

WEST SALEM MIDDLE SCHOOL

450 North Mark St.
West Salem, WI 54669
Phone - (608) 786-2090
Fax - (608) 786-1081

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

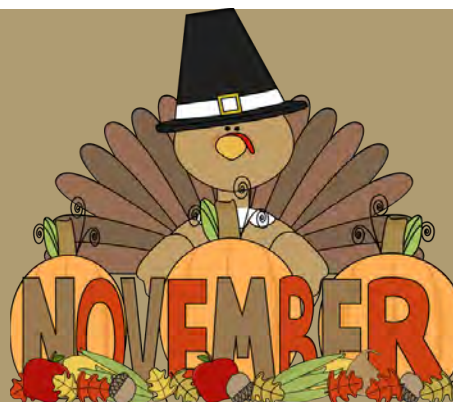
**School Starts at
7:50!!**

*Early Release 11/15
* Trimester Ends 11/21

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Volume 6 - Issue 4



2017

From the Principal's Desk...



It's November already? It must be, because the leaves are turning, the chill of fall is in the air, and hopefully the school year has settled into a productive and positive routine for your family. Recently, we completed our First Trimester Mid-Term at WSMS. We also completed our student/parent/teacher conferences on October 19 & 23. Thank you to all the students and parents who attended. It's important that students see your support and communication regarding their academic progress. It shows students that you understand how important their education is and helps them view learning as a priority as they become increasingly more responsible for their education as they grow older.

The month of November is full of opportunities and important dates for our students. Our fall sports seasons come to an end and our winter sports seasons begin. Our annual Veterans Day Program will be held on Friday, November 10, at 7:50 am in our gym, and you are invited to attend. You can find more information about our program on page 4. We have an Early Release Day for staff development on Wednesday, November 15. Students are dismissed at 12:20. Buses leave at 12:30. Our first trimester ends on November 21, and we will not have school on November 22 - 26 for Thanksgiving break.

We look forward to continuing to work together to provide your child with the best educational experience here at West Salem Middle School. On behalf of our staff, we hope you have a great Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends. This year, I am once again very thankful for the opportunity to lead a student-centered staff, work with supportive parents, and with your incredibly talented children within a strong community.

Thankful to be a Panther,

Benjamin J. Wopat

<https://twitter.com/CoachWopat>

<https://twitter.com/WestSalemMS>



"Meet Us in the Middle"



Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER



9 - BBB @ Logan 4:00

10 - Veterans Day Program 7:50

14 - BBB vs Longfellow 4:00

15 - EARLY RELEASE 12:20 dismissal

16 - BBB @ Lincoln 4:00

20 - BBB @ G-E-T 4:15
Wrestling @ Westby 4:30

21 - End of Trimester

22-24 NO SCHOOL

27 - Wrestling HOME 4:30

28 - BBB vs. Winona 4:00

30 - BBB @ Westby 4:15

Counselor Comments

It is hard to believe that we have passed the mid-term point of first trimester. Not quite sure where the time goes?! While it's important to hang on and enjoy the ride, it is necessary to take time for those "things" that really do matter in our lives! It was nice to meet with parents at conferences. Just because parent-teacher conferences have come and gone, do not hesitate to contact us any time you have a question or concern regarding your child and school. Our goal is the same as your goal: not only to provide the best educational opportunities we can for

your child but also have them develop into productive, positive citizens of society.

In A/A, we will be focusing on the external asset of Empowerment. This is influence that comes from those around us and includes topics such as community values youth (the perception that the community/adults value our young people), youth as resources (young people are given useful roles in the community), service to others (young people serve their community on a consistent basis), and safety (young people feel safe at home, school, neighborhood, and larger community). By working together and being a "team," we will be able to help

our young people (our future) to grow up healthy, compassionate, and responsible. Of course, November we are thankful for many blessings. If we truly stop to think about all the good in our lives, that list would be endless! Thank you for entrusting us (WSMS) with your child(ren)!



From the Office

If your child will be absent from school, PLEASE call the office at 786-2090 before **7:50** in the morning. In the event you receive the voice mail, leave a message that includes your child's name, grade, and the reason for the absence. If your child is ill, **please be specific with his/her symptoms.** We are required by state law to report numbers of students ill with strep throat, stomach flu, colds, and chicken pox, so it is important that we have accurate count. We do not report student names, just numbers. If your child's

absence is not called in to the school in a timely manner, it is considered an unexcused absence and consequences may be assigned to the student.

You may also call ahead with any pre-planned absences. We will document it, so you will not have to call again the day of the absence.

If your child needs to be picked up for an appointment, please send a note or call the office as far in advance as possible so that your child can be given an out pass in advance. We appreciate advance notification as it eliminates the need for us to try and find your student at the last minute

when he/she is being picked up. If your child returns with a medical or dental appointment verification form, it is not counted toward the 10 days allowed for your child to be absent from school. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping your child's attendance up to date and informing the school of absences in a timely manner.

Thank you!



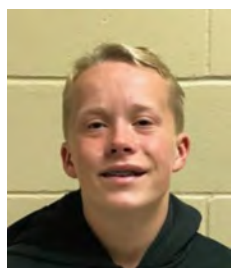
"Meet Us in the Middle"



WSMS Students of the Month



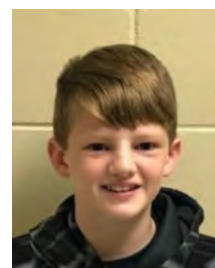
Grade 6



Sam S.



Sidney F.

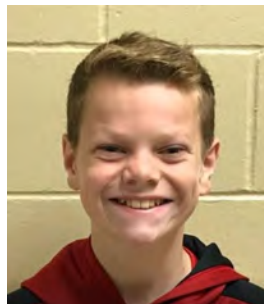


Zach P.

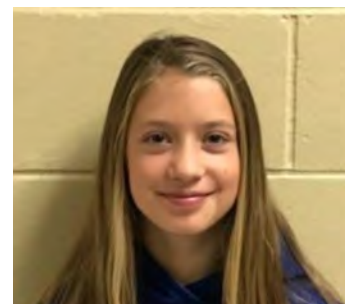
Grade 7



Morgan Q.

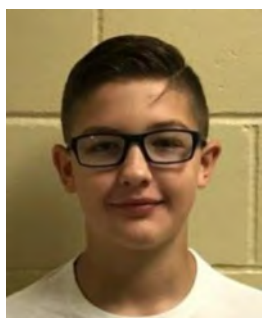


Crobyn A.

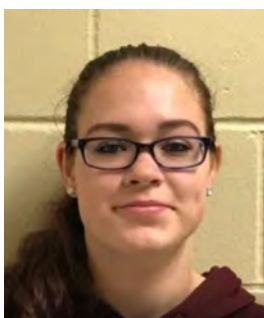


Kendra H.

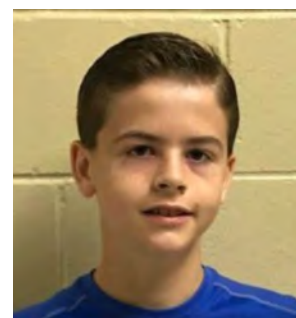
Grade 8



Left: Colten G.



Right: Ashley C.



Right: Kevin S.

Veterans Day

This year's theme is the 5 Branches of the Military.

The United States Armed Forces are the federal military forces of the United States. They consist of the Army, Navy, Marine corps, Air force and Coast Guard.

All branches work together during operations and joint missions.

Army - As the oldest branch of the Military, the Army protects the security of the United States and it's resources.

Navy - The Navy defends the right to travel and trade freely on the world's oceans and protects national interests overseas.

Marine Corps - Works closely with the Navy, the Marine Corps is often first on the ground in combat situations.

Air Force - The Air Force protects American interests at home and abroad with a focus on air power.

Coast Guard - The Coast Guard is a military, multi-mission, maritime service with in the Dept. of Homeland Security. Its core roles are to protect the public, the environment and U.S. economic and security interests in any maritime region, including international waters and America's coasts, ports and inland waterways.

To hear more on the 5 Branches of the Military you can attend the middle school Veterans Day program on Friday,



Parent Reminders...

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please remember to keep the office informed of any changes in your contact information as soon as possible. It is important for us to be able to contact you in the event of an emergency.

If you have caller ID and you have missed a phone call from the middle school, please understand that we are unable to identify the person, extension number, or department that was trying to reach you. Rest assured that if your child is sick or injured, the school nurse will leave a message for you.

*If your child sends you a text or e-mail that they do not feel well, please have them go to the nurse or office and then we can contact you. If kids are sick they must go through the nurse or office so we know what is wrong.

Please remind your child to leave a message if they call you.

VISITORS: Don't forget to sign in at the office and pick up a visitor badge.



The Middle School Newsletters can be found on the district website - www.salem.k12.wi.us. An e-mail reminder will be sent each month to let you know when it is available along with a link to the actual newsletter. If you would like a hard copy of the newsletter, please let the Middle School office know.



Student Cell Phone Use

Students at our middle school are **NOT allowed to carry cell phones** with them throughout the school day. If a student brings a cell phone to school it:

- * **Must be turned off**
- * **Must be kept in the student's locker**

Cell phones are absolutely **NOT allowed on the playground or in the bathroom/locker room.**

Students are NOT allowed to use cell phones to take video recordings of other students at school. Students not following the guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action. Please call if you have any questions.



Early Release Dates

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

November 15

December 13

February 14

March 7

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.



Social Studies - Mrs. Jeranek

During the month of November, we will continue to work on note-taking and reading strategies through Channel One as well as

various reading sources during class. Our main civilization is Ancient Egyptian. Students will learn about the mummification process, pyramid building, and Egyptian pharaohs. By the end of the unit, students will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of the Nile River.
2. Describe the resources Ancient Egyptians used to survive.
3. Analyze their achievements which have changed our world today.
4. Identify evidence that remains of the civilization.
5. Explains how and why this civilization came to an end.



Math - Mrs. Jehn

October in 6th grade math was all about fractions and decimals. Students spent the month multiplying, dividing, adding, and subtracting them. We will continue this work into November finishing Chapter 2 by the middle of the month.

The rest of November will consist of moving into Chapter 3 - Algebraic Expressions and Properties. They will learn to write and evaluate algebraic expressions using coefficients, variables, and constants. Students will also learn about various properties of

addition and multiplication including the commutative, associative, and distributive properties. This will be very new and very abstract for many students.

Accelerated Math

Students almost completed Chapter 3 in the month of October focusing on algebraic expressions and properties. By early November they will have learned to write and evaluate algebraic expressions using the commutative, associative, and distributive properties.

The rest of the month of November will bring Chapter 4 - Areas of Polygons. Students will learn the areas of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, and composite figures. Students will also work with polygons in the coordinate plane.

Science - Mrs. Jarosh

In the world of 6th grade science, student's have been exploring the properties of water molecules. In lab, they have observed and tested how molecules move faster and farther apart as heat is added. Students will continue their study of chemistry and matter by learning about the periodic table, the history of the atom model, acids and bases and exploring a fascinating mixture called Oobleck! We will also continue working to build our science specific vocabulary!

English - Mrs. Buisman

The writers in 6th grade English have just finished finalizing their small moment narratives. I am looking forward to reading all their wonderful stories. Students will focus on nouns and wrap up *A Wrinkle in Time* throughout the month of November. We will begin to read a variety of Greek myths to front load for what's to come in reading class.

Reading - Mrs. Schultz

SURVIVAL and CHANGES!! Those are some of the themes of the unit we have started mid-October. As students are reading and discussing the class novel, *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson, they will be identifying and explaining the themes of the novel as well as the types of conflict found within. We will be focusing on analyzing characters, how to use discussion etiquette and have meaningful discussions in which all students can participate. At the end of the unit, students



will complete an end of the book checkpoint demonstrating their knowledge of theme, conflict and the changes the characters made throughout the novel. The essential question for this novel has the students explain the novel and how it helps them better understand the human experience. The question: How does reading this novel help you to understand yourself and others. Talk with your student about the novel and how the characters have been changing throughout!



Art - Miss Lotspaih

Art is in full swing at West Salem Middle School! The 6th Grade class is finishing up their self-portraits. Each student drew themselves from head to toe using correct proportion. They then used the skills they used in their first unit to create five different fonts. Students used these fonts to write words that describe them. I am excited for you all to see your students work of art and am hoping to have some of them displayed in the community in the near future!



Candid for the Yearbook....

If you have taken pictures at WSMS co-curricular events and think students would enjoy having them in the yearbook, please e-mail them to friell.nicole@wsalem.k12.wi.us. I'll try to work in as many as possible. Thanks! Ms. Friell





Reading - Mrs. Rochester

The students have just finished up The Outsiders. Many of the students thoroughly enjoyed the book! It was great to hear the students tell me their

parents read this book when they were the same age and enjoyed it! We will also be watching the movie upon completion of the book. Your son/daughter should have brought home a permission slip to sign since the movie is rated PG-13. The students will continue to work on close reading this month. We will be reading Gathering Fireflies, which was written by a member of the La Crosse community. It tells the story of Kashia, 13 year old boy who interviews his grandparents about their lives in Laos during the Vietnam War. Kashia learns about his family's hardship after the Vietnam War in Laos, the crowded refugee camps in Thailand, and the struggles of life in the United States. In addition, we will starting our Dystopian unit in the middle of November. A dystopia is a society that usually has a group of people making negative decisions for the rest of the society. The conditions of the society are usually grim due to overcrowding, sickness, lack of food, and misery. The Hunger Games is a perfect example of a dystopia. During this unit, the students will be given a choice of seven novels to read. They will choose one book and participate in meaningful book discussion with other students. They will be discussing characteristics of dystopias and looking at real life examples. Finally, seventh grade students are continuing to study Greek and Latin root words.

Regular Math - Mr. Jones

In 7th grade math we will be working through chapter 3: Expressions and Equations. Common Core Standards for chapter 3:

- *Add, subtract, factor, and expand linear expressions with rational coefficients.
- *Understand that rewriting expressions in different forms can show how the quantities are related.
- *Write, graph, and solve one-step equations (includes negative numbers).
- *Solve two-step equations.
- *Compare algebraic solutions to arithmetic solutions.

At the very end of November, we will begin Chapter 4: Inequalities. Common Core Standards for chapter 4:

- *Solve one-step inequalities involving integers and rational numbers.
- *Solve two-step inequalities

Pre-Algebra

In advanced math we will be covering Chapter 13: Circles and Area, and will cover Chapter 2: Transformations. Common Core Standards for chapter 13:

- *Understand pi and its estimates
- *Use values of pi to estimate and calculate the circumference and area of circles
- *Find perimeters and areas of composite two dimensional figures, including semi-circles

Common Core Standards for chapter 2:

- *Verify the properties of translations, reflections, and rotations
- *Describe translations, reflections, rotations, and dilations using coordinates
- *Understand that figures are congruent or similar when they can be related by a sequence of translations, reflections and rotations
- *Describe a sequence that exhibits congruence or similarity between two figures

English - Mrs. Martinson

The students really enjoyed listening to the novel of And Then There Were None. We had excellent discussions about the novel. They will be finishing their own mystery narratives in mid November. We have spent about six weeks on this writing piece. It will be 60% of their first trimester grade. After the narrative, we will be working on our parts of speech - nouns, pronouns, and adjectives. We will also focus more on reviewing simple sentences and moving on to our compound sentence practice. Students will be participating in the classic classroom Spelling Bee right before Thanksgiving.

Social Studies - Mr. Mahlum

In November we will be finishing our unit on early American government. Once we take an assessment we will shift gears and focus on geography. Students will take part in the annual geography bee here at our middle school. Finally, we will begin our next unit on the Bill of Rights. Students will start to examine the rights granted to us by the Constitution.

Spanish - Mrs. Tofstad

¿Qué hora es? Students in 7th grade Spanish have been working on telling time and learning numbers to 100. We are beginning to communicate with more detailed information as our vocabulary grows. Students can now ask and answer questions about their own likes and dislikes as they relate to their daily schedules. We also continue to tackle the verb *tener*. Culturally, we are currently focusing on Mexican traditions surrounding Día de los Muertos and how they compare to our traditions. Keeping up with *la Pregunta del Día* will be very important for your student - feel

free to ask your student to show you their notebook and the Daily Questions that we have been practicing. They are good and getting better!
Profe Tofstad

Science - Mr. Baker

In science we decided to try something a little different this year by traveling to the Trempealeau Wildlife Refuge rather than the school forest for some fall ecology work. The refuge gave students an opportunity to work with a marsh ecosystem to study water quality and all the organisms inhabiting a place like this. The trip was amazing! Students were able to get into the marsh with waders to sample macro-invertebrates, try their hand at canoeing, and take in all the sights and sounds created on a marsh! The focus was on making quality observations of the environment around them and there was no shortage of things to see here! In class we are finishing up with cells and will be moving into basic genetics, which is always one of my favorite units!





Math - Mrs. Bentzen Regular Math (Chapter 3)

We will complete Chapter 3 called "Angles and Triangles" in November.

The objectives for Chapter 3:

- *identify the angles formed when parallel lines are cut by a transversal
- *find the measure of the angles formed when parallel lines are cut by transversals
- *understand that the sum of the interior angle measures of a triangle is 180 degrees
- *find the measures of interior and exterior angles of triangles
- *find the sum of the interior angle measures of polygons
- *understand that the sum of the exterior angle measures of a quadrilateral is 360 degrees
- *find the measures of interior and exterior angles of polygons
- *understand the concept of similar triangles
- *identify similar triangles
- *use indirect measurement to find missing measures

Algebra (Chapter 4)

We will complete Chapter 4 (graphing linear equations and functions) in November. Shortly before Thanksgiving Break, we will have our first in-school competition for Mathcounts. We will have a second one in December before Christmas Break and a third and final one in early January. The top 10 scorers on those three competitions will make our Mathcounts Team. They will compete at Regionals in early February. Best of luck to all!

The objectives for Chapter 4:

- *identify and plot points in a coordinate plane
- *graph linear equations in a coordinate plane
- *graph linear equations using intercepts
- *find the slope of a line and interpret slope as a rate of change
- *graph linear equations using slope-intercept form
- *write and graph direct variation equations
- *use function notation

English - Mrs. Sackett

The 8th grade English classes are finishing narratives. This year we wrote Choose-Your-Own-Adventure-style narratives. We will go through the entire writing process with these pieces. Revising is hard work; however, this is the step in the writing process where writers truly grow as writers. The final draft will be due early/mid November. At that time, we will be publishing the narrative using Google Slides presentations.

The next writing piece we will be working on is an informative/research piece. In English class, we will read some articles as idea generators for the research piece. We will be spending time researching, citing sources, writing an outline, drafting, revising, conferencing, editing, and writing a final draft. This process will take us into the new year.

The 8th graders will also continue reviewing parts of speech as well as continue working on compound and complex sentences.

Social Studies - Ms. Morgan

November will see our continued exploration of the American Revolution and its aftermath. Upon completion of the unit on the American Revolution, students will know:

- the causes for the development of conflict between Britain and the colonies
- the consequences of that conflict and how it motivated colonial leaders and others to act
- the significant battles of the American Revolution and the strategies of both sides

We will also be joined by Ms. Megan Gerou who will spend much of November through January with us as a student teacher. Megan is a student at Viterbo University and is pursuing a secondary broadfield social studies education degree. She is an avid bowler who competed on the university's bowling team.

Project & Inquiry - Mrs. Ebert

For the remainder of the trimester, students will be experiencing two big projects. Applying their construction skills and mechanisms knowledge, students are challenged to create "pull toys." Reminiscent of toddler toys, each team/individual will construct a device which utilizes the rotary motion gained from the wheels traveling across the floor to drive some other movement in the device. Decorations can then be added to jazz up the device. When completed, students will be asked to create a document summarizing the experience. The instructions for this document are available on Edmodo so all students have access to it when necessary.

Meanwhile, when not involved with the Pull Toy Challenge, students will be utilizing the website called Career Cruising to explore sixteen career clusters and affiliated careers. This project is designed to explore and generate interest in the variety of careers available in students' futures. Teams will identify job skills, training, and industries within a specific career cluster. Individuals will then develop a small poster about specific careers within the cluster. Students will then create informative displays from which we all can learn more about career options.



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*, 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.

In October students began reading works from different genres, including science fiction and realistic fiction. In November they will continue reading from different genres, including autobiography, memoir, biography, fable, and myth. If you are interested in reading any of the texts, they are either posted on edmodo or assigned/posted on commonlit.org. (please encourage your student to share this great resource with you). Students are able to either read the selections silently or follow along with a provided audio of the text. We will also continue our practice of using different reference sources -- dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia, and almanac.

The current read aloud is *We Are All Made of Molecules* by Susan Nielsen.



Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year
1,800,000 words	282,000 words	8,000 words
		
90 th percentile	50 th percentile	10 th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?
(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

Science - Ms. Smith-Waller

I am **thankful** for a great group of students and staff to work with this year at WSMS. As we near the end of first trimester, the 8th graders will continue learning about our fascinating Earth. We will be finishing up our study of topographical maps, weathering, erosion, and landforms. Looking forward we will learn about what is inside the Earth as we study plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and mineral and rock classifications.

Unit Objectives for November:

1. Understand how wind, water, and erosion can change the surface of the Earth, and the economical impact of weathering.
2. Identify sources of mechanical and chemical weathering.
3. Understand the profile of soil and ways to practice soil conservation.
4. Describe the unique geological features in Wisconsin (moraines, drumlins, drift-less area, etc.)
5. Describe the events in Earth's history and identify the geological time periods in Earth's history.



Forensics

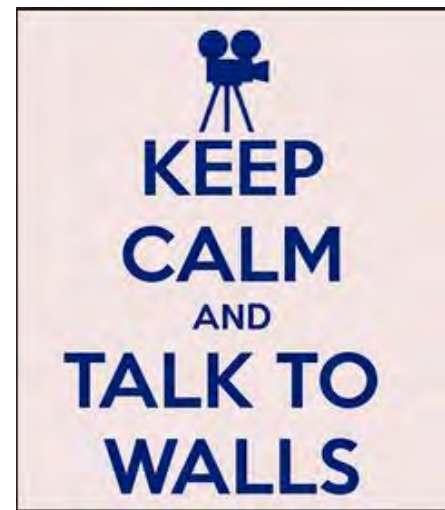
There will be an informational meeting about Forensics during A/A in November. Students in grades 7 and 8 will have the opportunity to join Forensics, a group that offers students the opportunity to speak/perform in front of other students in neighboring school districts. This co-curricular activity runs from December until the middle of February.

Students are able to participate individually or as a group. They are able to select from the following categories: acting, readers' theatre, speech giving (demonstration, persuasive, informative, extemporaneous, historical, special occasion), prose reading, poetry reading, or news reporting.

Students are able to practice before school, during lunch, and after school. This great co-curricular activity continues in grades 9-12 and helps students develop speaking skills they will use throughout life. Students practice during their lunch/recess. They are also able to practice before and after school, so involvement doesn't conflict with their other activities. Contact Ms. Friell at friell.nicole@wsalem.k12.wi.us for more information.

Level 1 meet is Monday, February 5 in Holmen

Level II meet is Monday, February 19 in Whitehall



Healthy Living...

The Healthy Living webpage is finally HERE!

You can access all of our standards based grading information through the district webpage. Go to the www.wsalem.k12.wi.us webpage, click on Our Schools, choose Middle School and then click on Healthy Living. Here you will find a plethora of information. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Mr. Brewer, Mrs. Olson & Mr. Running



"Meet Us in the Middle"



8TH GRADE WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP

Information for the D.C. trip was sent home with students. The trip will be June 3 - June 8. They will see the following historical sites: Gettysburg, the Air and Space Museum, the Smithsonian, The White House, Ford's Theater and the U.S. Capitol. They will also see the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean Memorial and FDR's Memorial. In addition to these stops, we will visit Arlington Cemetery and see the changing of the guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Along the way they will visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie, IL and the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. Before returning they will spend a half-day at Six Flags Amusement Park in Maryland.

The cost of this year's trip is \$720. This includes meals, accommodations, tickets to stops that aren't free, travel insurance for participants while in D.C., and the bus ride to and from D.C.

Parent chaperones are welcome, although we may not be able to take all who are interested. The parent chaperone cost is \$825. Those parents interested in chaperoning should complete the chaperone portion of the permission slip that was sent home. You will be notified in November if you will be a chaperone for the trip.

To help defray some of the cost of the trip, there will be a candle fundraiser in the fall and a Puffins Pastry fundraiser in February. These are individual fundraisers. Whatever a student earns will reduce the cost of his/her trip. If a student does not end up going on the trip all money raised will be put back into the 8th grade account and/or put towards the cost of activities we will be doing with students not going to Washington D.C.

Students must have committed to the trip by October 16.

- * You will be able to make payments through Fee Management in Skyward via Revtrak.
- * If your child sold candles last spring as a 7th grader the amount earned will be credited to their account.

Washington D.C. payment dates:

November 15 - \$240

February 2 - \$240

April 16 - balance

***Please be sure to pay ON TIME or ahead of schedule as we need to pay Ready Bus Line just after the due dates.*



Success Center

The Success Center is a resource room for students before and after school to receive help from staff who attend various classes in the building and are equipped to walk students through information they may have missed or just do not understand. It is also the place students make up tests and quizzes. It is open from 7am until 7:45am Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and again every day from 3:10pm until 4pm. 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 will have to take the homework home to complete it. In reading, students are expected to read an 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 off of Edmodo.

Substitutes Needed

For the 2017-2018 School Year
In the following areas:

Secretarial
Food Service
Bus Drivers

Paraprofessionals
Custodians
Teachers

If interested, please stop at the District Office at
405 East Hamlin St, West Salem OR call
608-786-0700 OR go to www.wsalem.k12.wi.us
for a substitute application



2017-18 West Salem Middle School Panthers Winter Athletics Schedule



BOLD FACE EVENTS ARE AT HOME

WRESTLING (West Salem/Bangor)

Monday	10/30		First Day of Practice	
Monday	11/20	4:30pm	@ Westby	Westby High School
Monday	11/27	4:30pm	Home	West Salem Middle School
Tuesday	12/5	4:30pm	Home	West Salem Middle School
Saturday	12/9	9:00am	Marshfield (report 6am)	Marshfield High School
Monday	12/11	4:30pm	@ Sparta	Meadowview Middle School
Thursday	12/21	4:30pm	Conf Dual @ Sparta	Meadowview Middle School



BOYS BASKETBALL

Monday	10/30		First Day of Practice	
Thursday	11/9	4:00pm	@ Logan	Logan Middle School
Tuesday	11/14	4:00pm	Longfellow	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	11/16	4:00pm	@ Lincoln	Lincoln Middle School
Monday	11/20	4:15pm	@ G-E-T	7 - Ettrick Elementary School 8 - G-E-T Middle School
Tuesday	11/28	4:00pm	Winona	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	11/30	4:15pm	@ Westby	7 - Westby Elementary School 8 - Westby High School
Tuesday	12/5	4:00pm	@ Aquinas	7/8 - Aquinas Middle/Mathy Center
Thursday	12/7	4:00pm	Sparta	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Monday	12/11	4:15pm	@ Tomah	7 - LaGrange Elementary School 8 - Tomah Middle School
Thursday	12/14	4:00pm	Onalaska	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Tuesday	12/19	3:45pm	Holmen	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	12/21	3:45pm	Logan	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School



GIRLS BASKETBALL

Tuesday	1/2		First Day of Practice	
Tuesday	1/16	3:45pm	Logan	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	1/18	4:00pm	@Longfellow	Longfellow Middle School
Tuesday	1/23	3:45pm	Lincoln	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	1/25	4:15pm	G-E-T	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Tuesday	1/30	4:15pm	@ Winona	Winona Middle School
Thursday	2/1	4:15pm	Westby	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Tuesday	2/6	4:15pm	Aquinas	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	2/8	4:00pm	@ Sparta	Meadowview Middle School
Tuesday	2/13	4:15pm	Tomah	7 - WS Middle School 8 - WS Elementary School
Thursday	2/15	4:00pm	@ Onalaska	7 - Onalaska Middle School 8 - Eagle Bluff Elementary School
Tuesday	2/20	4:00pm	@ Holmen	Holmen Middle School
Thursday	2/22	4:00pm	@ Logan	Logan Middle School



GO PANTHERS!



Parents/Guardians:

Please make sure that your child is picked up from practices on time. Coaches will work to be consistent in ending practice at the announced time.

For all road contests, only the student's parent or legal guardian may take a student home. The parent/guardian must be there to sign the child out. Students may not leave with another relative, family friend, or another child's parent.

November 2017

West Salem Middle School Lunch

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1	2	3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild Mike's Cheese Pizza • Breaded Chicken Patty on WG Kaiser Bun • Honey-Glazed Carrots • Grapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking Taco on Frito Corn Chips • Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla • Refried Beans • Bananas • Taco Topping Bar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popcorn Chicken • Saucy Orange Popcorn Chicken • Vegetable "Not Fried" Rice • Country - Vegetable Blend • Fresh Sliced Apples
6	7	8	9	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cinnamon French Toast • Sausage Links • Turkey Sub • Hashbrown Patty • Warm Cinnamon Apples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diced Chicken & Gravy • Chicken Nuggets • Corn Bread Muffin • Mashed Potatoes • Strawberries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich • Alaskan Pollock Fish Sandwich on WG Bun • Baked Sweet Potato Crinkle Fries • Fresh Sliced Apples • Fruit Smoothie Pops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pasta with Marinara Sauce • Pasta with Meatballs in Marinara • Garlic Toast • Asparagus • Bananas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mini Corn Dogs • Mozzarella Stuffed Breadstick with Marinara Dipping Cup • Roasted Brussel Sprouts • Watermelon Chunks
13	14	15	16	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meatball Marinara Sub on Hoagie Roll • BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich • Peas & Carrots • Craisin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey Pot Roast in Gravy with WG Dinner Roll • Ham, Salami & Provolone Cheese Sub • Mashed Potatoes • Strawberries 	<p>EARLY RELEASE DAY!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheesy Garlic French Bread Pizza • Marinara Dipping Cup • Island Blend Vegetables • Red Grapefruit Sections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classic Lasagna • Creamy Mac N' Cheese • Garlic Breadstick • Green Beans • Orange Slices 	<p>Harvest of the Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm to School Chili with Cinnamon Roll • Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla • Whole Kernel Sweet Corn • Grapes
20	21	22	23	24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tater Tot Hot Dish • WG Dinner Roll • Grilled Chicken Breast Filet Sandwich on WG Bun • Garlic Roasted Green Beans • Fresh Pineapple Chunks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meatballs & Gravy with Buttermilk Biscuit • Chicken Tenders • Mashed Potatoes • Strawberries 	No School	Thanksgiving - No School	No School
27	28	29	30	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homemade Sloppy Joe on WG Bun • Cuban Flatbread Sandwich • Peas • Cantaloupe Chunks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicken Patty - Hot and Spicy • Golden Crunchy Fish Sticks and Goldfish Crackers • Corn on the Cob • Blueberries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Cheese Calzone • Bratwurst on a Bun • Roasted Broccoli • Watermelon Chunks • 100% Fruit Juice Slushy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pasta with Chicken Cajun Alfredo • Pasta with Chicken Alfredo • Italian Breadsticks • California Blend Vegetables • Bananas 	

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

FOOD PANTRY

WAFER has exciting news! WAFER has purchased a mobile pantry and it will be coming to your area in October. The mobile pantry vehicle will allow you to enter the bus and pick out your own product; canned goods, dairy, fresh produce and meat. We are very excited and can't wait for you to be a part of this program. The bus is handicap accessible. There will be staff and volunteers available to help you. The Mobile Food Pantry will be in West Salem, parked in the Anytime Fitness parking lot, on October 28th and on November 18th from 9:00am. until 11:00am. Anyone that is income eligible and meets program guidelines qualify for this program. If you have any questions please call 608-782-6003 ex.3 or find program information and schedules at waferlacrosse.org under the "Get Help Now- Food Programs" tab. If you are a current client at WAFER this program will replace your regular visit. If you are not a current WAFER client please bring in proof of address for all adults in the household: a piece of business mail issued within the last 30 days or a current lease. Please bring a form of ID and your own bags and boxes.

We look forward to seeing you!



Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Which language?

Is your child taking a foreign language now or thinking about taking one? Suggest that she weave a new language into her leisure time. She could watch a televised soccer game in Italian, set an online account or her phone to Spanish, or listen to music in French. She'll pick up new words—and be motivated to continue learning.

“What I do well...”

Focusing on your tween's strengths will help him see himself as capable. Point out what he's good at (“The characters you invent in your stories really come to life”). Then, encourage him to develop talents by stretching his skills. For instance, he might try his hand at writing a science fiction story or enter a writing contest.

Hygiene habits

Middle school is a good time for you and your children to evaluate their hygiene routines. At this age, they'll start to sweat more, so they'll need to work harder to keep their skin clean. Introduce habits like washing their faces morning and night and using deodorant daily.

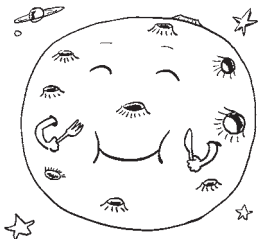
Worth quoting

“A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.”
Nelson Mandela

Just for fun

Q: How do you know when the moon has had enough to eat?

A: When it's full.



Respect all around

Being respectful will make your middle schooler's relationships better at school and at home. Here are ways he can show respect for himself, other people, and the world around him.

Respecting himself

Tweens with self-respect are more likely to stick to their values and say no to risky behaviors. Teach your child to check in with himself *before* he makes decisions. Say a friend invites him to a party where parents won't be home. He could think about what might go on there and say, “Thanks, but that's not for me.”

Respecting others

Explain that showing respect will make it easier for your tween to get along with adults and peers—and help him earn their respect, too. He can do that by treating people as he wishes to be treated. For instance, he should eat snacks in the kitchen at a friend's house if that's the family's policy (even if he eats in the living room at your house). Also, he'll respect classmates by doing what he



says he will, such as completing his part of a project he's doing with a partner.

Respecting the environment

Encourage your middle grader to adopt the motto, “Leave a place better than you found it.” To put that into practice, he might throw away trash that he sees in your neighborhood or at a park. Conserving resources is another way to respect nature. He can turn lights off when he leaves a room and shut water off while brushing his teeth. 👍

Help wanted

When your child is stumped about a concept or a homework problem, teachers want to help. Plus, asking for assistance shows that your tween cares about her work. Encourage her to seek help confidently with these tips.

■ **When to get help:** Her question may have an easy-to-find answer. Suggest that she check her textbook and notes or call a classmate. If that doesn't work, she should approach her teacher.

■ **How to ask:** Your child might wait until the teacher is free and say, “I'm having trouble with my essay thesis. Can you help me?” Or if the question pops up after school, she could email, “I don't understand why I got this algebra problem wrong. When is a good time to stop by?” 👍



STEM at home

You don't have to be a scientist to foster a love of STEM in your middle grader. Share these quick-hit ideas for exploring STEM at home.

Science. Play with sound by turning a straw into a musical instrument. Let your child experiment with ways to create vibrations—and thus produce noise. For instance, she can make a “flute” by poking holes in a straw, or an “oboe” by flattening one end of a straw and cutting it into a point.

Technology. Make a stop-motion movie. Suggest that your tween snap a series of photos of an object, moving the item



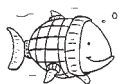
slightly each time. Then, she could upload and string the photos together to create the illusion that the object is moving.

Engineering. Piece together a “marble trampoline” with household items. Have your child come up with different materials to use for a ramp and a

“bouncy” target. The goal? For her to send a marble down the chute so it bounces off the “trampoline.”

Math. How would an object look if it were suddenly much larger or smaller? Ask your middle grader to measure an eraser or a sneaker. Then, using graph paper and what she's learning about ratio and proportion, she can draw the same item scaled up or down by 1, 5, or 10 times. 👍

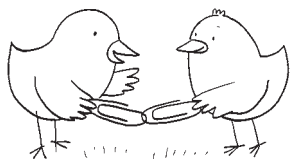
Conversation games



Being able to carry on a conversation will help your tween in everything from participating in class to hanging out with friends. Have fun practicing together with these games.

Link by link

Show your middle grader how conversation connects people. Choose a topic (movies, holidays), and set out one paper clip. Go in a circle, and let each player speak. For each related comment, follow-up question, or answer, add a paper clip to the chain. When the chain reaches 20 links, switch topics and play again.



Freeze chat

Teach your child to speak on his feet. Have two people stand, set a timer for two minutes, and call out a random question (“What's better, snow or sun?”). The players go back and forth discussing the answer. When the timer rings, whoever is talking freezes, and another player takes his place. Ask a new question, and the game continues. 👍

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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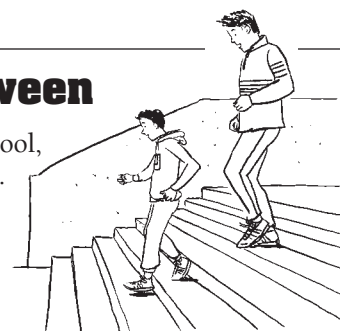
Parent to Parent

A self-conscious tween

During the first few weeks of school, my son Sam forgot his gym uniform several times. When I casually mentioned it, Sam got a little touchy, but ended up saying he looks “stupid” in it since he's skinnier than the other boys.

I told Sam that I felt self-conscious at his age, too. I was shorter than my friends and not very coordinated. Exercising made me feel better about myself. I thought it could help him, too. Since I run on the weekends, I invited him to join me. During our cool-down, I pointed out that everyone develops at different rates. I eventually grew taller, and I told him his body would grow and change, too. Regardless, I let him know that what matters most is the awesome person on the inside.

Sam hasn't forgotten his gym clothes lately. I'm taking that as a sign he's feeling a little more secure. 👍



Q & A

Conferences: A good choice

Q Now that my oldest child is in middle school, do I really need to go to her parent-teacher conference?

A It's a good idea to attend parent-teacher conferences regardless of your student's age. Going to them sends her a clear signal that you're interested in her education.

Knowing that you're paying attention can inspire her to give her best effort. Plus, teachers will share helpful

insights about your child, from her work habits to her social life.

Before you go, see if your tween wants you to bring up specific topics. Also, look over her graded papers. That way, you'll pinpoint anything you want to discuss, such as the math she's working on or her progress in English.

Finally, consider any changes at home that her teachers should know about (a military deployment or a change in marital status, for example). 👍

