



Excalibur News

“Raising our Swords to Victory”

Wilson Middle School

December 1st, 2009

Second Quarter Happenings and Events

Second quarter has started off well here at Wilson Middle School!

For **Mr. Anderson's classes**, the Holiday Concert is around the corner! Monday, December 14th the Wilson Choirs, featuring *Concert Choir*, *Chorale*, and *Cutting Edge*, will present their Holiday Concert at 6:30 & 7:30 p.m. in the Garfield Auditorium. Call time for all groups is 6:00 p.m. and the students must be dressed in their concert attire (please refer to the Choir Handbook for complete concert attire). Please plan on attending only one of the performances and please plan on transportation home at the end of the evening (8:10 p.m.). Due to the overwhelming support the past few years we had to add another performance because there was not enough room in the auditorium for everyone. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. Anderson.

In **Miss Boggess' and Mr. Thomas' Math classes**, the Math 7 students are concentrating on ratios, rates, and proportions. Miss Boggess' Pre-Algebra classes have been working on graphing linear equations and will be focusing on proportions. During the holiday season, encourage your students to help you determine the better buy by calculating unit prices! All classes will finish the quarter by reviewing for exams.

Mrs. Caudill's Honors Language Arts and Reading classes will all read a version of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*. Honors will read the original and CP will read a dramatic adaptation. All classes will research Victorian England to help them understand the setting of the story. In addition, Honors classes will hone their persuasive skills with debates in class this quarter.

In **Miss Fenton's health classes**, they are now working towards their American Red Cross Basic First Aid certification. Students are learning how to treat conscious and unconscious choking victims, give CPR to adults, children and infants, give rescue breathing to children and infants in need and utilize an AED. Students scoring an 80% or above on their written evaluation will receive a First Aid certification card from the Red Cross in January. Please feel free to converse with your student about emergency situations! Happy Winter Break!

Ms. Hamilton's classes this quarter we've been working on the format and style of business letters with the engaging topic of "If your teacher won a million dollars and was sharing it with a student, who should he/she share it with and why?" We finished working on the parts of speech and will now begin working on making better sentence structure in writing. We'll work in December on propaganda and examine how media uses it and implement the concepts into a toy making campaign and project. We'll finish out the quarter with a review for 1st semester exams. In Ms. Hamilton's Reading classes students have been working on their silent reading project for 15 minutes every day. Students have also been reading poetry and learning characteristics of the genre as well as some nonfiction essays. Students will read "A Christmas Carol" (the play version) in December and finish out the quarter reading some more nonfiction and reviewing for exams.

Mrs. Lawson's class will be reading the play, "A Christmas Carol". Students are encouraged to watch at least one movie version of the story this month. It is helpful to compare one version to another. They will also be comparing three reviews of performances of this story. Students will continue reading daily and writing literary and reflective responses for their books. All books and responses need to be completed by January 11.

In **Mr. Smith's History Class**, they will be discovering what life was like for the people of Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Phoenicia, and Saharan Africa, and the enduring impacts of these civilizations. They will also continue our look at world belief systems by tracing the origins and spread of the Islamic culture throughout much of Persia, the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Spain.

In **Mrs. Watkins' Science Class** this quarter they will be continuing their studies of the atmosphere. They will begin investigating the impact of weather and how it influences our lives. Students will take the measurements of the conditions of the atmosphere daily and keep a record of these. In January, they will begin to investigate how the global patterns affect the biomes and climate zones of the world.

This is just a quick overview of the exciting and fun things happening with the Excalibur Team!

Students of the Month

Brandy Krems

Taylor Jones

Claire Barrington

Zach Keene

Elizabeth Burton

Cory Rodriguez



EXCALIBUR

If we "u-Knight," we will win the fight,

Let's go Wilson—blue, gold, and white.

Everybody knows we are the best;

The X team excels above the rest.

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words. The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment

upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words. Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from

which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.



Caption describing picture or graphic.



Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new prod-

uct.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.



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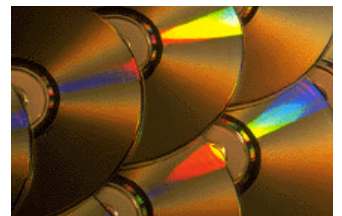
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Caption describing picture or graphic.



Wilson Middle School

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2

Your Address Line 3

Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555


Fax: 555-555-5555

E-mail: someone@example.com

Your business tag line here.



Organization



We're on the Web!
example.microsoft.
com

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

Back Page Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.