dried-Up Markers  
To your Classroom Teacher**

**Grab a piece of Scrap Paper  
Collect a bunch of markers**

**Try them, Sort them and throw old markers in backpack  
Bring them in to your Teacher**

**Win-Win-Win: Markers will be recycled,  
Westbrook earns money and you will have  
organized markers!!**

**Questions: E-mail Anna Pentikainen ([japentik@msn.com](mailto:japentik@msn.com))**

DIST 57 EDUCATION FOUNDATION PRESENTS

# COME TOGETHER

SPRING 2012 FEB 25TH

## 2012 Education Foundation Spring Raffle

Choose from one of THREE trips or \$2500 Cash!

1 ticket - \$10 6 tickets - \$50

See us at all school concerts and events!

### Napa Valley Experience

Enjoy a 3-night stay at - the Meritage Resort with daily breakfast, 6 hours of chauffeured luxury sedan service with wine tours, lunch or dinner on the famous Napa Wine Train and round-trip airfare for 2

### Orlando Theme Park Adventure Package

Enjoy 4 SeaWorld 1-day - tickets and 4 Universal Resorts 1-park/1-day tickets to your choice of Universal Studios or Islands of Adventure featuring the "Wizards World of Harry Potter." Includes 3-night Hyatt Place stay (1 room) and round-trip airfare for 4

### Costa Rica Marriott Resorts

Enjoy a 5-night stay at either or both of the JW Marriott Guanacaste Resort and Spa, (Tamarindo) or the Los Suenos Marriott Ocean and Golf Resort, (Playa Herradura) and round-trip airfare for 2



EDUCATION FOUNDATION

*Share the Dream*

Learn more at [www.d57edfoundation.org](http://www.d57edfoundation.org) or find us on Facebook

**PTA**<sup>®</sup>

*everychild.onevoice.*<sup>®</sup>

---

The PTA would like to correct an error that occurred in the directory. Please see the corrected B&C Remodeling, Inc. advertisement below . . .



---

ADDITIONS • BASEMENT REMODELING  
FOUNDATION CRACKS • GLASS BLOCK WINDOWS  
MASONRY • INTERIOR PAINT • EXTERIOR PAINT  
FREE ESTIMATES • INSURED

---

**BILL**                      **847-508-4646**

---