

WORDS FROM WOODLAND



Woodland School Newsletter
March 2019

From the Principal, Jeff Heaney

It truly is hard to believe that as I type this newsletter we are on the eve of the 100th day of school. As I have so often said, the best part of my job is that I get to watch children grow as students and as human beings. Wonderful things continue to happen each and every day at Woodland School and we are excited about all of the fun and learning that will take place during the next 80 days.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for all of their support throughout the year. Woodland truly is a family of wonderful students, dedicated teachers and supportive families, which is why we continue to be a Blue Ribbon School. With that said, we could use your help with many of our upcoming events. Mrs. McGrath has plans underway for the annual Read Across America Day celebration. We always appreciate guest readers and/or any help during the day. Thank you to those who have already volunteered their time for this event. The annual Woodland Parent and Teacher Basketball game is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th. The PTO will be sending out information asking for volunteers to play in the game or help out with the event. It is a wonderful evening that brings the community together and also raises money for our PTO (which will go directly to supporting our students). Lastly, plans are well underway for our Science Day and International Day events. Our PTO works tirelessly to make these days super special for our students and staff. Please reach out to me or PTO president Lauren Wishnia if you have any time to help.



Each year the Warren School District presents the Excellence in Education award to outstanding educators. It is my honor to announce this year's Woodland School recipient, Mrs. Braunstein. Mrs. Braunstein is a role model for her students through her hard work, dedication and commitment to being her best. She treats her students as if they were her own children and refuses to ever let them give up. It is obvious that she truly loves her job, loves her students, loves her colleagues and loves Woodland School.

Winning an award like this is a true honor, particularly at Woodland School where the entire staff consistently demonstrate Excellence. The Woodland family is extremely proud of Mrs. Braunstein. There is no doubt that we are all better people because she is in our lives.





Congratulations to all of the participants in the annual Woodland Geography Bee. They did a wonderful job answering some very difficult questions. Congratulations to Luca Kisselev, this year's winner!

The Center of Great Expectations was thrilled to received the special Valentine gifts donated by our 4th Grade Woodland class to their 20 expectant moms and 12 children.

The Woodland families donated diapers, wipes, rattles, coloring books for both kids and adults, colored pencils and crayons. During their Valentine party, the students learned about the Center and then decorated gift bags and filled them with the books and pencils/crayons.



Thank you to Mrs. Brink, Mrs. Stambaugh and the Service Club for bringing awareness to having a healthy heart and for raising almost \$300 on Valentine's Day for the American Heart Association!!



Mrs. Brink and the Service Club opened their hearts and helped collect handbags for homeless women. For more information related to this wonderful event please see the [article](#) from the Warren Tap.



**"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service to others."
Gandhi**



Superintendent's Corner



The Warren Township Board of Education is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the coveted Excellence in Education Award. The following staff members were recognized by students, peers and parents for their outstanding commitment to the students of Warren. Congratulations and thank you to each!

- **Angelo L. Tomaso School - Jan Brennan, Nurse**
- **Central School - Lindsey LaNeve, Librarian**
- **Mt. Horeb School - Michelle Barbagallo, Occupational Therapist**
- **Woodland School - Nancy Braunstein, Reading Recovery Teacher**
- **Warren Middle School - Jennifer Benn, Social Studies Teacher**

Each award recipient was carefully selected for her commitment to providing excellence in education, generating positive interactions with students, staff and parents, inspiring learning through creative and innovative lessons and cultivating an environment where each student is able to achieve his/her fullest potential.

These individuals and award-winning Warren Middle School students will all be celebrated at the May 20, 2019 Board of Education meeting, which will begin at 7:00pm in the Warren Middle School all-purpose room. Please consider joining us for this exciting event!

Matthew A. Mingle, Ed.D

Each month students who demonstrate exemplary behavior and character are given the Woodland "Superhero" Award. It is our goal for students to realize that we all have the power to be superheroes by demonstrating acts of kindness and by being good human beings. Students' names are announced during morning announcements and they are given a special certificate.

January Superheroes

Kindergarten- Dhruv Dave, Nadia Valenzuela

1st grade- Vincenzo Firenzuoli, Yuliana Cespedes, Rohan Nicholson

2nd grade- Sanjay Joshi, Lucas Fazio

3rd grade - Hailey Martinez, Neha Natarajan

4th grade- Olivia Bello, Max Mina

5th grade- Mia Ferreira, Gavin Rau, Antonio Giuliano

**INTELLIGENCE PLUS
CHARACTER-
THAT IS THE GOAL
OF TRUE EDUCATION.**
-Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We celebrated Start with Hello week at Woodland School with a mission to create a culture of inclusion and connectedness. Throughout the week students and teachers participated in spirit days, school wide activities and coinciding classroom lessons. Students learned different ways to make a difference and brighten someone's day!

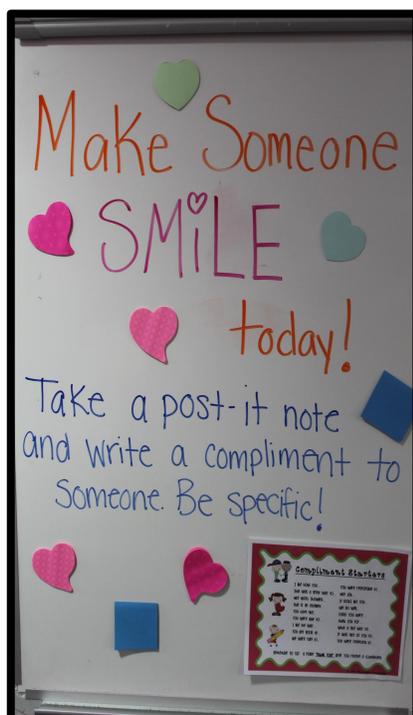
We kicked off the week with students creating and wearing name tags. Students learned how saying hello is a simple word that can mean so much. When you say hello and make eye contact with the person you are speaking to, people feel included and it opens the door for communication and friendship.

As the week continued, positivity and inclusion continued to spread throughout Woodland. There were endless smiles as students made an impact on their teachers and peers day by spreading compliments and positive messages to one another. I shared with the students one of my favorite quotes, "one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day". Students learned that positive thoughts and messages have the power to change their mindsets each and every day!

As a follow up to Start with Hello week and to celebrate the month of February, students will be recognized for acts of kindness, inclusion and respect. When they are recognized, they will receive a heart where they will write what they are being recognized for and display it on our blooming kindness tree in the APR. Our kindness tree continues to grow and it is a representation of how the students here at Woodland are always taking care of themselves, each other and our school.

Sincerely,

Miss Pranzo
School Counselor





Please send in your Box tops. This is an easy way for the PTO to generate money. That money is then used for wonderful assemblies, classroom celebrations and other future events for our students



Date	Event
Friday, March 1	Read Across America Day- Spirit Day- Dress as a character from a book
Wednesday, March 13	Woodland Parent and Teacher Basketball Game
Friday, March 15	Spirit Day- Wear green for St. Patrick's Day
Friday, March 22	Grades 4 and 5 Musical for students and staff
Monday, March 25	Grades 4 and 5 Musical for Families 7pm
Friday, March 29	Science Day