

WEST SALEM MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Volume 5 - Issue 10



2017

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

School starts at 7:50 am

**Early Release - May 10

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Dear Families,

The end of the school year is fast approaching. I would like to take this opportunity to genuinely thank the parents, staff, students, and community members who helped make this a very successful school year. Next year WSMS will be in "renovation mode." The staff here will remain committed to student growth inside, while the building grows outside!

But wait just a minute, because the school year isn't over yet! In addition to the academic work and learning we have left to accomplish, the next few weeks are filled with many opportunities and experiences for our students. The eighth grade Promotion Ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 1 at 7pm in the Heider Auditorium. Eighth graders are expected to attend school the following day, Friday June 1st. We will be wrapping up instruction, handing out yearbooks, collecting iPads/chargers, & maybe having a little fun as well! June 4-9 many eighth graders will be going on a trip to Washington, D.C. Those who are not attending will participate in engaging activities locally that week.

The seventh grade spring campout will be held at the Outdoor Education Center (OEC) May 22-26. Please avoid scheduling appointments for your child during these dates, as your child will be spending 2 ½ days at the OEC. This is a great opportunity for our students! The sixth grade will be attending the OEC on June 7th and Jellystone on the 8th as they complete their first year at WSMS. In addition, all grades have spring band & choir performances. Dates and times can be found on page 3. We will be collecting all iPads/chargers prior to the end of the school year. The dates for grades 6 & 7 will be determined shortly, and we will communicate that to both the students and parents.

As always, we encourage you to take an active role in building relationships with your child, our staff, and community. We thank you for your continued support of our efforts as we work together to provide the best middle school experience for your child. As we move towards the end of the school year it's important we stress to our students the importance of a strong finish. In addition, please feel free to discuss your student's goals for next school year and connect how the finish to this year can lead to a great start for next fall. The choices we make today have a large impact on the options that we have available to us tomorrow.

Have a great summer with family and friends.

Ben Wopat
Principal
twitter.com/coachwopat



"Meet Us in the Middle"



FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE.....

Student Medications

A reminder to parents who have students with medications at school: **Please pick up medications before the last day of school.** This includes prescription and non-prescription medications. For the safety and protection of everyone, it is our policy that a parent or guardian must pick up any medication. We do not send medications home with students. Thank you for your cooperation.



Counselor Comments...

This time of year is always bitter sweet. We are excited about meeting our "new recruits" when the 5th graders come over on Thursday, May 11, to visit with their A/A. We look forward to getting to know them over the next three years. As we bring in the new, though, so must we send out the old. Our 8th graders have been a part of us for the past three years which makes it difficult to see them leave. Watching our kids grow up and move on is one of the toughest parts of "parenting." We wish them all the best in their future endeavors! Thank you for entrusting us with your children this past year. Have an adventurous and memory-filled summer with your family. Not to wish the time away, but we look forward to seeing you again next year.

Calendar of Events...

Upcoming Events - May/June



- 1 - Softball vs Holmen 4:00
- 2 - Softball @ Viroqua 4:30
- 4 - Softball vs Aquinas 4:15
- 4 - Track @ Bangor 4:15
- 8 - Softball vs Winona 4:15
- 11 - Track @ Tomah High 4:15
- 11 - Softball @ Onalaska 4:00
- 15 - Softball vs Sparta 4:00
- 18 - Softball @ Winona 4:15
- 20 - Track Conference @ Logan 11:00
- 22-26 Gr. 7 OEC Campout
- 22 - Softball @ Sparta 4:00
- 25 - Softball @ Holmen 4:00
- 29 - NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

- June 1 - Gr. 8 Promotion 7:00
- June 4-9 - Gr. 8 D.C. trip
- June 7 - Gr. 6 OEC
- June 8 - Gr. 6 - Jellystone
- June 9 - LAST DAY - 12:20 release

The WSMS Music Dept...

Monday, May 15

WSMS 6th Gr. Choir & Band Concert - Concert at 6pm - students report at 5:30pm
WSMS 7th Gr. Choir & Band Concert - Concert at 7:30pm - students report at 7pm
Concert at the Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

Monday, May 22

WSMS 8th Gr. Choir & Band Spring Concert - Concert at 7pm - students report at 6:30pm
Concert at the Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

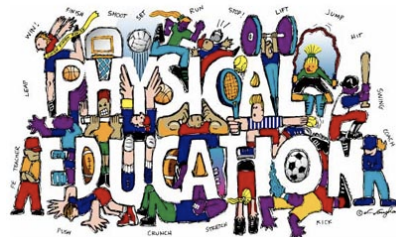
*Music Uniform for all grades - Orange Panther Polo, Black Pants, Black Socks, Black Shoes

Thursday, May 25

8th grade Band at the Kalahari Band Festival

Healthy Living...

The weather is heating up and that means we will continue to be outside. Please remind your children to bring shoes for outside. Also, please make sure that your children are bringing shoes if they choose to wear flip flops to school. We are continuing to improve our skills on the defensive side of the ball during invasion gameplay. The students are really learning what it takes to be great teammates!



"Meet Us in the Middle"



WSMS Students of the Month



April

Grade 6



Tony C.



Anna M.



Andy J.

Grade 7



Sophia B.



Isaac O.



Mandi K.

Grade 8



Kirsten L.



Charlie K.



Paige W.



Reading - Mrs. Schultz

This last month of school students are participating in a FREE READ genre study. This means they can

choose any fiction book from any genre. Students will be completing a contract about their novel. There will be three checkpoints scattered throughout the month of May to ensure students are keeping up with their reading. At each checkpoint, they create a reading goal and also a choice activity about their novel. This information can be found on a cherry colored page in their Reading binder.

Sixth graders will also work with prefixes and suffixes, continuing to build our vocabularies. Close reading will be sprinkled throughout the month, with students working on using higher level thinking skills and digging deeper into texts. Through the end of the school year we will continue to be teamed with English, with a focus on parts of speech and poetry.

English - Mr. Tashner

I can not believe that it is already May!! WOW! Students have been working very diligently on their Human Rights books. They will be turning finishing them up by the middle of this month, and it will be their last paper for the year. We will continue to stay combined with Reading and will finish up pronouns and review the three parts of speech we learned this year. We will also be starting simple sentences.

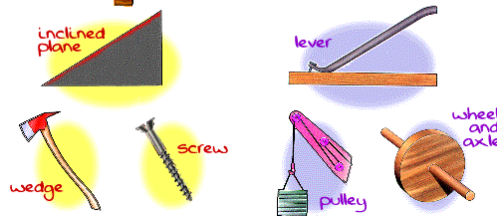
Science - Mrs. Jarosh

As our 6th graders enter the final month of their 6th grade year, we will continue to be busy in science class by wrapping up our Motion, Forces and Simple Machines unit. Our final unit will focus on Ecology and the environment. Students will be learning about biomes, species interactions, and population dynamics. Thank you all for a great year in science!

The learning targets for the unit are:

1. Discuss how organisms meet their needs.
2. Explain why populations change in size and what factors limit population growth.
3. Identify adaptations of organisms and explain how they help organisms survive.
4. Explain how organisms interact with their environment.
5. Identify and explain the three types of symbiotic relationships.
6. Understand how energy flows through an ecosystem.

Simple Machines



Project & Inquiry - Mrs. Ebert

In P&I, students often hear the phrase it's about the "ing" not the "thing" to remind them that the process is more important than the product. As students completed their first challenge - their cardboard arcade games - it was important for them to document their problem solving experiences in their Learning Log (google document). Additionally, all students completed a self-assessment after experiencing all other students' games. To date, their P&I grade is comprised largely of their willingness to articulate their experiences in this Learning Log.

We've lightened up our load, moving from cardboard to paper for construction material. Students learned to construct eight different paper mechanisms which can be used to generate movement. They've created a book to showcase these pop-up mechanisms, and now they're applying their paper engineering skills to develop a more deliberate, creative, purposeful project. As usual, details for the project can be found on Edmodo.

As we make our way to the end of the year, we'll combine our big and small paper engineering skills with concepts learned in science. Students will work in assigned teams design and construct a paper roller coaster within a given set of constraints ("rules") which will accomplish a specific goal regarding duration of travel. We'll wrap up the year with a little light-hearted roller-coaster competition.



Social Studies - Mrs. Jeranek

It's hard to believe how quickly this year has gone! Students have been exposed to many new information on ancient civilizations throughout the course of 6th grade. I hope they have enjoyed their journey back to 1000 BCE as much as I have!

World Religions will continue to be our unit in May! Our focus will be Acceptance and Respect of religious beliefs throughout the world, so we better understand historical conflicts and values of others. We continue to learn through various literature and informational texts and on-line sources. By the end of the unit, students will have a World Religions booklet that covers six categories for each religion: origin, holy book, symbols, place/s or worship, festivals, and beliefs.



Math - Mrs. Jehn

Regular Math

We are in Chapter 9 learning about statistical measures including mean, median, and mode as well as quartiles, interquartiles, range, mean absolute deviation. The concepts of measures of variation and mean absolute deviation will be new to students and may bring back fond memories of a statistics course you might have taken years ago. These will be difficult topics and very abstract for 6th grade minds.

These skills are necessary for us to start Chapter 10 which is the last chapter of the book and how we will spend the end of May. This chapter is all about data displays including stem-and-leaf plots, histograms, box-and-whisker plots. They will need to use what they learned about

measures of center, measures of variation, and statistical questions in the previous chapter to describe the center, spread, and shape of the displays.

It's been a fabulous year with students striving to learn despite rigorous work and higher level math skills being required. They have really excelled and done a wonderful job. Enjoy the summer!

Accelerated Math

Students will be working through Chapter 14 in May reviewing topics such as solving and graphing ratios, rates, and proportions so they can work with slope and direct variation. We will finish this chapter by the end of May and will be just beginning Chapter 15 titled Percents. Have your student work with you this

summer to determine percent mark ups, discounts, and simple interest which are all skills from this chapter and for life.

They have done a tremendous job this year digging in to tackle difficult problems requiring high level thinking skills. They will be finishing the second half of the 7th grade book next year and then all of the 8th grade book. The skills will continue to become more difficult but their effort, perseverance, and willingness to learn will pay off for them. Keep up the great work!



7

Reading - Mrs. Rochester

During the month of May, students will be finishing writing their

script and filming their documentaries (on iMovie) related to a specific environmental issue to follow up their environmental issues book study. The students were put into groups based on a common environmental issue. Be sure to ask your child about their

research topic! 7th graders will also be finishing up the school year with an SSR (self choice) book study. The students have already chosen books and started reading. There are questions about specific elements of novels that the students will be answering about their book. The students are expected to complete these questions with each section of the book they are reading. The students are expected to read every night in order to finish the book. When the students are in class, they will be discussing

their books with peers as well as discussing with me.

**English - Mrs. Martinson**

In May, the 7th graders will be completing their third and final writing piece which is the argument. The students are creating a Google slide show and will present their argument to the rest of the class. The slide show will include their claim, two reasons of support with evidence and an expert quote. They will also include a video clip to support their side. The last part of speech that we will work on this year is adjectives. Finally students will be assessed on compound sentences. We have been working on compound sentences all year. Keep reading and writing over the summer! Enjoy!

Social Studies - Mr. Mahlum

In May the students will focus on state and local government. We will first take a look at how Wisconsin is set up and who are the people making decisions for our state. Then, we will turn our attention to some of our local governments. We will learn how La Crosse County operates as well as the Village of West Salem.

**Art - Ms. Engen**

The 7th graders have been working with scale while making clay sculptures. They also have been increasing their observational drawing skills by practicing various "right-brain" type drawing activities. We are looking forward to keeping the Middle School tradition alive by painting wall blocks in May!



Math - Mr. Jones

In 7th grade regular math and advanced math we will be finishing Chapter 10: Probability and Statistics. 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.

After the school forest campout week we will be finishing the year with a project creating polyhedrons. Be on the lookout for this cool project coming home.

**Science - Mr. Baker**

April went by quickly! We have been going through the various groups of animals and looking at body structures. As promised, we smelled up the science room when dissected worms, crayfish, and frogs! Not everyone enjoys these days, but it is a great experience and the kids did awesome! As we close up the groups of animals, we will be spending most of our time with environmental science topics as we lead up to the campout!

The 7th grade camp out is coming up in May. Please keep May 22-26 free of appointments, so you won't have to worry about rescheduling problems.



Students should have brought home a packet of information, including if they are going Monday through Wednesday or Wednesday through Friday. We will talk a lot about what things to pack as we get closer and know what the weather will bring.





English - Mrs. Sackett

The days in 8th grade are quickly winding down. In English, we are

wrapping up the year by enjoying Mark Twain's classic novel, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. This will be a great way to end the year as we will appreciate the lasting piece of literature and have discussions about the complex characters and themes we discover in the text. Along with reading this book, we will also be completing our review of the parts of speech by creating a parts of speech comic book. Save the comic sections of your newspapers and send them to school with your student to help with the comic book.

Mrs. Bentzen Regular Math (parts of Chpts 8 & 10, Inequalities, Placement Test)

We will explore the concepts of volume and surface area of cylinders and cones. We will work on writing and reading scientific notation. We will also learn the basics of solving and graphing inequalities.

We will MAP test on May 11 and 12. We will take an algebra placement test (dates: May 23-26) to be used as another measure of whether your son/daughter is ready for Algebra I next year. We will end the year making flexagons. Very cool stuff!!!!

Algebra (Chapter 9, parts of Chpts 10 & 11, Final Exam)

We will identify, classify, add, subtract, multiply, and factor polynomials. We will solve quadratic equations using square roots and the quadratic

formula. We will compare linear, exponential and quadratic equations. We will simplify radicals.

We will MAP test on May 11. We will take our algebra final (Chpts 6-10) on May 25. This will give your son/daughter the experience of taking final exams at the high school. We will end the year making flexagons. Very cool stuff!!!

Social Studies - Ms. Morgan

May is a busy month for 8th grade students. Among the many activities they will take part in is the annual **Civil War Day on Friday, May 19**. This experience provides the students with the opportunity to "live" the lives of soldiers during the year 1863. With the help of local reenactors, students drill and enjoy a Civil War era meal enjoyed by soldiers of the day. Students will also learn about Civil War related topics including: life of Billy Yank, life of Johnny Reb, Manual of Arms, History of Battle Flags (including a detailed look at the history of the Confederate flag beyond 1865), medical care, and women of the war. It is a culminating activity for a look at the tumultuous time that nearly tore our country apart.

Students will learn:

- *causes of the Civil War
- *the long lasting impact of the Civil War on our country's history
- *key events of the war that nearly tore our country apart
- *what life was like during the war from a variety of different view points
- *how our country was put back together following the war

Science - Ms. Smith-Waller

We will continue to learn and understand about the inside of the Earth, and the forces within that shape the land and create events such as earthquakes, volcanoes, mountains, and sea- floor spreading. We plan to map the ocean floor, identify the mid- ocean ridge, and understand how and why the Earth is constantly changing. After our study of plate tectonics, the 8th grade science students are ready for their "mini" chemistry unit to review the structure of an atom and the periodic table of elements. We will use this knowledge to begin learning about the various types and characteristics of rocks and minerals. Students will learn to identify more than 30 types of rocks and minerals. This is often a very exciting and interactive unit. 8th grade students are welcome to share any rock or mineral collections that they may have at home. We will be following these essential learning outcomes...

1. Understand how plate tectonics can cause earthquakes, volcanoes, and mountain ranges and use data to predict these events.
2. Understand the structure of an atom and be able to draw a simple model of an atom.
3. Identify the elements that make up certain rocks and minerals and identify 50+ rocks and minerals found in nature.
4. Understand what causes the rock cycle and describe how the rock cycle works.



Spanish - Profesora Tofstad

The Spanish 8 students have been working on “Mi Comida Favorite” or My Favorite Food. We have worked on how to share what we like: Me gusta and what we do not like: No me gusta. Students have been working very hard on conjugating AR verbs as well as ER and IR verbs. We have even tackled the irregular verb of hacer. We will conclude this unit with a project based assessment due the first week of May.

Right now, your eighth grader should be able to understand the following paragraph:

Para el desayuno, yo bebo jugo de naranja. Me gustan los huevos y el cereal. Para el almuerzo como el sándwich y bebo el agua. Tomo el agua porque es nutritivo. Cuando tengo hambre, yo tengo ganas de comer la fruta. Me gustan mucho las bananas y las uvas. No me gustan las manzanas. Cuando tengo sed, yo tengo ganas de beber el refresco.

The food unit transitions into our family unit called “ En Mi Familia” or In My Family. The goals for this unit is to talk about their families. They will learn to share about

their family member’s characteristics, ages, likes and dislikes. Your student will learn how to express possession, give dates, and make comparisons.

The 8th grade students have worked hard during this trimester and should be proud of what they have learned.

Reading - Ms. Friell

During April 8th graders studied media literacy. This began with the interpretation of WWII era propaganda while reading The Diary of Anne Frank (the play version). They learned about persuasive techniques and analyzed different types of media. Specifically they focused on the following strategies: testimonial/ethos, plain folks, bandwagon, glittering generalities, and logos. They identified these techniques in current commercials and magazine ads.

We will read The Giver in May. They will analyze many aspects of this award winning, thought-provoking novel by Lois Lowry. Parents are encouraged to read this novel and discuss it with their son/daughter.



Eighth Grade Promotion Night

Eighth graders will be honored on Thursday, June 1, at a ceremony celebrating their promotion to ninth grade. The ceremony begins at 7:00pm in the Heider Center. All families and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Attire for all 8th graders will be the 8th grade class shirt. Please note that all students will participate in the ceremony. If promotion is in doubt, the certificate will not be signed, but all students will participate.

Please join us for the celebratory event.



The students are continuing to work on their keyboard skills as they are learning sharps and flats (the black keys). They also are switching back and forth between different hand positions (C, G, and Middle C positions). They will also learn a few simple songs that include eighth notes.

The students are now working on a GarageBand project, which takes a different approach by creating audio books. They should bring in a sound book, from which they will create a list of sounds that they need and sample their sounds in GarageBand. Then each student will read the book into the app, add the sound effects, and add music that is fitting for the mood of the story.

Our Music Alive magazine articles this month focus on the importance of Sun Records Studio, history of the music of video games, and summer music festivals.

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

These students are continuing to work on the guitar by using the first 5 strings as well as learning how to play guitar music using tablature. Two new concepts this month will include learning how to play pick-up notes in incomplete measures and sliding the hand up to 5th fret.

The students are watching the musical West Side Story, which is a 1950s story that takes place on the West Side of New York. It is based on the Shakespeare play Romeo and Juliet, and the students are learning about the similarities between the two stories.

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

After the students finish their songs on their chosen instrument for the trimester, they will be performing in a mini-recital for the class and finishing off the year with a trimester test. They will also be completing a written paper on a video they will watch on information about their instrument.

Students who are on their 3rd trimester of their instrument are learning about:

Guitar - bass accompaniment; dynamic levels
Keyboard - major scales and many different hand positions

Students who are on their 2nd trimester of their instrument are learning:

Guitar - pitches on the 5th string; reading tablature
Keyboard - middle C position and continuing to get comfortable with the black keys

Students who are on their 1st trimester of their instrument are learning:

Guitar: pitches on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd strings; C and G7 chords
Keyboard: intervals of a 4th and 5th and playing both hands together more often

Choir - Ms. Nimm

6th & 7th Grade Choirs - It is concert month for all three choirs! You are invited to hear the 6th and 7th grade choirs perform on Monday, May 15. The concerts will be held in the Heider Center. 6th graders should report at 5:30pm with the concert starting at 6pm. 7th graders should report at 7pm, and the concert will start at 7:30pm. All students should wear their orange polo shirts, black pants, black socks, and black shoes.

8th Grade Choir - The 8th grade choir will be performing at the Heider Center Monday, May 22. Students should report at 6:30pm, and the concert will start at 7pm. This is a student led concert, so the dress code will be slightly different. More information will be sent out once a final decision has been made by the group!

Soundscapes - The 7th grade class has been using the Garageband App on their iPads to create several different pieces of music. The first was a song of their choosing. The second was background music for a commercial. The final project for the class will be a focus on how music can change the feeling of a movie scene. Students will be creating their own scenes and adding different types of music to make their scenes come alive.

African Drumming - African Drumming students have been using the Garageband App on their iPads to create percussion ensembles which were shared with the class. As the school year comes to a close, the group will be playing percussion ensembles from countries that are not usually thought of when it comes to drumming circles.



Grade 8 - Civil War Reenactment

Friday, May 19

WEB ORIENTATION

Aug 21-22 - WEB Leader Training NEW WEB Leaders

Aug 23 - Orientation for NEW 6th graders



Attn: 8th graders
Freshman Orientation
August - date/time TBD

Middle School Registration for the 2016 - 2017 School Year

The 2017-2018 school year will again have online registration through Skyward Family Access. Online registration will open up August 1st. If you are unable to register online, an in-house registration will be held on Monday, August 14, and Tuesday, August 15. Computers will be available to complete your online registration. Also Lifetouch will be here to take student pictures. Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending.

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.



"Meet Us in the Middle"





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

May 10

Upcoming Reminders:

7th grade - School Forest - May 22-26

PLEASE do not schedule appointments during this week.

6th grade - Wednesday, June 7 - School Forest / OEC

~Please make sure your child dresses accordingly for the outdoors: long sleeves and pants are preferred. A sack lunch will also be needed - either your own or order one from school

Thursday, June 8 - Jellystone

~Please have your child bring a swim suit and towel as well as extra money if he/she wants to purchase food and/or drinks. Your child can either bring a sack lunch or purchase lunch there.

Please also send along sun screen for both trips; however, we are NOT able to put it on your child. We do remind them to put it on throughout the day.



Student Council kids volunteered their time to come in and help teachers pack up for the big move! Thank you to their families for working that into their busy schedule on a non-school day! Thanks, Student Council!



Washington DC Itinerary

Sunday, June 4, 2017

- 6:30 am - Depart West Salem
- 11:00 am - Lunch at IL Toll Plaza
- 11:30 am - Travel to Skokie, IL
- 1:00 pm - Arrive Skokie Holocaust Museum
- 3:00 pm - Depart Museum
- 7:30 pm - Dinner on toll road
- 9:30 pm - Arrive at hotel - Independence, OH



Monday, June 5, 2017

- 5:45 am - Breakfast at Hotel
- 7:00 am - Depart for Shanksville
- 11:00 am - Arrive at Shanksville Ft 93 Site
- 1:00 pm - Lunch on toll road
- 4:00 pm - Arrive at Gettysburg
- 4:30 pm - Battlefield Tour
- 6:30 pm - Supper at Outlet Mall
- 9:00 pm - Arrive at hotel - DC area

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

- 7:00 am - Breakfast at hotel
- 8:30 am - Depart for Air & Space Museum
- 12:30pm - Lunch at Museum or location in DC
- 1:30 pm - Pick up guides -tour monuments & Arlington National Cemetery
- 5:30 pm - Pizza Buffet at Magill's
- 7:00 pm - Evening Tour of Washington DC
- 10:30 pm - Arrive at

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 (*Students will wear class shirts today*)

- 6:00 am - Breakfast at hotel
- 8:30 am - Visit sites in DC
- 12:00pm - Lunch at Ronald Reagan Bldg
- 1:30 pm - National Zoo & other DC Sites
- 5:00 pm - Evening Concert - Twilight Tattoo (Boxed supper at concert)
- 9:00 pm - Evening Tour of DC - last minute sites
- 11:00 pm - Arrive at hotel

Thursday, June 8, 2017

- 7:00 am - Breakfast & check out of hotel
- 10:00 am - Museum of American History
- 1:00 pm - Lunch at Six Flags
- 1:30 pm - Visit Six Flags
- 5:00 pm - Supper at Six Flags
- 5:30 pm - Depart for Home

Friday, June 9, 2017

- 7:00 am - Breakfast in Rockford, IL
- 11:00am - 1pm - Arrive West Salem

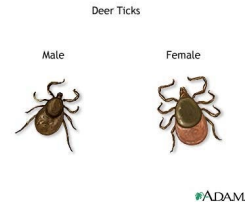


West Salem Middle School students (6 & 7) will be visiting the West Salem Outdoor Education Center before school is out. La Crosse and surrounding counties are common areas that are found to be populated with deer ticks causing exposure to Lyme Disease. It is important for people who work or recreate 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 benefit 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 2-32 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, 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 through “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 a tick that is attached, grasp it firmly with tweezers and 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 is 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.



Board Policy: Pets on School Property

As the weather is warming up just a friendly reminder of Board Policy #384 - pets are not allowed on school property for any reason, at any time, without prior approval. This means outdoor athletic event or to “run” your dogs on the school district green spaces. Please note this does not restrict the walking of dogs on the public sidewalks surrounding our campus. Please be sure to remove all waste.



West Salem School District - 2016 Summer School Program

Grades K - 8

July 17 - August 4

8:30 - 11:40

Schedule: 8:00	Student Drop Off
8:25	Bell
8:30 - 9:20	Class 1
9:20 - 9:50	Student Break *
9:55 - 10:45	Class 2
10:50 - 11:40	Class 3
11:50	Buses Dismissed

Swimming Lessons

June 19 - 30

July 3 - 14

August 7 - 18

*Skippers Program - July 17 - 21 (register at pool after June 15)

Life Guard program - offered based on interest - Inquire at the pool after June 15

*students can only take one session of swimming lessons

If you have any questions please contact:

Lisa Gerke
Summer School Administrator
786-1662
gerke.lisa@wsalem.k12.wi.us

WEST SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT 2017-2018 CALENDAR



AUGUST 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29*	30*	31	

SEPTEMBER 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
				NS
NS	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	ER	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

OCTOBER 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	NS
23	24	25	NS*	NS
30	31			

NOVEMBER 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	ER	16	17
20	21	NS	NS	NS
27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	ER	14	15
18	19	20	21	NS
NS	NS	NS	NS	NS

JANUARY 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
NS	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
NS*	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

FEBRUARY 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	NS
12	13	ER	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28		

MARCH 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	ER	8	9
12	13	14	15	NS
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	NS

APRIL 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
NS	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	NS*
30				

MAY 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	ER	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
NS	29	30	31	

JUNE 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	SD
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

First Day of School: September 5, 2017
Last Day of School: June 7, 2018
Graduation Day: May 27, 2018
Early Release Days:
 September 20, November 15,
 December 13, February 14,
 March 7, May 9
October 16: 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 date (June 8)

*** = Teacher Inservice (August 29 & 30, October 26, January 22, April 27 + 2 Floating)**

11/14/16



May 2017

West Salem Middle School Breakfast

MONDAY

- 1**
- Egg, Cheese & Sausage Breakfast Pocket
 - Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
 - Mandarin Oranges
 - Whole Fruit Selection

TUESDAY

- 2**
- Sausage Breakfast Bagel
 - Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
 - Assorted Fruit Juice
 - Whole Fruit Selection

WEDNESDAY

- 3**
- Plain Bagel
 - Cinnamon Raisin Bagels
 - Cream Cheese Cup
 - Applesauce Cup
 - Fruit Infused Craisin - Cherry

THURSDAY

- 4**
- Mini Waffles - Maple Madness
 - Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
 - Bananas
 - Raisins

FRIDAY

- 5**
- Fruit and Yogurt Parfait
 - Granola - Nut Free
 - Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
 - Assorted Fruit Juice

8

- Colby Cheese Omelet
- Whole Wheat Toast
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Mandarin Oranges
- Whole Fruit Selection

9

- WG Cinnamon Roll
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Assorted Fruit Juice
- Whole Fruit Selection

10

- Banana Bread
- Cheese Stick - Colby Jack
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Applesauce Cup
- Fruit Infused Craisin - Blueberry

11

- Cinnamon French Toast
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Bananas
- Raisins

12

- Bacon Breakfast Scramble
- Pizza
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Grapes
- Assorted Fruit Juice

15

- Mini Pancake Maple Burst'n
- Mini Pancake Strawberry Splash
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Mandarin Oranges
- Whole Fruit Selection

16

- Scrambled Eggs
- Whole Wheat Toast
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Assorted Fruit Juice
- Whole Fruit Selection

17

- Pancake on a Stick
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Applesauce Cup
- Fruit Infused Craisin - Orange

18

- Colby Cheese Omelet
- Whole Wheat Toast
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Bananas
- Raisins

19

- Breakfast Sandwich - Sausage, Egg & Cheese
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Grapes
- Assorted Fruit Juice

22

- Egg, Cheese & Sausage Breakfast Pocket
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Mandarin Oranges
- Whole Fruit Selection

23

- Sausage Breakfast Bagel
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Assorted Fruit Juice
- Whole Fruit Selection

24

- Plain Bagel
- Cinnamon Raisin Bagels
- Cream Cheese Cup
- Applesauce Cup
- Fruit Infused Craisin - Cherry

25

- Mini Waffles - Maple Madness
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Bananas
- Raisins

26

- Fruit and Yogurt Parfait
- Granola - Nut Free
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Assorted Fruit Juice

29

Memorial Day - No School

30

- WG Cinnamon Roll
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Assorted Fruit Juice
- Whole Fruit Selection

31

- Banana Bread
- Cheese Stick - Colby Jack
- Reduced Sugar WG Cereal Variety
- Applesauce Cup
- Fruit Infused Craisin - Blueberry

More Details: <http://wsalem.nutrislice.com/menu/west-salem-middle-school/breakfast/>
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May 2017

West Salem Middle School Lunch

MONDAY

- 1**
- Oven Roasted Chicken
 - Chicken Noodle Soup
 - Garlic Cheddar Biscuit
 - Green Beans
 - Peaches

TUESDAY

- 2**
- Chicken Fajitas
 - Pork Taco Meat
 - Soft Shell Tortilla
 - Tortila Chips, round
 - Black Bean Corn Salsa
 - Strawberry Cups

WEDNESDAY

- 3**
- Enchiladas
 - Popcorn Chicken
 - Brown Rice
 - Stir Fry Vegetable Blend
 - Pears

THURSDAY

- 4**
- Pasta with Alfredo Sauce
 - Pasta with Chicken Cajun Alfredo
 - Garlic Breadstick
 - Corn
 - Mixed Berry Blend

FRIDAY

- 5**
- Pepperoni Calzone
 - Mozzarella Stuffed Breadstick
 - Marinara Dipping Cup
 - Peas & Carrots
 - Applesauce

- 8**
- Cheesy Mac Bake
 - BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich
 - Steamed Broccoli
 - Peaches

- 9**
- Chicken Nuggets
 - Chef Salad w/ham & cheese
 - Cheez-It Crackers
 - Harvest Moon Blend Vegetables
 - Blueberries

- 10**
- EARLY RELEASE!**
- Pepperoni Pizza - Slice
 - Corn Dog
 - Whole Kernel Sweet Corn
 - Pears

- 11**
- Cinnamon French Toast
 - Sausage Links
 - Turkey Sub
 - Warm Cinnamon Apples

- 12**
- Cheeseburger
 - Hamburger
 - Chicken Breast Sandwich
 - Honey-Glazed Carrots
 - Applesauce

- 15**
- Saucy Orange Popcorn Chicken
 - Popcorn Chicken
 - Vegetable "Not Fried" Rice
 - Garlic Roasted Green Beans
 - Peaches

- 16**
- Diced Chicken & Gravy
 - Chicken Tenders
 - Whole Grain Dinner Roll
 - Mashed Potatoes
 - Strawberry Cups

- 17**
- Turkey and Cheddar on White Wheat Sandwich Bread
 - Cheeseburger
 - Hamburger
 - Capri Vegetable Blend
 - Pears

- 18**
- Pasta with Marinara Sauce
 - Pasta with Meatballs in Marinara
 - Parmesan Cheese
 - Garlic Cheddar Biscuit
 - Honey-Glazed Carrots
 - Blueberries

- 19**
- Mini Corn Dogs
 - Fish Sticks
 - Goldfish Crackers
 - Roasted Vegetable Medley
 - Applesauce

- 22**
- Klement's Hot Dog
 - Meatball Sub
 - Roasted Potato Fusion
 - Peaches

- 23**
- Cheesy Garlic French Bread Pizza
 - Marinara Dipping Cup
 - Buffalo Chicken Pizza
 - Green Beans
 - Blueberries

- 24**
- Homemade Sloppy Joe
 - Chicken Patty - Hot and Spicy
 - California Blend Vegetables
 - Pears

- 25**
- Cuban Flatbread Sandwich
 - Creamy Mac N' Cheese
 - Roasted Broccoli
 - Mandarin Oranges

- 26**
- Walking Tacos
 - Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla
 - Refried Beans
 - Applesauce
 - Taco Topping Bar

- 29**
- Memorial Day - No School**

- 30**
- Tater Tot Hot Dish
 - Chili
 - Corn Bread Muffin
 - Honey-Glazed Carrots
 - Strawberry Cups

- 31**
- Oven Roasted Chicken
 - Turkey BLT on White Wheat Sandwich Bread
 - HomeStyle Baked Beans
 - Pears

More Details: <http://wsalem.nutrislice.com/menu/west-salem-middle-school/lunch/>
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Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Check your mail

What's in the bulk mail that arrives in your mailbox?

Opportunities for your child to discover writing strategies! What was the writer's purpose? (To persuade you to buy something, to inform you about an issue.) How did he achieve that purpose? (With facts, statistics, or words appealing to emotions.) Ask your tween if the strategies worked: Does he want the product or agree with the position?

Sun smart

Encourage your child to be smart about outdoor safety habits this summer. Have her drink lots of water to stay hydrated—when she's thirsty, with meals, and while she's active outside. Also, make sure she knows to wear sunscreen even on cool, overcast days, since harmful UV rays still come through.

Well-earned thanks

A simple thank you from students and parents means a lot to teachers, staff members, and coaches. Your middle grader could hand-deliver a card saying what he has learned from them. And you might send an email mentioning why you're grateful the person was in your child's life this year.

Worth quoting

"In summer, the song sings itself."
William Carlos Williams

Just for fun

Q: What do Alexander the Great and Kermit the Frog have in common?

A: Their middle name!



Keep on learning

Year in review: Your child has learned a lot in many different subjects, from language arts to math to science. Flash forward: By practicing skills during summertime, she can hang onto what she learned and gain even more knowledge. Try these ideas.

Read across the map

Print out a United States map, and hang it in a hallway. As a family, set a goal of coloring in every state by reading books or articles that take place there or mention it. If your tween reads a novel that's set in Arizona or you read a magazine article about sightseeing in Georgia, fill in those states. *Idea:* At summer's end, encourage her to pick a state and write her own tale about it.

Take math on the road

Have your middle schooler practice doing math in her head with this car-trip activity. Suggest that she add, subtract, multiply, or divide numbers she spots along the way. If she sees a sign for 7th Street and a 25 mph speed limit, she might multiply 7×25 or divide 25 by 7.



To turn it into a game, let her call out the problem. The first person to answer correctly gives the next equation.

Create a science spot

Designate a corner for storing odds and ends—say, cardboard, index cards, and aluminum foil. When your tween says, "I'm bored," see if she can figure out ways to use them in a science experiment or engineering project. Cardboard tubes could become a marble "roller coaster" to test gravity. Aluminum foil and index cards might be engineered into a shiny skyscraper. Have her research ideas online or in books. 👍

"I'm a CEO"

Starting a business in middle school brings job experience and the chance to earn money. Help your middle grader tap into his inner entrepreneur with these tips.

■ **Find a niche.** What does he like to do? What is he good at? Maybe he loves animals and would enjoy walking or feeding pets. Perhaps he is strong in math and could tutor younger children in multiplication and division.

■ **Advertise.** Suggest that he make flyers to place on community bulletin boards or distribute to neighbors. He should tell relatives and friends about his business and ask them to pass the word along, too. 👍



Foster loyalty

You want your middle schooler to be a good friend and a good student. Learning to be loyal will help him do both. Here's how.

With friends. Watch for opportunities to bring up what loyalty looks like in friendships. For example, if he mentions that a buddy said something mean about another friend, ask what a loyal person would do (defend his pal by



pointing out a different viewpoint). Also, share examples from your own life. Perhaps you were invited to an event and really wanted to go, but you stayed loyal to the friend you had already made plans with.

At school. Your child's school is his community, and being loyal to it influences his success there. Help shape his attitude by letting him hear you speak positively about his school and the teachers. To foster school pride,

encourage him to attend after-school events like pep rallies and art shows, even if his "crowd" isn't involved. He'll show loyalty not only to his school but also to the students who are participating. 👍

A natural explorer

Spending time with nature helps your tween connect what she's learning in school to real life—and can even boost her critical and creative thinking. Share these strategies.

Be a nature reporter

What kinds of plants, trees, and animals live in your area? Suggest that your middle grader start a journal to record what she sees. She could sketch and label objects and living things, describing where and when she saw crabapple trees or chipmunks, for instance. Encourage her to research anything she doesn't recognize and share what she learns.

Plant an herb garden

Your child can dig into herbs by planting her own. In the process, she'll learn how they can be used and what conditions they grow best in. She might create a themed garden—say, a "Mexican Food" garden with cilantro and oregano. Have her ask neighbors for clippings or look for inexpensive seeds in stores. Then, she could plant them in small pots to place on a windowsill or outdoors. 👍



Parent to Parent

Handling the end-of-year rush

The last couple months of the school year have become one of our family's busiest times. I love being involved in my sons' activities. But between Brad's band events, Josh's tennis team commitments, and my work schedule, it's hard to keep up.

This year, I wanted us to head into the final stretch better prepared. We started going over the kids' schedules each week to plan ahead. I let them know what I would attend—and whether I could drive them or they'd need to arrange rides.

Last week I swapped my night shift with a coworker so I could go to Brad's band concert. But since I had to work the day of Josh's team car wash, I sent in snacks and checked with him afterward to see how it went. Even if I can't be at everything, my boys know I care about what they're doing. And so far, I feel more on top of things. 👍



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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Ready, set, exercise!

Q I want our family to be more active, but my tween says exercise is boring. What are some fun ways to get moving?

A Your child may like starring in a family fitness video. Tape video clips of each other leading workout moves to music. You'll be active while you make it, and you can play it back anytime and follow along. You could even create different kinds of fitness videos—one set to

slow music for stretching or yoga poses and another to high-energy music for cardio or intervals.

Also, instead of trying to exercise 60 minutes at once, try weaving in a few minutes of activity here and there. Consider having your child assign different exercises to each room.

She might put a sticky note in the bathroom: "March in place while brushing your teeth!" Or she could place soup cans in the living room to use as weights while watching TV. 👍

