



# West Point Elementary School

7 December 2012

## Bulldog Blast

Parent Newsletter #15

Telephone: 938-2313/3827/2997 Nurse: 938-2069  
[http://www.am.dodea.edu/NY\\_VA/westpoint/elementary/Index.htm](http://www.am.dodea.edu/NY_VA/westpoint/elementary/Index.htm)

Morning Bell: 8:30  
 Tardy Bell: 8:35  
 Dismissal Bell: 2:50  
 Early Dismissal Bell: 11:30

### WEST POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

West Point Elementary School and the Department of Defense Education Activity provide, in military communities worldwide, exemplary educational programs that inspire and prepare all students for success in a global environment.

### WEST POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

West Point Elementary School provides opportunities for all students to achieve their personal best and to become caring, respectful, and responsible citizens. Our school strives to create a differentiated learning environment to ensure that every child is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. We work with the community to motivate and enable all students to be life-long 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7 December—Early Release 11:30  
 19 December—Winter Concert  
 20 December—Jingle Bell Run 3:00

24 December to 4 January—Winter Break

#### GRADES K,1,2,& 3—5 Day Rotation

MON 12/10	TUE 12/11	WED 12/12	THU 12/13	FRI 12/14
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
MON 12/17	TUE 12/18	WED 12/19	THU 12/20	FRI 12/21
No Special		→	Day 1	Day 2

#### GRADE 4 ONLY—3 Day Rotation

MON 12/10	TUE 12/11	WED 12/12	THU 12/13	FRI 12/14
Day 2	Day 3	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
MON 12/17	TUE 12/18	WED 12/19	THU 12/20	FRI 12/21
No Special		→	Day 1	Day 2

#### SPECIALS SCHEDULE

8:45-9:35 Third Grade  
 9:40-10:30 Second Grade  
 10:35-11:25 First Grade  
 12:20-1:10 Fourth Grade  
 1:15-2:05 Kindergarten



FOR INFORMATION ON SCHOOL CLOSING DELAYS OR EARLY DISMISSALS DUE TO **INCLEMENT** WEATHER

Call 938-7000 or tune into Local cable Channel 23 or Radio 100.7 & also online at [www.WHUD.com](http://www.WHUD.com)



FOR SAFETY REASONS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL, PARENTS ARE REMINDED TO USE THE

**KISS & DROP LANE TO DROP-OFF CHILDREN.**

**PRIVATE VEHICLES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN BUS LOOP AT ANY-TIME, ESPECIALLY DURING ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIMES**  
 With the exception of handicap marked vehicles

**Any vehicles that are witnessed passing a school bus with flashing lights on will be ticketed by an MP per NY state law.**  
 Please see Kiss & Drop Rules & Procedures that are listed in the back of your Calendar/Handbooks.

#### REMINDERS

7 December  
 Early Release—1130  
 19 December  
 Winter Concert  
 24 December-4 January  
 No School-Winter Break

**REMINDER:** Please call the school @ 938-2313 by 8:30 am when your child will be absent or tardy.

**STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE TARDY AFTER 8:30 AM MUST COME IN THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR, BE SIGNED IN BY A PARENT AT THE FRONT WINDOW AND OBTAIN A TARDY SLIP BEFORE PROCEEDING TO CLASS.**

#### WEST POINT SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY FRIDAYS

Show your school Spirit by wearing BLACK & GOLD every Friday.

Nadine Sapiente, Principal



Movie Night that was scheduled to show at 4 and 7 tonight at James O'Neill High School, has been cancelled.



### PROCEDURES FOR KISS AND DROP

- \* Kiss and Drop is for morning drop off only.
- \* Vehicles are to enter the parking lot and drive around the entire lot, following the arrows on the pavement, and drop students off at the designated signed location.
- \* Vehicles are not to pass other vehicles when students are being dropped off.
- \* Once students have left the vehicle, drivers are to exit the parking lot under the direction of the Military Police crossing guard.
- \* The Kiss and Drop is not to be used as a pick-up location. It is not a Kiss and Pick-up. It is a **NO PARKING** area. Vehicles are never permitted to pass other vehicles in this area. Vehicles are never permitted to pass other vehicles in this area, as waiting for students in this area will impede the flow of traffic.

## Physical Education Jingle Bell Run



**Thursday, December 20th**

Each year, we celebrate the holiday season and winter by participating in a school-wide run with our families. We dress up with crazy hats and bring bells to run with. With holiday music playing, we jog and jingle our bells to celebrate health and fitness. The Jingle Bell Run will take place after school in the bus loop. In the event of rain, we will meet in the new gymnasium. Please help our Middle School Students, who will be collecting gently used clothing for victims of Hurricane Sandy. Our P.T.O. will provide refreshments after our jog.

- \* President's Challenge Logs are due. Students who have participated in the Challenge will receive a certificate and a chance to win a pedometer.
- \* Submit a healthy lunch menu is due 14 December.



## Information Regarding Holiday Gifts

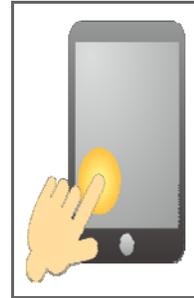
**HOLIDAY GIFTS TO TEACHERS FROM STUDENTS:** In accordance with DoDEA Policy 07-GC-001, Special Standards for Gifts to a Teacher from a Student or a Parent, teachers may accept from an individual student or parent a non-cash gift with a fair market value of \$20 or less, per occasion, not to exceed \$50 during that school year from that same student or parent. Although teachers may accept group gifts from students or parents for special, infrequent occasions, teachers may not accept group gifts from students or parents at the end of the school year or for holidays. The full DoDEA policy is accessible at: [http://www.dodea.edu/foia/iod/pdf/07GC\\_001.pdf](http://www.dodea.edu/foia/iod/pdf/07GC_001.pdf)

Dear Parents,

The following article is from the American Academy of Pediatrics website (<http://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Pages/Media-and-Children.aspx?nfstatus=401>). The article notes that many children are spending an excessive amount of time on entertainment media and the importance of parents monitoring the media content. Please take the time to read the brief article.

Sincerely,

The Guidance Counselors



### Media and Children Article Body

Media is everywhere. TV, Internet, computer and video games all vie for our children's attention. Information on this page can help parents understand the impact media has in our children's lives, while offering tips on managing time spent with various media. The AAP has recommendations for parents and pediatricians.

Today's children are spending an average of seven hours a day on entertainment media, including televisions, computers, phones and other electronic devices. To help kids make wise media choices, parents should monitor their media diet. Parents can make use of established ratings systems for shows, movies and games to avoid inappropriate content, such as violence, explicit sexual content or glorified tobacco and alcohol use.

Studies have shown that excessive media use can lead to attention problems, school difficulties, sleep and eating disorders, and obesity. In addition, the Internet and cell phones can provide platforms for illicit and risky behaviors.

By limiting screen time and offering educational media and non-electronic formats such as books, newspapers and board games, and watching television with their children, parents can help guide their children's media experience. Putting questionable content into context and teaching kids about advertising contributes to their media literacy.

The AAP recommends that parents establish "screen-free" zones at home by making sure there are no televisions, computers or video games in children's bedrooms, and by turning off the TV during dinner. Children and teens should engage with entertainment media for no more than one or two hours per day, and that should be high-quality content. It is important for kids to spend time on outdoor play, reading, hobbies, and using their imaginations in free play.

Television and other entertainment media should be avoided for infants and children under age 2. A child's brain develops rapidly during these first years, and young children learn best by interacting with people, not screens.

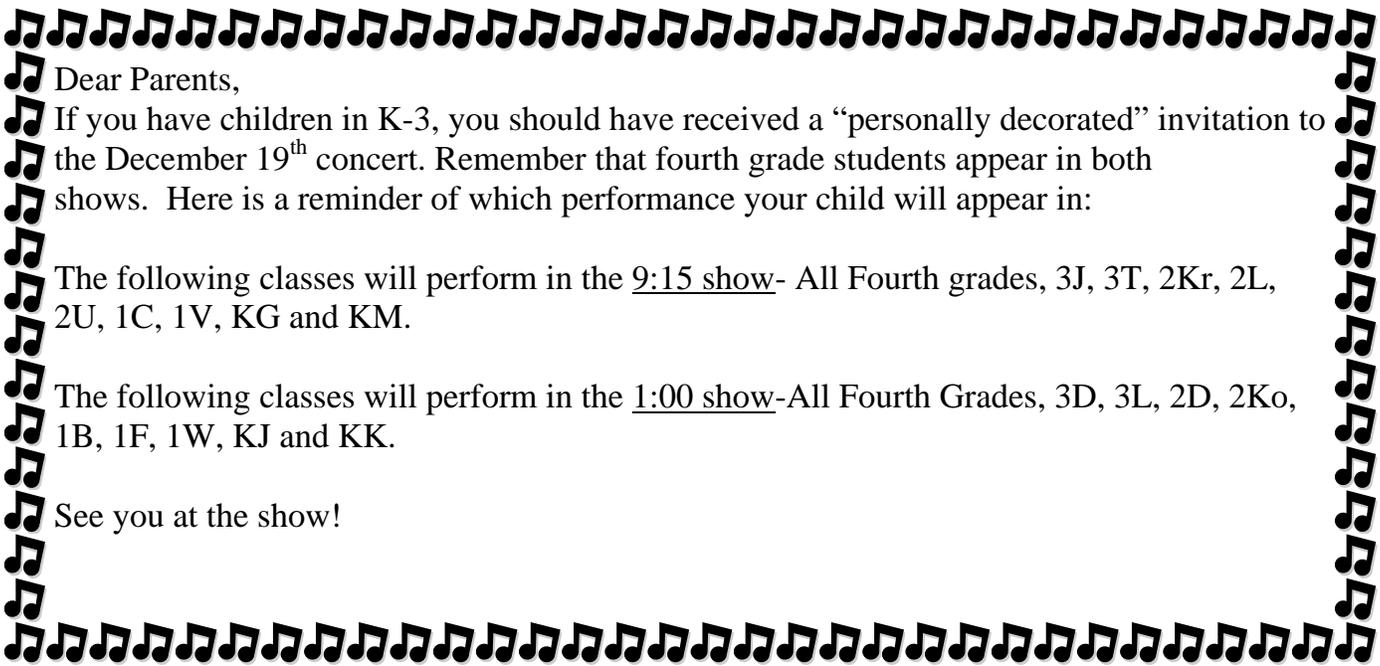
FROM THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

If you will be withdrawing your child from our school, please complete a West Point Schools Student Withdrawal Form, located in the main office. This will allow us plenty of time to gather the student's records. If you plan on hand-carrying the records, please allow at least one week to get the records copied for pick up. Thank You!



CROSSWALK SAFETY—LET'S LEAD BY EXAMPLE

It is important that everyone follows the rules of the road, even crosswalks. Please talk with your child about the safety of the crosswalks and why it important that we use them properly. If you are walking with your child, stay in the lines of the crosswalk and take that opportunity to show your child what is expected of them. Teachers and staff walking from the parking lots should be using the crosswalks as well.



Dear Parents,

If you have children in K-3, you should have received a “personally decorated” invitation to the December 19<sup>th</sup> concert. Remember that fourth grade students appear in both shows. Here is a reminder of which performance your child will appear in:

The following classes will perform in the 9:15 show- All Fourth grades, 3J, 3T, 2Kr, 2L, 2U, 1C, 1V, KG and KM.

The following classes will perform in the 1:00 show-All Fourth Grades, 3D, 3L, 2D, 2Ko, 1B, 1F, 1W, KJ and KK.

See you at the show!

The West Point Elementary School Student Council will be hosting a winter food drive. The drive will run from December 3- 17, and the collection will be donated to the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley in Cornwall on Hudson. Donation boxes will be placed in the front entrance of the school and in the cafeteria. Items needed by the Food Bank at this time include: Non perishables canned items such as tuna, chicken, ravioli, fruit, soup and spaghetti sauce, cereal, instant potatoes, dry milk, rice, crackers and granola bars. Non food items such as toilet paper, tissues, paper towels and toothpaste are also needed. We appreciate your donations. For more information about the Food Bank of The Hudson Valley, visit [www.foodbankofhudsonvalley.org](http://www.foodbankofhudsonvalley.org). Please contact us at 938-2313 if you have any questions.



Sincerely,

Student Council Advisors



# December 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 PTO General Membership MTG 9:00 A.M.	5	6	7 EARLY RELEASE 11:30	8  Hanukkah Begins at Sundown
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Hanukkah Ends	17	18	19 WINTER CONCERT	20  Jingle Bell Run 3:00	21  First Day of Winter	22
23	24 WINTER BREAK	25 	26	27	28	29
30	31  WINTER BREAK	1 January	2	3	4	5