

WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Ryan Rieber- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal

April is a very busy month for the students here at West Salem Elementary. We are excited for our annual upcoming Environment Day, which will be held this year on Wednesday, April 5th. During this day of learning, students will attend a variety of environmental educational workshops throughout the day.

Students in grades 3-5 will begin taking the Wisconsin Forward Exam between Monday, April 10th and Thursday, May 4th. A letter with more information and the specific grade level dates either has arrived or will be coming home soon. Our teachers have been working hard all year to prepare our students through our curriculum, but as we move closer and during the week of testing, parents can also assist. The best way that parents can assist from home is to make sure your child gets a good night's sleep, eats a healthy breakfast, and to help your child have a positive outlook and not get overly anxious about the assessment. This provides all of us an opportunity to see how your child has grown and continues to grow through their education at West Salem Elementary School.

This time of year we get a lot of requests to send informational items home with students. Our practice is to post these on our webpage. There will be information from summer camps to dental cleanings. Please familiarize yourself with this area of our webpage and look here for information.

Spring is here, however that still means unstable weather. Please send your child with long pants along with jackets and/or sweatshirts in the mornings. Legs and arms need to be covered until temperatures are over 50 degrees. Thank you for your help and support in making sure that your children come properly dressed to school!

Thank you for your continued support in serving our children.

Ryan Rieber, Principal

NO SCHOOL DAYS:

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

MONDAY, APRIL 17

MONDAY, MAY 29 (MEMORIAL DAY)

EARLY RELEASE:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 12:20

BUSES DEPART AT 12:30

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL:

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

Students are dismissed at 12:20

Buses depart at 12:30

**SPRING PICTURE DAY!
TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH**



A HUGE thank you to Sherry Kneifl for making it possible for our school to host a book fair.

Also, thank you to the volunteers who helped Sherry set up and who worked during conferences.



Hello Parents,

I would like to hatch chicken eggs in our classroom and am interested in a dozen to two dozen fertilized chicken eggs. If you know of anyone that I could get fertilized chicken eggs from, please contact me at 786-1662, or email me at wagner.laura@wsalem.k12.wi.us. Thank you so much!

P.S. ~ I would also be willing to pay for the eggs, too!

We are very excited to hold our annual Environment Day on Wednesday, April 5th.

We would like to thank these people for sharing their passion for the environment with us:

**Lucy Freeman
Heidi Masters (UWL students)
Ruth Nissen
Jordan Weeks
Brian Baker (MS Ecology)
Jenny Lila & Stephanie Johnson
Kelly Rueckheim (HS Ecology)
Mrs. Meyers, Mrs. Ellerbach, Mr. Merrill
Hallie Rasmussen
Vicky Eiben (Viterbo students)
Mary Callen
Randy Hines
Jerry Haavind
WXOW Weather
Katie Goodwin & Hanna Mcbrearty
Jim Kerkman
Chase & Jon Jones
Patty Ries
Bryce Richardson
Brenda Kelly
Stacie Anthony
Pat Hofer
Scott Halbrucker
Bob Hoffman**

A huge thank you to our wonderful, wonderful PTO for organizing such a delicious supper the night of conferences. As always, it was delicious and so nice not to have to worry about preparing a dinner for ourselves. We would like to especially thank the following parents that contributed to the Mexican meal. Gracias!

Amy Rasmussen, Carrie Elsen, Cassie Zarecki, Christopher Peterson, Dana Brigson, Dawn Running, Erica Boland, Grace Skiles, Jami Greer, Jamie Faucett, Jamie Holst, Jess Wolf, Jessica Norton, Jill Roberts, Joan Path, Leslie Fell, Lisa Hehli, Melissa Fry, Michelle Lorenz, Michelle Pontius, Molly Mader, Natalie Vanish, Nicole Campbell, Nikki Hanson, Rachael & Matthew Duster, Renee Jordan, Rose Wolbrink, Sara Griffin, Shane Lambert, Stacey Sjoquist, Stacy Apfel, Starla Adams-Smith, Trish Harman, Twyla Sandvick

Thanks once again,

The Staff and Teachers of WSES

OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER



OEC DATES

APRIL

- 11 - Grade 1 (Classes TBD)
- 12 - Grade 1 (Classes TBD)
- 13 - Grade 1 (Classes TBD)
- 20 - Grade 3 (Classes TBD)
- 21 - Grade 3 (Classes TBD)
- 25 - Grade 4 (Classes TBD)
- 26 - Grade 4 (Classes TBD)
- 27 - Grade 4 (All classes)



MAY

- 9 - Grade 2 (Classes TBD)
- 11 - Grade 2 (Classes TBD)
- 15 - Grade K (Classes TBD)
- 16 - Grade K (Classes TBD)

West Salem Outdoor Education Center Visits

West Salem Elementary School students (Grades K - 5) will be visiting the West Salem Outdoor Education Center within the next month. La Crosse and surrounding counties are common areas that are found to be populated with deer ticks causing exposure to Lyme Disease. It is important for people who work or recreate outdoors to learn the facts about the disease and how to prevent it. By taking some simple precautions, we can all continue to safely enjoy the pleasures and benefits of outdoor activity.

WHAT IS LYME DISEASE?

Cause: deer tick bite. A deer tick is half the size of a wood tick.

Symptoms: vary a great deal. Within 3 - 32 days after a tick bite, may experience fever, fatigue, headache, aching joints, nausea and/or a rash that is roughly circular in shape and is usually found at the site of the tick bite. Don't panic if someone gets bitten by a deer tick. It is not necessary to be examined by a doctor unless symptoms occur.

Precautions: when in wooded areas, wear long sleeves, long pants and high socks (with pants tucked into socks). Light colored clothing will make ticks easier to find and remove. Walk in the center of trails to avoid brushing against vegetation. Conduct thorough "tick checks" on yourself and children regularly when out in wooded areas for any length of time. Prompt removal of ticks, even after they have attached, can drastically reduce disease transmission. To remove tick that has attached, grasp it firmly with tweezers as close to the skin as possible and gently pull it straight out. If tweezers are not available, grasp the tick through a piece of tissue. Once the tick has been removed, wash the bite area with soap and water and apply an anti-septic to the site. See a doctor if symptoms occur.

When outdoors, you may wish to use aerosol repellents for deer ticks. **Please follow the directions on the product you are using.** It is suggested you apply repellents on clothing only, from the armpits down.

NOTES FROM MUSIC CLASS

Grades 2-5 will begin keyboarding (pianos).

Grades 2 and 3 work in a group classroom setting, where we all work together during class. If students take private lessons, they may bring their books in for us to determine if they should continue with the group, or use the time to work on their individual lesson materials.



Grades 4 and 5 will work in a self-paced style of learning with guidance from the teacher and checkoff spots in their work. Students that take private piano lessons may bring their piano books after they have finished the materials that we have in class. This ensures all students have the same basic theory and playing skills before moving into middle school.

Grade 1 will begin learning some music stories, such as *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* as well as learning on verse and refrain through a variety of singing, movement, and instrument activities.

Kindergarten will sing, move, and play instruments to a variety of spring themed songs as well as creating a book to accompany *The Bear Went Over the Mountain*, as well as playing xylophones along to the book *Jump Frog Jump*.

KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE RHYTHMS PROGRAM

The kindergarten and 1st grade rhythms program is on **Thursday, April 6th at 6:30 p.m** in the elementary gym. The rhythms program is a special time for the students to demonstrate some of the activities we have been practicing during our rhythms unit in physical education. We are confident that the program will be no longer than 30 minutes. We are hoping for 100% attendance of kindergarten and first grade students!

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART EVENT AT WSES WAS A SUCCESS!

On Friday, February 10th, kindergarten through fifth grade students jumped all over heart disease and stroke by participating in Jump Rope For Heart. The students raised **\$20,719.74** for the American Heart Association!!! The funds raised support research and education initiatives that save lives in our community. Way to go kids!!!



SPRING WEATHER GUIDELINES



Please make sure your child(ren) are dressing appropriately for the inconsistent spring temperatures. It is still cold in the morning and students are expected to be outside each day.

Please assist your child(ren) in dressing in layers to accommodate the changes in temperature throughout the day. If we feel that your child's clothing is inappropriate we will ask him/her to change or wear extra clothing we have at school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Famous Friday Walking School Bus

It's that time of year again! Spring is here, and that means our walking school bus will be starting up again!

What: Walking School Bus (group of children walking to school with one or more adults leading the way!)

Who: Anyone! (that can meet us or get dropped) There will be a leader and/or a theme each week!

Where: Corner of N Tilson and W Hamiln (St Leo's Church; you can drop your child(ren) off in the church parking lot)

When: Friday mornings (when we have school) at 7:25 am. We leave at 7:30 for school
*We will not walk if thunder or lightening is present

Why encourage your kids to walk, bike, scooter to school?

- Children walking and biking to school are more apt to be physically fit and less prone to be overweight.
- They learn how to handle traffic safely.
- They help reduce the family gas budget along with reducing traffic volume near their school.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS --- The first WSB will be this
Friday, March 31st!!

*If you would like to volunteer to lead the bus, or walk with us, please contact Erin Ellerbach at ellerbach.erin@wsalem.k12.wi.us or 608-786-1662.

