Dear Families,

In reflecting back on the school year as we head into the final weeks of school I am in awe of all of the people who make a child’s experience at school successful each day. Starting with our transportation department for putting safety first in getting children to and from each school day; our food service workers who prepare hot, nutritious meals daily; our para professionals who meet the needs of children on both an individual level and as a whole group; our school nurses for taking care of the scrapes and illnesses that can occur during the year; our secretaries for handling all of the demands of the front office each day; our custodians/maintenance personnel who take care of our wonderful facility; and our teachers/staff for meeting the needs of each child daily. All of us doing our best, in partnering with each family, to provide a high quality education for your child.

John Smalley, Principal
HOMEROOM PLACEMENT

We are beginning the process of homeroom placements using information from teacher and district assessments. Teachers, pertinent staff and principals work together to create these lists. Teachers provide: academic ability, behavior, social skill development, special programming and any other information to assist in homeroom placement for the upcoming school year. We know our students well (academically, behaviorally, socially, emotionally) but, if there is other information you think we should consider when making homeroom placement (family situation, health concerns, separation from other students) please fill out the student information form. This can be obtained in the office or on our website. We welcome pertinent information about your child in an effort for teachers and administration to better understand him/her. Parent requests for a specific homeroom will not be accepted.

On August 1st, each family can begin on line registration, which will include homeroom teacher.

Upcoming 4K Friday FUN

Friday, May 8th—Our 4k students will be able to tour the elementary school to see what Kindergarten will be like! Join us at 9am

4k Picnic Night! Tuesday, May 26th—our 4k families will have a picnic from 6-7pm on the playground. Please join us!

Email !! The Elementary communicates via e-mail. If you are not receiving email communications from the Elementary School, or do not have email please be sure to contact our office 786-1662.

9th Annual Mayfair Arts Fair

Sunday, May 3, 2015—West Salem High School

ANNOUNCING THE 2015-2016 HEIDER CENTER SEASON

The 9th Annual Mayfair Arts Fair, one of the major Heider Center Arts Board fundraisers, will take place on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at the West Salem High School Commons, West Salem, WI.

Activities will include:
- Art Fair from 10am–3pm with artwork for sale
- Free Kids Art activities from 10am–2pm
- Silent Auction items to be bid on from 10am–2pm
- Door prizes from the Heider Center
- Entertainment by local youth & adults (instrumental, vocal & dance)
- Pulled Pork Sandwich Dinner by Big Boar Catering of West Salem from 11am – 1:00 pm, please get your tickets for the meal from any Heider Center Arts Board Member or call the Heider Center Box Office, 786-2550 to reserve your tickets.
- Other concessions available also.
- Plant and flowers sold by the high school FFA

Come and join us for great Family Fun - Sunday, May 3rd. The perfect place to shop for that special Mother’s Day gift. All events will take place in the high school gym & commons area.
We had a great season!
Thanks to those who supported our Burrachos night!

Congrats to our OM teams on your competition in Madison
The Art Rooms will continue to collect brown paper bags, cereal boxes, orange juice concentrate cans (and metal lid). Thanks!

Music Notes:

Kindergarten music classes will be studying music from the Carnival of the Animals. We’ll be learning about percussion instruments as well. We'll even get to try our hand at playing a drum set! We’ll continue to sing, dance, and play instruments as we get ready for 1st grade.

First grade music classes are learning about string instruments. We are also learning about musical stories and will study a few before the end of the year. We’ll continue to sing, dance, and play instruments as we get ready for 1st grade.

Second grade music classes will soon complete their unit on the keyboards (piano). We’ve learned several songs on the black keys, including Jolly Old St. Nicholas and Old MacDonald. We will be moving on to learning about the brass instruments.

Third grade music classes will soon finish their keyboard (piano) unit. We’ve learned songs on the white keys, reinforcing our note reading skills. We will be moving on to the woodwind family of instruments as our next unit of study.

Fourth grade music classes are close to finishing their unit on drumming. We’ve been able to combine other percussion instruments into our playing as well. We will begin composing music for our home made instruments which we will eventually record on the IPad and present at our instrument fair in June.

Fifth grade music classes recently studied music related careers such as music therapy and instrument manufacturing. We will soon begin learning about commercial jingles and will eventually write and record our own commercials using jingles that we will compose in class.

Wheel To School Week Challenge

When: Monday May 4th - Friday May 8th
What: Log how you travel to and from school each day May 4-8th. At the end of the week submit your log to Mrs. Ellerbach for a chance to win individual prizes, shoe tokens, and to help your school win the Silver Spoke Award!!

Students and teachers will be receiving a log at school OR they can choose to download a log at www.getactivelacrosse.org.

Walking School Bus - meet in front of St Leo's Church at 7:25am!

The following will be leading or will be the theme for the walking school bus each Friday morning
May 1st: WS Fire Department
May 8th: Mother's Day (invite your mother to walk with us)
May 15th: WS Police Department
May 22nd: WS Varsity Baseball team
May 29th: Summer Fun!

4th & 5th GRADE TRACK AND FIELD MEET
The Physical Education curriculum includes Track and Field this year. 4th and 5th grade students will learn about many different events and will participate in the track and field meet on Friday, May 29th (rain date is Wednesday, June 3rd) from 10-2:30. We need many parent/guardian volunteers to help run the meet. If you are interested, please email meyers.lindy@wsalem.k12.wi.us.
SPRING WEATHER

Now that the spring season is upon us, we want to remind students that clothing worn to school should be appropriate for a positive and safe learning environment. Shorts and skirts should be appropriate in length. Please take into account the unpredictable temperatures that accompany spring. Dress students in layers to be prepared for whatever temperatures the day brings. Also, please send your children in shoes safe for playground use.

*Thank you in advance for your cooperation!*

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**Summer school schedules** will be sent home the week of May 18th. There is still time to sign up. Registration forms on our website under Families and Summer School.

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**2015-2016 Registration**

We will again have **online registration through Skyward Family Access** for West Salem Elementary 4K through 5th grade students. **Online registration will open up August 1st.** If you are unable to register online, an in-house registration will be held on **Tuesday, August 18th from Noon-7pm.** Computers will be available to complete your online registration. **Also on August 18th Lifetouch will be here to take student pictures.** Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

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**Student drop off**—This time of year we have an increase in the amount of bike riders and walkers before and after school. Our campus and parking lots are very busy. Please take extra caution when dropping off or picking up your child. Please slow down, do not pass other cars, or park in non-parking areas. In the morning, if you are dropping off in the front, please use the outer parking lot and not the bus loop or the grade 3-5 playground side. Students are to use the crosswalks with our para-professional supervising and then walk to their playground. Please plan ahead, and take a few extra minutes for the benefit of everyone.

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

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**West Salem School District Policy 384—Animals on School Grounds**—Animals are not allowed on school grounds. Exceptions include licensed service dogs for individuals with an appropriate disability and certified search dogs accompanied by law enforcement. Other exceptions may be granted for curricular reasons following approval of a written request to the building principal.

This policy does not preclude pet owners from walking their leashed animal on the public sidewalks bordering Mark Street, Hamlin Street and East Avenue. Owners must pick up and properly dispose of any and all animal waste left by such animal on District property and are subject to local laws and ordinances pertaining to animal control.
Wednesday, April 8th was our annual Environment Day at West Salem Elementary School. The theme this year was "Critters in our Backyard". The kids enjoyed all the hands-on learning and information they learned from our presenters. We would like to thank our presenters:

- Tom Pease-and our wonderful PTO for covering his expenses! (storyteller/singer)
- Lisa Ruddock (puppetry-Why Snake and Frog are not Friends)
- Ruth Nissen (Babies in our Backyard)
- Jenny Lila (Nest! Sweet Nest!)
- Jake Merrill, Erin Ellerbach, Lindy Meyers (Moving Like Animals)
- Brian Baker & HS ecology club (Wilderness Walk)
- Barb Thompson (Hidden OEC Creatures)
- Claire O’Connell (GeoDuck Sketching)
- Jordan Weeks (Live Lake Neshonoc fish)
- Jim Kerkman (Forestry, Furs, and Mounts)
- Patty Ries (Honeybees)
- Barb bendel-Sandvigen (Bike Trail Wildlife)
- Mary Kay Salwey (Wisconsin Wildlife Safari)
- Pat Hofer (Legends and Myths of Cranes)
Way to go Mrs. Wagner!!

A $3000 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation 2015 Fellowship was presented to our very own Mrs. Laura Wagner. West Salem Elementary School is very excited and proud of her!

The Herb Kohl Fellowship recognizes teachers who have demonstrated superior ability to inspire love of learning in the students, have motivated others, and have provided meritorious service both inside and outside the classroom.

Notes from the Nurse:

Attention Parents/Guardians of 5th Grade Students

The State of Wisconsin now requires students entering 6th grade to receive a second Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. If your child has had chicken pox disease the vaccine is not required. Students are also required to have a tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis booster, abbreviated Tdap. Please note that the Tdap vaccine is different than the DTP or DTaP vaccine that your child received before entering kindergarten. You may contact your health care provider to get the required immunizations or you may call the La Crosse County Health Department at 785-9723 to set up an appointment. To be in compliance with the law, your child needs to have the immunizations done by the start of the 2015-2016 school year. Once your child has had the vaccines please notify the nurse’s office. If you have any questions please call the nurse at 786-1662.

Other Stuff

Caller ID

Parents: If you have caller ID and see that you have missed a phone call from the elementary school, please rest assured that if your child is sick or injured, the school nurse or staff member will leave a message for you. If you return a call to the elementary school because you saw the number on your caller ID, we are unable to identify the person, extension number, or department that was trying to reach you. Please encourage your child to leave a message for you if they attempt to call you from our school.

Lunch reminder...

Due to possible food allergies we ask that you please not bring in food to share with other students during the lunch hour.

Thanks!
**PBIS at WSES**

Check out our Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports ticket drawing winners for the month of April!!

Not only were the following students ticketed for being SAFE, RESPONSIBLE & RESPECTFUL, they were also drawn as the lucky winners in our PAWSitive ticket drawing. Way to go...doing what you’re supposed to be doing!

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**Week of 4/13**
- Kdg - Mya Timm
- Caden Fravel
- Gr 2 - Marley Tauscher
- Brennon Anderson
- Sammi Niemeier
- Gr 3 - Sydney Flack
- Sam Williams
- Gr 4 - Reegan Peterson
- Gr 5 - Brett Kelly

**Week of 4/20**
- Kdg - Elise Flock
- Tristan Quam
- Sam MacRogers
- Gr 1 - Ava Schuster
- Gr 3 - Braden Trinwith
- Zipa Xiong
- Terry Athnos
- Gr 4 - Mason Roesler
- Gr 5 - Ashley Ketcher
- Skylar Ferguson

**Week of 4/27**
- Kdg - Aliana Hansen
- Julia Brown
- Carson Waters
- Gr 2 - Audrey Reinhart
- Gr 3 - Adelyn Burt
- Hailey Harris
- Gr 4 - Mason Roesler
- Luke Noel
- Gr 5 - Nathan Hare
- Nolan Heger

**Bingo Winners**
- Kdg—Kane Thorpe
- Riley Dovenberg
- Brooke Rasmussen
- Isaac Dumas
- Drew McConkey
- Noah Wachter x2
- Steven Koenings

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- McKenna Mueller
- Natalee Reichert
- Maddie Holm
- Michael Schleifer
- Jaimyn Groth
- Hayden Stuhr
- Carson Gronemus
- Kaiden Stello
- Reagan Beck
- Talan VanRiper
- Evan Kohlmeier
- Marcello Jones
- Klo Dummer
- Brooklynn Wagner
- Maia Hutchens
- Isabel Krueger
- Ilah Matheny
- RubyAnne Pierce
- Ethan Hegge
- Jack Parrish
- Aaron Grass
- Breanna Smith
- Jarek Nolte
- Mason Chambers
- Madison Olsen
- Addie Juhn
- Josie Brudos

**Gr 2**—Mia Olson
- Hazel Heger x2
- Brennon Anderson
- Ava Hanson
- Gabby Bauer
- Lucy Raymer
- Angola Bakke
- William Stefferud
- Kaylee Fry
- Mallory Long
- Isabelle Thompson
- Faith Minard
- Ashlyn Byrne
- Kenen Stoltz
- Miles Olson x2
- Benji Larson
- Emily Fell x2
- Charlie Wolf
- Jason Lu
- Sydney Martin
- Kaleb Kepler
- Tom Stenberg
- Gideon Wolbrink
- Lucas Horstman
- Hunter Sarver
- Luke Jambois
- Sam Farley
- Izzie Clements
- Carson Vanish
- Dylynn Bayer

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- Sam Schniepp Duffy
- Andrew Hatzz
- Andrew Larson
- Mysa Koudelka
- Malana Minard
- Delaney Jostad
- Autumn Bohl
- Maria Cannon
- Jack Witte x2
- Carmen Rislow
- Emily Sanwick
- Ben Bakkum
- Angelina Lu
- Gretchen Lyse
- Keaton Linse

**Gr 4**—Sawyer Hougom
- Annika Parry
- Jaden Hamms
- Caleb Drabek
- Ella Beal
- Morgan Quackenbush
- Drew Staff
- Ben Larson
- Kendra Hillyer
- Morgan Kammel
- Maddie Carlaw-2x
- Alexia Tomten
- Emily Davis
- Anna McConkey
- Kodi Miller

**Gr 5**—Maddie Weigel
- Maysen Olson
- Grace Waldenberger
- Maddy Olson
- Alexis Smith
- Peter Dressel
- Max Yahne
- Magei Farley
- Morgan Sevier
- Alexis Smith
- Orin Schwier
- Lexie Loging
- Mallory Matheny
- Zach Long
- Ashlee Garber
- Mackenzie Kepler
- Autumn Dummer
- Megan Marcou
- James Kohlmeier