September 6, 2012

Dear Parents,

**This is must see information!**

**Who:**

* **All** WOIS 5th grade crew members will be presenting
* **All** WOIS families are invited to come the days your student is presenting

**What:**

* Students are required to do 4 “Book Talks” throughout this school year
* They will be presenting to the class a chapter book they have chosen to read from a variety of genres

**Why:**

* Book talks support several of the National Common Core Standards for English and Language Arts
* Is good practice of reading strategies and oral presentation
* Is a fun way to expose many genres, topics, and authors to the whole class
* Books read will be included in their 25 Book Campaign goal for the year
* Is an important and fun part of our literacy program
* Promotes responsibility and self-discovery
* Invites students to incorporate the arts
* Students will be assessed on their presentation based on the rubric (please see attached)

**When:**

* Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 – 2:30
* Three times a year (please see attached schedule)
* **Students are expected to come in prepared on the day of their Book Talk** , with the book they have read, story maps completed, and all “props” ready to go
* **Students are expected to keep track of when they are presenting.** (The schedule will be posted in the classroom and reminders are given weekly in class**, but we highly recommend posting it at home or marking your calendars as well)**

**Where:** room 125

**How:**

* The assignment requires a completed story map worksheet to help them prepare for and deliver their presentation.
* As creatively as possible!
* A poster, props, or other visual displays are **highly recommended**, but not required.
* Raps, other songs, poems, skits, and other performances are all acceptable ways to present
* They can pretend to be giving an infomercial, newscasts or an interview with the author or a character
* They can design their presentation like it is a preview for the movie.
* They can bring in props that represent the book or dress up as a favorite character.
* They can create a board game, or a Power Point Presentation
* **Any** type of presentation will be accepted as long as they provide the required information (as found on the worksheet).
* One of our objectives is for them is to enjoy and be creative while motivating them to read.

**We thank you all for your support. Pease call with any questions.**

 Ms. Martin, Miss Berical, & Miss Simmons

Dates of Book Talks: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Book talk guidelines:**

* Students are required to read the entire book
* Students are required to choose a **novel** from the given genres
* Students **may not** use books based on television shows
* Students **may not** use books that they have read for their reading response homework
* Students are required to be prepared the day of their presentation with the novel and completed story map

**How teachers will help:**

* Model several presentations
* Supply a vast selection of books
* Support book selection
* Provide story map and checklist/rubric
* Post schedule
* Give reminders
* Answer any questions

**How parents/guardians can help:**

* Encourage students to begin reading 2- 4 weeks prior to their presentation
* Discuss the novels as they read
* Post schedule or mark calendars in the home
* Give reminders
* Review their work and have them practice their presentation for you
* Encourage them to take risks and have fun!!
* Keep this packet as a reference!!!!

**Book Talks**

Student name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please detach, sign and return this page after you have discussed this with your child.

We have reviewed the Book Talk policy and are aware of the dates for his/her presentations.

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_