

November 2020

# WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

Phone 608-786-1662

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Tami Bagstad- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal

Dear Panther 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 - please let us know how you liked the Zoom format, as we are always looking for your input! These connections between home and school are so very important, and 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 dinner available for staff during our conference times. You can visit their Facebook page for more information about membership, activities, and the amazing support of our students that this group provides!

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!

Due to our COVID restrictions, we will be having a Virtual Veteran's Day program this year. This virtual program will recognize and give 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. Teachers have asked their students if they have any veterans in the family - if you are unsure of whether or not we received this information, please email Tami Bagstad ([bagstad.tami@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:bagstad.tami@wsalem.k12.wi.us)) with the following: Your child's name, teacher, and family member names & relationships to your child, and which branch they are/have served. This information will be included in the program we will send home, as well as links to each classroom's music performance to honor our veterans! We hope that this is something that your family can enjoy together this year!

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 would also like to thank you for your continued efforts in promoting the health and safety of yourselves and your children so we can continue to provide face-to-face instruction! Please know that quarantine situations are to protect your children and your family, and we appreciate your quick action and support if/when we need to call you. If you receive a phone call that your child will need to be quarantined, your child's teacher will gather materials within 24 hours to allow for a continuation of your child's education during this period. Your child's teacher will be in touch with you very soon after the quarantine time frame begins. iPads are a new addition this year, so if you have not yet signed your "Acceptable Use Agreement," please do so ASAP. Hard copies have been sent home again to anyone who needed one - please let us know if you still need one - this way, we can send the iPad home with the other learning materials!

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

-Tami Bagstad, Principal

**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.

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**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.

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:

13th- VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY

19th- ES Picture Retake Day

25th-27th- NO SCHOOL

December:

11th- VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY

Holiday Break: Dec 24th - Jan 1st  
NO SCHOOL

*Students will be allowed the equivalent of 10 full days to be absent during the school year.*

**Medical or dental appointments - note is required from doctor/medical practitioner upon the student's return from the appointment - if no verification is received the time missed will count toward their 10 full days.**



## **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.**