

WEST SALEM MIDDLE SCHOOL

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

*NO School - April 2 & 27

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Volume 6 - Issue 9

2018

Dear Families,

Spring seems to be here. Let's hope the warmer weather isn't Mother Nature playing an April Fools' joke on us! At WSMS, we see this time of year as opportunity to re-commit to making our third trimester just as engaging, productive, and inspiring as the first two. We believe in sprinting through the finish line of the school year. There is some very important information related to upcoming spring events and activities within this edition of our school newsletter. These include students of the month, curriculum updates by teachers, student artwork, 2018 State Mathcounts News, & Summer School information.

Your child will soon be taking the Wisconsin Forward Exam. The Wisconsin Forward Exam is a computer based, state mandated test that replaces the WKCE and the Badger Exam your child may have taken a few years ago. The Wisconsin Forward Exam asks students questions that are aligned with the State of Wisconsin standards. Our students in grade 6 and 7 have taken tests in English/ Language Arts and Math. Students in grade 8 are currently testing in English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. As with any assessment, this is only one measure of your student's academic performance. We believe that through multiple assessments (teacher developed assessments, state and district assessments) we are able to develop a clearer picture of your student's current level of performance as well as their growth over time. At WSMS, we believe in educating the WHOLE child. We want our students to learn and grow into educated, good, and happy adults.

On behalf of our staff, I want to thank you for your continued support. By the time you read this, we will be operating in the new part of the building! The students and staff are very excited. I feel very blessed to work with such wonderful students and committed adults each and every day. We look forward to working together as a team to provide your child with an educational experience that strives to meet the district's mission – "Serve with Passion to Ignite Creativity, Innovation, and Excellence."

Ben Wopat
Principal
Twitter.com/coachwopat



"Meet Us in the Middle"





STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

On Page 19 you will find a picture with graphics and text describing traffic patterns to our new entrance beginning 4/3/18. The new entrance will be on East Ave. What you won't see on the map is a concrete slab, which will be poured prior to the changeover. This will provide a safer and cleaner entrance to the building.

**this information was also emailed out on 3/27

SUMMER SCHOOL INFO

*See page 17 for registration information and dates

April 22 is Earth Day

Each year, Earth Day - April 22 - marks the anniversary of what many consider the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970. At the time, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. "Environment" was a word that appeared more often in spelling bees than on the evening news. Although mainstream America remained oblivious to environmental concerns, the stage had been set for change by the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller Silent Spring in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment for the modern environmental movement, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries and, up until that moment, more than any other person, Ms. Carson raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and public health.



Calendar of Events...

- 2 - NO SCHOOL
- 5 - Track @ Onalaska High 4:15
- 9 - Track @ Tomah High 4:30
- 12 - Softball vs Viroqua 4:15
- 17 - Softball @ Tomah 4:15
- 17-20 Gr. 8 WI Forward testing
- 19 - Track @ Onalaska High 4:00
Softball vs Onalaska 4:00
- 20 - Mid-Term
- 23 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - drop in
Gr. 6 & 7 WI Forward testing
- 24 - Track @ Bangor 4:15



- 26 - Softball vs Tomah 4:15
- 27 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher inservice
- 30 - Softball @ Holmen Deerwood 4:00

Upcoming Events - May/June

- 1 - Track @ Holmen 4:15
- 3 - Softball @ Westby Village park 4:15
- 7 - Track @ Logan High 4:15
Softball vs Winona 4:00
- 9 - EARLY RELEASE - 12:20
- 10 - Softball vs Sparta 4:00
- 14 - 6th/7th Band/Choir Concerts
- 15 - Softball @ Aquinas 4:00
- 17 - Track Conference @ Holmen High 4:30
Softball vs Holmen 3:45
- 21 - 8th Band/Choir Concert 7:00
- 22 - Softball @ Westby 4:00
- 24 Softball @ Winona 4:15
- 28 - NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
- 31 - Grade 8 Promotion 7pm
- June 2 June Dairy Days Parade
- June 3-8 Gr. 8 DC trip
- June 7 - LAST DAY - 12:20 release

Counselor Comments...

Happy New Year...I mean Happy Spring! Not sure where it goes, but time certainly does fly! (Of course, the kids may have a different opinion on that?!) Besides moving into the new portions of the building, Environment/ Community Service will be the focus for the month of April. This asset may provide us with a sense of delayed gratification as we think of and feel for something "bigger than ourselves." Steve Jobs stated, "Things don't have to change the world to be important." So true! The smallest gesture or act of kindness can go a long way for the person(s) on the receiving end. What can you do to make a difference for others and your community? This is a nice extension of our Random Acts of Kindness, "What's Your 17?", and "Walk Out Up" concepts we recently experienced.

State testing will also take place in April. 8th graders will test the week of April 16-20. They will test within their content classes. 6th and 7th grade will test the week of 23-26 and will have a modified schedule. Because these tests are taken on computers (and because of our transition to the new portion of the building!), 6th grade will test in the mornings while 7th grade will test in the afternoon. Please stress the importance of doing well on these tests to your children. Results will be available by the end of the school year.

As the weather will inevitably become nicer, it is important that we help the students remain focused on finishing the year on a positive note. Our final parent-teacher-student conference night will be on Monday, April 23, from 3:30-7:00 pm. This, again, will be a "drop-in" style format. Of course, do not hesitate to contact teachers before or after this date with any questions or concerns.



WSMS Students of the Month



6th Grade



Anya S.



Calvin W.



Elyse B.

7th Grade



Dawson G.



Alyssa K.



Ben L.

8th Grade



L- Maggie M.



L- Wesley W.



R - Lily W.

As we look forward to utilizing our new space, we want to welcome Mr. Merkes to Healthy Living. He will be student teaching with Mrs. Olson for the rest of the year. We are looking forward to the warmer weather but also need to be patient as the grass dries out. Some students will be getting outside to start biking in the near future. Don't forget to bring sweatshirts as we never know how nice it will be during the day.



Grade Level News...



Reading - Mrs. Schultz

During the month of April students will be diving into research on their Human Rights topic. This research will be used for their final product, an information book or presentation, for English class. The informational book/presentation will have 4 chapters. The first is focused on an explanation of their topic. The second chapter is about Human

Rights that are violated as a result of their topic. Chapter 3 contains interesting facts, and the final chapter will hone in on a specific person, place, group or event that connects to their topic.

Students will continue building their vocabulary by exploring roots, prefixes, and suffixes. They will be learning and practicing their words through games, hands-on sorting, and other activities that access the information in several different avenues.

Social Studies - Mrs. Jeranek

After studying Ancient Roman Civilization throughout the month of March, 6th grade Science and Social Studies students chose a topic to research. Students used the Scientific Method (PHEOC) to inquisitively gather information and explore their topic using multiple sources. Also, students created a project (poster, 3-D model, Minecraft, or other) to display their findings and observations. We have many talented students that showed off their creative side! It was also a wonderful way to take a break from the normal Science and Social Studies textbook learning.

In April, we move forward with World Religions. Our focus will be Acceptance and Respect of religious beliefs throughout the world so we better understand historical conflicts and values of others. We will begin the unit by reading, Whoever You Are by Mem Fox and will continue to learn

We just completed a study of phobia and ology words, which the students had a lot of interest in!

Poetry and figurative language will be our focus during the latter part of the month, and carry us into May. April is Poetry Month! Students will be exploring figurative language- especially metaphors, similes, symbolism, imagery and personification. Word choice will also be a focus since the descriptive words an author uses in poetry assists in comprehension. Each class will discuss how this type of language enhances reading and creates images to deepen comprehension.

Happy Reading!

through various literature and informational texts. By the end of the unit, students will have a World Religions booklet with loads of information.

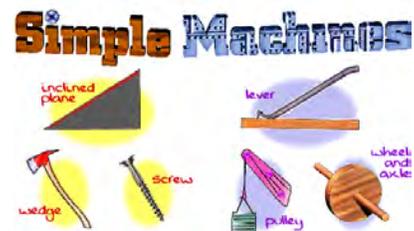


English - Mrs. Buisman

In 6th grade English, students will begin organizing notes and drafting their informational books. Students researched and took notes in reading. We will complete these books in May by creating a hardcopy book or by creating a Google Slides presentation. We will continue focusing on comma usage in grammar as well as review other mechanics of writing. We will do some test prep to prepare us for the upcoming state test. We are very excited to move into in the new part of the building!

Science - Mrs. Jarosh

For the month of April in sixth grade science, we will continue our unit on Motion. We will review basic concepts related to motion and begin to learn about how things work as we study Newton's Laws of Motion and explore the power and efficiency of simple machines. We plan to construct various simple machines, discover how machines make work easier, and will be learning how to find the mechanical advantage of simple machines. I look forward to another exciting month in science. Happy Spring!

**Project & Inquiry - Mrs. Ebert**

Following experiences in Spanish and Art, your sixth grader is now involved with Project and Inquiry! The P&I setting is designed to be STEM oriented, offering students hands-on experiences involving problem solving, engineering, and teamwork. Students will have few written assignments and no written tests. While this initially thrills the students, they quickly discover that this class presents students with a unique challenge because their "grade" is primarily determined by their in-class collaboration and involvement. Evidence of brainstorming, planning, designing, testing, revising, explaining, collaborating, and communicating become essential. Our motto: It's all about the "-ing!"



During the first week of class, students exercised their creative processes and collaboration skills to construct spaghetti towers. It was a fun challenge which served as an introductory experience. Currently the students are working in small teams to construct paper rollercoasters. Naturally, there are constraints -- or rules, requirements, parameters. Whatever word you choose, they are the underlying issues of any engineering challenge or real-life problem to be solved. In this case, students design a track which causes a marble to continually roll for a long duration. Their track has to meet height and length requirements, include four turns, one loop, and an uphill stretch. They are provided with a variety of templates and instructions/suggestions in video and print formats. We look forward to "competing" to see how well their designs function! Grades, however, will reflect individual's collaboration, cooperation, and contribution during construction rather than the performance of their paper roller coaster.

After we move into our temporary home in the new future fifth grade wing and complete our Great Paper Rollercoaster Challenge, we'll move onto other endeavors. Be sure to ask your son/daughter for updates.



Math - Mrs. Jehn

Regular Math

We are in the thick of Chapter 7 as March ends and April rolls in. By the end of the chapter, we will have learned to write, solve, and graph equations with one and two variables as well as inequalities. These are concepts students will see over and over as they move into pre-algebra and algebra.

We will spend April on Chapters 8 and 9. Chapter 8 covers surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures including prisms and pyramids. Chapter 9 will quickly follow teaching students about statistical measures. More familiar vocabulary for you would be finding the mean, median, and mode as well as quartiles, interquartiles, and range. Students will finish by learning about the mean absolute deviation. Chapters 8 and 9 are both short. They will take us to the end of April and into May before we finish the book and year with Chapter 10.

Accelerated Math

Students spent March finishing the 6th grade book working on Chapter 10 as well as finishing Chapter 11 which is the first chapter covering 7th grade content. Chapter 11 covered integers and integer rules including adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing positive and negative numbers. With lots of practice, students will become very fluent in working with negative numbers. As March ended, we moved into Chapter 12 which builds on these skills but applies them to rational numbers.

During the rest of April and going into May, we will be working in Chapters 13 and 14. Chapter 13 is titled "Expressions and Equations". Students will reacquaint themselves with like terms and simplifying expressions. They will

also learn to add, subtract, and factor linear expressions as well as solve one and two-step equations using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Chapter 14 is titled "Ratios and Proportions" and builds on their prior knowledge from Chapter 5 of the 6th grade book. Students will use their understanding of solving and graphing ratios, rates, and proportions to work with slope and direct variation. We will finish Chapter 14 and Chapter 15 in May which means students will have completed the first half of the 7th grade book by the end of the school year.

Success Center

The Success Center is a resource room for students before and after school. Students receive help from staff who attend classes and are equipped to guide students through information they may have missed or do not understand. It is also the place where students make up tests and quizzes. It is open from 7:00-7:45 am and from 3:10-4:00 pm. If students attend the Success Center, parents are responsible for transportation to and from school.

Homework

Students should expect to have homework in math and reading on a regular basis. Math homework will be an extension of what is learned during class. Students will be given class time to work, but most students will have to take the homework home to complete it. In reading, students are expected to read and independent reading book nightly for a minimum of 20 minutes. Most other classes will have homework on an intermittent basis. You should not expect more than an hour of homework nightly. When absent, students should be getting the information missed using Edmodo.



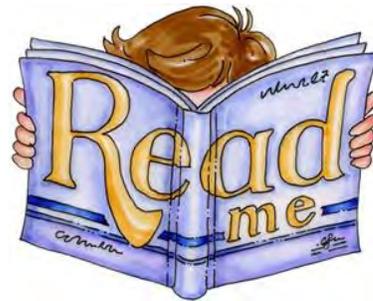


Reading - Mrs. Rochester

During the month of April, 7th grade students will be continuing with an environmental unit study. Similar to the dystopian unit, students were given a choice to read one of eight books related to an environmental issue. They will also be reading non fiction articles to enhance their understanding of environmental issues. During this unit, students will be studying the following literary elements: tone/mood, point of view, importance of setting and using different reading strategies to enhance their understanding of the book. In addition, the students will be continuing to write in their journal in response to what they are reading. As a culminating project for this unit, students will be put into groups and create their own documentaries based on an environmental issue of interest. The students should also be reading a book (at least 25 pages per night) of their choice at home.

Social Studies - Mr. Mahlum

For the first part of April the students will be focusing on the Judicial Branch and researching a Supreme Court case. After this unit, we will turn our attention to the laws we have in our country. We will look at the different types of laws we have along with what we do to those who break the law. Finally, we will look at juveniles and the law.

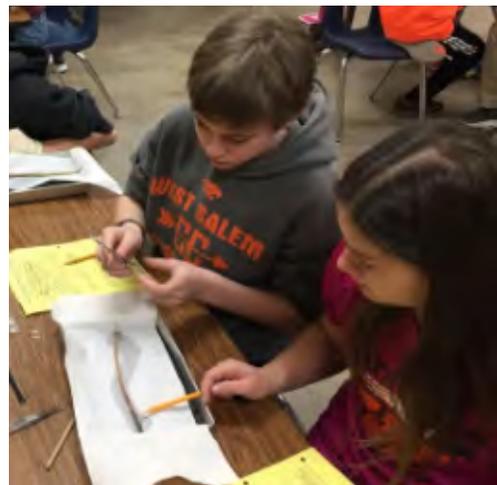


Science - Mr. Baker

We are entering the final stretch! We just finished smelling up the science room when dissecting worms, crayfish, and frogs! Though not everyone's favorite, this was a great opportunity for students to see external and internal structures up close. With that out of the way we will be comparing and contrasting all the different groups of animals from sponges to insects to mammals and everything in between.

The 7th grade campout is on the horizon as well! The dates are May 21-25.

The 7th grade campout is on the horizon as well! Students camp out at the school forest either the first half or second half of this week, so please try to avoid scheduling any appointments, trips, etc. during this week. Watch for details about this trip to be coming home soon.



Math - Mr. Jones

Regular Math

In 7th grade math we will be learning about Surface Area and Volume in Chapter 9 and in Chapter 10 we'll study Probability and Statistics

Common Core Standards for Chapter 9:

- *Solve real-world problems involving surface areas and volumes of objects composed of prisms, pyramids, and cylinders.
- *Describe the cross sections that result from slicing three dimensional figures.

Common Core Standards for Chapter 10:

- *Understand representative samples and populations.
- *Use samples to draw inferences about populations.
- *Compare two populations from random samples using measures of center and variability.
- *Understand that probability is the likelihood of an event occurring, expressed as a number from 0 to 1.
- * Develop probability models and use them to find probabilities
- *Find the probabilities of compound events

Advanced Math

In advanced math we will be working on Chapter 14 which covers Surface Area and Volume

and Chapter 8 where we'll study Volume and Similar Solids. Common Core Standards for Chapter 14:

- *Solve real-world problems involving surface areas and volumes of objects composed of prisms, pyramids, and cylinders.
- *Describe the cross sections that result from slicing three dimensional figures.

Common Core Standards for Chapter 8:

- *Know and apply the formulas for the volumes of cones, cylinders, and spheres
- *Describe a sequence that exhibits similarity between two figures.

English - Mrs. Martinson

Mr. Murphy will be joining the 7th grade ELA classroom for the remainder of the school year as a student teacher. He has been student teaching with Mrs. Deal at the high school since January. Late March we discussed the difference between persuasion and argument. Ask your son/daughter about the difference. This helped prepare for the argument presentation, which is our final writing piece of the year. We are in the middle of note taking for the argument presentation on a school topic. Students were given about twenty different topics to choose from. They are researching both sides of the argument, so they can choose which side they want to support. They also need to know both sides for the counter argument and a rebuttal. After the note taking, students will be writing an outline and putting together a presentation using one of several

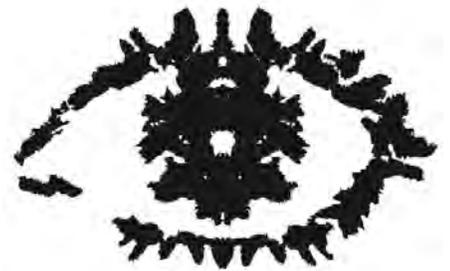
different presentation apps on their iPad. They will practice the oral part of the presentation and present it to the rest of the class late April early May. We continue to work on our compound sentences and parts of speech.

Art - Ms. Lotspaih

The 7th grade students have started art class! Our first week together was spent talking about font and creating name tags that are now attached to their portfolios. Pictured are students working on this specific project.

Students are now moving onto a project involving black ink. They will be creating ink blots by pushing ink around paper with their breath and a straw. Students will then be challenged to create characters from the random ink shapes. I am

very excited to see their creativity blossom in this project.





Math - Mrs. Bentzen

Regular Math (Chapter 7)

We will learn about real numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem.

The objectives for Chapter 7:

- *find square roots of perfect squares and cube roots of perfect cubes
- *evaluate expressions involving square roots and cube roots
- *use square roots and cube roots to solve equations
- *provide geometric proof of the Pythagorean Theorem
- *use the Pythagorean Theorem to find missing lengths of right triangles
- *use the converse of the Pythagorean Theorem to identify right triangles
- *use the Pythagorean Theorem to find distances in a coordinate plane
- *solve real-life problems
- *define irrational numbers
- *approximate square roots and values of expressions involving irrational numbers

Algebra (Chapter 9)

We will learn about polynomials.

The objectives for Chapter 9:

- *identify and classify polynomials
- *add and subtract polynomials
- *multiply polynomials and find special products of polynomials
- *solve polynomial equations in factored form
- *factor polynomials and factor special products
- *factor polynomials completely

Science - Ms. Smith-Waller

Welcome spring! Things are changing both outside and in our building. We are thrilled to be getting into our new classrooms for the rest of this school year. We finished up our “mini” chemistry unit and have begun identifying and testing minerals. We will finish up minerals and rocks this month, and students will be able to identify more than 30 types of rocks and minerals! We will continue learning about the inside of Earth and the forces within that shape the land and create events like earthquakes, volcanoes, mountains, and sea-floor spreading. We will start this process by studying plate tectonics, volcanoes, and earthquakes.

We will be following these essential learning outcomes...

1. Understand the structure of an atom and be able to draw a simple model of an atom.
2. Identify the elements that make up certain rocks and minerals and identify 30+ rocks and minerals found in nature.
3. Understand what causes the rock cycle and describe how the rock cycle works.
4. Describe the process of plate tectonics, the types of plate boundaries, sea-floor spreading, and subduction, and explain the evidence of why each of these processes happen.
5. Understand how plate tectonics can cause earthquakes, volcanoes, mountain ranges, and use data to predict these events.



Reading - Ms. Friell

Independent Reading: Students should be reading independently at home on a daily basis (a minimum of 20 minutes). They are also given 20 minutes to read their choice books during every Reading class. Students learned how to use a variety of websites to find titles that interest them and titles within their lexile range. Please ask your son/daughter to tell you about what he/she is reading!

Journal Entries: Students are required to complete journal entries (in class). These journal entries are saved in google docs and turned in via google classroom. That way they are never lost and can be used as a reference throughout the year. They will write about their own books and the class read-aloud. Journal entries ask them to address specific aspects of the books (story elements, literary devices, mood, tone, style, etc.).



Vocabulary: In addition to "A Word A Day" (from the book *100 Words Every Middle Schooler Should Know, 100 Words To Make You Sound Smart, 100 Words Every Freshman Should Know*, and www.englishcompanion.com), students continue their study of Greek and Latin roots. We also work with new words in the fiction and non-fiction we read as a class.

During March, 8th graders studied media literacy. They learned about propaganda/persuasive techniques, bias, and being objective vs. subjective. They will now apply this to WWII era propaganda while reading *The Diary of Anne Frank* (the play version) in class. In addition to reading the play, we will read supplemental non-fiction material about WWII and entries from Anne Frank's diary. This year, Holocaust Remembrance Day is Thursday, April 12th (beginning at sunset on April 11th).

English - Mrs. Sackett

April in 8th grade English means the year is quickly coming to an end, and we have a lot of work left to do. We will be finishing our final big piece as we wrap up our argument presentations. In addition to the argument presentations, we are spending considerable time practicing compound and complex sentences; soon we will be progressing to compound-complex sentences. Throughout the year, we have been reviewing and learning parts of speech. In April, we will review all eight parts of speech. Eventually, we will bring all of this knowledge together into a final parts of speech project.

**Spanish - Mrs. Tofstad**

¡Porfin lego la Primavera! 8th grade Spanish is off to an awesome start! We have concluded our review unit and will be starting our food unit called ¡Mi comida favorita! We will be jumping into verb conjugations starting with AR verbs as we settle in to our temporary classroom in the newly built 5th grade wing.



Social Studies - Ms. Morgan

With the start of April, we have the move into the new part of the building and the arrival of our student teacher, Ms. Alyssa Hanold. Ms. Hanold is a student pursuing a degree in elementary education with a minor in Latin American Studies at Viterbo University. We wrapped up our iBook Author project last month, so don't forget to ask your student to see their final product on their iPads.

This month we will look at American Indian removal both at the national and local levels. We will explore removal, assimilation, and survival of area tribes. We'll take a look at the dark history in Wisconsin history as we look at the violence on the boat landings over Ojibwe treaty rights. In the end, students will be able to:

- explain what the Indian Removal Act allowed the President to do
- compare and contrast national removal (Trail of Tears) to local removals (the Black Hawk War and Sandy Lake Tragedy)
- discuss why we need to understand treaty rights in Wisconsin nearly 200 years after many of the treaties were signed



Early Release Date
Wednesdays - Release at 12:20
Buses leave at 12:30

May 9

The West Salem School District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the Pupil Services Director at (608) 786-0700. To file a complaint of discrimination write to: Pupil Services Director at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669 or call (608)786-0700. The West Salem School District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

From the Music Dept.

General Music 6 “Keyboards and More” - Mrs. Glasel

The students are continuing to work on their keyboard skills. They are now learning Middle C position and playing a lot of familiar songs. We are also going to get back into composing on the iPad by using the smart instruments and also learning how to sample sounds and voices to include in the piece. Our [Music Alive](#) magazine articles this month will focus on the instruments of the tuba and the saxophone.

General Music 7 “Guitars and Musicals” - Mrs. Glasel

These students will add the 4th string pitches of D, E, and F to their skills, as well as continue to review previous learned concepts. It is fun to see the students go back in their books and find that the songs that they previously thought were really hard are now very easy. They can see the growth in their playing.

We finished up the musical [Oliver](#). The students really enjoyed the storyline. We are going to put musicals on hold until we get into the new room and are sure that we have everything hooked up and ready to go.

General Music 8 “Keyboards and Guitars” - Mrs. Glasel

The students are working at different levels depending on when they started his or her instrument. The students are working in 8 different places! It is fun to see students who complete their work early look for other music to play. Talk to your child to find out what they are learning specifically on his or her instrument.



2017 STATE Mathcounts News!

The State Mathcounts Competition was held in Sheboygan on Saturday, March 3, 2018. There were 134 total students competing, representing 38 different schools from across the state of Wisconsin. There were 23 official teams competing.

West Salem's team competitors were Elsa Mitchell, Brennan Holst, Chase Jones, and Calista Robaczewski. They placed 12th as a team. Mitchell placed 36th, Holst placed 47th, Jones placed 102nd, and Robaczewski placed 103rd.

Mathcounts is a national program designed to promote excellence in math and science in grades 6 through 8. West Salem's Mathcounts program is coached by Tammy Bentzen and Jon Jones. The National Competition will be held in May in Orlando, Florida. The top four individuals from the State competition will represent Wisconsin at the National Competition.



L-R - Chase J., Brennan H., Calista R. and Elsa M.



Important Dates for 8th graders...

8th grade Promotion is on May 31 at 7pm in the Heider Center. Students need to be in the high school commons at 6:30. The ceremony will last about one hour. The attire for all 8th graders will be the 8th grade Class Shirt which was designed by an 8th grade classmate.



8th grade class trip.....June 3-8





Middle School Registration for the 2018 - 19 School Year

The 2017-2018 school year will again have online registration through Skyward Family Access. Online registration will open up August 1. If you are unable to register online, an in-house registration will be held on Monday, August 13, and Tuesday, August 14 in the middle school commons. Computers will be available to complete your online registration. Students will get their class schedule, locker information and also Lifetouch will be here to take student pictures.

Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending.

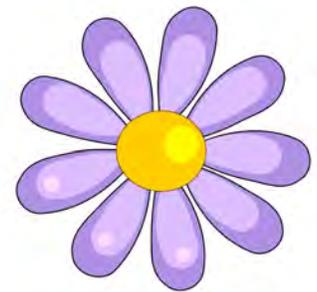
WI Forward Exam testing

8th grade - April 17-20

7th - April 23-25 - pm

6th - April 23-25 - am

*please avoid appointments for your child during these dates if at all possible.



Parent -Teacher Conferences

Monday, April 23 - 3:30-7pm

~ drop-in style



Welcome to Summer School 2018

Summer School will be held July 23 - August 10, 2018 for incoming kindergartners through eighth graders from 8:30 am to 11:40 am.

The daily schedule is as follows:

8:00-8:25 Student Drop off

8:25 Bell

8:30-9:20 Class 1

9:20-9:50 Student Break/Snack

9:55-10:45 Class 2

10:50-11:40 Class 3

11:50 Buses Dismissed

NEW THIS YEAR

****Online registration will be taking place in April. Watch for more information on how to sign up your child(ren) via Skyward****

****Incoming 2nd graders will be attending "On the Road to Second Grade" all three weeks and will remain with the same teacher throughout the entire morning.****

****Incoming Kindergartners will register for "On the Road to Kindergarten" only****

****Incoming first graders will register for "On the Road to First Grade" only****

Buses for summer school will run on main roads only

Summer school handbooks and registration information will be coming home late March.

Swimming lessons will be offered for all levels during the summer months. Swimming lessons will be separate from the three-week summer school session but will continue to be free of charge for district residents (\$40 for non-district residents). Busing will NOT be provided for swimming lessons. The sessions for swimming lessons are June 11-22, June 25-July 6 or July 9-20 (Due to the large number of students that take lessons, students may only take one session.

If you have any questions regarding summer school, please contact Lisa Gerke, Summer School Administrator at 786-1662 or gerke.lisa@wsalem.k12.wi.us

Tentative Itinerary

Sunday, June 3, 2018

6:30 a.m. Depart West Salem

11:00 a.m. Lunch stop at IL Toll Plaza

11:30 a.m. Travel to Skokie, IL

1:00 p.m. Arrive at Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie

3:00 p.m. Depart Museum

7:30 p.m. Dinner on Toll Road

9:30 p.m. Arrival at hotel-- Independence, OH

Monday, June 4, 2018

5:30 a.m. Breakfast at Hotel

6:00 a.m. Depart for Shanksville Flight 93 (9/11) Memorial

11:00 a.m. Arrive at Shanksville Flight 93 Memorial

1:00 p.m. Lunch on toll road

4:00 p.m. Arrival at Gettysburg

4:30 p.m. Battlefield Tour

6:30 p.m. Supper at Outlet Mall

9:00 p.m. Arrive at hotel--DC area

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at hotel

8:30 a.m. Depart for US Capitol

10:40 US Capitol Tour

12:30 p.m. Reagan Building

2:00 p.m. Pick up guides in Washington DC--tour monuments & Arlington National Cemetery

6:00 p.m. Magills' Pizza Buffet

7:30 p.m. Evening Tour of DC

10:30 p.m. Arrive at hotel

Wednesday, June 6, 2018 (STUDENTS MUST WEAR THEIR CLASS T-SHIRTS TODAY)

6:00 a.m. Breakfast at hotel

8:30 a.m. Visit sites in DC

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Reagan Building

1:30 p.m. National Zoo & Other DC sites

5:30 p.m. Twilight Tatoo Concert and Boxed Supper

9:00 p.m. Evening Tour of DC-- Last minute sites

11:00 p.m. Arrive at hotel

Thursday, June 7, 2018

7:00 a.m. Breakfast and check out of hotel

10:00 a.m. Museum of American History

1:00 p.m. Lunch & Supper at Six Flags

1:30 p.m. Visit Six Flags

5:00 p.m. Supper at Six Flags

5:30 p.m. Depart for Home

Friday, June 8, 2018

7:00 a.m. Breakfast in Rockford, IL

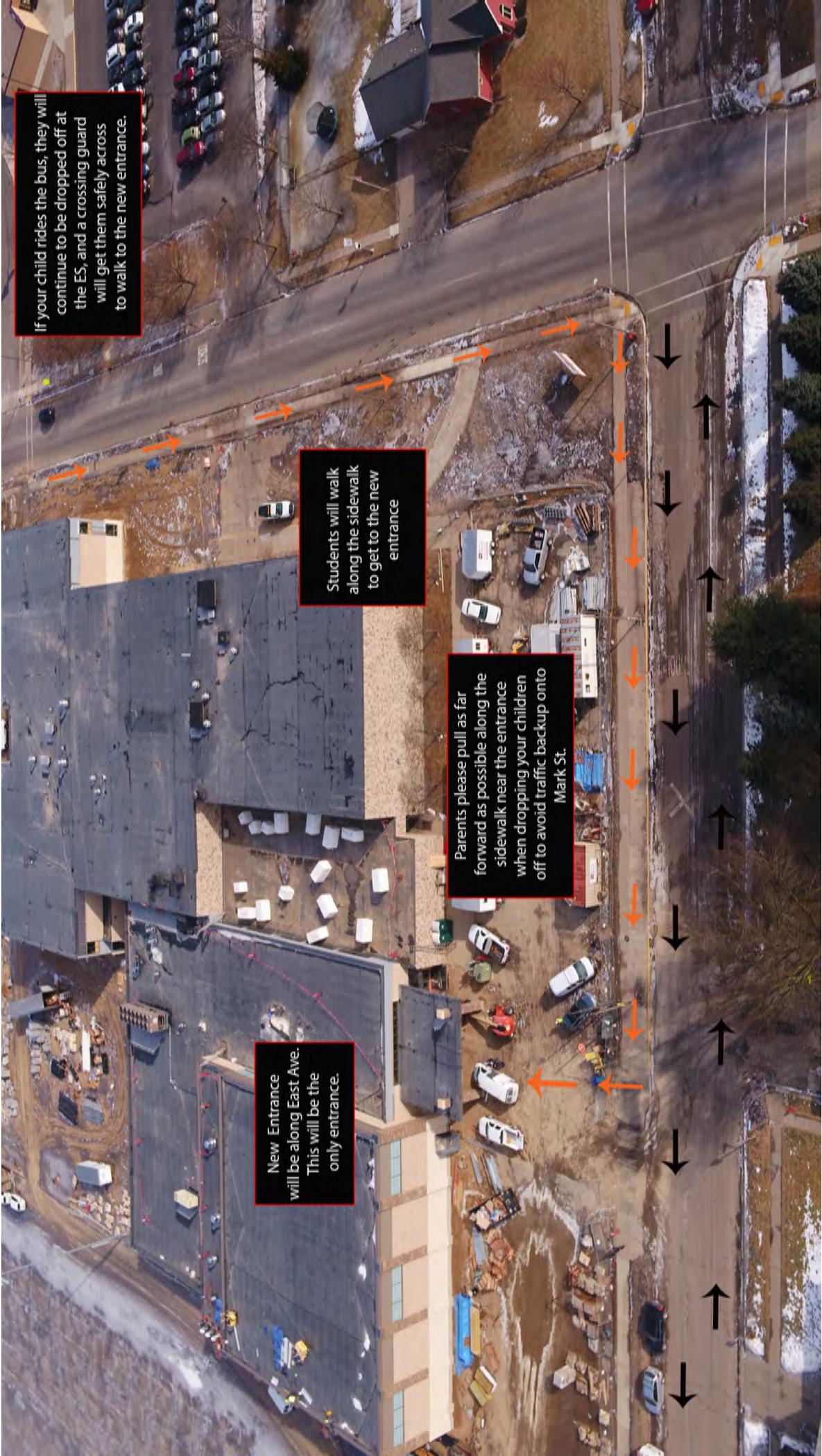
11:00 a.m.- 1 p.m. Arrive at WSM

If your child rides the bus, they will continue to be dropped off at the ES, and a crossing guard will get them safely across to walk to the new entrance.

Students will walk along the sidewalk to get to the new entrance

Parents please pull as far forward as possible along the sidewalk near the entrance when dropping your children off to avoid traffic backup onto Mark St.

New Entrance will be along East Ave. This will be the only entrance.





WEST SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT 2018-2019 CALENDAR

AUGUST 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
NS	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

OCTOBER 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	ER	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	NS
22	23	24	25	NS*
29	30	31		

NOVEMBER 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	ER	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	NS	NS	NS
26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	ER	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
NS				

JANUARY 2019				
M	T	W	T	F
	NS	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
NS*	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2019				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	NS
11	12	ER	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2019				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	ER	7	8
11	12	13	14	SD
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	NS*

APRIL 2019				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	NS
NS	23	24	25	26
29	30			

MAY 2019				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	ER	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
NS	28	29	30	31

JUNE 2019				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	SD	SD
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

First Day of School: September 4, 2018
Last Day of School: June 5, 2019
Graduation Day: May 26, 2019
Early Release Days:
 October 3, November 7,
 December 5, February 13,
 March 6, May 8
October 15: Annual Meeting

SERVE WITH PASSION TO IGNITE CREATIVITY, INNOVATION, AND EXCELLENCE

NS = No School for students

ER = Early Release (Students dismissed at 12:20, Buses leave at 12:30)

SD = Snow Day or Make-up dates (March 15 June 6, June 7)

*** = Teacher Inservice (August 28 & 29, October 26, January 21, March 29 + 2 Floating)**

11/27/17



MONDAY

2

Spring Break - No School

TUESDAY

3

- 100% Fruit Juice Slushy Offered with All meals today:
- From the Grill**
 - BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich
 - Whole Kernel Sweet Corn
- Home Style**
 - Classic Lasagna
 - Whole Kernel Sweet Corn
- Deli**
 - Chicken Caesar Wrap
 - Broccoli Cheese Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

WEDNESDAY

4

- From the Grill**
 - Grilled Chicken Breast Filet Sandwich on WG Bun
 - Roasted Broccoli
- Home Style**
 - Cheesy Garlic French Bread Pizza
 - Roasted Broccoli
- Deli**
 - Southwest Chicken Salad
 - Chicken Tortilla Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

THURSDAY

5

- From the Grill**
 - Chicken Tenders
 - Honey-Glazed Carrots
- Home Style**
 - Pasta with Marinara Sauce
 - Pasta with Meatballs in Marinara
 - Honey-Glazed Carrots
- Deli**
 - Chef Salad w/Chicken & Cheese
 - Potato, Cheese & Ham Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

FRIDAY

6

- From the Grill**
 - Hamburger on WG Bun
 - Cheeseburger on WG Bun
 - Hashbrown Patty
- Home Style**
 - Cinnamon French Toast Sticks and Jones Dairy Sausage Links
 - Hashbrown Patty
- Deli**
 - Turkey Sub
 - Brown Chicken & Wild Rice Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

9

- From the Grill**
 - Chicken Patty - Hot and Spicy
 - Peas & Carrots
- Home Style**
 - General Tso's Chicken
 - Vegetable "Not Fried" Rice with peas and carrots
- Deli**
 - Ham & Cheese Sub
 - Chicken Noodle Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

10

- From the Grill**
 - Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla
 - Refried Beans
- Home Style**
 - Walking Taco on Frito Corn Chips
 - Refried Beans
- Deli**
 - Taco Salad
 - Vegetarian Minestrone
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

11

- Rice Krispie Treat Offered with all meals today:
- From the Grill**
 - Homemade Sloppy Joe on WG Bun
 - Garlic Roasted Green Beans
- Home Style**
 - Buffalo Chicken Pizza
 - Garlic Roasted Green Beans
- Deli**
 - Turkey BLT on White Wheat Sandwich Bread
 - Chicken Dumpling Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

12

- From the Grill**
 - Mini Corn Dogs
 - Cooked Carrots
- Home Style**
 - Pasta with Chicken Cajun Alfredo with Garlic Toast
 - Pasta with Chicken Alfredo with Garlic Toast
 - Cooked Carrots
- Deli**
 - Homemade Grilled Cheese
 - Creamy Tomato Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

13

- From the Grill**
 - Bakalar's Hot Dog on WG Bun
 - Mixed Vegetables
- Home Style**
 - Tater Tot Hot Dish
 - Corn Bread Muffin
 - Mixed Vegetables
- Deli**
 - Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap
 - Creamy Chicken Pot Pie Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

16

- From the Grill**
 - Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich on WG Bun
 - Asparagus
- Home Style**
 - Chicken Parmesan Pasta
 - Asparagus
- Deli**
 - Ham, Salami & Provolone Cheese Sub
 - Soup - Chicken Baja Enchilada
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

17

- MixMl Frozen Yogurt Cup Offered with all meals today:
- From the Grill**
 - Golden Crunchy Fish Slicks and Goldfish Crackers
 - Mashed Potatoes
- Home Style**
 - Meatballs & Gravy with Buttermilk Biscuit
 - Mashed Potatoes
- Deli**
 - Chicken Caesar Wrap
 - Broccoli Cheese Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

18

- From the Grill**
 - Mozzarella Stuffed Breadstick with Marinara
 - Dipping Cup
 - Whole Kernel Sweet Corn
- Home Style**
 - Wild Mike's Pepperoni Pizza
 - Wild Mike's Cheese Pizza
 - Whole Kernel Sweet Corn
- Deli**
 - Southwest Chicken Salad
 - Chicken Tortilla Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

19

- From the Grill**
 - BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich
 - Waffle Fries
- Home Style**
 - Cuban Flatbread Sandwich
 - Waffle Fries
- Deli**
 - Chef Salad w/Chicken & Cheese
 - Potato, Cheese & Ham Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

20

- From the Grill**
 - Popcorn Chicken
 - Seasoned Brown Rice
 - Broccoli Trees and Cheese
- Home Style**
 - Saucy Orange Popcorn Chicken
 - Seasoned Brown Rice
 - Broccoli Trees and Cheese
- Deli**
 - Turkey Sub
 - Brown Chicken & Wild Rice Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

23

- From the Grill**
 - Kick'n Chicken-Crispy Patty with Pepper Jack Cheese
 - Roasted Brussel Sprouts
- Home Style**
 - Mini Cheese Ravioli
 - Roasted Brussel Sprouts
- Deli**
 - Ham & Cheese Sub
 - Chicken Noodle Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

24

- From the Grill**
 - Pork Taco on Soft Shell Tortilla
 - Refried Beans
- Home Style**
 - Chicken Fajitas
 - Refried Beans
- Deli**
 - Taco Salad
 - Vegetarian Minestrone
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

25

- Chocolate Chip Cookie Offered with all meals today:
- From the Grill**
 - Three Cheese Calzone
 - Peas & Carrots
- Home Style**
 - BBQ Teriyaki Chicken
 - Vegetable "Not Fried" Rice with peas and carrots
- Deli**
 - Turkey BLT on White Wheat Sandwich Bread
 - Chicken Dumpling Soup
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

26

- From the Grill**
 - Chicken Nuggets
 - Oven Baked Spiral Fries
- Home Style**
 - Hand Rolled Chicken & Cheese Enchilada
 - Mixed Vegetables
- Deli**
 - Creamy Tomato Soup
 - Homemade Grilled Cheese
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

27

Teacher Inservice - No School

30

- From the Grill**
 - Meatball Marinara Sub on Hoagie Roll
 - Oven Baked French Fries
- Home Style**
 - Diced Chicken & Gravy
 - Mashed Potatoes
- Deli**
 - Ham, Salami & Provolone Cheese Sub
 - Soup - Chicken Baja Enchilada
- Grab and Go**
 - Panther Pack

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Finish strong

As your child thinks ahead to summer, he may be tempted to relax his efforts in school. Explain that staying focused in every class will help him learn and prepare him for end-of-year tests. And by keeping on top of final projects, he'll prevent a last-minute scramble.

Spring clothes

Now is a good time to review the school dress code with your tween so you're on the same page about what to wear. For instance, maybe bike shorts, tank tops, or flip-flops aren't allowed. Suggest that your child keep school clothes and shoes separate from those for working out or wearing around the house. This will make choosing outfits easier.

Publish a book review

Have your middle schooler think more deeply about her reading with this idea. After she finishes a novel, she might enjoy writing a review that will give others a good idea of what the book is about. Let her publish her review at an online bookstore for others to read. *Note:* Be sure she doesn't use her real name.

Worth quoting

"A good laugh is sunshine in the house." *William Makepeace Thackeray*

Just for fun

Q: I'm as light as a feather, but the world's strongest person can't hold me for long. What am I?

A: A breath.



Electronics: Creating a balance

Technology lets middle graders do research with the touch of a button or video-chat with relatives who live far away. Too much technology, however, might cause your tween to feel isolated and to sit still much longer than is good for her. Consider these ways to keep her usage in check.

Set the stage

Encourage face-to-face interaction by putting away devices (including yours) at established times, such as during meals, family outings, or a sibling's lacrosse game. When you're using a device and your child interrupts, switch your attention to her. She'll see that the person in front of you is more important than what's on the screen.

Wait for social media

Most social media sites require users to be 13 or older, yet some children are using fake birth dates to create accounts. Let your middle schooler know she must be old enough *and* get your okay to join. Consider setting up a family account, but



keep the password to yourself. She can send you photos or links to post.

Harness the good

Suggest that your tween take advantage of technology to connect with family members or to do research. She might play an electronic version of a board game with a cousin in another town. Or if she's stumped on a craft project, she could look up instructions online. Also, let her use the internet to research extracurricular activities or summer programs. 👍

Tinker with engineering

STEM activities are popular with tweens these days. Encourage your child to explore the "E" in STEM with these engineering ideas.

■ **Take apart.** Have him disassemble—and then reassemble—simple mechanical objects like a pen or flashlight. In the process, he can figure out what each part is used for and how it works.

■ **Design.** Let your middle grader draw an invention to solve an engineering problem. He might sketch a more efficient system for delivering clean water to areas that lack it, for instance.

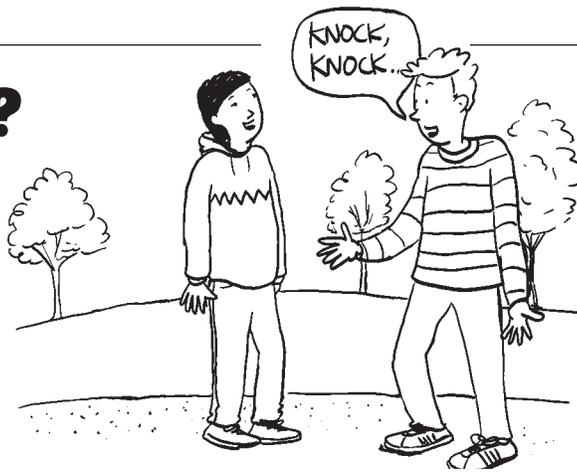
■ **Build.** Suggest that your tween use household materials to engineer projects related to what he's studying in class. If he's learning about thermal energy, he could make a pizza-box solar oven. 👍



Funny—or not?

Joking around is a good way for tweens to let off steam and bring people together. But humor may also hurt people's feelings—or even be considered bullying if it's done repeatedly to make someone feel bad. Here's how to help your child draw the line.

Demonstrate differences. Show your middle grader that a joke that's funny to one person might not be funny to someone else. Let him and friends or family members list types of jokes they think are humorous (such as knock-knock jokes) on one piece of paper and those



they don't (like practical jokes) on another. Then, share lists. Your tween may be surprised if what appears in his "funny" category falls into another person's "not funny" one.

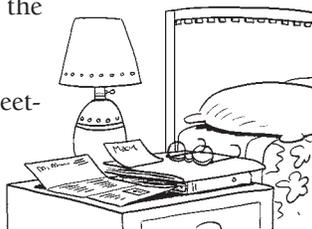
Think it through. Before your child tells a joke, suggest that he consider how it will affect those around him. Is the topic one that somebody might be sensitive about, such as weight? Could the joke come across as a put-down? If so, he should avoid it. *Tip:* If he'll feel the need to say "Just kidding" or "No offense" afterward, that's a sign the joke may be hurtful. 🍷



Parent to Parent Still in touch with school

Recently, I started feeling bogged down with the school-year routine. I wasn't keeping up with papers my daughter Molly brought home. When another parent mentioned a meeting I didn't know about, I realized I had to get back to being more involved.

Thanks to the other parent, Molly and I attended a meeting for next fall's cross country team. We



learned about summer conditioning and signed up for coaches' updates. Had we skipped the meeting, Molly might have missed out on participating altogether.

Now I've started opening school emails right away. I also have Molly put papers on my nightstand so I'm reminded to read them before bed. Staying in touch has made me more enthusiastic about her school and activities. And I think it makes Molly feel good in knowing I care. 🍷

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,
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Facts about opioids

The opioid epidemic is making headlines everywhere. Take steps now to protect your tween from these highly addictive, and potentially deadly, drugs.

Be informed

Opioids include prescription pain relievers such as Vicodin, oxycodone, and fentanyl. Heroin is also an opioid.

Be cautious

Middle graders may be prescribed painkillers after a sports injury or a wisdom tooth extraction, for example. Ask the doctor or dentist about alternatives to opioids. If your child is given medicine, dispense each dose to her. Keep it locked up between doses, and discard any leftovers.

Be observant

If you notice that your tween has mood swings, withdraws from family and friends, or loses interest in favorite activities, talk to her pediatrician. 🍷



A successful IEP meeting

Q My son was just diagnosed with a learning disability. What can I expect at our first IEP meeting?

A An IEP (Individualized Education Program) meeting lets you talk with an entire team about how everyone can help your son learn.

Before the meeting, write down questions and concerns. Get your son's input, too. What does he feel he's doing well? What is hard for him? What goals would he like to set?



This meeting can be emotional for you as a parent, since you'll hear about what your child struggles with. There will also be a lot of information to absorb. Consider taking along a spouse, friend, or relative to provide support and to help you remember what was said.

Also, remember that you're a key part of the IEP team. If there's an accommodation you think could boost your son's success, such as keeping one set of textbooks in his locker and another at home, it's important to speak up. 🍷