

# West Nichols Hills Elementary School

March 24, 2006  
Volume 1, Issue 6

Mr. John Addison, Principal



*"Nurture your  
mind with  
great thoughts,  
for you will never  
go any higher  
than you think."*

*Benjamin Disraeli*

## Reminders...

- ◆ March 28<sup>th</sup> - Johnnie's Night (during the day too!)
- ◆ March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 p.m. - Monthly All-school Awards Assembly
- ◆ State CRT Testing begins the week of April 10, 2006 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades
- ◆ Thank you for adhering to the Uniform Policy

## A Few Notes from Mr. Addison

I'm sure by now you've heard about the **Principal's Reading Challenge**, or perhaps that Mr. Addison is going to dress up as a gorilla. Well, both of those things are the same thing.

Beginning back on Read Across America Day, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, I issued a challenge to all of the children; read enough books and I will dress up in a gorilla costume and read a book to the entire school from the top of the monkey bars on the playground.

You can just imagine the response I got, and the promises of reading enough books. But how many books is "enough?" **Here's what the students have to do.**

For each book the students read *and report on*, their name will be put on a paper leaf and that will go up on the wall starting in the gym. The leaves will be put up end to end to form a "vine." The vine will "grow" around the gym with each book read, and will eventually begin to grow down the hallway.

The vine has to grow all the way down the hallway to the office by the end of the challenge for Mr. Addison to "go ape!" The challenge will go through April 6<sup>th</sup>, and April 7<sup>th</sup> is "Ape Day!"

**Now, there are some limits:** the teachers have set a minimum number of pages read by grade level for books to qualify, i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> grade will need to read more pages per book than 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and so forth.

The other limit is that the students get credit for only **one book per night**. The little ones *could* read several small books per night, but only one will be credited for our vine and our challenge.

While this all sounds very fun, I have a very serious purpose in challenging students to read. Students who read more grow more in their readability, fluency, and comprehension. **And, students who read more simply do better in school.** That's our ultimate goal, so let's have some fun in accomplishing that goal!

## Science Fair Winners Celebrated

After all the work that everyone at all grade levels put into preparing and setting up for the Science Fair, I realized we haven't celebrated the winners except at that evening. So, here they are; the 4th and 5th grade winners of this year's West Nichols Hills Science Fair!

### Mrs. Chavis' 5th Grade Class

- 1st Place - Frank Duvall
- 2nd Place - Mason Blaich
- 3rd Place Chris Hoover
- 4th Place - Kelton Hall

### Ms. Hart's 5th Grade Class

- 1st Place - Lauren Thompson
- 2nd Place - Brittan Benedict
- 3rd Place - Jordan Stephens
- 4th Place - Jamie Henderson

### Mr. Baker's 4th Grade Class

- 1st Place - Dakota Barrett
- 2nd Place - Julie Caldwell
- 3rd Place - Cesar Maldonado Cordero
- 4th Place - Destiny McCurry



Our WILDCATS are  
the best!

*"It is possible to  
change without  
improving."*

*It is impossible to  
improve without  
changing."*

*-Unknown*

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We're on the Web!  
[http://www.okcps.org/  
sch/el/wnhills.htm](http://www.okcps.org/sch/el/wnhills.htm)

## The "Reading Sufficiency Act" and Tutoring

In case you've heard about after-school tutoring going on at school, and wondered why you haven't been contacted, here's the news.

Our tutoring is a part of the Reading Sufficiency Act, a law of the state of Oklahoma.

*"The purpose of the Reading Sufficiency Act is to ensure that each child attains the necessary reading skills by completion of the third grade which will enable that student to continue development*

*of reading skills and to succeed throughout school and life."*

As a part of the RSA, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are assessed, and those who may not be at grade level are given a plan and accommodations to help them reach grade level in reading.

The tutoring is provided to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who qualify.

Additional tutoring arrangements are currently being sought out for our other students throughout school.

## "Jump Rope for Heart" Fundraiser a Success

It is always impressive when youngsters participate in activities which aid and help others. That was the case for our recent Jump Rope for Heart activity and fundraiser.

Students turned in donations they collected to participate in the jump rope event on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Altogether they raised about \$1,230.00 for the

American Heart Association.

The students received prizes for their efforts, and the school received another Jump Rope for Heart banner which we are proudly displaying in our gym.

Congratulations to Sydney Jensen, top participant in this year's JRFH. Sydney is in Miss Roland's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade & the New John Marshall High School

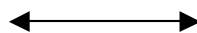
Sixth grade students will not be staying at their home elementary schools next school year as previously discussed.

Just recently announced is the news that this year's 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the John Marshall Learning Community (including

WNH) will be attending the New John Marshall High School next year as 6<sup>th</sup> graders. This will not affect the status of students who have applied and have been accepted to Belle Isle, Classen, and Independence middle schools.

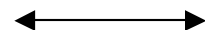
### Just for Laughs

TEACHER: Cindy, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?  
CINDY: *You told me to do it without using tables!*



TEACHER: What is the chemical formula for water?  
SARAH: H I J K L M N O!!  
TEACHER: What are you talking about?  
SARAH: Yesterday you said it's **H to O!**

TEACHER: Why are you late?  
WEBSTER: Because of the sign.  
TEACHER: What sign?  
WEBSTER: The one that says, "School Ahead, Go Slow."



SILVIA: Dad, can you write in the dark?  
FATHER: I think so. What do you want me to write?  
SYLVIA: *Your name on this report card.*