

WoodCreek Elementary

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Wilderness Weekly



VOLUME 24

MARCH 11, 2009

Dates to Remember

March 13 - Spring Parties

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 20 - First Day of Spring

March 25 - Progress Reports go home

March 26 - PTA meeting 6:30pm

March 26 - 5th grade Choir performance 7:00pm

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Tracy Lutes is the WCE Teacher of the Year!



Mr. Moshier, dressed in his best Hawaiian shirt, presents Ms. Lutes as WCE Teacher of the Year.

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who dreamed of one day becoming a teacher. Little Tracy sat in math class (her favorite subject) at Alief-Hastings High School and decided she would make her dreams come true. She studied hard and made good grades. While in college, Tracy met her handsome prince, Joe. Joe knew Tracy wanted to be a teacher, and like all good husbands, he encouraged her to pursue her studies. Tracy and Joe were soon blessed with a beautiful, bouncing baby boy named Austin. While Tracy juggled school, work and motherhood, Joe provided a loving home (economic stability) and continued to support Tracy as she worked toward her goal of becoming a teacher. Once Tracy received her degree from The University of Houston, she realized that she not only wanted to be a teacher, but she wanted to be 'teacher of the year'. Only then could she say she reached the pinnacle of her career. Tracy - now known as Mrs. Lutes - started her teaching career in the Alief school district. She was well liked and did an excellent job. While at Alief ISD, Tracy was nominated for teacher of the year. Alas, it wasn't meant to be. Tracy moved on to the Cypress - Fairbanks school district where she taught for 3 years. Again, Tracy was nominated as teacher of the year. Mrs. Lutes realized that in order to fulfill her dream as teacher of the year, she had to work in a school district with the best of the best. She was lured away from Cy-Fair by the outstanding reputation of Katy ISD. In only her second year with Katy ISD, Ms Lutes has made a lasting impression on her students. Former student, Caleb Jensen, said that Ms Lutes helps the students learn by doing fun things. He can still remember lessons taught by Ms. Lutes because she is a good teacher. Current students Abby McKaskle and Claire Hoffman said that Ms. Lutes is funny, nice and always cheerful. The teachers at WoodCreek Elementary also realized what a wonderful teacher she is, and they voted Ms Lutes Teacher of the Year! After nine years of teaching, Ms. Lutes' dream has come true! The coronation took place last Friday in the 'tropical' Forest. The handsome prince, the athletic son, doting parents and special guests were all on hand to see Tracy receive her award. A great party was thrown in her honor and they all lived happily ever after. The message in this fairy tale is that hard work and dedication will help you achieve your goals.

PTA Meeting - March 26th at 6:30pm

The WCE Nominating Committee has completed their recommendations for the 2009-2010 WCE PTA Executive Board. The recommendations below will be brought to the general PTA meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 6:30pm in the WCE gym. These nominations were posted on Monday, March 2, 2009.

President= Diane Pharr

1st Vice President- Programs= Melinda Stevens

2nd Vice President Membership = Jennifer Holladay

3rd Vice President- Ways and Means = Radonna Rosario

4th Vice President- Volunteers in Public Schools = Susan Zapalac

Treasurer= Ronda Rusk

Secretary= Katherine Seigerman

RISE:

Ranger Interplanetary Space Exploration

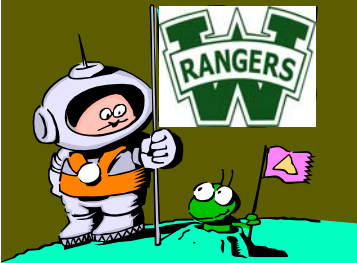
5-4-3-2-1-and we have lift off! At 3:00pm on Friday, March 6, 2009 the inaugural mission of the WoodCreek RISE program began as twelve fifth grade astronauts headed to the planet Mars. Minutes into the space flight the astronauts were already hard at work completing their missions from the space pods that they built during a 9-week training period. The Smiling Starz mission specialists were **Keara Anderson, Gillian Gorski, Kim Lauritano, Kilee Murray, Aspen Noack, and Clare**

Swindell. The R3 mission specialists were **Alack Arnold, Austin Demontigny, Jack Hakala, Derek Loux, Chase Malone, and Jacob Sembroski.**

During the 21-hour mission the astronauts built satellites, walked on the planet's surface looking for metal, drove a Mars rover, grew food in a simulated lab, tracked their heart rate and blood pressure, and replaced fuel cells. The most daring mission involved a space walk. A team of 2 astronauts were suspended 6-feet off the ground and required to build a

plastic shelving unit within 3 minutes. By the Saturday morning, most teams were able to complete this project in less than 1 minute.

Mission Control was staffed by parents and teachers that monitored the crew's progress throughout the night. In the end the R3 crew had accumulated the most points. The Smiling Starz and R3 crews landed safely at 11am on Saturday, March 7, 2009. The inaugural WoodCreek RISE mission was a success.



Astronauts from the R3 crew assemble their project..



The RISE astronauts pose for a group photo.



Astronauts from the Smiling Starz crew completed their project in a record 55 seconds.

Ride 'em Rangers!

Move over bull riders! Step aside calf ropers! The mutton bustin' Rangers are here! Four WCE Rangers participated in the mutton bustin' contest at the KISD rodeo. Mutton bustin' is the fine art of sheep riding. With names like Obaaaama, Rambo, Sheer Imagination and Woolly Mammoth, these sheep usually strike fear in the hearts of the contestants, But, they were no match for our Rangers!

Corbin Luna was the first Ranger to test his skill on Friday. The weekend was capped off Saturday by a thrilling ride from **Grayson Gutierrez**. Thursday night followed by **Kamryn Ashcraft** and **Matthew Henderson** on participants received a trophy for their tremendous efforts in mutton bustin'. Congratulations to our students for showing everyone how it's done - Ranger Style!



*There never
was a horse
that couldn't
be rode; never
was a cowboy
who couldn't
be thrown.*

*~author
unknown*

WCE Kindergarten Orientation

WoodCreek Elementary will be holding a Kindergarten Orientation program on Thursday, March 12th for parents of children who will be attending Kindergarten at WoodCreek for the 2009-2010 school year.

The orientation will be held in

the gym starting at 6:00pm. Parents will be receiving valuable information concerning registration and the Kindergarten program at WoodCreek Elementary.



March Teacher Luncheon Reminder

Just a reminder- the Teacher Luncheon for this month is March 26th. This will be the week after Spring Break. We are serving Pizza from CiCi's as our main course. If you would like to bring a side dish such as a salad, fruit, chips or a yummy dessert, we'd love it! If you have any questions, please contact: Tiffany Hoffman at tiffhoff@starband.net; 281-392-2369 or Heidi Jensen at jensen257@gmail.com; 281-391-5391. Thank you, and Happy Spring Break!



CAMP
WOODCREEK

FRIDAY

APRIL 3RD
5PM - 9PM

FUN, FOOD,
FABULOUS
AUCTION

KIDS
ACTIVITIES

Want to Help?
Email
campwoodcreekvolun-
teers@gmail.com

Ranger Round UP

MARCH

13th - Spring Parties

16th - 20th
SPRING BREAK!

25th - Spring has Sprung
Wear spring colors/jeans

26th - 5th grade Choir Performance

28th - 5th grade Choir trip to Sea World

APRIL

1st - Character Counts - Honesty
Wear light blue/jeans

**3rd - Camp WoodCreek Dinner and Auction
5-9pm**