



FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER



Happy February North Woods International Families!

With the support of the La Crosse Public Education Foundation (LPEF), we can continue to strive and innovate--even during difficult times. I wanted to take this month to spotlight three of our recent grant awards--I think you'll agree that they exemplify a wide range of knowledge and skill building that is so important to our International Baccalaureate education.

Hmong Culture: Written by Music Teacher Mrs. Wolfgram and English Language Learner Teacher Mrs. Glenz:

As the La Crosse School District continues to expand equity work, we have been searching for authentic opportunities for our students to hear from culture bearers. It can be difficult to find someone who could appropriately work with both adults and elementary students in a way that is engaging. Neng Now was born in Chiang Kham Refugee Camp in Thailand and grew up in Wisconsin. He is an expert not only in Hmong Music, but storytelling, culture, and the challenges Hmong students face as they grow up in America. Neng will speak on several different topics to a variety of audiences including elementary music staff, elementary Hmong students, 3-5th grade general population of students, and two community/staff events.

STEM on Wheels: Library Director Mr. Boisvert

This grant secures funding to operate a STEM club for students at the Schuh BGC as well as at North Woods. This will provide opportunities for students who might not be able to participate otherwise due to transportation. With this grant, our students will dive deeply into engineering practices such as designing, constructing, testing, and analyzing. Making can be joyful, but also richly educational and inclusive when it is implemented using deliberate strategies to support students to take creative and intellectual risks and to experience design failures as moments of learning. As they build out their ideas, Makers grapple with scientific phenomena (e.g., those involving force and energy) and cross cutting concepts (e.g., structure and function, systems and systems models).

Outdoor Walking Track: Student Oliver Strassman and Physical Education Teacher Mr. Hein

North Woods is in a unique setting, slightly removed from the bustle of La Crosse. We have a large field of green space that is mostly unused for activities and frequently creates excess water run-off from the surrounding neighborhood. Phase one of our multi-year project is to build a 1/3 mile walking path (loop) that can be used for walking, running, cycling, snow-shoeing, and cross-country skiing. This will also serve as a location for future fundraising opportunities, such as a fun run/walk/roll, and a play-a-thon, which will be designed and implemented by our students. Later phases of the project include planting trees, establishing an outdoor classroom, building a loose parts play area, restoring native prairie and rain garden vegetation, and self-guided physical activity centers.

I think you can see that we're continuing to move forward in big ways when it comes to creativity, innovation and making sure our students look forward to coming to North Woods every day.

Keri Holter,
North Woods International Principal

MARK IT DOWN! UPCOMING EVENTS!

Fri. Feb 11th: No School

Mon. Feb 14th: No School (Staff Development)

Fri. Mar 4th: No School

Mon. Mar 7th : Parent Teacher

Conferences (12-8 PM) NO SCHOOL

Thurs. Mar 10th : 4pm-8pm Parent Teacher Conferences

Fri. Mar 11th: Early Release (1:15pm, no PM 4K)

April 14th-April 18th: No School Spring Break. Return April 19th.



WINTER WEATHER!

Winter weather is upon us! Please make sure to send your child to school with warm coats, mittens, hats, scarves and boots! It is also a good idea to label all winter gear!

The School District of La Crosse cold weather policy states children can be outdoors when the temperature is 0 or above and when the wind chill is -5 or above.

We follow these guidelines when deciding if recess is indoor or outside. Children need to be prepared for cold temperatures and being safe in cold weather!

February



Principal 200 Club news!

We want to congratulate all of the Principal 200 club winners this month! Keep up the great work!

SNACKS! SNACKS! SNACKS!

Each day our students need snacks to keep their minds learning and energy going! We currently keep snacks available in the office for classrooms in need of additional snacks, but we are running low! If you are able to donate snacks to classrooms in need, North Woods would greatly appreciate it! Snacks can be dropped off in the main office. Please state that it is for extra snacks to be distributed!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Do you need to register your child for kindergarten next year? Is North Woods International your boundary school? Head on over to Hogan Administrative Center (807 East Ave S, La Crosse WI 54601) or visit <https://www.lacrosseschools.org/overview/enrollment/>

The registrar will be able to help answer questions and get your student set for success for the 2022-2023 school year!

Is North Woods International not your neighborhood school? Please contact the Choice and Charter department at choiceandcharter@lacrossesd.org or call the North Woods office at 608-789-6401.

Choice applications (Intradistrict Transfers) will be accepted February 1st-April 29th for the 2022-2023 school year. Space is limited! Apply soon!
<https://www.lacrosseschools.org/parents/intradistrict-transfers/>

If your child is not enrolled in the School District of La Crosse Preschool Program, you can begin the enrollment process for kindergarten either online or at the Hogan Admin Center. Birth Certificate and Proof of Residency in the district will be required. Your address determines your boundary school. For questions regarding kindergarten registration contact, 608-789-7651 and/or 608-789-7756. Kindergarteners must be 5 years of age on or before September 1st.

Pre-School REGISTRATION

Preschool Registration for the 2022-2023 school year has begun! For information regarding registering for preschool, please contact 608-789-7006. Visit <https://www.lacrosseschools.org/programs-services/4-year-old-preschool/> for more information!

Title Tips - February 2022

DEVELOP A LOVE FOR READING!



Great readers truly love to read. All readers may not love to read novels but that's the great thing about reading, there are so many different kinds of text to read! It is important that your child find something that they love to read.

Below are some tips to foster a **LOVE** of reading!

- Let your child explore all different kinds of text. Expose them to books, magazines, comics, e-books, newspapers and more! Let them choose what they want to read even if it may not be a great fit from time to time.
- Model great reading for your child. Show them how you can gain new information from text.
- Develop reading routines and establish reading times each day. Read aloud to your child.
- Take them to the library or bookstore. Ask your child's teacher for other ways to borrow books.
- Talk to your child about what they're reading, ask them questions to check for understanding.



North Woods Kitchen

Did you know that National School Breakfast week is fast approaching?! Join us March 7-11 for opportunities to win BIG!

National School Breakfast Week (NSBW) celebrates the importance of a nutritious school breakfast in fueling students for success. This year's theme, "Take Off with School Breakfast," reminds parents and caregivers that a healthy school breakfast helps ensure students' academic success in school so they can "take off" and reach their goals.

In these uncertain times, busy weekday mornings make it even more of a challenge for many families to find time for a healthy breakfast, so it is a great time to try school breakfast! Schools across the country will find ways to safely celebrate NSBW in 2022 with special menu items, events and fun activities designed for all students.

Studies show that children who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math
- Score higher on standardized tests
- Have better concentration and memory
- Be more alert and maintain a healthy weight

All students who participate in school breakfast during the week, will be eligible for 1 of 10 custom made North Woods School Breakfast champion t-shirts! Stay tuned for more details!

GOLDEN Items!

GUEST TEACHER PIZZA PARTY: SRA. STANTON

GOLDEN MANNERS (LUNCHROOM)- MS. GERSCH

GOLDEN ETIQUETTE (LUNCHROOM): SRA. STANTON, SRA HOOPER & SRA DEYOUNG

GOLDEN EATERS (LUNCHROOM)- MS. JUSTIN

PBIS CORNER

January was a great month at North Woods! Students and staff spent time reviewing school wide expectations. We also had our community day on January 18th where we announced our Paw Pal Prize, congratulated our P200 club winners, Golden Items, and student of the month!

PAW PALS

Paw Pals are our universal acknowledgement system. If students are noticed following expectations, we utilize Paw Pals! Each month we have a school goal with a prize! In December, we earned cookie decorating! Thank you to all the wonderful donations to make the day a success. We heard from many that it was the "best day ever!" In January, we earned extra choice time! February our goal is 3,000 Paw Pals!



PRINCIPAL 200 CLUB

Congrats to our Principal 200 Club students!

Have you heard about the ice cream sundaes?! Students who earn a P200 come down when their row of 10 fills to get their prize! We celebrate with an ice cream sundae!

Check out our P200 Wall of Fame when you visit. Each month, we add new pictures.





December Students of the Month



These seven students were the Students on the Month for December. To treat our amazing students, these students had a Culvers luncheon with Mrs. Pierre to celebrate! Great work!

- 4K: Riker Wooden
- KG: Lingon Mandel
- 1st: Kaia Sichone
- 2nd: Emily Fewell
- 3rd: Jasmine Conner
- 4th: Kaden Anderson
- 5th: Cooper Cummings

IB News!

We have now had time to focus on four out of the ten learner profile attributes as a whole school. In February, as a school we are focusing on being balanced.

IB's definition of open-minded is:

- *" We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives - intellectual, physical, and emotional - to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live."*

Encourage your child to be balanced.

Please ask your child to explain what they have learned about the learner profile attributes.

Upcoming IB events/Save the dates:

January 11th - 4K IB showcase night

Postponed to rise in Covid cases

- More information will be sent out when the new date is chosen

Jan. 20th - Kindergarten IB showcase night

Postponed at this time due to rise in Covid cases

- More information will be sent out when the new date is chosen

Feb. 10th - 1st grade IB showcase night from 5:30-6:30

- Please join us for a meal and student presentations of their learning
- More information will be sent out closer to the event

Feb. 22nd - 2nd grade IB showcase night from 5:30-6:30

- Please join us for a meal and student presentations of their learning
- More information will be sent out closer to the event

March 17th - 4th grade IB showcase night from 5:30-6:30

- Please join us for a meal and student presentations of their learning
- More information will be sent out closer to the event

March 29th - 3rd grade IB showcase night from 5:30-6:30

- Please join us for a meal and student presentations of their learning
- More information will be sent out closer to the event

April 12th - 5th grade exhibition from 5:30-6:30

- Please join us for a meal and student presentations of their learning
- More information will be sent out closer to the event

LMC NEWS!

Our students have been coding as well as cracking codes; while our first grade class is venturing into the shared world of Digital Citizenship, Privacy, Security, and Online Safety. Our second grade class successfully located books in our LMC using our online catalog while also putting books on hold. This is a skillset that the upper grades have learned to do this year as well with their iPads. Our HPL4all students have been studying through UDL Rube Goldberg while they are beginning to create simple machines that also incorporate electrical circuits, and utilize drawing as cartoonist Rube Goldberg did. This allows for engineering and creative problem solving while also integrating STEAM core subjects with ELA Common Core Standards as well as ISTE standards.



HARVEST OF THE MONTH
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**FUN FACTS**

- China is the largest grower of sweet potatoes. Many farmers here in the Coulee Region grow them too!
- Sweet potatoes are commonly confused with yams. Yams are very large and found mostly in Asia and Africa.
- Sweet potatoes are roots, where as regular potatoes are tubers, or underground stems.

NUTRITION INFO

One medium potato has 100 calories and provides vitamins A & C, fiber and potassium.

PICK

Choose firm sweet potatoes with few blemishes. Discard potatoes with soft or rotten spots as the flavor will be affected.

STORE


Store sweet potatoes in a dark, dry and cool environment for up to 1 month. Remember to take the potatoes out of the plastic produce bag before storing.

PREPARE

Scrub the skin of the sweet potato under cool water before cooking. Sweet potatoes can be consumed with the peel on!

USE

Sweet potatoes can be baked whole, grilled, steamed, boiled, roasted, microwaved or sautéed! Microwaving sweet potatoes takes less time than regular potatoes – keep an eye on it! Sweet potatoes can also be added to baked goods like muffins, cakes and quick breads.


Sweet Potato Chips 3 Ways

Serves 4

Ingredients:

- 2 sweet potatoes, about ½ pound each
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 tsp. salt

Seasoning options:

- Option 1: ½ tsp. garlic powder and ¼ tsp rosemary
- Option 2: ½ tsp each: basil, oregano, parsley, garlic powder
- Option 3: ½ tsp. cinnamon

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Wash potatoes and slice evenly; about 1/8 inch thick. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and seasonings; toss to coat. Place potatoes in a single layer on a cookie sheet covered in parchment paper. Bake until light brown and tender-crisp (about 15-30 minutes).

Per Serving (119g): 130 calories, 3.5g fat, 0.5g saturated fat, 2g protein, 23g carbohydrates, 4g fiber, 640mg sodium

for more information visit www.laxf2s.org