

WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

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

Ryan Rieber- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal

Dear Families,

Welcome to November! I hope that your experiences with parent teacher conferences were positive and you were able to connect with your child's teacher. The connections between home and school are so very important! Working in partnership is the best way to help our children reach their potential! I would also like to extend a thank you to our PTO for having food trucks available during our conference times. Food is a great way to bring a community together, and we appreciate their efforts in this.

Now that fall has officially arrived and the unpredictability of Wisconsin weather is also here, I am asking for your help in making sure that warm clothing is sent to school with your child. It is not a bad idea to make sure that warm jackets, stocking hats, gloves/mittens are being sent with your child to school and these clothing items are labeled. Once the snow begins to fly, also make sure that boots and snow pants are making the trip with your child, labeled as well. We will continue to go out for recess during cold weather, so please help in making sure that proper clothing is sent with your child. We also have new flags to signal if we have indoor or outdoor recess. These flags are black and orange. If the flag is out, students should report to the Multipurpose room.

I want to thank you for your help and support in reporting into our office upon entering the building. It has been great to see our visitors throughout the building. Know that you are all more than welcome as this is our building and we are here to work with our kids together. A request that we have as a building is that when you are dropping off or picking up your child please keep the traffic flowing. Please be conscientious and courteous of the other families that are in the line to drop off their students. If you plan on stopping or helping your child in the building, please find a parking space. If you plan on being on the playground with your child, please visit the office, sign in, and get a visitor badge. Thank you for your help and support!

The month of November is home to several meaningful events at the Elementary school. On November 2 we will have our 4th and 5th grade music concerts at the Heider Center. This is a time our students get to share with their families and friends all that they have been practicing in music. Thank you to our music department for making this a wonderful night.

On Friday, November 10th at 9:00am we will host our Veteran's Day program. This moving program recognizes and gives thanks to all of the veterans who have and are currently serving our country. It is truly an honor for our staff and students to share in this program.

Wednesday, November 15th is an early release day for the district. Please make note of this on your calendars.

If you have any questions about your child's experience at the Elementary school please do not hesitate to give us a call, email or please stop by.

Thank you for all that you do and allowing us to work with your child!

Ryan G. Rieber
Together...every student, everyone, every day!

Early Release

Wednesday, November 15

Students will be dismissed at
12:20.

Buses will depart at 12:30.
Students will be served lunch on
early release days.

No School

Wednesday, Thursday &

Friday

November 22, 23 & 24

Nursing Notes

In the upcoming months, we will again start seeing more illnesses as children spend more time indoors. Please review the following rules about children who may become ill.

1. If your child is ill with a fever over 100 degrees, please do not send your child to school until they have been without a fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen. (Many times a child will wake up without a fever, but will have one by noon.)
2. If your child has been vomiting or has diarrhea, please do not send your child to school until he/she is able to tolerate solid foods without vomiting or having loose stools.
3. If your child has been diagnosed with strep throat or conjunctivitis (pink eye), he/she must have been on medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
4. If your child needs to take medication during the day (either prescribed or over the counter), a parent or guardian needs to fill out a pink medication sheet. (Prescription medication also requires a doctor's signature.) Medication also needs to be sent in its properly labeled original container.

When you call the school to report your child's absence, please tell the secretary the nature of your child's illness. We are required by the state to report numbers of children ill with strep throat, stomach flu, cold, and chicken pox, so it is important that we have an accurate count.



WINTER WEATHER REMINDERS

All children will be outside for recess when the temperature feels like 0 degrees or above.

Before school, children will be outside when the "feels like" temperature is 10 degrees or above.

Please dress children accordingly. The children will only be inside for recess on days that are below zero.

The Dreaded “L” Word.....Lice!

Every year as school begins, we start to see cases of head lice or pediculosis. I want to give everyone information about what lice is and what it isn't, how it is transmitted, and how to get rid of it!

Head lice is a condition that each year affects approximately 6-12 million children between the ages of 3 and 12. Lice are parasites that are usually found on the scalp - especially around the ears and the nape of the neck. Head lice are spread through direct head-to-head contact with an infested person or indirect contact with an infected person or lice-carrying objects such as combs, brushes, hats, or scarves. Since nits (louse eggs) are laid by adult lice the chances of nits being spread from person to person are minimal.

Head lice is not a sign of poor hygiene and you can NOT give them or get them from your pets.

Lice can NOT jump or fly from one person to another. Lice can only live 1 to 2 days off the head. Lice do NOT cause any known disease.

If your child is suspected of having head lice, he or she will be checked by one of the nurses. If live lice are found, you will be contacted and asked to pick up your child to take home and treat. Upon return to school, your child will be checked again before returning to the classroom. If no live lice or viable nits are found, the child may return to the classroom. Nits that are greater than 1/4 inch down the hair shaft are not considered viable and will not hatch into live lice.

If you are told your child has head lice, or you find live lice on your child, there are a few important steps to follow. Treat the affected child with either an over the counter medicated lice shampoo product or an alternative treatment found to be successful in killing head lice. (Your school nurse can give you directions on these types of treatments.) Combing through the hair with a fine tooth comb or special nit comb is necessary to remove the nits. All recently worn clothing (including coats and hats), towels and bedding should be washed in hot water and if possible placed in boiling water. Anything that is not washable such as stuffed animals, can be put into a plastic bag for 2 weeks or placed in the clothes dryer on hot heat for 30 minutes.

If you receive a letter home from school that a case of head lice has been found in your child's classroom, please do not panic. Studies over the past 10 years have proven that school is rarely the place of lice transmission. Most cases of lice are spread by friends and family members who often play or live together. Your child has a much greater chance of catching a cold or stomach flu from his classmates than a case of head lice.

Head lice are very common. Our goal is to minimize absences from school due to head lice, and to provide you with the information you need to care for your child. If you have any questions about anything related to the health of your student, please feel free to contact one of the school nurses.

AFTER SCHOOL MESSAGES

When calling the elementary office for an after school message, please leave the information with the secretaries in the office. Please do not leave the information on a teacher's voicemail. The office will make sure the information is relayed to the classroom.

OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours are 7:15am to 4pm

If you need assistance with the busing after these hours please contact the Bus Garage at 786-4356

Please also remember to call your child's absence into the office by 8:00am at 786-1662.



On Friday, November 10th at 9:00am the students of West Salem Elementary will be participating in a Veteran's Day program to honor America's Veterans in their service to our country.

We will honor our veterans as we recognize the various branches of the armed forces. The elementary students will sing patriotic songs and an honor guard of scouts will do the Ceremony of Presentation of Colors. This will be a meaningful experience for the students in the celebration of this national holiday. Please feel free to join us if you can.

School starts at 8:00am. Children enter the building at this time and then the doors are locked immediately for security reasons. Children who arrive after this time need to enter through the main office for a tardy pass.

To ensure that your child is not tardy for school, please try to arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the start of the school day to account for traffic. We know that it is very congested at drop off time and we appreciate your patience.

Calendar of Events

November

**2- Grade 4 Music Program 6:15pm
Grade 5 Music Program 7:15pm**

**7- Grade 5 Choir to Mulders
PTO Math Night**

10- Veteran's Day Program 9am

14- Grade 4 to Madison

15- Early Release Day

16- Grade 3 PE Night 6:30-7:30pm

22-24- No School

30- Grade 2 PE Night 6:30-7:30pm

December

12: Grade 5 Choir to Mulders

13- Early Release

Christmas Break Dec 22nd - Jan 1st

MAPL NEWS

(MUSIC, ART, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, LMC)

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Grade 4 concert-Thursday November 2nd at 6:15
(students arrive at 6:00) Heider Center-At the
Bandstand

Grade 5 concert-Thursday November 2nd at 7:15
(students arrive at 7:00) Heider Center-Gotta Be Jazz

K students are busy moving and making music together. They have used cymbals, tone blocks, and maracas in addition to other classroom instruments. They are also busy learning about sound waves and vibration.

1st grade students have learned how to read 5 different rhythms in music class. They are now learning about the Treble Clef (Mrs. G Clef) and the notes that live in the musical staff.

2nd grade students have kept busy learning how to read music from their books. They have sung songs, as well as created ostinatos (repeated patterns) to accompany songs on the xylophones.

3rd grade students are applying their note naming skills to simple folk tunes. After naming notes in each tune, students play their songs on the xylophones. Some classes have even tried to play their songs on sets of desk bells!

4th and 5th grade students will soon be writing their own music. This is a great activity to get those creative juices flowing. When students complete their song, they will be able to record it on their iPad to share at home

News from the WSES PE Department

3rd Grade PE Night is Thursday, November 16th from 6:30-7:30.

2nd Grade PE Night is Thursday, November 30th from 6:30-7:30.

Once a year, per grade-level, PE (Physical Education) Nights are held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the elementary school gym. Students must be accompanied by a parent. This is a night for the grade-level students and their parent(s) ONLY. Please do not bring younger or older siblings along. Various stations will be set up for students and their parents to participate in different activities. Tennis shoes need to be worn by all students and adults.

After School Art will once again be open to students in grades 4 & 5. Interested students should pick up a permission slip in the art room!

Art Days:

Please consider sending your child in older clothes on art days. Aprons are ALWAYS available, but sometimes paint disaster does strike. Check your weekly classroom newsletter on which day is art day for your child.

Wanted:

The Art Rooms are looking for some used items to be recycled during art classes, they are:

- *brown paper bags
- *plastic shopping bags
- *plastic food container lids
- *small covered plastic containers, such as baby food containers
- *old hair dryers (that still work)
- *old kitchen or bathroom hand towels
- *plastic mayo jars with the blue lids
- *left over arts and crafts odds and ends are also always welcome

Students in 4K are showing a strong interest in building ramps, parking garages, parking lots, and construction sites. They would love the opportunity to have more vehicles for their creations. If you have Matchbox cars, Hot Wheels cars, or miniature John Deere or Caterpillar tractors and trucks that you would like to donate, 4K will happily use them. We would also appreciate a few donations for our dolls in the dramatic play area. We have several dolls, but they seem to need a few more outfits and accessories like a baby carrier and diaper bag! If you would like to donate please send them to school with a note to the attention of Karly Baganz, 4K Teacher. We appreciate your consideration!

