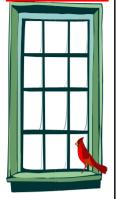
December 2011



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Bird's Eye View

From Our PTA President, Erin Otis

November was a busy month! We had a membership contest that awarded all of our Kindergartners an assembly by Zoo Pros in December.

Mr. Spence's class won \$50.00 in classrooms supplies for having the most memberships per class.

We celebrated Healthy Life styles week with a chef demonstration by Chef Chris Long where our children sampled curry sweet potato soup. The soup was delicious! Healthy Lifestyles week was concluded by a fun run. Several great prizes were awarded to our runners.

Veteran's Day was celebrated at Matoaka with a performance by all of our 3rd graders and our 5th grade chorus. Our PTA Hospitality Committee provided a beautiful reception for all of our veterans and their families. Thank you to all of you who donated baked goods, they were wonderful.

Our monthly PTA meeting was attended by Dr. Dianna Lindsay, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services. She answered questions about WJCC's Strategic Plan. We enjoyed having Dr. Lindsay. Also, discussed at our meeting

was the PTA's purchase of guided readers for our kindergartners.

There will not be a December PTA meeting. However, you can support the PTA in December by attending Spirit Night or purchasing a spirit shirt from our Holiday Merchandise table. More information on both of these events can be found on continuing pages of the newsletter.

Lastly, the PTA is sponsoring a Classroom Giving Tree. This is an opportunity to support your child's classroom by purchasing supplies. Located outside the office you will find a tree with tags that have items to purchase for your child's classroom or center's classroom. For more information, please read our PTA newsletter at matoaka-pta.org.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Our PTA is only able to accomplish these tasks and provide these programs with the generous efforts of our Matoaka parents!

Warmly,

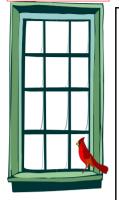
Erin Otis, PTA President



December 14
December 15 & 16
December 15

Chik-fil-A spirit Night, 5-8 p.m.
Matoaka Spirit Wear Table, 8:30-9:30 am, 3:30-4:30 pm
Newsletter deadline for January 2013

December 2011



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Newsletter deadline for January 2013

Classroom Giving Tree

Parents,

The PTA is sponsoring a classroom giving tree this year. It is located on our PTA bulletin board across from the office. The tree will have ornaments with a teachers name on one side and a classroom need on the other side. Parents can take an ornament from the tree and return the item to school any time between December 1st and 21st. You can send it in with your child or drop it off at school. The item can be wrapped or unwrapped.

For any questions contact Erin Otis, randyerin2@verizon.net or 208-867-7643.

Would you like to get to know your child's teacher a little bit better?

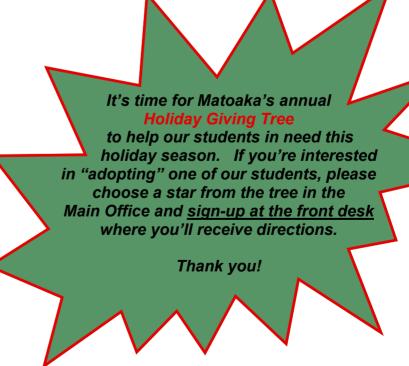
The PTA is putting together a Teacher Spotlight to help you!

We have asked our Matoaka teachers to fill out a questionnaire that includes information like their birthday, hobbies, favorites, and a classroom wish list. This Teacher Spotlight is a great way to learn a little more about your child's teacher and can be a great resource for the upcoming holidays.

Your child's teacher's homeroom parent will be contacting you with access to your teacher's Spotlight questionnaire. Many of the specialty teachers have filled out Spotlight forms, as well. You can access these through your child's homeroom parent or through the Teacher Spotlight coordinator, Jennifer Miller, at j.n.miller@cox.net.

Congratulations kindergartners! Winners of our PTA membership contest and Zoo Pros assembly. Mr. Spence's class is the winner of \$50.00 in classroom supplies for the most pta memberships per classroom. Thank you matoaka families for supporting our PTA.





The Box Tops Results Are Inl

Mrs. Smith's 4th grade class is the first trophy winner with 802 Box Tops submitted!! Congratulations! Mrs. Erwin's class was second with 697, and Mrs. Ferrara's class in third with 678. Results for all classes are listed below.

We sent in **more than 21,000 Box Tops**- 11,548 received so far this school year and 9863 received after the final March submission date last year. That is over \$2100 for our school. WAY TO GO!! Keep collecting-our next deadline is Jan 20.

Is your class trying to take the lead and win the trophy? Get extra box tops with these ideas:

- Watch for Growing Local Learning and Bonus Box Top certificates to print out at the register when shopping at Farm Fresh. You can hand these in for your class too!
- Ask other people to collect for you-grandparents, neighbors with no children at home, businesses, etc.

Reminders: Put them in a baggie (preferred method) or use a collection sheet. Make sure to mark your submission with your teacher's name!

First

Kindergarten	
Madison	198
Reeher	383
Chantry	385
Cho	234
Forgit	263
Campbell	84
Campbon	OΤ
Third	04
·	142
Third	
Third Holloway	142
Third Holloway Ferrara	142 678

Smethurst	194	Byrd-Pritchett
Walls	626	Macomber
Abrahams	61	Harmon
Poulter	288	Hughson
Ammirati	343	Arenius
Broe	294	Harper
Fourth		Fifth
Fourth Smith	802	Fifth Freeland
	802 697	
Smith		Freeland
Smith Erwin	697	Freeland Buck

Newton, LaBua, Perger, Smith 188

Second

242 264

243 627

576 26

428 491

389

551



Did you know the Matoaka PTA has its own website and facebook pages?!

It's true!

http://matoakapta.org/

and

https://www. facebook.com/ pages/Matoaka-Elementary-School/ 119330484754004

Matoaka



Spirit Night

Wednesday, December 14th, 5-8 PM will be the Chik-fil-A spirit Night.

Students will need to either mention they are from Matoaka or bring in the flier which will be handed out that week when they place their order.



Mystery Reader Program Kicks Off

The Matoaka
Dads Club kicked
off the new Mystery Reader
Program at school
in November.



The program supports fathers and father figures playing an active role at the elementary school level. Dads involved in the program sign up to read to their child's class. It remains a mystery to the class as to which Dad (or father figure) is coming in to the class to read until the Dad shows up (sometimes in a costume that relates to the book.) Interested in signing up for the Mystery Reader Program? Contact Dan Fitzpatrick, Matoaka Dads Coordinator at dcfitz@gmail.com.

PTA Members Get Car Rental Discounts from Hertz



We're at the Airport and in your Neighborhood. The world's largest airport general use car rental brand, operating from approximately 8,500 locations in 146 countries worldwide, is proud to offer PTA members up to 20% off when you use the PTA member discount code CDP# 1929580 every time you reserve. Combine this discount with a Hertz Special Offer like the one below for even more savings!

Act Now on this Hertz Special Offer: \$50 Off Weekly Rentals

Save \$50 on a weekly rental at the Airport when **PC# 162820** is included in your reservation of an Economy through Full-size vehicle, or small SUV. Combine this offer with your PTA member discount code **CDP# 1929580** to save even more on your rentals. Valid now through December 15, 2011.

Hertz is a Member Benefits Provider of National PTA.



Terms and conditions: Advance reservations required. Subject to availability, this offer is redeemable at participating Hertz locations. Modifying your reservation may result in a change in rate and/or invalidate this offer. This offer has no cash value, may not be used with Pre-paid Rates, Tour Rates or Insurance Replacement Rates and cannot be combined with any other certificate, voucher, offer or promotion. Hertz age, driver, credit and weekly rate qualifications for the renting location apply. Taxes, tax reimbursement, age differential charges, fees and optional service charges, such as refueling, are not included. Discounts apply to time and mileage charges only. Discounts in local currency on redemption. Offer valid for rentals commencing 10/15/11 for vehicle pickup through 12/15/11.

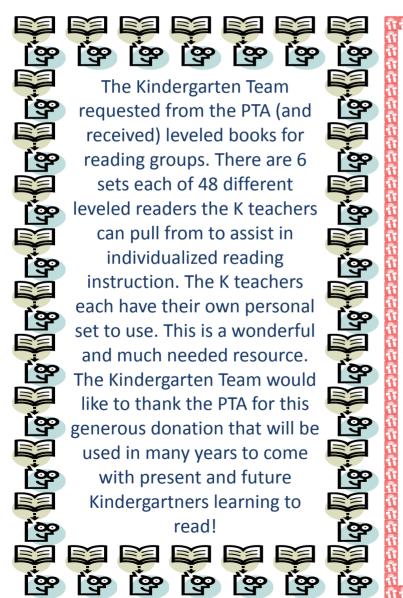
December Character Trait of the Month: Respect

Respect means treating others the way you would want to be treated. I show respect by asking permission before using someone else's things. I show respect for others even when they are different from me.

Treats for the Troops Candy Drive

Dr. Springman's office sent 900 pounds of candy to the troops abroad and **424 pounds** of that candy **was donated by Matoaka Elementary**.

Very exciting!!! What an amazing contribution you all made.



Looking for a holiday gift for your Matoaka student?

The PTA will run a spirit wear sales table to sell Matoaka t-shirts, sweatshirts, hair ribbons and shoelaces just in time for the holidays!

Supplies are limited, so first come first serve on sizes!

The table will be set up at the school on Thursday December 15 and Friday December 16 from 8:30-9:30 am and 3:30-4:30 pm.

Cash and checks will be accepted.

Sentara Sleighbell 5K Saturday December 10th 2011

Geddy Outpatient Center, Sentara Hospital 400 Sentara Circle, Williamsburg VA 23188

Proceeds from the Sleighbell 5K will benefit area youth in after-school activities provided by the W-JCC School Health Initiative Program (SHIP) and the R.F. Wilkinson YMCA.

Register online @ https://www.raceit.com/Register/?event=4827

\$25.00 - Pre-registered postmarked by December 3rd

\$15.00 - Students 18-and-under pre-registered

\$30.00 - Race day (all entrants)

Free - 1 mile fun run

\$10.00 - T-shirt only



Early Packet pick-up Friday December 9th at the R.F. Wilkinson YMCA

8:00 am: Race day registration & packet pick-up

9:30 am: 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk

10:00 am: 5K Run/Walk

11:15 am: Awards ceremony

Awards: Top 3 men and women overall in run, top 3 men and women overall in walk, top 3 women and men masters and top 3 men and women in the following age groups for 5K run (5-year age groups) 9-&-under to 65-&-over

Special prizes for "Middle of the Pack" woman and man Special prizes for Top 3 Women and Men finishers in the Run, Walk, and Masters

Race Director: Janice Kailos e-mail
Race Coordinator: Rick Platt email

kailosj@wjcc.k12.va.us rickplatt1@juno.com 757-784-3394 757- 229-7375



Bells provided for running shoes to all entrants!!!

Fabulous door prizes and post race refreshments for all entrants!

If it is not possible to register on-line, please complete the (mail in registration form) below Please make check payable to Sentara Sleighbell 5K Run

Mail this form and check to: Colonial Sports 513 Prince George St. Williamsburg, VA 23185

Please Print (1 form per runner)						
Name:	M	_F A	ge on r	race day_		
Address						
City	State			_Zip Cod	ie	
Telephone	neEmail					
With which school are you affiliated, if any?		_Please circ	le one:	Student	Staff	Parent/Guardian
Circle Race Entry: 5K Run 5K Walk 1 Mile Fun Run	Circle T-shirt Size:	Youth Adult		Med Med	Large Large	X-Large XXL
abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely co but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of ti known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver, knowing these my behalf, waive and release the Colonial Road Runners, SHIP (School City County School System, Wilkerson YMCA, Sentara Hospital, race off arising out of my participation in this event. This is a road race conduct please no baby joggers, headphones, animals on leashes, skateboards	the weather, including her e facts and in consideration Health Initiative Program ficials, all sponsors, their is ted under the rules of the	at and humidity on of your acces , funded by the representatives	traffic a oting my o Williams and succ	nd condition entry, I myse sburg Health cessors from	ns on the tr elf, and any repundation all claims	rail, all such risks being rone entitled to act on on), Williamsburg Jame or liabilities of any kin
No refunds or exchanges Due to the possibility of dangerous, icy road cor and the R.F. Wilkinson YMCA All photos from this event may be used for pron						
Signature			Date			
Parent's Signature if under 18 years				Date		



SENTARA

Directions from West:

- > 1-64 East, Take Exit 234, Route 199 (toward Lightfoot)
- Exit at East 603, Mooretown Road to Rochambeau Drive
- proceed through stoplight
- At the next light, take a right into Sentara Medical Center.
- > Take the first right and follow Geddy Outpatient Center signs.

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You could build Twig Towers!

(naturedetectives.com)



Twig towers

Environmental artists such as Andy
Goldsworthy and Chris Drury use natural
woodland materials to build and create
3D art and sculpture in the woods.
Why not build your own twig tower
sculpture under a tree...?

Gather some twigs, ready to create your twig tower. It could have a square base, a triangular base or be of your own design.

The best place to build the tower would be **beneath a tree** as you can try to build the tower up to the lower branches.

If there's a very low branch then you could build around it so that the branch becomes part of your sculpture.

You could also use a tree trunk as support.







This is the time of year when most families reevaluate their priorities and make some resolutions. If your family is evaluating the role television plays, here are some websites you may want to check out:

LimiTV: www.limitv.org

Kill Your Television: turnoffyourtv.com

<u>Screen-Free Week</u>: commercialfreechildhood.org/ screenfreeweek/index.html

<u>Unplugged:</u> unplugyourkids.com



Pretend you can give one gift to every child in the world. What gift do you choose & why?

What is your favorite winter holiday book? Why is it so special to you?

What do you think a Christmas tree would say if it could talk?

Pretend Santa has given you one of his reindeer as a pet. How will you take care of it?

What is the best holiday gift you have ever gotten? Why is it so special?

o your child wants to be...

an archeologist or historian?

Describe one time when you were brave.

If you could cook any meal for your family. what would you cook? Describe the meal and tell how you would make it.

Imagine you woke up and saw a dinosaur in your backyard. Write a story telling what you see and do.

Imagine you opened your own restaurant. Tell the name of your restaurant. Explain what the restaurant looks like, who works there, and what you serve.

Write a story titled, "My Journey on a Pirate Ship."

If you could have any animal for a pet, what would it be? Describe the pet and how you would take care of it.

Do you have any brothers or sisters? If you do, describe what they're like. If you don't, tell whether or not you would like to have a brother or sister.

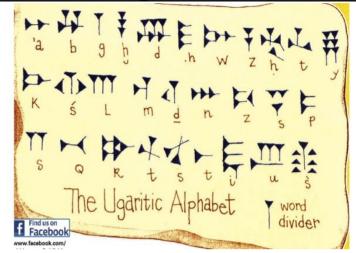
Imagine you could have lunch with any celebrity. Who would it be? What kinds of things would you talk about?

Write a story titled, "The Bat Who Couldn't Fly."

Imagine you were a wonderful painter and your parents would let you paint anything you wanted on your bedroom walls. What would you paint? Use lots of details to describe your artwork.

Describe the oldest person you know.

Invent a new kind of sandwich. Describe what is on it and how you would make it.



Write in Cuneiform using the Ugaritic Alphabet! It is the earliest known complete alphabet, dating to the 14th century BCE. Try writing your name or a message (when no vowel replacements exist, omit the vowel)—for example, "Peter" would be written "ptr". Notice some of the letters have several symbols which represent a different use or sound.

—Dig magazine, cricketmag.com

more world-minde

Check out www.mapping.com/gv and have maps available. Draw a map of your home; your neighborhood; your city; your state; your country.

Play a details game to help your child guess a country, or state, or city. Play "capital/country" and "capital/state" games.

What are some different forms of government? What are the benefits of each form? What are the drawbacks?

Ask open-ended questions: If enough food exists in the world, why do people go hungry? What could be done to help the world's population growth rate slow down? Why do people migrate?

Become involved in learning other languages and about other cultures. Become involved in service projects.

Circlettor Kiels

Snowflake Resist Watercolor Grid

- 1. Start with a sheet of 8" x 10.5"watercolor paper. Use a ruler to measure and find the center point on all four sides, and then connect the points with a pencil to make four panels. Write a small number 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the top right corners to help match the panels later on.
- 2. Using a white crayon, draw lots of snow-flakes, taking care to have some large and some small, and some overlapping the panels. Pressure is needed to make sure that the lines are thick.
- 3. Carefully cut the four panels apart. Water-color each panel using a different color and let dry.
- 4. Line up the four panels to match their original layout, and tape from behind. Mounting on a white 8.5" x 11" paper would look nice too.

—www.artprojectsforkids.org



Noodle Snowflakes



Grab some noodles, wax paper, glue and thread/ribbon. You can use whatever shape and size of noodle you want.

Lay a piece of wax paper down on your work area. Because you will need to be generous with the glue, the wax paper will not only protect the table from glue drips, but it should also be easily peeled away from your dried snowflake.

To make this craft, simply experiment by gluing one or several different kinds of pasta together to form a snowflake. There is no right or wrong way to arrange the noodles to create a snow-flake. Remember, there are no two snowflakes alike either, so be unique and have fun!

Leave the noodle snowflake sitting on the wax paper until the glue is completely dry and then carefully pull the snowflake away from the wax paper. Finally, you can use a piece of thread or ribbon to hang up your snowflake!

—familycrafts.about.com

Bird's Eye View 11 December 2011

Earth Corner

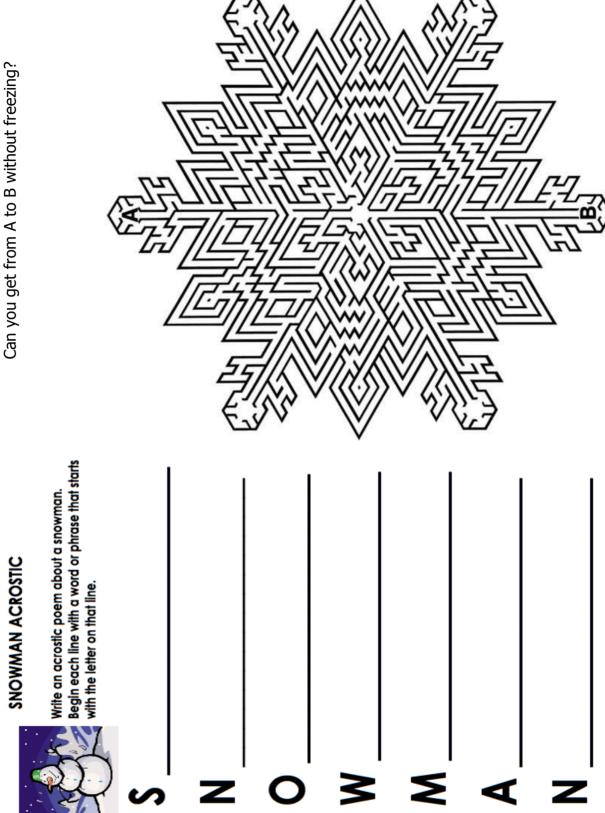
Wîntêr Naturê Hunt							
Date:	Time:	Location:					
Date:Time:Location: Weather Conditions:Temperature:							
Pine Cone (1 point for each different type.	Cardinal (2 points	Bird's Nest (5 points)	Squirrel (2 points)				
A Berry (3 points for each different type)	Dried Flowers (3 points for each different type)	Acorn (2 points for each different type.)	Fallen Twig (2 points)				
Deer (4 points per doe and 5 points per buck)	Animal Tracks (4 points for each—draw on back and label)	Feather (5 points for each different type)	Pine Needles (2 points for each different type)				
Blue Jay (3 points)	Oak Leaf (4 points)	Flying birds (3 points)	Chickadee (3 points)				



Winter Break Scavenger Hunt

αſl,		
1.	How many letters are in your full name?	. Sel
2.	Who has the longest name in your family?	- 38
3.	Find something that is 8 inches long	5- 6-26
4.	What exactly is Wassail?	
5.	Find something that is red and white	
6.	Find something that is used to fix something	-
7.	What is the first ingredient in eggnog?	_
8.	Find something with numbers on it	
9.	On what date does Hanukkah start next year?	
10.	. What was your mother's favorite holiday memory?	-
11.	. How many windows are in your home?	-
12	. How many light bulbs are in your home?	
13.	. How tall are you in inches?	
14	. Who's picture is on a \$5 bill?	
15.	. How many round ornaments are on your Christmas tree?	
16.	. What was the temperature outside today?	
17.	. What time will the sun rise on January 3?	
18.	. How many pages does the longest book at your house have?	_
19.	. Who wrote, 'Twas the Night before Christmas?	_
20.	. Are there more plants, people, or animals in	
	your house?)
21.	. How many hours are in your Winter Break?	
22.	. Underline all the words with 3 or more syllables on this paper	
23.	. Circle all the prime numbers on this paper.	
24	. Draw a snowman in the box.)

Created by Rachel. Lynette Copyright © 2010



take a one week trip to the foreign take a four week trip around your own 1 or country of your choice country play on a baseball team that always play on a baseball team that always 2 wins but always has to play in the rain plays in sunny weather, but also always be the best player on a team that be the worst player on a team that 3 or always loses always wins be banned from all computer use for a not be allowed to eat any desserts or 4 ог sweets for a year be able to control the weather be able to talk to animals 5 live in Narnia attend school at Hogwarts 6 ог be given \$1,000 right now be given \$50 a month for the rest of 7 or your life be a famous actor discover the cure for cancer 8 or be incredibly wealthy, but never fall in have a happy marriage but be poor or love or get married. have many friends, but no close have just one or two close friends 10 or friends have bright blue teeth 11 have bright blue hair or l 12 lose one arm lose one leg be able to turn invisible 13 be able to fly or only get to shower once a week, but you get to take a shower every day, but 14 you have to take a cold shower get to take a hot shower Not be allowed to eat your five favorite Be allowed to eat only your five favorite 15 foods for an entire year foods for an entire year.

Would You Rather...

have a very strict teacher, but learn a

have a friend that was really fun to be

have a job that you hate, but that pays

have one eye in the middle of your

with but not very nice

head like a Cyclops

you millions of dollars a year

be given a \$1,000 dollars

16

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Bird's Eye View 15 December 2011

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or

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much

also very kind

have two noses

\$10,000 dollars

just enough to get by

have a really nice teacher but not learn

have a friend who is kind of boring but

have a job that you love that pays you

have the charity of your choice be given