



It's hard to believe the holiday season is upon us. We would like to take a moment and wish Happy Holidays to all the families at Wolf's Crossing. We hope you have a happy and relaxing winter break.

So far this year, the PTA has successfully planned and organized several events and activities thanks to the dedication of our Committee Chairs and the numerous volunteers. We are currently planning our annual school Fun Fair which will be held on January, 24th from 11-3. In order to make this event successful, we need several volunteers to supervise games and inflatables, serve food, sell tickets and pass out prizes. Look for the volunteer request form in your child's Friday Folder or download one from our website, [www.wolfscrossingpta.com](http://www.wolfscrossingpta.com).

In order to show our appreciation to the wonderful staff at Wolf's Crossing, the PTA will give each staff member a gift certificate during the holiday season. We truly appreciate all of their hard work and their dedication to our children's education.

Once again, we hope you have a happy and joyous Holiday Season.



*Rhonda*

What's Inside	Important Dates for December 2008 & January 2009
Page 2      Principal's Welcome Pages 3 -7    Committee Reports Page 8 & 9    Information/Highlights Pages 11      School Matters Page 12      Puzzle Page Page 13      PTA Contact Information	Dec. 3rd    Holiday Shop Dec. 4th    Market Day Pick Up Dec. 16th   Culver's Night Dec. 19th   Holiday Parties Dec. 22nd-31   No School  Jan. 5th    School Resumes Jan. 14th   PTA Meeting 7:00 PM Jan. 15th   Market Day Pick Up Jan. 19th   No School Jan. 22nd   Papa Saverio's Family Night Jan. 24th   Fun Fair 11-3



Dear Parents and Students,

Happy Holidays! For this newsletter I will briefly re-cap those events for December and move into January 2009 and a preview of events.



For December, please remember our holiday parties for kindergarten through fifth grade will be hosted on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Parties will begin at 2:15. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Mrs. Aimee Lenz from PTA. Winter break begins on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be no classes for students through January 4<sup>th</sup>. Classes resume for students on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. At this time we welcome back Mrs. Baughman and Mrs. Craft from their maternity leaves. I hope everyone has a magical holiday break and remembers what the holiday season stands for. It is a time to spend with family and friends and to remember what traditions and customs we celebrate within our families. Please enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.

As we enter January 2009 there are several key dates to remember and mark on your calendars. The district will host its second institute day on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. These days are set aside for teachers to receive additional training and information on current district and building initiatives. Students will return to school on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. Wolf's Crossing's fun fair will be held on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> from 11-3. This is a fun filled day for both parents and students. Parents are also welcome to volunteer their time during the fun fair. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact the fun fair PTA representative located on the PTA website.

January can bring inclement weather. If there is a school closing, there are several ways to receive this information. These are listed out in our parent/student handbook located on -line. Also remember to review student recess expectations in our handbook for recess playground rules with snow.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact teachers or administration at our listed phone extensions or via e-mail. This information is listed on-line. We are happy to collaboratively work with you to ensure your child's success while attending Wolf's Crossing.

Best Regards,

*Allison Sulkson and the Wolf's Crossing Staff*



## Room Rep Committee

Wow! It seems once Halloween is done, the rest of the holidays come and go in a flash! Since the middle of November, our Room Representatives have been busy planning the Holiday Party, which is on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Our volunteers have done a wonderful job planning and implementing exciting and enjoyable parties for our children. We appreciate all of your assistance with these parties!

For those volunteers who will incur expenses for the Holiday party, please request a reimbursement form from your Head Room Representative. Each classroom has a budget of \$30.00. Your receipts must be attached to the form. Reimbursement in the form of a check will be sent directly to you. Please submit your forms to the PTA Treasurer within 30 days of the party.

Our committee wishes you and your family a Happy Holiday Season!

*Aimee Lenz*

## Reflections

This years 2008-2009 National and Illinois PTA's Reflection Program theme is "WOW". This program is an opportunity for students to explore and learn about various art forms. It does not matter whether an entry created for the Reflections Program has been created as a classroom assignment or independently at home.

We are kicking off the program Monday December 1<sup>st</sup> and accepting entries till December the 15<sup>th</sup>.

The six categories are:

- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production
- Literature
- Musical Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

All grade levels are welcomed to participate. Entries must reflect the student's interpretation of the theme. For official rules and entry forms please contact Sarah Valek, reflections chair at 630-978-0978 or email at [alek616@comcast.net](mailto:alek616@comcast.net).

*Sarah Valek*

## Hospitality

Thank you to all that participated in the October and November staff lunches! These lunches were a huge success and the staff loved all the delicious dishes. If you would like more information about the Hospitality committee please contact me at, [Rhonda-rae47@gmail.com](mailto:Rhonda-rae47@gmail.com)

*Rhonda Antonioli*

## Picture Presenter Committee

We are looking for a few more volunteers. The openings are:

Mrs Apple - March 2009

Mrs. Molnar and Mrs. Kral's; January, February, March, April and May 2009 (These two classrooms have been combined).

If you interested in presenting, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email at [no-haathome@comcast.net](mailto:no-haathome@comcast.net), or by cell at 630.669.7158

Thank you,  
Picture Presenter Committee Chair,

*Noha Ayache*

## Spirit Wear

I wanted to thank everyone on our first successful Spirit Wear Event. We had a great turn out. So lets show our school spirit by wearing your favorite Wolf's Crossing apparel. Don't forget the last Friday of each month will be our day to wear it with pride. Let's see which classroom will have the most spirit!

Spirit Community,  
*Traci Taylor*



## Box Tops Committee

We are off to a great start this year. I want to thank everyone for all your clipping especially Mandy Robertson, Melissa Keller and Bill Borders. Our first submission date of October 31st has been sent out for Box Tops. We have raised over \$1,000 dollars!!!! That is really great, last year we raised for the entire school year a total of just over \$1,400.

Congratulations to Nathan Spencer from Mrs. Hartsock's second grade class! Nathan was our drawing winner and received a \$25.00 Best Buy gift card.

Thank you to Mrs. Mahoney's fourth grade class who has sent in 996 Box Tops, the most of any class. Keep up the good work!

For the class that collects the most Box Tops by the end of 2008 the PTA will give a pizza party! We have another Box Top submission due by the end of February. Don't forget we also collect Campbell's for Education labels and the Tyson Project A+ labels. We will send those in before the end of the school year.

Box Top Chair,  
*Christie Borders*

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## Yearbook Committee

It's not too late to order your yearbook. Download an order form from our website, [www.wolfscrossing.com](http://www.wolfscrossing.com) or stop in the office and pick up a new order form. If you have any questions contact Lisa Merkel at 630-692-1330 or [ljmerkel@yahoo.com](mailto:ljmerkel@yahoo.com).

Committee Chair,  
*Lisa Merkel*

## Community Partners

Our last Culver's Family Dinner Night in October earned Wolf's Crossing \$114.85. Let's see if we can beat that amount this month! December's Family Dinner Night will be at Culver's on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to bring the coupon from the newsletter or website and present it upon ordering.

Our January Family Dinner Night will be with Papa Saverio's on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is our first time teaming up with Papa Saverio's and we are hoping it will be a huge success! Papa Saverio's will donate 10% of your order to Wolf's Crossing if you bring in their flyer when ordering

*Janelle White*

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## Student Directory

The Wolf's Crossing Student Directory for 2008-2009 was sent home to all PTA members via a Friday folder in October. If you are a member of the PTA and haven't received your directory, please contact either co-chair below. If you are not a member of the PTA and would like to purchase a Student Directory, they are available for \$7.00 (free if you join the PTA for only \$6.00!) and you can contact either Co-Chair below to purchase one.



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Community Partners Committee Chairs

*Laura DeCapua*  
*Juli Potjeau*

## Social Committee

We would like to thank everyone who attended the November PTA meeting. The kids enjoyed the exercise stations and had a great time playing the various games. We would also like to thank Mr. Modaff for his presentation on the school's crisis plan and on how to better interpret the ISAT/MAP test scores. During the meeting, Mrs. Layman presented a proposal for the PTA to purchase an interactive smart board for the primary grades. This proposal was approved by a majority of the PTA member and we are in the process of purchasing the Smart Board. At the January meeting, Mrs. Plaza will present a proposal for Jolly Phonics software to use with the Smart Board. Mr. Hendrickson also attended the meeting and was able to give a demonstration on the interactive dance pads the PTA purchased for the PE department. Mrs. Sulkson introduced Mrs. Garren, who will be serving as WC's principal while she is on maternity leave. Ms. Ziemer and Mrs. Mornar were also present at the meeting. We would like to thank the staff for their participation. We appreciate all they do.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00 PM. We will have Children's Bingo (with prizes) in the gym during the business portion of the PTA meeting and then a presentation on bullying and how to handle difficult situations. We hope you can join us for a night of fun and useful information.

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## Fundraising Committee

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the this year's fundraiser. Mrs. Otepka's and Ms. Petersohn's AM Kindergarten class had the highest percentage of student participation. Mrs. Otepka's class will have a pizza party for having the most sales and Ms. Petersohn's class will have a donut party. Thanks again to everyone who participated. We couldn't do it without you.

## Treasurer Updates and Information

Thank you for all of the tremendous support on this year's main fundraiser. With the money raised we have been able to make the following purchases out of the staff/committee proposal budget.

- Three emergency backpacks (contact Mr. Modaff for details)
- Red Ribbon Week wristbands for all students
- Character Counts posters
- An interactive "Smart Board" to be used in K-2

We have or will be purchasing the following from various other budget areas.

- Two dance pads, game systems and game software for the PE department
- Halloween and Holiday party reimbursements  
Staff Holiday Gifts (staff discretionary money)

To find out more about our current budget activity attend our January PTA meeting and watch for more updates in future newsletters.

### Helpful Hint from the Treasurer

When sending in payments, notes or forms to school please include all information requested on the forms AND enclose in a clearly marked envelope. For example, the front of the envelope may look like this:

Committee or Person to receive envelope Student's Name Grade level and Teacher
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Please try to avoid stapling money or checks to the forms. Paperclips are ok, but clearly marked envelopes are the best choice to assure that forms and money stay together and get to the correct committee or person.

*Janice Czepiel, Treasurer*



# PAPA SAVERIOS NIGHT!

January 22nd, 2009

10% of your order is donated to

(Wolf's Crossing Elementary)

Coupons and Special Offers Welcome  
(must present this coupon with your order)

**(630) 820-PAPA (7272)**



**2380 S. EOLA ROAD, AURORA, IL 60503**

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

For Official Use: : \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Ticket No.

# Extra, extra read all about it....



**The PTA is proud to announce the 4<sup>th</sup> annual  
Wolf's Crossing Fun Fair.  
Saturday Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 11:00am-3:00pm**

Everyone is welcome to join us for games, food, inflatable jumpers,  
inflatable football throw, raffles and double the prizes.  
Students who earned "free time" wristbands, your "free time" for games and  
inflatable fun is from 11:00-12:30pm.

The Wolf's Crossing Fun Fair is going a little "Green."  
Look for ticket punch cards, tokens and recycle bins.

More info will be sent home in your child's Friday Folder regarding  
wristbands, advance ticket sales,  
classroom raffle basket donations and volunteer forms.

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## Helping Children With Bullying

- Talk about it, keep safe, walk away, and tell a teacher
  - Bullying is not OK to your body and feelings
  - Make friends who treat you with respect
  - It is not just you, others are bullied to

Do you have concerns about your child being bullied? Or are you not sure what to say when your child comes home upset? Please let us know and we will give suggestions and ideas on how to handle difficult situations at the next PTA meeting, January 14th.

*Please return the bottom portion to school marked PTA and please do not use names*

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## "Green" Team PTA Newsletter Green Facts

If every American changed their light bulbs to Energy Efficient bulbs, and turned down the thermostat 2 degrees in the winter, we as Americans could save 500,000 of oil a **DAY**.

Americans throw away enough paper each year to **heat** 50 million homes for 20 years.

Americans dump over 15 tons of **sewage** into their streams and oceans, every minute.

A typical American family member uses over 80 gallons of water **each day**.

Americans **throw away** enough glass jars and bottles to fill New York's World Trade Center every two weeks.

Each year, a typical American family throws away 2,500 pounds of **paper**, 500 pounds of **metal**, 500 pounds of **glass** and **food** scraps.

Americans throw away enough **aluminum** cans, approximately 40 billion, to reach the moon and back over 20 times.

Over 80% of an American family household's annual waste can be **recycled**.

One Sunday edition of the New York Times consumes as many as **75,000 trees**.

If we **all** recycled 25% of our newspapers, we could save close to 70,000 trees.

Every year, over 40 million acres of tropical rainforest are destroyed through **burning** and **logging**.

A typical 1,700 square-foot wood-frame house requires the equivalent of **1 acre** of forest timber

### Parent Volunteer Copy Program

We are looking for volunteers to help copy, laminate and file for the teachers at Wolf's Crossing. If you are interested in assisting with this program please contact Mr. Modaff, Assistant Principal via e-mail: [Jmodaff@oswego308.org](mailto:Jmodaff@oswego308.org). No previous experienced needed. We will provide training.



Your help is greatly appreciated.

## A Message from Mrs. Brown, Art Teacher

Wolf's Crossing is now involved in a website called Artsonia.com.

At this point every art student has art published on line. With the upcoming holidays, I have had parents asking about winter/holiday artwork to create cards and gifts. All students are creating a 'winter/holiday' piece of art for the site, in addition to the various art projects created so far.

The response to Artsonia has been outstanding. If anyone would like to donate their time to take photo's of art to publish, please contact me at school via e-mail,

CBrown0825@oswego308.org. Digital pictures can be taken at home and uploaded to the site at home computers. Basic digital camera experience is all that is required.



This has been a great way to share the talent of our students, and I am very excited to share the artwork we have been creating in the art room!

A BIG thanks to the following businesses who have donated to PTA events so far this year.:

- Airtastic—thirty free passes
- Premiere Gymnastic—free birthday party package
- Michaels -two, \$20 gift cards
- Parkside Lanes—five free passes
- Aurora Skate—ten free passes
- Whole Foods—\$30 gift card
- Sweet Tomatoes—three complimentary meals

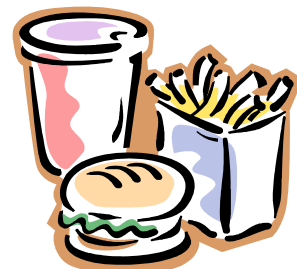
# Thank You

## **Culver's Family Dinner Night Tuesday, December 16th**

Join Wolf's Crossing staff and friends at the Oswego Culver's on Rt. 34 for Family Dinner Night! Culver's will donate a percentage of sales back to Wolf's Crossing. Please bring this coupon with you and present it to your server. Hope to see you there!

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_



## PUZZLE PAGE!

Welcome to the December-January Puzzle Page! Complete the puzzle below and return it to the school before the deadline (December 12th) for your chance to win this month's prize: **12 Free Ride/Game tickets and 10 free raffle tickets to the Fun Fair!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

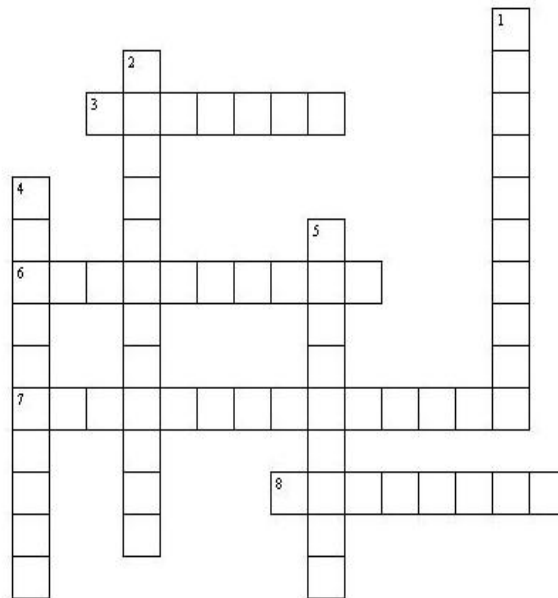
Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

All entries must be received before December 12th. Submit your entry early to ensure it is received. Winners will be notified by email and prizes will be sent home with your child.

### Instructions

Read the newsletter to find the answer to the clues at the bottom of the crossword puzzle. Once you have the answers fill in the puzzle. Be sure to submit it before the December 12th deadline to qualify for the prize!



#### ACROSS

- 3 Happening on January 24th.
- 6 Mrs. Layman will be purchasing one of these.
- 7 Will take place on December 19th.
- 8 A great place to review your child's artwork and get some holiday shopping done as well!

#### DOWN

- 1 Recycling just 25% of these will save 70,000 trees yearly.
- 2 Raised \$114.85.
- 4 This teacher's class brought in 996 box tops.
- 5 Is filling in for Mrs. Sulkson this coming winter.

## PTA Contact Information

### Executive Committee

**President:** Rhonda Jorgensen 898-6357  
rhondajorgensen@comcast.net

**Vice President:**  
Andrea Freveletti 375-0753   alfrevs@sbcglobal.net

**Treasurer:**  
Janice Czepiel 292-4516   janiceczepiel@hughes.net

**Recording Secretary:**  
Chris Gallagher 851-1519   chris\_gallagher@ipsd.org

**Corresponding Secretary:**  
Tracy Olivas 236-8348   tracymolivas@comcast.net

### School Contact Information Wolf's Crossing Elementary School

3015 Heggs Road  
Aurora, IL 60503  
(630) 636-3700  
Attendance Line  
(630) 636-3701

**Principal:**  
Allison Sulkson asulkson@oswego308.org  
Rene Garren RGarren@oswego308.org

**Assistant Principal:**  
Jeff Modaff jmodaff@oswego308.org

**Principal's Secretary:**  
Sue Brostowitz sbrostowitz0324@oswego308.org

**School Secretary:**  
Annette Oldenburg aoldenburg0909@oswego308.org

### Informative and Useful Websites

Wolf's Crossing PTA: [www.wolfscrossingpta.com](http://www.wolfscrossingpta.com)  
School District 308: [www.oswego308.org](http://www.oswego308.org)  
Illinois PTA: [www.illinoispta.org](http://www.illinoispta.org)  
National PTA: [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)  
Market Day: [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com)  
General Mills (boxtops): [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)  
Tyson Foods: [www.tyson.com/projectAplus](http://www.tyson.com/projectAplus)  
Campbell's: [www.campbells.com](http://www.campbells.com)  
Safe Kids Campaign: [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)  
Family Education: [www.familyeducation.com](http://www.familyeducation.com)



### Committee Chairs

**Beautification:**  
Dina Dorpat   dorpat4@comcast.net

**Bike Rodeo:**  
Danny Dorpat   dorpat4@comcast.net

**Box Tops/Tyson/Campbell's Labels:**  
Christie Borders   cejborders@sbcglobal.net

**Community Partners:**  
Janelle White   ericandjanelle@comcast.net

**Directory:**  
Juli Potjeau   potjeaufamily@comcast.net

**Fundraising:**  
OPEN

**Fun Fair:**  
Maria DeBoer   mebadeboer@yahoo.com

**Holiday Shoppe Expo:**  
Jill Curcio   jillcurcio@comcast.net

**Hospitality:**  
Rhonda Antonioli   rhondarae47@gmail.com

**Junior Achievement:**  
Laurie Jendraszkiewicz   ljendras@yahoo.com

**Legislation:**  
OPEN

**Market Day:**  
Steve Kulinski   skulinski@comcast.net

**Membership:**  
Kimberly Katzen   kskatzen@aol.com

**Newsletter**  
Steve Katzen   snkatzen@aol.com

**Picture Presenter:**  
Noha Ayache   nahaathome@comcast.net

**Reflections:**  
Sarah Valek   valek616@comcast.net

**Room Representatives:**  
Aimee Lenz   rajklenz1@yahoo.com

**Social Committee:**  
OPEN

**Spirit Wear:**  
Traci Taylor   Taylor8297@att.net

**Staff Appreciation:**  
Janelle White 692-0892   ericandjanelle@comcast.net

**Technology:**  
Shawn Ratcliffe   wcpta@ratman.com

**Volunteers/Call Me Once:**  
Jennifer Kastel 585-9072   jenniferkastel@yahoo.com

**Yearbook**  
Lisa Merkel