

WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

Phone 608-786-1662 Fax 608-786-3415

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 4th. During this day of learning, students will attend a variety of environmental educational workshops.

Students in grades 3-5 have begun taking the Wisconsin Forward Exam. Third and fifth grade students have already completed the exam with our fourth grade students beginning the first week in April. Our teachers have been working hard all year to prepare our students through our curriculum and we are excited to see how well our students do on the exam. 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 and within our school district.

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, preferably with a coat, until temperatures are over 50 degrees. Thank you for your help and support in making sure that your children come properly dressed to school!

I know that in light of the recent events in Parkland, Florida, perhaps many of you, like me, have also been considering what might happen if a similar tragedy were to strike here within our own school. School safety is a top priority and we want to make sure that we are as prepared as we possibly can be for any situation that might occur. In order to do this, we have been working with the West Salem Police Department to review, revise, and put into place procedures that will help prepare us if needed. I would also like to welcome Officer Kyle Holzhausen as a partner to our district. Officer Holzhausen has been visible in our schools since January, and we appreciate his help and support in our efforts to keep our students, staff, and community safe.

Thank you for your continued support in serving our children.

-Ryan Rieber, Principal

**Spring Picture Day!
Tuesday, April 3rd**



A HUGE thank you to Sherry Kneifl and Christi Gronemus for making it possible for our school to host a book fair. Also, thank you to the volunteers who helped Sherry and Christi set up and who worked during conferences.



A huge thank you to our 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 thanks the following parents that contributed to the meal:

Beth Hansen, Carrie Ihle-Elsen, Cassie Zarecki, Christi Gronemus, Erika Crusan ,Erika Crusan, Jamie Faucett, Jamie Holst, Jeanette Schams, Jen Wulf, Jennifer Maki, Joan Path, Kim Rieber, Leslie Fell, Lisa Biondo, Lori DuMars, Maria Holicky, Megan Breier, Melissa Iverson, Michelle Lorenz, Michelle Pontius, Molly Mader, Natalie Vanish, Patty Hendrickson-Goetz, Rachael & Matthew Duster, Sara Griffin, Sarah Arntson, Sarah Fecht, Stacey Sjoquist, Tara Devine, Trish Harman, Twyla Sandvick

Thanks once again,
The Staff and Teachers of WSES



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!

OEC DATES

(classes TBD for each day)

April

17: Grade 1

18: Grade 1

19: Grade 1

20: Grade 3

23: Grade 3

24: Grade 4

25: Grade 4

26: Grade 4 (all classes)

May

1: Grade 5

3: Grade 5

8: Grade 2

10: Grade 2

15: Grade K

16: Grade K



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.

No School Days:

Monday, April 2

Friday, April 27

Monday, May 28

Early Release:

Wednesday, May 9

Students dismissed at 12:20

Buses depart at 12:30

Last Day of School:

Thursday, June 7

Students dismissed at 12:20

Buses depart at 12:30

KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE RHYTHMS PROGRAM

The kindergarten and 1st grade rhythms program is on **Thursday, April 5th at 6:30pm** 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.

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 Hamlin (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 lightning 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 23rd!!

*If you would like to volunteer to lead the bus, or walk with us, please contact Amy Tischler at tischler.amy@wsalem.k12.wi.us or 608-786-1662.

Congratulations to these 4th grade students who had their poetry (based on the Carnival of the Animals) selected to be part of the Symphony for Youth on March 15th at Viterbo University!

Kangaroo by Joseph Truendle

My friend is a Kangaroo.
He doesn't like the cuckoo.
I watch him box.
Since I have the chicken pox.
Even though he is a Joey.
He has a girlfriend named Zoey.
He uppercut the Zookeeper.
He really is a sound sleeper.

Swift Animals by Maddy Kaiser and McKenna Mueller

The swiftness in the air calls the wind and feeds the fire.
The cheetahs are sound asleep while the wolves howling at the moon.
The fishes in the stream are swimming swiftly while the sun is rising.
The Fox is catching food for her little baby cubs.
The bats are getting ready to fall back to sleep.
The mouse is eating cheese while the rat is trying to steal.
The owl is waking from its rest and getting ready for some breakfast.
The penguins are risking for there food.

Finale by Elaina Brenengen, Madison Elsen

I love the sound of the big finale,
it reminds me of my dogs Fin and Ally.
The dogs play and tumble,
And someone shouts a football "fumble."
The Great finale has a sweet sound,
that keeps me toe tapping on the ground.
The beat that makes me sing along,
Helps me create a great great song.