

CONFLUENCE ACADEMY - WALNUT PARK NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Q & A FROM PTO	2
IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY	2
STUDENT, CLASS & STAFF OF THE MONTH	3
ATTENDANCE PHONE NUMBER	3
ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES	3
MATH BEE CONTEST	4

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- No School on President's Day!
- Please check in the front office about fines.
- Rewards for Perfect Attendance!

ARTWORK AT CONFLUENCE

Mrs. May's Art Class has been working on different art contests since October. Many of these contests are City and County wide allowing our students to compete for art prizes against a wide range of students and talents.

Ms. Harris's eighth grade class is competing in a national competition. Those chosen are featured in the School Arts Magazine. The students completed works of art in oil pastels to be considered for the contest.

For the younger grades Mrs.

May submits works of art to the Annual St. Louis Symphony "Picture the Music" Contest.



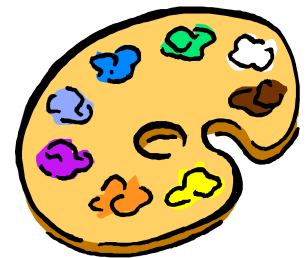
Contemplating the next color, Brionna Smith works on her piece for "The Power of Plants" exhibit.

This contest asks students in Kindergarten through sixth grade to create a work of art that is inspired by a symphony. This year over 23,000 students participated from 125 different schools. For information on where the art will be displayed please visit http://www.slsso.org/support/picture_the_music.htm.

support/picture_the_music.htm.

For the first time in the history of Confluence Academy, students are participating in a

program sponsored by the St. Louis Botanical Gardens. "The Power of Plants" program works to tie together the art and science of plants and how they are an essential part of our existence. The goal of this program is to create excitement and collaboration between the Botanical Gardens, schools, the community, and students.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing holiday season. There have been some changes that I would like to pass on for you.

Attendance. This is such an important aspect of our school day. We have established an attendance voice mailbox for

parents to use whenever a student will be out of school or tardy. Please call (314) 383-8900 ext 1026 and leave a detailed message for Ms. Simpson regarding your child's attendance. Thank you for your help!

New Faces and Talent. We

would like to welcome five new staff members to CA-WP. Please extend a warm welcome to: Ms. Smith - 1st grade, Ms. Mehrmann - 2nd grade, Mr. Gaydos - 6th grade, Ms. Fitzpatrick - 2nd grade, and Ms. Brandon - ISS. Welcome to our community!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK (CONT.)

We often have questions, comments and concerns generated in our PTO and PAC Meetings that I believe all parents have. Those in attendance get these issues addressed, but it is usually a very small percentage of our overall population. For this reason, I will include this section in each month's newsletter to insure that all parents have access to this information.

Since we had no questions from PTO this month, this will be used to address school related news from Ms. Vaughn.

Intent to Return Forms. In order to guarantee a spot at Confluence Academy - Walnut Park, your Intent to Return Forms should have been returned by February 3, 2009. We do not automatically hold a spot for your child, so please return your form as soon as possible. If you need an additional form

please contact Ms. Simpson in the main office.

Harris Poll Surveys. We need your insight about improving our school. To do this, we will be sending our annual Harris Poll Survey in March. Please fill these out and return as soon as possible. We greatly appreciate your assistance in making CA-WP the best school in St. Louis City!

Countdown to MAP. MAP Tests are important for every school. At Confluence Academy we are working to help each student improve their score. We have focused our instruction on helping students meet state standards. To do this we need your help! Please plan to attend our Parent MAP Prep Night. These will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday February 21, 2009 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please help our students feel supported and

prepared for this important test! I look forward to seeing you there!

Make-Up Snow Days. Due to the five snow days in January, we will be adding make up days to our school calendar. Please look for future communication about when these days will be made up.

Outstanding Balances. We would like to remind families that several people have outstanding balances. Please check to see if this applies to your family. If you have questions about Junior Academy Uniforms contact Ms. Gresham at (314) 383-8900 ext 1034. For questions about library fines please contact Ms. Jones at (314) 383-8900 ext 1013. For questions about balances on student meal accounts please contact Ms. Hester at (314) 383-8900 ext 2158. We are happy to set up payment plans to help correct the situation.

“Please check with the office about school fines and outstanding balances.”

IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY



February 4 - PTO Meeting 6:00 p.m.

February - 9 - 13 - Valentine Candy-grams on Sale from PTO

February 9 - PAC Meeting 9:00 a.m.

February 10 - Benchmark Boogie

February 16 - President's Day - No School

February 19 - MAP Curriculum Night 6:00 p.m.

February 21 - MAP Enrichment for parents

February 24 - Benchmark Boogie 2:30 p.m.

February 25 - Confluence Spelling Bee

February 27 - Black History Program 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS! FELICITATIONS! FELICIDADES!



Student of the Month:

Christopher Hicks “Chris has worked very diligently to improve his school performance. He has really put forth the effort needed to show how much he wants to be a good student at our school.” Congratulations to Chris and his family. Thank you for all your hard work!

House of the Month:

Support Staff “Our support staff keep this school running smoothly. They are courteous, conscientious and hard working. Without their outstanding effort we could not run the school.” Thanks to our office staff, tech staff, maintenance crews, food and beverage staff, we depend on you!

Staff of the Month:

Mr. Ford “Mr. Ford is always looking for new ways to reach out to his students. His test scores are improving.” Thanks for using your creativity to help our school!

Mr. Weintraub “Mr. W is constantly looking for new ways to reward positive changes and behaviors at Confluence Academy.” Thanks for your positive outlook!

ATTENDANCE MAILBOX

As Ms. Vaughn mentioned on page one we have changed our attendance protocol. To decrease any confusion and loss of doctor’s notes, please direct all attendance related items to Ms. Simpson in the front office.

Ms. Simpson will make sure all doctor’s notes, funeral days, and other excused ab-

sences are recorded correctly in the computer. It is important that we have an accurate record of your child’s attendance.

We have also developed an attendance voice mailbox. When you know your child will be absent or tardy please leave a message at: (314) 383-8900 ext 1026

The message should include parent’s name, child’s name, grade, and reason for absence. Please know that we still need notes from the doctor when the child returns.

Thank you for all your help in this manner. We greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation!

“To report your child as absent or tardy please call (314) 383-8900 ext 1026 and leave a message.”

ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES & REWARDS

As winter drags on, it becomes harder and harder to get excited about daily activities. The idea of scraping ice off the car or standing in the cold for the school bus is hardly motivation to come to school. However, we have some very exciting incentives and rewards for students and families that make the extra effort during the last half of

this school year. We want to emphasize the importance of daily attendance and are willing to provide that extra little push!

During the month of February we are holding a contest for Perfect Classroom Attendance. Any homeroom that has 100% attendance for the month of February will earn a

full week of dress down days in March!

We will have prizes for individual students with Perfect Attendance. These prizes will vary week to week.

Please call if transportation is an issue so we can assist you!



We are on the web:

www.confluenceacademy.com

CONFLUENCE ACADEMY - WALNUT PARK

5421 Thekla Ave

St Louis, MO 63120

Phone: 314-383-8900 ext 1207

Fax: 314-383-8925

E-mail: cawp.newsletter@yahoo.com

The mission of Confluence Academy is to help every student reach his or her potential while increasing academic achievement. We accomplish this with our unique combination of research based curriculum, certified teachers and integrated technology. Our school day is longer, as is our school year, to give our students the most time to develop a deeper understanding of the curriculum.

Confluence Academy is managed by Edison Schools, the nation's leading public school partner serving an estimated 285,000 students in 19 states, the District of Columbia and the United Kingdom.

**“ W H E R E L I V I N G A N D L E A R N I N G F L O W
T O G E T H E R ”**

CONGRATULATIONS MATH BEE WINNERS

Confluence Academy - Walnut Park held its annual Math Bee this month. It was evident from the performance of our students that everyone practiced very hard! We want to thank you for all the hard work that helped prepare the students for this exciting competition!

The following students participated in the Math Bee:

First Grade. Domonic Archie (2nd place), Alexis Brinkley (3rd place), Andrew Brinkley (1st place), Zariah Scott, Lavon Warren.

Second Grade. Krisma Davis, Cortland Major (3rd place), Dorian Ruhl (1st grade), Anaisha Smith, Johnny Thomas (2nd grade), Aron Williams, Darreon Carbin.

Third Grade. Myksean Blair, Hassan Buchanan, Tavion Jackson (2nd place), Javan Mitchell (1st place), Nyla Reed (3rd grade).

Fourth Grade. Gabriell Brinkley (1st place), Christen Davis, Kelsey Duke (3rd place), Dillon Howard, Tyrique Hudson (2nd grade).

Fifth Grade. Richard Pittman (2nd Grade), Erica Woods (1st grade), Jayla Young (3rd grade).

Sixth Grade. Steven Combs (2nd grade), Jazzy Jones (1st place), Jordan Parker (3rd place), Marquise Williams.

7th Grade. Essence Brewer, Ralph Lakine (2nd grade), Ira Parker (3rd place), Montana Williams (1st place).

Eighth Grade. Eneasha Dean, Torshawna Griffin (2nd place), JaNay Jackson (3rd place), Jasmine Mister, Kajuanna Shaw, Tyler Todd (1st place).

