

Kindness Week - EVERY student MATTERS

Goal - Through short, daily videos, simple lunch time activities, the granting of wishes and our giant Wishes Assembly, our purpose is to steer the culture of our campus in a direction that emphasizes what we have in common. Our goal is to include as many kids as possible in every activity, every theme day, every video and even every wish, so that the majority of kids on our campus truly understand what we mean when we say "YOU MATTER."

Overall

Themed Days – like homecoming week]

Video for each day

Give away for each day – even just a small paper to write a note – personalized name posted around school

Lunch Time activities – positive, team-oriented, involve lots of students

Wish Granting – if you do Winter Wishes

Wishes Assembly – last day of the week, unify your school by being showcasing kindness to others

Winter Wishes

In October, we ask every student and staff member for TWO wishes – one for themselves and one for someone else. Leaders organize and sort these wishes. To raise funds to grant wishes, we host "penny war" in classes, collect donations at sporting events and create a small social media campaign to reach our student alumni.

Leading up to Kindness Week, we "grant wishes" publically, but interrupting classes, quickly explaining the program, encouraging random acts of kindness and presenting the student's wish. This generates lots of attention – kids talk about it and get excited.

Recognition dinner – we has lots of students wish for a night out for a special adult. So we created our own. We host a pasta dinner (salad and garlic bread) for all students and special adults that wished for it. Invite lunch ladies and campus supervisors. Open mic for thank you's and planned student speakers – everyone loves it!

Theme Days

During kindness week, each day has a theme and a video to go along with that theme. Themes ideas have included:

Awareness

Imagination

Appreciation

Respect

Purpose

Reflection

Peace

Promise

Gratitude

Each day has a "give-away" that has included:

Bracelets – "wildcat family" and "YOU MATTER"

Buttons – "Proud to be a Wildcat" and "YOU MATTER"

Rope bracelets – each get 3, give to a friend

"Warm Fuzzies" – yarn necklaces

Fortune cookies – compliment fortunes

Bucket Drop Necklaces – compliments written on each

Gratitude Notes – ¼ sheet of paper with "I'm grateful for you because..."

Construction paper heart/smiley with every kids name

Friday – Day of UNITY and Contest

\$5 t-shirts – goal to get everyone in a \$5 shirt – UNITY

Any class period with 100% participation wearing the \$5 WILDCAT FAMILY shirts... will receive a treat – delivered that day. All you have to do is take a picture of your class, call my classroom and I will send down your treats for that period. On Friday, group dances in the quad at lunchtime – highly encourage staff to participate.

Lunch Time Activities

Photo Booth – “I’m Grateful for You”

“I WILL” plywood chalkboards – kids finish the message

Shout Out Bubbles – notes of gratitude to staff members posted on a wall

Games that involve groups of students

Unity dances – Macarena, Cha Cha Slide, Wobble, Whip/Nae Nae – all kids and adults can participate

Wishes Rally/Assembly

On Day of UNITY, we host a rally/assembly where we show case acts of Kindness and grant wishes! Assembly activities have included:

Celebration for every student with a birthday that week – all sing Happy Birthday

Special “thank yous” from students to teachers/staff

Granting wishes from students to staff (special t-shirt, hiking socks, fanny pack, special tie)

Granting wishes from staff to students (special T-shirt, art supplies, books, special music requests)

Granting sweatshirts, yearbooks, prom tickets

Video message from alumni about giving back

Staff skit/dance – kids LOVE this...every year it’s the best part of the week

Special “Thank Yous” to surprise visit parents

Special needs kid’s birthday celebration – entire school sings happy birthday to special needs kids

Special student wishes – attend musical with mom, attend a Giants game with dad

Special staff wishes – tires on a car (provided by auto shop), special parking sign (wood shop)

Rapid Fire Wish Granting – lots of names, little things – candy, books, teddy bears, clothing, shoes etc

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: Accepting a new Mission Every Day!

Name _____ Grade: _____ English teacher: _____ 4th Room _____

Wish Examples: I wish for my favorite candy
I wish I could send my parents out on a dinner date

I wish for a really cool idea I have for an assembly.
I wish for warmer clothing or groceries for my family.

Wishes can range from funny to serious. Be thoughtful in your wishes. We obviously cannot grant you a new car, think within reason. Maybe YOUR wish will come true! This is your chance to be **CREATIVE**, make the most of it! (If your wish includes clothing, please include the sizes desired.)

If you could have one wish **FOR YOURSELF**, what would it be? (use the back if necessary)

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I wish I to send my parents out on a dinner date

I wish to help my mom provide healthier groceries.
I wish for my friend to have new school supplies.

Be thoughtful in your wishes. Think about what others NEED or would REALLY like. We obviously cannot grant someone a new car, think within reason. Maybe YOUR wish for someone else will come true! This is your chance to be thoughtful and creative, make the most of it! (If your wish includes clothing, please include the sizes desired.)

If you could have one wish **FOR SOMEONE ELSE** what would it be? Please explain why – use the back if need be.

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