

WILLARD PK-2 NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year! I hope you were able to spend some quality time with your child/children over the winter break.

We are beginning to experience more student absences from school. While the flu this time of year increases, it is still important to send your child to school if they are not experiencing any flu like symptoms. It is important that your student is at school and on time every day. When a student attends school regularly it improves their report card and test scores. Your help in getting your child to school and prepared to learn everyday is greatly appreciated!

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on January 29 and January 31. Please make sure you fill out the form attached to this newsletter and send it back to the school so that we can schedule a time for you to visit with your child's teacher. This is a great way to connect with your child's teacher and to see the progress that your child is making. We look forward to seeing you.

Wake and act **each day** with the understanding that your actions will be absorbed by your children...and your children will grow to be contributing adults to the level of your influence. Add an extra 15 minutes each day to the time you invest with your children—an equivalent of more than two weeks each year. Imagine the exponentially positive effect of investing two extra weeks each year exclusively in the development of your children.

We look forward to seeing you at conferences!

Michelle Chiaro
PK-2 Principal

"According to Ronald Beghetto, the author of "Taking Beautiful Risks in Education," Creativity is risky. It takes courage. Revolutionary artists such as Henri Matisse recognized this about creativity. But you don't have to be a famous artist to understand that creative expression, while often beneficial to oneself and others, comes with its share of hazards. Creativity is risky because it requires doing things differently. And whenever we try to do something new or different, we make ourselves vulnerable to making mistakes, appearing foolish, and even being ridiculed. Put simply, creative endeavors don't always work out.

Creative expression, like all risks, has costs and benefits. But not all risks are the same. Some are good, some bad, and some are *beautiful* (Beghetto, in press). Students who ask for help in front of their peers are taking a *good* risk, because even though there's the potential hazard of appearing less competent, the long-term benefits of seeking instructional help when it's needed outweigh the immediate costs. Conversely, taking your students on an impromptu field trip without notifying families or following established protocols is a *bad* risk. No matter how beneficial the field trip may seem in the moment, the potential hazards far outweigh the benefits."

Encourage your child to think outside the box and have creative freedom. When they are in control of their discovery, they take ownership. Celebrate their successes. Talk through the mistakes. Learning is a life long process. Be creative, be challenged, be educated. ~Heidi Cope-Barker, School Improvement Supervisor.

www.warrenschoools.k12.oh.us

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 8—COSI

Jan 11—Early Release

Jan 21—NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King Day

Jan 23—Family Day, Grade 1

Jan 29 & 31—Parent/Teacher Conferences



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Attached to this newsletter is a parent/teacher conference form for you to fill out and return to the school office. Conferences for all grades will be held on:

Tuesday, January 29

Thursday, January 31

4:15 pm—7:15 pm each evening

**EARLY RELEASE- FRIDAY,
JANUARY 11**

**2 HOUR EARLY RELEASE—DISMISSAL
AT 1:55 PM**



**WILLARD PK-2
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