

# WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

Phone 608-786-1662

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Ryan Rieber- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal

Happy October WSES Families.

Thank you for a tremendous start to the school year! In this newsletter is our drop-off/pick-up procedures. We ask for everyone's cooperation with these to make these times as easy on everyone as possible. If you feel the need to walk your child to any of the playgrounds in the morning, we need you to park to be courteous to others that are dropping off. To assist with congestion at pick-up, the South Lot gate will open at 2:40 daily. 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. Thank you for your cooperation!

As we are getting into the swing of things here at school, some of your children may start to see some extra practice coming home, along with recommended daily reading and practice with math facts. Getting our children in a routine of completing these tasks is important. Here is a short video on creating a time, space, and routine for our children to complete this extra practice after school. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kh2MAwWjyhA>

Our Walking School Bus started on Friday, September 20th, and will continue to run on the Fridays that we have school through the end of November. This is a great 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 morning.

Now that fall is upon us, temperatures can swing very quickly. Please have your child dress for changing conditions. When temperatures are below 50 degrees, make sure that your child comes to school with sleeves and pants. As temperatures increase, these can be removed, but please plan accordingly and be attentive to the weather. Also, please make sure to label your child's coats, hats, gloves, and sweatshirts.

Parent/teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, October 17th and Tuesday, October 22nd from 3:30-7:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress at the start of the school year. Connections between home and school are very important, and these initial conferences are a wonderful way to build upon those relationships.

A reminder that school is not in session on Friday, October 18th and 25th. If there are any items, information, or tips that you would like to see in our Newsletters, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

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

Ryan G. Rieber

Elementary Principal

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@WestSalemES

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

October 2nd

November 6th

December 4th

February 5th

March 4th

### No School Days

October 18

October 25

November 27-29

December 23-January 1

January 20

February 14

March 13

March 27

April 10 & 13

May 25

### 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 11:35-12:00

1st Grade 11:05-11:30

2nd Grade 11:25-11:50

3rd Grade 10:55-11:20

4th Grade 11:55-12:20

### Recess Times

Kdg- 9:50-10:10 & 11:15-11:35

1st Grade- 9:20-9:40 & 10:45-11:05

2nd Grade- 11:05-11:25 & 1:15-1:35

3rd Grade- 10:35-10:55 & 1:40-2:00

4th Grade- 11:35-11:55 & 1:40-2:00

**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**

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!!

**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.



**PICTURE RETAKE**

**DAY**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1st**



**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

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 22. Please watch for details on how to sign up.

## **NEWS FROM THE MUSIC ROOM**

**4th Grade Fall Music Program "On the Radio" is  
Tuesday, November 5 beginning at  
6:15pm**

**Program will take place at Heider  
Center**

**The Walking School Bus** is a program at our school in which children have the opportunity to walk to school on designated days. I meet children on the corner of Tilson and Hamlin Streets at 7:20 a.m. (church parking lot) and begin walking to the elementary school at 7:30. Most weeks we have a special guest join us (e.g., our principal, local sport teams, local businesses, therapy dogs).

The first time a child participates they receive a Walking School Bus punch card. Each time a student walks with us, they receive a punch and a token. Once the card is full (5 punches) they are invited to pick a prize from our WSB prize box.

This program is sponsored by the La Crosse County Health Department Safe Routes to Schools. The purpose is to encourage students to walk to school and teach pedestrian safety.

October dates and guests:

October 2: International Walk to  
School Day

October 4: West Salem Football Team

October 11: TBD

## **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.

**4th Grade PE Night is Monday,  
October 21st**

**3rd Grade PE Night is Monday,  
October 28th**

**2nd Grade PE Night is Thursday,  
December 5th**

**1st Grade PE Night is Thursday,  
January 9th**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER:

- 1: ES Picture Retake Day  
4K Spaghetti Supper
- 2: EARLY RELEASE- Students dismissed at 12:20pm  
Gr 3 to OEC
- 3: Gr 3 to OEC  
PTO Story Night
- 4: 4th Grade Fun Run
- 8: Gr 2 to OEC (Flottmeier/Hesse/Pearson)
- 9: Gr 2 to OEC (Skaar/Crow/Servais)
- 14: Gr Kdg to OEC (Wagner & Hickey)
- 15: Gr Kdg to OEC (Macdonald & Christianson)
- 16: Gr Kdg to OEC (Wheeler & Richling)  
4K to the Corn Maze
- 17: ES P/T Conferences
- 18: NO SCHOOL
- 21: Gr 4 PE Night- 6:30pm
- 22: ES P/T Conferences
- 25: NO SCHOOL
- 28: Gr 1 to OEC (Antony/Reedy)  
Gr 3 PE Night- 6:30pm
- 29: Gr 1 to OEC (Baldwin/Christianson)
- 30: Gr 1 to OEC (Chambers/Perz/Grams)  
Gr Kdg to Corn Maze (Wagner/Hickey/Macdonald)
- 31: 4K to Mill Street Manor  
Gr 3 to OEC (Schwartz/Allind/LaFleur)  
Gr K to Corn Maze (Christianson/Richling/Wheeler)

### NOVEMBER:

- 1: Gr 3 to OEC (Deml/Davis/Mathison)
- 5: Gr 4 Music Concert
- 6: EARLY RELEASE - Students dismissed at 12:20pm
- 27: NO SCHOOL
- 28: NO SCHOOL
- 29: NO SCHOOL

### DECEMBER:

- 4: EARLY RELEASE - Students dismissed at 12:20pm
- 5: Gr 2 PE Night- 6:30pm
- December 23- January 1: Winter Break - NO SCHOOL

## **Absences**

Parents are requested to call the school between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. whenever a child will be absent from school. You may also leave a voice mail message before 7:30 a.m. If we do not receive a call, the school secretary will contact you. This is done for the safety of your child, as we, along with you, need to be assured that your child is either at home or at school. If the school has been contacted, a written note is not needed when the child returns.

Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher if the child has missed two or more consecutive days of school for the purpose of make-up work.

### **EXCUSABLE absences are:**

- 1) Illness on the part of the student. An excuse from a physician may be requested as necessary.
- 2) Serious illness or death in the immediate family.
- 3) Special circumstances provided written parental permission for the absence is given in advance to administration.
- 4) Emergency situations within the family.

**UNEXCUSED absences and tardiness:** Students who are absent from school with the consent of their parent or guardian, but whose absence does not fall under excusable absences shall be considered unexcused, tardy, or truant. Students who develop a record of unexcused absences will be subject to the State and County Truancy Law that ultimately results in truancy proceedings.



## **Back for the 2019-2020 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)**

## **West Salem Elementary Drop Off, Pick Up, and Building 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 students are on the south playground, and grades 2, 3, & 4 are on the north playground.
- **Do not exit your vehicle or leave your vehicle unattended in the drop off lane.** If you need to come in the building, or assist your child/children, please 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 8:00 a.m. bell rings, children enter the building and the doors are locked immediately behind them for security reasons. Children who arrive after 8:00 a.m. 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.

- 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. 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 on Mark St., and when exiting our north parking lot, we ask that you turn right onto Mark St. This will help the flow of traffic and help to alleviate backing up in our lots.



## ***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.

Beth Clements RN  
West Salem School Nurse