Wilkins Weekly 12-16-18

- Such busy-ness in the past two weeks!
- WoW! What a Festival of Trees – filled with light, joy, laughter, wonder, and hope. The night truly summed up who we are as a school community. I am so proud to be a member. Thanks to all the elves who made it happen, notably to Sue Hills, Breda Morgano, and Amy McSweeney who had the vision and made it happen.
- Some of you may know that we had our own classroom “Tree Stroll” that Friday afternoon. Teachers all moved their trees to the hallways and students walked around by class so all could see AND so all could have a chance to win – even if they could not come Saturday evening. Three students won trees from our stroll - and all of them from Team 25! We ended our stroll in the cafeteria with hot chocolate, a treat, and some holiday music. A big shout out to my fabulous fifth grade helpers – Lizzy B, Caroline C, Lexi W, and Olivia D for all they did to help their schoolmates (and me!).
- Kudos to our grade 4 and 5 students who put on two great concerts last week, under the leadership of Ms. Rebecca Pacuk. Some of you who have been around awhile can attest to how far our music programs have come in the past few years.
- Friday’s Movie Night was a big hit, with about 150 children in attendance. Roopesh Mathur took the lead on this one and we thank him for a fun night with friends and a great flick.
- Our Giving Tree will help 37 children have a brighter holiday. Thanks to those who took ornaments and purchased gifts, and for those who sent in gift cards. They came in handy as we had several requests for assistance come in recently.
- Some phone calls have been made for giving tree package pick ups. The rest will be made on Monday.
- Thank you to Jessica Lees and Amy McSweeney for running a special holiday spiritwear sale. Purchases will be sent home with your child tomorrow unless you have made other arrangements with Jess or Amy.
- Did you hear we’ve had special visitors this month?? Elves Jolly and Jingle have been making appearances in classrooms and spaces throughout the school – even in the cafeteria! I’m sure the big guy in the red suit is impressed with what they are reporting.
- Several staff members and classrooms have been hit harder with illnesses recently than others. When this happens, our custodians do extra sanitizing in addition to their nightly wipe downs. Encourage your children to wash their hands often, cough into their elbows, and take advantage of the flu shots that are available for free at Convenient MD.
- Outdoor recess happens unless it is raining or below the 18ish degree mark. That also depends on conditions – sun, wind and their effects on the temperature. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for going outdoors. Also, please help them to organize for cold weather gear. Practice dressing with young friends so they can ready themselves for recesses more independently.
- The Salem High Chorus will be special singing guests on Tuesday afternoon.
- Holiday Parties are this Friday at staggered times throughout the day. We’ll wind up with a whole school sing along lead by Amy Moldoff – then your children are all yours t till Wednesday, January 2nd!

Wishing you and your family the joy of giving, the joy in the presence of those we love, and the special feeling that this time of year evokes in all of us. No matter how we celebrate, there is magic in how this season brings us together and brings out the best in each of us. Enjoy your most special gift(s) of all. I do!

Here’s to the memories you make this season and to the promise of a healthy, happy, fine two, oh, one, nine!

Janice