

November 2019

WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

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Ryan Rieber- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal

Dear Families,

Welcome to November! We 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! We 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. Also, please know that our PTO is welcoming new families to get involved. Our PTO meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in our elementary library. Their next meeting is November 12th. All are welcome to attend!

Now that fall has officially arrived and the unpredictability of Wisconsin weather is also here, we ask for your help in making sure that warm clothing is sent to school with your child. Take the time to label your child's jackets, stocking hats, and gloves/mittens. 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!

We want to extend a big "Thank You" to families that are dropping off on the south side of our building. Pulling up as far as possible, dropping off your child, and then continuing on your way is allowing traffic to move much more smoothly than it has in the past. As a reminder, if you are going to get out of your vehicle, please make sure to find a place to park in our lot, then get out of your vehicle. We appreciate and thank you for your courtesy of all of our families that are dropping off in the morning.

On Monday, November 11th at 9:00 am we will host our Veteran's Day program. This 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. If you are a veteran, know a veteran, or would like to attend yourself to give thanks, please know that all are welcome!

As we enter the holiday season, especially Thanksgiving, we want to extend our thanks for allowing us to work with your children. We have so many wonderful students and families, and we are thankful for being able to serve all of you. We know that you are your child's first teacher, and encourage you to spend time with your child reading. Here is a short clip that shares the benefits of you sitting and reading with your child on a daily basis: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=7&v=iMJ5pB05t5k

Thank you for all that you do and for allowing us to work with your child!
Follow us on Twitter: @WestSalemES

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

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 Monday, November 11th 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:

- 1- Gr 3 OEC (Deml/Davis/Mathison)
- 5- Gr 4 Music concert 6:15pm
Gr 4K to West Salem Library- 6:30pm
- 6- EARLY RELEASE
students dismissed at 12:20
buses depart at 12:30
- 11- Veteran's Day Program- 9am
- 22- Gr 4K Humane Society- 9am
- 27 - 29 NO SCHOOL

December:

- 4- EARLY RELEASE
students dismissed at 12:20
buses depart at 12:30
- 5- Gr 2 PE Night 6:30-7:30pm
- Holiday Break Dec 23 - January 1

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 infested 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.

News from the WSES PE Department

2nd Grade PE Night is Thursday, December 5th from 6:30-7:30pm

1st Grade PE Night is Thursday, January 9th from 6:30-7:30pm

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.

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

Nov 5th: 4th grade concert
"Making The Band"
Starts at 6:15pm at Heider Center,
students should arrive at 6pm



A huge thanks to the following who help provide a teacher meal during conferences. We are not able to do this without the support of our awesome parents!

Katie Drury, Annie Labus, Mark Oelfke, Ryan & Kim Rieber, Teesha Willinger, Jessica Steinborn, Amy Peterson, Michelle Pontius, Nicole Hinkel, Tara Jambois, Michelle Lorenz, Natalie Vanish, Shannon Rixie-Giraud, Angela Gross, Kim Sullivan, Maria Holicky, Jen Wulf, Darwin Grosz, Tara Devine, Melissa Fry, Nicole Gerbers, Jessica Vick, Stacey Sjoquist, Krysta O'Brien, Mellisa Evenen, Laura Villand, and Dana Bolwerk.

4K FAMILY EVENTS

Tuesday, November 5th
Story Time at the West
Salem Public Library
6:30pm

Friday, November 22nd
Humane Society
Presentation
9am

West Salem Elementary Drop Off, Pick Up, Breakfast Procedures

DROP OFF 7:30-8:00

- Parents may drop students off in either parking lot beginning at 7:30 a.m. When entering either parking lot **PULL AS FAR FORWARD AS POSSIBLE** to ease traffic congestion.
- If a car has not pulled forward and there is space ahead, please pass slowly and move as far forward as possible.
- Pull over to the sidewalk to drop off, staying in a single line of traffic. **DO NOT DOUBLE PARK!** Forming a second line puts students at risk, as students must cross traffic to reach the sidewalk.
- Have your child/children ready to exit the vehicle when you are in the drop off lane. Have backpacks on laps, ready to get out of the car quickly, so those behind you do not need to wait.
- Children should exit the vehicle on the passenger side to avoid traffic and should go directly to the designated playground. K, 1, & 2 students are on the south playground, and grades 3 & 4 are on the north playground.
- **Do not exit your vehicle or leave your vehicle unattended in the drop off lane** for any reason. If you need to come in the building, or assist your child/children, you need to park in a **designated parking space**.

DROP OFF FOR BREAKFAST 7:15-8:00

- Parents may drop students off in the north parking lot (gym side) and students enter in door E.
- Those students getting dropped off in the south lot (kindergarten end) should walk on the sidewalk in front of the building and enter through door B.

DROP OFF AFTER 8:00 a.m.

School starts at 8:00 am. When the bell rings, children enter the building and the doors are locked immediately behind them for building security. Children who arrive after 8:00 a.m. need to enter through the main office for a tardy pass. If you send your child/children to run and catch up with his/her class, the door may be locked by the time he/she gets there. To ensure that your child is not tardy for

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school, and allow him/her to enter with his/her class please arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the start of the school day.

- Beginning at 8:00 a.m. there are several 15 minute temporary parking spaces in the front loop. The loop closes again for buses at the conclusion of the day from 2:50 until buses have departed.

STUDENT DISMISSAL/PICK UP 3:10

- Parents may pick students up in either parking lot. The south playground blacktop is also available for overflow parking at dismissal. Please park in rows, leaving enough room for cars to back up and pull out. Also leave a lane open for cars to enter and exit around the outside.
- **The school playgrounds are closed to visitors during the school day. The playgrounds reopen for public use after the buses have been dismissed at 3:20. Children are not allowed to play on either playground at dismissal. Please inform any family members (Grandparents, siblings, etc.) who do not receive school Skyward messages of our school procedures.**
- When exiting the south parking lot, we ask that you turn left and when exiting our north parking lot, we ask that you turn right. This will help the flow of traffic and help to alleviate backing up in our lots.

