



The Wilson School
400 DeMun
Clayton, MO 63105

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Confident. Passionate. Smart.



The Wilson Word

A publication of The Wilson School, Founded 1913

Celebrating Our 97th Year of Excellence!

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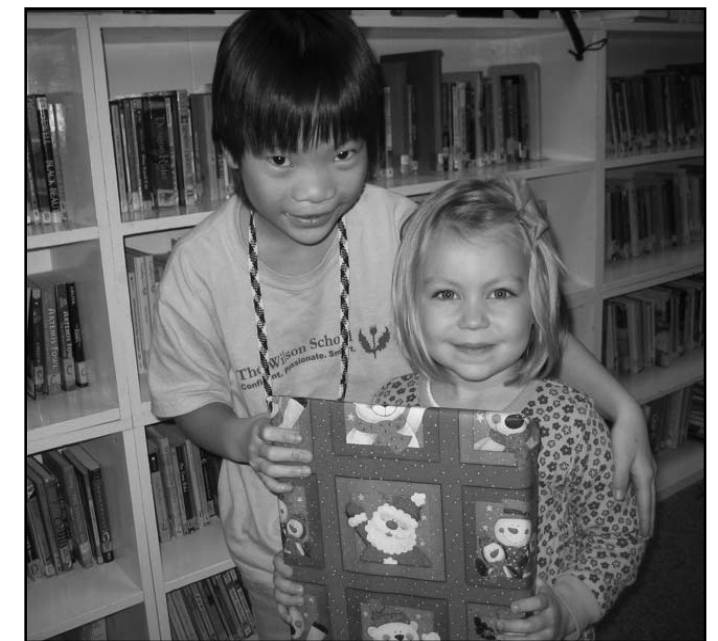
Passionate About Giving

Wilson students are passionate about life -- exploring new challenges, making new friends and creating through words, art, music, and movement. Yet, their passion for giving is often overlooked. This school year has been filled with innumerable and fantastic moments of giving. The understanding of civic and social responsibility, an aspect of Wilson's mission, is woven into everyday experiences. From a hug and a smile to a get well card or donation, we discover how giving can truly "Make Your Mark A Good One." This foundation in charity and community service has left a hand print on every member of the Wilson community.

Learning to give begins as early as Pre-kindergarten. Along with their Fourth Grade buddies, the Pre-kindergarten completed a community service project, "Kids Helping Kids." As our Pre-kindergartners see their friends, family members and, in particular, older buddies give back, they begin to develop their sense of social responsibility that continues throughout their careers at Wilson. Going above and beyond is etched into our community. Boy Scouts ran coat drives and Scouting for Food, and the Girl Scouts created a quilt to donate to a children's shelter. The Third Grade and Fifth Grade give to senior citizens at Cardinal Ritter Senior Services and Laclede Groves with letters, holiday bingo and companionship. Junior Kindergarten has offered their friendship to blood cancer patients with "get well soon" and Valentine's

Day cards. Student Council organized their annual "Pennies for Patients" drive to raise money for children with leukemia and lymphoma. What is most astounding is that this only highlights a portion of community service at Wilson, and is not a comprehensive storyline, especially given the everyday caring witnessed in our hallways and classrooms.

Keep reading about Wilson's latest outreach -- to victims of the crisis in Haiti -- on page 2.



Calendar

- February 27 27th Annual Thistle Auction- Hats Off To Wilson
- March 1 Re-Enrollment Contracts Due
- March 10 Wilson Wear Deadline
- March 10 Wilson Wednesday Café & Coffee
- March 10 Birthday Book Club Assembly- Wear MYMAGO Shirts
- March 12 Parent-Teacher Conferences –
Childcare provided during conference times only.
- March 15-26 Spring Break- Vacation Care Available
- March 29 School Resumes

Mark Your Calendars!
The First Day of the 2010-11 School Year is:
Tuesday, August 24!

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Wilson Extends Sympathies To Haiti

Wilson's response to the tragedy in Haiti has been truly remarkable. To aid Haiti relief, over one thousand dollars has been donated by a series of efforts by Wilson organizations, clubs and classrooms to aid Haiti relief. All donations went directly to help orphaned or malnourished children. The money raised by Wilson will go a long way to support recovery; yet, it is the awareness raised by the Wilson community, and the corresponding demonstration of social responsibility, that will have a lasting effect on our students and their response to future global crises.

Sixth Grade raised \$755.75 with a bake sale and donation jar for a St. Louis-based nonprofit, Meds & Food For Kids (MFK). MFK, founded and run by Patricia Wolff, a St. Louis pediatrician and mother of Wilson Alumni, is campaigning to build a new food processing factory in Haiti. This new factory will be better fit for safe, large-scale food production, and able to treat more than 6,000 malnourished children annually. Two generous Wilson students (pictured below) donated money to the cause -- Alex Martyn (4th) gave over \$24 of personal savings, and Carter Cashen (JK) gave his tooth fairy money. Additional

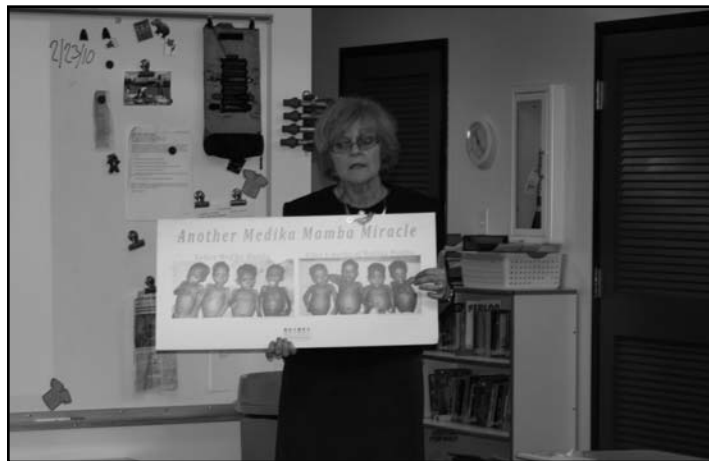


donations from Wilson families, Fifth Grade cookie donations, and bake sale earnings, including a successful Boy Scouts bake sale for the Red Cross, made this a truly successful undertaking.

Patricia Wolff spoke to the Sixth Grade class on February 23, and personally received their donation.

Student Council members voted to donate \$500 to Hands Together, a non-profit based in mainland Haiti, which establishes schools and orphanages, supplies meals and healthcare, and develops sustainable agriculture. Hands Together has suffered many losses from the earthquake and aftershocks, losing schools, program buildings, and the lives of staff members. In efforts to rebuild Haiti and Hands Together, four to five truckloads of fresh water and 42 tons of food are being delivered to outreach zones daily, three new schools for educational programs are being developed, and 500 family care packages are created and delivered twice week.

Given the opportunity, Wilson students were eager to take the leadership efforts necessary to make a positive impact on Haiti relief efforts. Way to go!



Upper School Book Club



The Fourth-, Fifth- and Sixth-Grade member of Wilson's Book Club had their third meeting for the school year on February 3. Fifteen students attended the meeting to discuss *White Giraffe* by Lauren St. John.

In this story, 11-year-old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa after the death of her parents. Living with her grandmother, she befriends a mythical white giraffe. Most of the students at Book Club rated this fantastic read a 9 or a 10! Some interesting questions were raised, such as why Martine's father said, "Everything happens for a reason," whether or not Martine made the right decision, and if you'd like to see the white giraffe. Curious about the answers? Read the book!

The final Book Club of the school year will be Wednesday, April 7. Stay tuned for the next Book Club selection! Happy Reading!

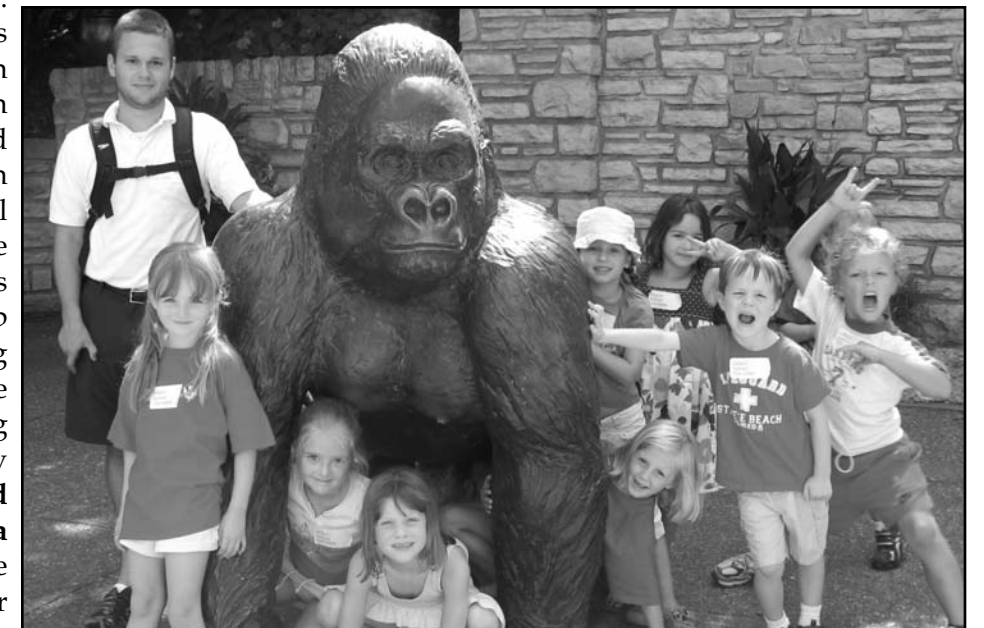
Summer's Just Around The Corner!

Make pancakes with Mrs. Roth. Learn yoga with Mrs. Talbott. Build a castle with Ms. Signor. Bake the perfect chocolate chip cookie with Ms. Alimagno. Silkscreen a T-shirt with Mrs. Tipton. Bike Forest Park with Mr. Rust. Learn movie magic with Mr. Georgen. Join your teachers for fun and excitement this summer.

The Wilson School Summer Camp is open to Wilson and non-Wilson students age three through Sixth Grade. The activities mentioned above are just some of the many fun activities in which campers will participate. Register early, as space is limited. Weekly registration is available for the Junior Camp (children age three through entering Third Grade). Registration for the Senior Camp (children entering Fourth through Sixth Grade) is by two-week session. **All registered Wilson students will receive a discount on camp tuition.** The Wilson School rate is \$200.00 per

week for the Junior Camp. For the Senior Camp, the rate is \$400.00 per two-week session.

For more information, visit wilsonschool.com. Questions? Contact Michael Hinkebein at mhinkebein@wilsonschool.com.





Wilson PA Says, "Our Staff Are The Best!"

By Megan Philip, PA Staff Appreciation Committee Chair

Our gifted, dedicated staff play a large part in making The Wilson School the very special place it is. In recognition of all that they do, the Parents Association Staff Appreciation Committee is dedicated to saying "thank you" in a variety of ways throughout the school year. These include monthly breakfast treats (thanks to **Lori O'Brien** for coordinating this) and birthday gifts (ditto: **Terri Fujii**). We also provide lunch for the staff on Parent-Teacher Conference days. Many thanks go to **Michelle McCormick**, who organized a lovely meal in October.

You still have plenty of opportunities to join us in honoring the people who do so much for our children! **Monica Gunther** is planning the staff lunch for the March 12 conference day and could use additional help. Last, but not least, our signature event - Staff Appreciation Week - is May 3-7. We are looking for people to provide treats of all sorts that week, as well

as lunch that Wednesday.

Thank you very much to the many parents who have already cheerfully provided their support. Please contact me, **Megan Philip**, to contribute your time and/or talents to upcoming events.



What I Love About Wilson ... continued from page 4

I like scientist of the day. I love P.E. I love recess. I like snack. I like art projects. I like First Grade Challenge.

John Gates, 1st

All the teachers and friends are caring.

Madeleine Jersan, 2nd

I love my teachers. I love my classes. My favorite subject is math. I love *Ereth's Birthday* our read aloud book. I love my friends. I love my classroom. I love everything and everybody at Wilson.

Jessica Wendel, 3rd

I love creative writing. It is my favorite subject. I love writing stories.

Gabby Carmichael, 3rd

I love all the kids, teachers, lunch, education, and learning all the different classes.

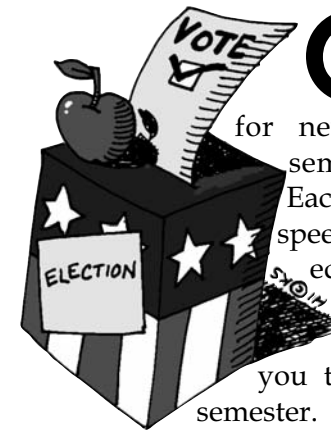
Peter Fernandes, 5th

I like play with the buddies. My buddy is very talkative and loves to laugh.

Hannah O'Brien, 5th



Student Council News



On Friday, January 22, the First through Sixth Grade students voted for new officers for the spring semester of Student Council. Each candidate for office wrote a speech and most candidates created a poster. We congratulate all candidates on their effort. We would like to introduce you to our officers or the spring semester.

Officers

- Zachary Bukhshtaber**, President
- Elaina Grimm**, Vice President
- Nicholas Drake**, Treasurer
- Cristian Hill**, Secretary
- Aliff Rush**, Historian

Elections for representatives were completed by Friday, February 2. We would like to introduce you to our new representatives for the spring semester.

Representatives

- 1st Grade: **Catherine Akred, Owen French**
- 2nd Grade: **Madeleine Jersan, George Roby**
- 3rd Grade: **Eliza Copilevitz, Justin Scales**
- 4th Grade: **Nicky Bukhshtaber, Thomas Miller**
- 5th Grade: **Sara Clark, Garrett Dunn**
- 6th Grade: **Christopher Booker, Jendaya Christmas**

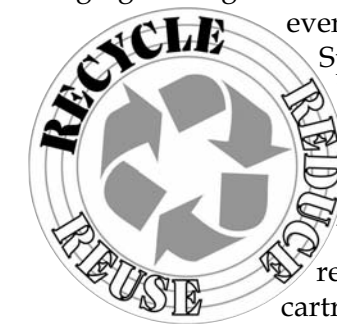
Well done and thank you to all of the officers and representatives who served Student Council during the fall semester. They all worked hard and did an excellent job serving our community.



The Candy-gram sale concluded on Wednesday, February 10. Thank you to all those students, parents, and teachers who supported Student Council through the purchase of a Candy-gram. Close to 1,000 Candy-grams were delivered on

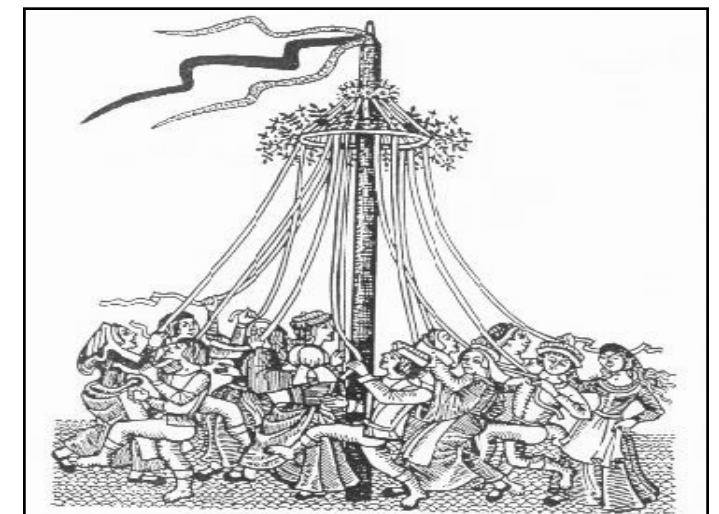
February 12 to students and teachers!! Everyone enjoyed them!!

Be sure to keep in the loop on Student Council sponsored activities and events by checking monthly calendars, eWilson, Friday folders and posters hanging throughout the school. Upcoming spring events will include: a Cardinal Spirit Day, the Field Day T-shirt sale, Miss Wilson's birthday celebration, the Talent Show, plus our ongoing collection of Boxtops for Education and recycling of cell phones, ink cartridges and medicine bottles.



Student Council Dates to Remember:

- April 2 Field Day T-shirt orders go home in the Friday folder
- April 12 Cardinal Spirit Day
- April 19 Field Day t-shirt orders due
- April 19 Talent Show sign-ups begin
- April 30 Miss Wilson's birthday
- May 3 Talent Show auditions begin
- May 4 May Day Appreciation
- May 28 Talent Show
- June 1 Officer Speeches



What I Love About Wilson ...

By Wilson Students

Building with blocks.

Alana Doherty, PK

Going down the slide.

Carter Connors, PK

Book-making in morning centers.

Reagan Bierman, JK



Doing magnets in the science center.

Tyler Rush, JK

The Star Gazing Party.

Zoe Newman, SK

Studying trees.

Immanuel Thomas, SK

I love Wilson because there is art and math and reading time too.

Claire Harkins, 1st

I like Must-Do time because your brain works.

Andrew Huang, 1st

I love Wilson because we get a good education and it is a cozy school.

Jacyln Bansch, 2nd

I love Wilson because lots of people are caring in The Wilson School.

Rexford Calkins, 2nd

I love the math, even if it is difficult!

Madison Fuller, 3rd

I love that all the people at Wilson are nice, and they include me in games.

Andrew Keeney, 3rd

My favorite subjects in school are science and math. In science class, we started a new subject called human biology. I can't wait until we start the new unit in math class. We are learning about fractions.

Kennedi Ginger, 4th

Continued on page 5

What I Love About Wilson ... continued from page 4

The things I like about Wilson are buddies, Latin, recess, science, teachers, students, art, and technology.

Oliver Hamilton, 4th

I like Wilson because they academically challenge you and always keep you active. I also like that you can come to the teachers face to face if you need any help and the teachers care about you!

Jessica Scales, 5th

Reading books is a big deal here at Wilson. I love to read books! We are a part of fun clubs on Fridays, which give us a chance to compete with other kids around St. Louis. I love The Wilson School!

John Hastings, 5th

The friendly teachers and students. If you're walking down the hall, everyone says hello to me. Also, the teachers are always trying to make learning fun and enjoyable.

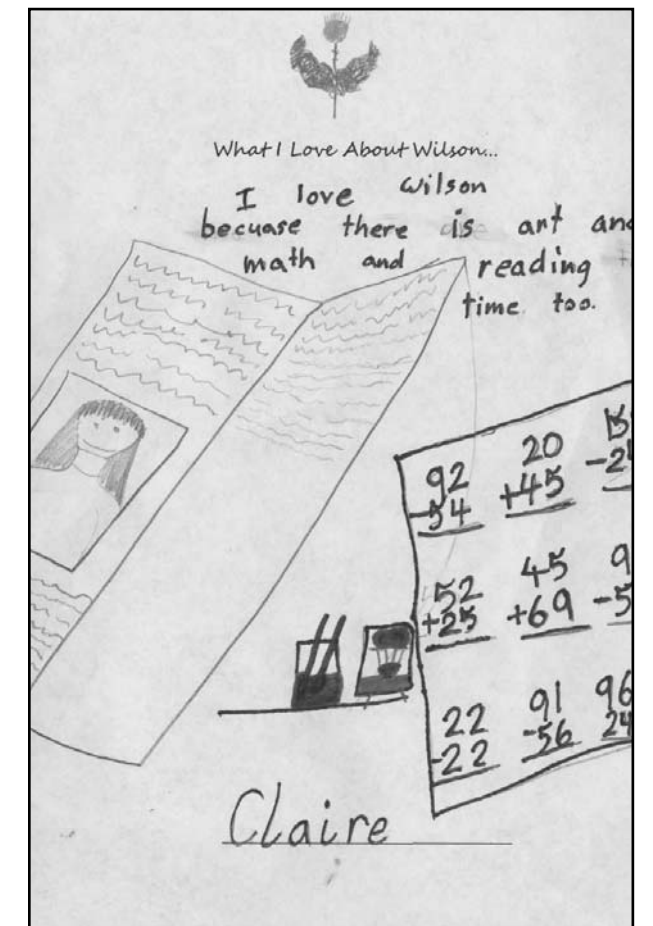
Vallyse Nelson, 6th

The wonderful teachers and students make my day the best it can be. The cheerful environment that brightens my day and fills me with life could never be replaced at another school. There is a continuous flow of knowledge into all the students. Fun is found in everything Wilson does, provides, gives, encourages.

Cole Giesecking, 6th

I love that the teachers are always there to help you. They answer all of your questions and explain things if you are unsure. They are the best!

Miranda Gottlieb, 6th



I love how Wilson's teachers teach a new value every year. I also like how when you first come to Wilson, everyone's your friend. The last thing is being at Wilson is like being a part of a family.

Zachary Bukhshtaber, 6th

Continued on page 7