



THE WIZARD'S WORD

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF WAKEFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HOME OF THE WAKEFIELD WIZARDS

Aspiring to excellence by striving to be the change we wish to see in the world

Special Edition SY 2010/2011

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<http://wa.skschools.net>

WORD OF THE MONTH

"Respectful"

(PEACE MAKER)

Adjective -

full of or exhibiting respect; "respectful behavior"; "a respectful glance." Courteous - characterized by courtesy and gracious good manners

PHONE NUMBERS:

- Main Office: 360-1400
- Principal: 360-1402
- School Nurse: 360-1406
- Social Worker: 360-1247

A CELEBRATION WITH FIRE & ICE(cream) AT WAKEFIELD ELEMENTARY by Lynne Harper

Wizards, friends and family of Wakefield Elementary School gathered together Tuesday evening to bid a fond farewell to current principal Michelle Little and welcome incoming principal Lynn Dougherty. Although nothing could be better than spending the first official day of summer enjoying bowl of Brickley's ice cream and observing the peaceful beauty of your own "LittleWaterfire," it was still an



event filled with mixed emotions. Hosted by the PTO, this year's ice cream social had a few extra surprises as the PTO unveiled a plaque that now resides in the garden at the front of the school commemorating Mrs. Little's teachings and belief in the children as represented by Gandhi's famous quote, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." Then, Michelle Little was presented with a memory book created by teacher assistant Cindy Timpano that included the collected works and words contributed by the staff, teachers and students of WES. Then, as if that wasn't enough, the crowd was ushered over to the Sari's Sanctuary River Classroom for a song of thanks and praise performed by musician/parent Jennifer Romanat and an artistic fire on the water presented by local business owners and proud parents,



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Want a full color version of the Wizard's Word?

Check us out online at <http://www.wa.skschools.net> then click "Newsletters" at the top just below the banner.

or Visit <http://www.SouthKingstown.Patch.com> then type key word "Wizard's Word" in the search box



PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING...

June 2011



Michelle B. Little, Principal
Wakefield Elementary School

Dear Wakefield School Families,

Writing this final newsletter column, after eight years as Wakefield School's principal, is bittersweet. I will dearly miss the entire Wakefield School Community, yet in my heart of hearts, I know it is time to move on. I began my teaching career at St. Patrick School on Smith Street in Providence some 28 years ago. It was a true community experience, one I longed to help emulate throughout the years at various schools and to various degrees. Without a doubt, my experience at Wakefield has been that of a true community coming together in the best interest of children. In my opinion, surrounding children with a circle of caring is the greatest of gifts. In such an environment, a child's true potential and encouragement to take risks in a safe space can best be realized. Thank you, one and all, for stepping up for children. You are beyond amazing and I have been truly blessed.



I cannot emphasize enough the importance of supporting your child to continue reading writing, and problem solving over the summer. The loss over time for some children is enough to advocate for year round schooling. PLEASE make a commitment to oversee that your child is reading and writing/keeping a journal. In addition, include your child in problem solving such as how much gas we will need to take a trip to visit.....and how much do we need to budget, etc. Real world problem solving is a great way for children to grow and apply many of the strategies they have learned. Please be sure they keep a list of the books they have read. It is a good feeling of accomplishment for them and will help keep their minds engaged and curious. Due to Wakefield's new status under Title 1, we will be having a summer program for children who are identified by staff as needing extra support over the summer. The school will be in touch with you shortly, hopefully in enough time for you to make your summer plans.

We are all hoping that the four elementary schools will remain open in the future. We thank parent, Pam Santos, for her time, talent and commitment to serve on the Reconfiguration Advisement Committee. The committee will be giving a recommendation to the superintendent, for her consideration, regarding the configuration of schools as we move into the future. No matter what, I have every confidence that our school community will continue to gather round our children and teachers.

Lastly, pending approval by the South Kingstown School Committee, on June 14th, first grade Matunuck teacher, Lynn Dougherty (Door' tee), will be appointed Wakefield's principal for the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Dougherty will have the option of applying for the position after next year or returning to her classroom. At that time, there will be representation from the parents and staff on the interviewing team.

Thank you for entrusting your most precious gift to us each day. It has been an honor and a joy.



Lynn Dougherty & Michelle Little

With love and gratitude,

Michelle Little



WAKEFIELD ELEMENTARY PTO NEWS

The final meeting for the 2010/2011 school year was held on the 16th of June. A big thank you goes to Meredith Gibbons and Tanya Morrison for co-chairing the PTO this year. This year was very successful financially as a result of their direction and thanks to all parents, staff and businesses that supported the many events. The following is a list of some of the events and accomplishments this year:

- Open House
 - The Fall Festival
 - P-Bruins Family Fun Night
 - The Snowball Dance
 - Jog-a-thon
 - Popcorn Fridays
 - Book Fairs
 - Cap Crusaders-Recycle Cap Program
 - Box Top Collection and Redemption
 - Book purchases for Library & Classrooms
 - Beautification of School Grounds (inside and out)
 - Painting (inside and out)
 - National Green Week activities
 - Cultural Arts presentations
 - FLASH afterschool programming
 - Spaghetti Supper
 - Ice Cream Social
 - Teacher Appreciation snacks and luncheon
 - Snack Surplus for classrooms
 - Walk to School Wednesdays
- And more...



The following is the slate of officers for the 2011/2012 PTO board:

Pam Santos - Chair

Kristen Benjamin - Vice Chair

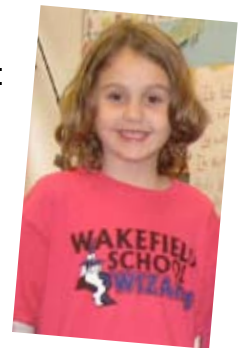
Beth Laliberte - Treasurer

Heather Totten - Secretary

Rosemary Galiani - Steering Committee/Health Initiative Coordinator

Tanya Morrison - Steering Committee

Meredith Gibbons - Steering Committee/Green Educator



There will be two meetings held over the summer to determine a budget for the coming school year as well as start planning the initial set of events for the Fall. Watch your Inbox for school related emails regarding PTO participation. All are welcome to participate on any level.

The PTO would like to sincerely thank the many volunteers and local business that have supported Wakefield Elementary School activities and fund-raisers throughout the year. We encourage you to support the following businesses in return as the business community support for these events is wonderful.

- Art and Soul
- Belmont Market
- Brickley's Ice Cream
- Damon's Hardware
- Ichiban Karate
- Janeeska
- Old Mountain Lanes
- Pier Pizza
- Sweeney's Wine and Spirits
- Sweenor's Chocolates
- The Alternative Food Cooperative



Fire & Ice Cream *continued from page 1*



Michael Mutschler and Rosemary Galiani and family.

The evening wasn't all about Michelle Little though, incoming interim principal Lynn Dougherty was welcomed with ice cream and by teachers parents and children. Mrs. Dougherty said "I look forward to being a Wizard and am excited about being part of the Wakefield Elementary School community."

In addition to Michelle Little, WES is also saying good bye and THANK YOU to Mrs. Nancy Antosh. Nancy has dedicated the better part of her life to educating and supporting kindergarten age children and their families. Her incredible gifts and talents as an early educator are unsurpassed and will be missed at WES. We wish her love and peace for years to come .





The Wizard's

CHAMPION ZONE: Your PE News & Events column

brought to you by Jim "Mr. Champ" Champion, SK PE Educator



With school ending and summer here, staying active should be easy. But to keep it healthy and fun, remember to stay hydrated, use sun block and be careful of the heat and humidity. So when the weather is too hot try choosing water sports or even running through the lawn sprinkler to keep it cool.

Looking for a way to stay active this summer? Mr. Champ will once again be offering his very popular Champ's Camps through the SK Parks and Rec Department. Have you ever played "Keep Off the Grass," "Danger Island" or "Total Recall"? These are just a few of the many different games to be played at Champ's Camp. Youth will participate in a variety of cooperative games, challenges and fitness activities. The day will

continuously switch from high to low intensity while stressing sportsmanship, effort, teamwork and of course having fun. Get ready for some non-stop action and jam packed fun and excitement!! Be sure to bring a water bottle and a snack. Call the Guild at 401-789-9301 for more information on available times and days.



The "Magic" Walking School Bus

The walking school buses have been rolling every Wednesday morning since the beginning of June. This has been a wonderful way for the children, their parents and guardians to start their day and connect as they walk to school. Whether across the bridge, via the bike path, along Main & High Streets, walking to school is a gift we have been blessed to share with each other. Thank you to all who organized and participated. Keep on walkin' and we'll see you next year!



Parents & children walk down Main Street to Wakefield School

SK High School Child Development Students Wrapping up the Fun

On Wednesday June 8th, SK High School Child Development students walked to Wakefield school to deliver book bags which they had developed for Mrs. Hagerty's my kindergarten class. They also spent time reading to the children and completing various activities which they had developed to align with the books they read. It has been a pleasure hosting these students during the school year. Their presence in the classroom has been a treat and their efforts have been greatly appreciated by the class. This is the second year the high school students have shared what they are learning with the kindergarteners at Wakefield Elementary.

Play it Safe in the Sun: A Guide for Parents

(National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion)

Choose Your Cover

Hey Moms and Dads! Not all sun protection comes in a bottle. There are lots of ways to protect your child's skin all year long. Here are five you can try.

Hide and Seek. UV rays are strongest and most harmful during midday, so it's best to plan indoor activities then. If this is not possible, seek shade under a tree, an umbrella or a pop-up tent. Use these options to prevent sunburn, not to seek relief once it's happened.



Cover 'em Up. Clothing that covers your child's skin helps protect against UV rays. Although a long-sleeved shirt and long pants with a tight weave are best, they aren't always practical. A T-shirt, long shorts or a beach cover-up are good choices, too — but it's wise to double up on protection by applying sunscreen or keeping your child in the shade when possible.



Get a Hat. Hats that shade the face, scalp, ears, and neck are easy to use and give great protection. Baseball caps are popular among kids but they don't protect their ears and neck. If your child chooses a cap, be sure to protect exposed areas with sunscreen.



Shades Are Cool. And they protect your child's eyes from UV rays, which can lead to cataracts later in life. Look for sunglasses that wrap around and block as close to 100% of both UVA and UVB rays as possible.



Rub on Sunscreen. Use sunscreen with at least SPF 15 and UVA/UVB protection every time your child goes outside.



CHECK IT OUT!



The Library, where Wizards get more than words



Library Volunteers Make All the Difference by M'lyn Hines

The Library program is deeply indebted to the volunteers who came week after week to help get books into the hands of children.

These volunteers checked books out, delivered them to the classrooms, checked them in, re-shelved them and helped students find the books they wanted. They also helped with copying, laminating, labeling, and many other library projects as well. Some of these wonderfully dedicated friends of the library have been helping all year! A Wakefield Wizards cheer goes out to:

BethAnne Goncalves
Sarah Hackey
Carmelina Maciocio
Mary Meeker
Justine Ray
Christa Thoresen
Emily Westcott



of those books between now and March 31st, 2012, will qualify for the big event—an evening of friendly competition in which teams of students work together to answer questions about the books they've read. ALL of the books are available at South Kingstown public libraries. The books range from short picture books to lengthy chapter books and include nonfiction as well. Our goal is to have EVERY 2012 Wakefield Wizards 4th grader participate! So for summer reading, be sure to look at the Battle of the Books list that will be coming home—lists are available at SK public libraries too! For more information on the Battle of the Books, go to the school library homepage <http://wa.skschools.net/library/> and click on “Family Links” under the “4th Grade” heading.

Summer Reading at South Kingstown Public Libraries Be sure to enroll your students in the South Kingstown Public Libraries' summer reading program. This year's theme is “One World, Many Stories.” Participating students keep track of their reading over the summer and receive incentives and prizes for their efforts. Lots of special programs are scheduled for family fun as well.

Visit the public library website at <http://skpl.org/>

What to do on a rainy summer day? Visit the Library Website!

Encourage students to visit the school library website this summer. The Web address is: <http://wa.skschools.net/library/> Students leaving grades 3 and 4 know how to navigate this site; students in grade 2 were introduced to the site but may need some help initially. Even younger students may find something to enjoy. Children should click on the grade links to find technology games, Internet safety games, keyboarding practice, links to online children's encyclopedias, kid-safe search engines, and career exploration links. Also, check out the fabulous learning resources available for free at <http://askri.org/> a site sponsored by Rhode Island's public libraries.

Battle of the Books for Incoming 4th Graders

Each year 4th grade students throughout South Kingstown are encouraged to participate in the “Battle of the Books.” Exiting 3rd graders will soon receive a list of “Battle” books. Students who read any 10



It's been an exciting and creative year at Wakefield Elementary School thanks to everyone's favorite art educator, Mrs. Elizabeth Schenck. Since 2009, Mrs. Schenck has been sharing the artistic magic of our Wizards with the world through the web pages of Artsonia, the world's largest kid's art museum. Artsonia features over 383,725 project galleries from schools around the world! Wakefield Elementary School has over 5000 works on exhibit, with 3345 pieces in their gallery from this school year alone. This, as well as parent participation on the site, keep Wakefield Elementary listed as one of the top three schools in the state.

Did you know that by visiting Wakefield Elementary School's Visual Arts & Design gallery on Artsonia can help support the arts at our school? In addition to being an online gallery, you can shop the museum store and purchase keepsakes featuring your child's works of art. The money generated through Artsonia helps to purchase art supplies for WES. So if you haven't visited Artsonia recently, check it out at www.artsonia.com and see the magic our Wizards have created! Your encouragement of their efforts is most appreciated.



"Have a magical Summer.
See you back on August 30th!"



SUMMER FUN ACTIVITIES!

3rd Annual Family Fun Night

South Kingstown Town Beach
Saturday, August 20 from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
A great way to enjoy a summer night with your friends and family! Enjoy the sounds of one of South County's favorite bands, RPMS. They'll be performing some great hits on the Town Beach Pavilion from 5:30—7:00 p.m. Bring your chairs or blankets and join us for a few hours of relaxing fun. Activities for the kids at only \$4/child they can participate in all of them! The rest-room facilities will be available and concession items sold.

If inclement weather, please call The Neighborhood Guild at 789-9301 after 12:00 p.m. on 8/20 for recorded message. As a reminder to everyone alcohol is PROHIBITED on Town Property

Free Concerts

Peace Dale Village Green 6pm-7:30pm

July 10
July 12
July 17
July 24
July 31
Aug 7
Aug 9
Aug 14
Aug 16
Aug 21

Marina Park 6:30-7:30pm

July 11
July 18
July 25
Aug 1
Aug 8

From the June Newsletter of Jenny Friedman and

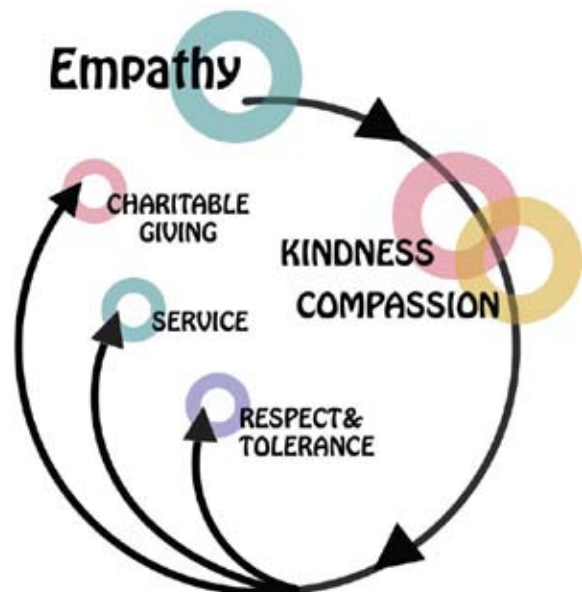
Doing Good Together

"Helping strengthen kids and communities through family volunteerism..."
www.doinggoodtogether.org

Make a Difference...

As the headlines remind us daily, empathy and compassion are often in scarce supply. But something can be done. Says Prof. Simon Baron Cohen of the University of Cambridge: "Empathy is a skill like any other human skill; if you get a chance to practice, you can get better at it." New evidence suggests that service to others even contributes to an individual's healthy development. Just think! Individuals who do for others are more likely to be happier, more successful and even live longer. Here are ways to strengthen your child's empathy muscle:

- Together watch movies and read books with themes of caring and giving, or characters that practice compassion. Check out our comprehensive resource list.
- Take on a simple service project and talk about how you feel as a giver -- and how the person you're helping feels.
- Establish simple family traditions of service. Rather than one-time projects, these are small routines for your everyday life.



- Start a tradition of charitable giving.
- Do activities that emphasize the diversity of the world's cultures. Visit a Russian museum, Mexican festival, Korean market or African church. Remind children of the similarities among us and talk about valuing the differences.

WORD SEARCH

Summer Fun



L W N C B O A T I N G U S I J D L K
I A M C B A L F H U K R X Q B I K E
J R Q Q T S R D X C I L M V E G N D
X J F C W U D B Y D T L Q B E F U I
S D U I S S Z C E C B A S E B A L L
T M N M N N K H F C Q B W A S E E S
G G K H P D O A B S U Y D D I N P Y
J O C M C R S R T M Z E N R R O S J
T L A C S T O H K E I L O O F I S H
I C G E T W O P E E B L D L O T B C
D Y S G U B T C E L L O C L A A C G
F M Y F P X I S S E L V A E W C I Q
D J F Z I X L J R P F S N R X A N T
P J W A T E R S K I O G O B D V C D
Y Z P O H D K W H B Q H E L Q L I T
F W C Z E A T I C E C R E A M V P Y
K E M O T W O M H E G A R D E N L Q
M A K E S A N D C A S T L E S S U O



BARBECUE	FISH	SKATEBOARD
BASEBALL	FRISBEE	SLIDE
BIKE	GARDEN	SNORKEL
BIRDWATCH	HIKE	SPELUNK
BOATING	HOPSCOTCH	SURF
CAMP	JUMPROPE	SWIM
CANOE	MAKESANDCASTLES	SWING
CLIMB	PICNIC	VACATION
COLLECTBUGS	RIDEHORSES	VOLLEYBALL
DIVE	ROLLERBLADE	WADE
EATICECREAM	ROLLERSKATE	WATERSKI
FINDSHELLS	SEESAW	

Kickin' for CARES



Music!

Tournament

Food!

Sunday Sept. 11th -9:30 a.m

Rain Date Sunday Sept. 18th

West Kingston Park-Rt. 138

Prizes!

- ❖ \$200 registration per team
- ❖ Minimum 11 players per team (18+ yrs old)
- ❖ Minimum 2 players of each gender
- ❖ Team Registration Open July 1st. Space Limited.
- ❖ Prizes for 1st Place, Best Uniform & Most Team Spirit

Double Elimination!

**Proceeds to benefit
South Kingstown CARES
For Information E-mail:
kickin4cares@verizon.net**

Wakefield Wizards ROC - Respect Ourselves Others and Community

PEACE MAKERS



**Polite, Empathic,
Altruistic, Caring, Even-Tempered,
Mindful of Others, Amicable, Kind,
Environmentally aware & Responsible.**