



# The Wildcat Weekly

Winside Elementary School

**MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2015**

**COMMUNITY SURVEY**..... JoAnn Field, our public librarian, has a community survey she would like each family to fill out to help her plan future activities and the summer reading program. Surveys will be sent home with each elementary child. There are drop-off boxes at the public library, the elementary school business office, and the Winside Store. Your input and support is very much appreciated.

**POP SALES**..... Pop Sale forms will be going out to all elementary students today as pop sales start Monday, March 30th through Friday, April 10th. Delivery will be Thursday, April 23rd after school in the walkway between the High School and Elementary buildings. Proceeds will go toward the new park bathrooms and shelters. Two pieces of equipment have already been purchased. Help will be needed on April 18th to assemble during the Community Clean up day. Thanks for all your support the last 3 years!

**UPCOMING BREAK**..... There will be a 1:30 dismissal on Thursday, April 2nd and no school on Friday, April 3rd and Monday, April 6th.

**“THE MUSICAL ADVENTURES OF FLAT STANLEY”**..... The kindergarten through 6th-grade students will be attending the “Flat Stanley” play in Norfolk on Wednesday, April 1st. They will leave shortly after lunch and will return to school before dismissal time. Thank you to the Fine Arts Boosters for giving the students this wonderful opportunity!

**NeSA TESTING**..... The 3rd-6th grade students will soon begin NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) testing. Please keep this in mind when scheduling appointments. The testing schedule is posted below.

<b>Tues., Apr. 7</b>	6th Grade Reading Part 1	5th Grade Reading Part 1
<b>Wed., Apr. 8</b>	3rd Grade Reading Part 1	4th Grade Reading Part 1
<b>Thurs., Apr. 9</b>	5th Grade Reading Part 2	6th Grade Reading Part 2
<b>Fri., Apr. 10</b>	3rd Grade Reading Part 2	4th Grade Reading Part 2
<b>Mon., Apr. 13</b>	5th Grade Math Part 1	6th Grade Math Part 1
<b>Tues., Apr. 14</b>	4th Grade Math Part 1	3rd Grade Math Part 1
<b>Wed., Apr. 15</b>	6th Grade Math Part 2	5th Grade Math Part 2
<b>Thurs., Apr. 16</b>	4th Grade Math Part 2	3rd Grade Math Part 2
<b>Fri., Apr. 17</b>		5th Grade Science

## **“I Hate Math!”—What to Do When Your Child Gives Up on Math**

Source: <http://inspiringstudentsuccess.com/i-hate-math/>

It's hard to watch a child struggle with math. Learning how to handle frustration will help your child develop important life skills. But how do you handle the math-induced grumpiness and tantrums of the present? Here are some things to keep in mind.

### **Remove Math Judgment**

The idea that math is inherently “hard” can scare many children away from math early on. And the idea that a person is either “good” or “bad” at math is an easy trap for children to fall into. Try to remove the words “easy” and “hard” as you talk about math.

I know of one classroom that has math problems divided into three categories: Mild, Medium and Spicy. Just removing the labels of Easy, Medium and Hard gives children a better shot at enjoying the process. They want to match their peers and challenge themselves to be “Spicy” together. This way, they can support each other and level up together.

### **Listen and Reflect**

Listen to your child's frustrations and echo back what you hear. When a child says they hate math, ask why and then really listen to the answer and repeat it back. This accomplishes two things: First, it establishes trust and gives the child a safe place to express feelings. Second, it allows the child to recognize and have words for his or her emotions so they can better express themselves.

It can sound like this: “I hear you saying that you feel really frustrated when you can't solve the problem.”

Remember that feelings of frustration are normal, but being able control frustration and having the confidence to work through it is a lesson that is far more important than individual math problems. How many of us know adults that don't know how to handle frustration constructively?

### **Resist the Urge to Rescue Your Child**

It can be very difficult to watch your child struggle with frustration. The impulse to help is built from love and understanding. But in this particular area, it's best to be a supportive bystander as your child learns to cope with his or her own frustration.

The message shouldn't be: When things get difficult, I will do it for you. The message should be: When things get difficult, I'm here for you and I support you and I believe you are capable of solving this problem on your own. The lesson of empowerment will be valuable throughout life.

Do not rob your child of the satisfaction of solving a problem on their own; instead, harness that feeling of accomplishment. Problem solving is a skill that can be honed sharply while learning math. You are there to give confidence and offer guidance.