

# 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,

Happy October! I want to thank all of you for a tremendous start to the school year and your navigation of new drop off protocols and procedures. We appreciate your patience and understanding. With the change to our drop-off areas, it is important to take note of our traffic and parking. School safety begins before our students walk through the door. It is our goal to create an organized flow of traffic and parking to maximize safety and security. Some families have been dropping off in the high school parking lot and having students walk across Mark Street in areas that are not patrolled by a crossing guard. Please pick one of our designated drop-off and pick-up locations to use when coming to school. Thank you for your cooperation!

With the new school year, I just want to take some time to review our safety protocols. Again, I would like to remind families that drop-off time starts at 7:30 am. If you need to drop your child off prior to 7:30, we encourage you to contact the Boys and Girls Club and inquire about their Morning Club program. Also, please do not drop your child off unsupervised on our playground. Supervision begins at 7:30, and for the safety of our students, students are not to be left unsupervised on the playground prior to school starting.

Our goal daily is to keep our building as safe as it can be for our students and staff. As you enter the elementary school during the day, we kindly ask that all parents, guardians, and visitors check into the main office, sign in, and wear a visitor badge any time that you come to visit us here at school. It is great to see visitors in the building and support our school, and we highly encourage this participation. We appreciate your cooperation and attention to helping keep our building safe!

Our Walking School Bus started on Friday, September 29th, and will continue to run on the Fridays that we have school through the end of November. This is an outstanding way for our students to share some camaraderie in the mornings prior to school starting and get to know some people throughout our community. The Walking School Bus starts at St. Leo's Catholic Church at 7:20 in the mornings. This is a great way to start the day!

Although we are experiencing July and August temperatures, fall officially began on September 21st. During seasonal changes, we know that temperatures can swing very quickly. Please make sure that your child comes dressed for conditions. When temperatures are under 50 degrees, please make sure that your child comes to school with sleeves and pants. As temperatures increase, these can be removed, but please plan accordingly and pay attention to the weather conditions. Also, please make sure to label your child's coats and sweatshirts. This will help there to be less items in our lost and found.

Parent/teacher conferences are on the horizon. Parent/teacher conferences will be held on October 19th and 24th from 3:30-7:00 pm. This is a great way to see how your child is progressing to start the school year. Connections between home and school are very important, and parent/teacher conferences are a wonderful way to build that relationship between home and school.

We have been recognized by the Wisconsin Response to Intervention (RtI) Center in reading at the Bronze level for our work toward fully implementing a framework that leads to improved student outcomes. The framework helps to increase consistency of instruction, enhances staff skills, proactively provides support for learners, and builds stronger relationships with students. We are humbled to receive this recognition and continue to work to improve for all of our students.

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

Ryan G. Rieber  
Elementary Principal

Together...every student, everyone, every day!

## **Dates/Times/Phone Numbers to Remember!**

### Early Release Dates

**Wednesdays**  
Students dismissed at 12:20  
Buses leave at 12:30

**November 15th**

**December 13th**

**February 14th**

**March 7th**

**May 9th**

### No School Days

**October 20**

**October 26 & 27**

**November 22-24**

**December 22-January 1**

**January 22**

**February 9**

**March 16**

**March 30**

**April 2**

**April 27**

**May 28**

### Phone Numbers

**Elementary School**  
608-786-1662

**Middle School**  
608-786-2090

**High School**  
608-786-1220

**West Salem District Office**  
608-786-0700

### Lunch Times

**Kindergarten** 12:05-12:30

**1st Grade** 11:20-11:45

**2nd Grade** 11:00-11:25

**3rd Grade** 11:50-12:15

**4th Grade** 11:30-11:55

**5th Grade** 10:50-11:15

### Recess Times

**Kdg-** 9:50-10:10 & 11:45-12:05

**1st Grade-** 9:20-9:40 & 11:00-11:20

**2nd Grade-** 10:40-11:00 & 1:40-2:00

**3rd Grade-** 11:30-11:50 & 1:40-2:00

**4th Grade-** 11:10-11:30 & 1:15-1:35

**5th Grade-** 10:30-10:50 & 12:50-1:10

### **Tooth Bags Needed!!**

The Elementary School provides tooth bags for students who lose a tooth at school. If you have any extra material and could sew a few tooth bags, the Elementary School could use some. The tooth bags can be dropped off at the Elementary School Office.



### **PARENT REMINDER....**

#### **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.**

### **PTO Celebrity Story Night Thursday, October 12**

Watch for more information and pre-registration to come home soon!



### **PICTURE RETAKE DAY MONDAY, OCTOBER 9TH**



Accidents happen and when they do, children do often need to change their clothing. It is always a good idea to have an extra set of clothing packed in your child's backpack in case an accident should happen. The nurse's office would be greatly appreciative of any donated clothing. We are especially low on socks, boys and girls underwear (size 4T-8) and pants size 4T-10 (kids love elastic waist bands).

Thanks in advance  
your help!!



### **Tardiness**

Students entering the building after 8:00am will be considered tardy. Tardiness for reasons other than emergencies will be considered unexcused. For example, running late, overslept, and completing homework. Tardy students should be accompanied to the office by a parent or sent in with a note stating the reason for the tardy. If your child is going to be late, please call ahead and notify the office personnel.

Thanks for your cooperation!

Office Hours - School year office hours are 7:15am to 4:00pm.  
608-786-1662



**Back for the 2017-2018 School Year!  
School-Based Dental Program**

Bridging Brighter Smiles offers preventative dental care right at school for students Pre-K through 12th grade. Visits are held throughout the school year. Services provided include: oral screenings, cleanings, fluoride varnish and dental sealants (prevents cavities).

We accept the Forward Health (BadgerCare) Card  
(We do not bill/accept other private dental insurances)

**Questions? Call 262-896-9891**  
**[www.bridgingbrightersmiles.org](http://www.bridgingbrightersmiles.org)**

**Calendar of Events**

- October:**
- 3- Picture Retake Day
  - 5- Grade 3 OEC (La, Ma, Allind)
  - 6- Grade 3 OEC (De, We, Sch)
  - 10- Grade 1 OEC
  - 11- Grade 1 to OEC  
Grade 2 to Apple Orchard (Servias, Pearson, Skaar)
  - 12- Grade 1 to OEC  
PTO Story Night
  - 13- Grade 2 to Apple Orchard (Hesse, Crow, Flottmeier)
  - 16- Grade 5 PE Night 6:30-7:30pm
  - 17- Grade K to OEC (Hickey/Ranz AM, Wheeler/Grans PM)
  - 18- Grade K to OEC (Wagner/Schams/Macdonald AM)
  - 19- Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7pm
  - 20- NO SCHOOL
  - 23- Grade 4 PE Night 6:30-7:30pm
  - 24- Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7pm
  - 26- NO SCHOOL
  - 27- NO SCHOOL
  - 31- Grade 3 to National Eagle Center



**MAPL NEWS  
(MUSIC, ART, PHYSICAL EDUCATION,  
LIBRARY)**

**NEWS FROM THE MUSIC ROOM**

**4th & 5th Grade Fall Music Programs are  
Thursday, November 2.**

**4th grade begins at 6:15 PM**

**5th grade begins at 7:15 PM**

**Both programs are in the Heider Center**

**Music Notes-**

4th and 5 grade classes have been working on learning their music for their upcoming concerts on Thursday November 2nd. They'll continue working on their songs and will begin speaking parts in October.

3rd grade classes have been studying different genres of music including classical, folk, blues, and jazz. They are working on writing their own blues song which will include a problem and solution. 3rd graders will begin a unit on xylophones in October which will aid in learning note names in the treble clef.

2nd grade classes have been reviewing their music reading skills from 1st grade, and have been working on reading music from a book. They will focus on 'ostinato' and 'piano vs. forte' in October. We're hoping to have some time on the autoharps near the end of the month.

1st grade classes have been busy singing and moving to music: both new songs and old ones from kindergarten. They have started learning how to decode rhythms in songs, and are learning how to read rhythms in class. By the end of October, students will start learning about the musical staff. By the end of 1st grade, students will be able to start composing music in the musical staff!

Kindergarten classes have kept busy singing, moving, and playing instruments in class! We use a variety of songs to incorporate not only music skills, but reinforce learning in other content areas as well (such as colors, counting, and social skills). We are having lots of fun making music!

**News from the WSES PE Department:**

Once a year, per grade-level, PE (Physical Education) Nights are held from 6:30-7:30pm 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.

**5th Grade PE Night is Monday, October 16th  
from 6:30-7:30pm**

**4th Grade PE Night is Monday, October  
23rd from 6:30-7:30pm**

**4K October Family Event**

**4K Families are invited for a spaghetti  
dinner on  
Thursday, October 5  
5:30-7pm  
Elementary School Cafeteria**

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!

## ***ARE YOU READY FOR FLU SEASON?***

As we head into winter and spend more time inside buildings, the flu season pays us a Wisconsin visit. Flu is a layman term for the influenza viral infection. The virus is transmitted by coughing, sneezing, contact with used tissues or contaminated hands and objects. The symptoms of influenza include:

- Fever with body temperature 100 degrees Fahrenheit or more
- Common respiratory problems such as cold and cough
- Congestion and runny nose
- Headache accompanied by muscle pains
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills and Fatigue



Prevention can be your best defense. Teach your child proper coughing and sneezing etiquette by using the inside of your elbow instead of your hand. Encourage proper disposal of tissues. Keep hands away from the face area. Frequent hand washing can also be helpful to decrease the spread of infection. Stay home when you are ill. Get plenty of rest and eat a balanced diet. Talk with your medical provider or health department and consider receiving the influenza vaccine to help prevent the influenza infection.

Stay well and carry on!

Beth Clements RN  
West Salem School Nurse