



FEBRUARY 12th, 2018

CALENDAR

Please mark your calendar for these important dates:

- **Monday, February 12th- Friday, February 16th** Kindness Week
- **Wednesday, February 14th** Student Count Day! *Every child who is present at school on count day will be entered into a drawing for a Sky Zone Family Fun Pack!*
- **Friday, February 16th** Jump Rope For Heart Day *During school hours*
- **Friday, February 16th** Family Dance 6-8 PM
- **Tuesday, February 27th** Invention Convention (*Family Science Fun!*) 6-7:30 PM
- **Wednesday, February 28th** 1st/2nd Grade Music Concert 7 PM
- **Thursday, March 1st** WANNA KNOW? *Conversation with our Principal* 8:00 AM
- **Friday, March 2nd** PBIS Celebration for K-4th Grades
- **Tuesday, March 6th** PTO Meeting 5:15 PM
- **Tuesday, March 6th** 5th Grade Band Bonanza WLHS 7 PM
- **Wednesday, March 14th** Kindergarten Round-Up 6-7:30 PM
- **Friday, March 23rd** Half Day of School *Spring break begins*
- **Tuesday, April 3rd** Return from Spring Break

GREETINGS, FROM THE PRINCIPAL

During the last few weeks we have had snow days, safety drills, assemblies, kindness initiatives and many illnesses!

Snow days speak for themselves! They may inconvenience parents however, kids usually love them and so do staff until we have to catch up on those things we had planned! So enjoy the snow when you can, take those snowman pictures and send them in!

Our Mr. Peace anti-bullying assemblies helped us to talk about and identify what bullying looks like, what to do in different situations and how to move forward. We are continuing our kindness work through discussions and activities using strategies and ideas we learned through our work with Mr. Peace. Watch for our kindness poster contest flyer so your child can create artwork for our school that focuses on kindness and caring.

Our playground committee has been hard at work planning, writing grants and designing the playground structure that we want to do as a community build, scheduled for July of this year. This project will be possible through fundraising efforts, volunteers and our school district sinking fund. Additionally, all the students and staff were involved in this process by participating in a survey focusing on what they wanted to see on the playground. Our second grade students actually created playground plans of their own through a Project Based Learning project. It is an exciting time for our school as we move forward to create a safe/fun outside learning environment. More information will come out in the following weeks as we will need your help with fundraising, labor and machinery. Our next meeting will be **February 22nd at 7:45 AM**, if you would like to join us.



Whitmore Lake ELEMENTARY EXPRESS

EXCEPTIONAL, PERSONALIZED EDUCATION
— 1077 Barker Rd. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 —

*When you're in the school building please stop by the **lost and found** by the office. You will be surprised what you will find that your child does not even know they have lost! :)*

FAMILY DANCE

Our annual family dance is coming up quickly! It's Friday, February 16th from 6-8 PM. We hope you join us for dancing, fun, food and socializing! ***Please remember that all students must be accompanied by an adult who stays with them during the dance.***

INVENTION CONVENTION

Come join us for our Invention Convention family fun night on **2/27 from 6-7:30 PM**. The "Convention" will feature hands on, fun and creative science activities sponsored by the Ann Arbor Hands On Museum and our elementary and preschool staff. Student participant science displays and collections will be featured. Enjoy snow cones & pizza by the slice. Browse through our student kindness contest posters, student art displays and our classroom kindness door displays. There's more, so come on by and have a fun family time together!

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Friday, Feb. 16th is our JRFH event. Last year our school raised \$16,500!!!! Our goal this year is \$17,000!!! I want to personally thank every student and parent that participated in this fundraiser for the American Heart Association. Heart Disease and Stroke are the #1 cause of deaths in the US. Students will learn jump rope skills as well as important facts about heart disease and strokes. JRFH also gives students an opportunity to help others and donate to an amazing organization, the American Heart Association!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

We Want Your Ideas! The Board of Education and the Administration is launching a new initiative to guide WLPS through a 3-5 Year Strategic Plan. The purpose of this initiative is to help us develop new goals and strategies for continuing to offer an excellent education for our students while using scarce public education resources in the most effective and efficient way.

Your ideas about the strengths of Whitmore Lake Public Schools – along with your opinions concerning where there is an opportunity for improvement, barriers to implementation, and ideas for vision are very important. Therefore, you are invited to provide input in either one of the scheduled face-to-face input sessions or electronically. All input must be received by March 23.

Community Input Session 1 - February 20, 6 pm-7pm WLES, Media Center

Community Input Session 2 - March 8, 6:30 pm - 7:30pm WLHS, Media Center

Can't attend either of those dates? Submit your input in an online survey: <http://bit.ly/2Ekp12E>.



GIRLS ON THE RUN

Registration will open for **Girls on the Run** on January 2nd! Our program at Whitmore Lake Elementary is open to all **3rd-6th grade girls** and will meet after school on **Mondays and Wednesday from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. March 5th through May 18th**. All registered participants will receive a healthy snack at each lesson, along with program t-shirt and water bottle, a parent guide book, and entry into the incredible **Girls on the Run 5k on May 12th** (all students, staff, and families are welcome to come run/walk with our girls).

Our Girls on the Run **curriculum-based program** is MUCH more than a running program. Click [here](#) to learn more and to register. **Space is limited and registration ends February 21st**. Financial assistance is available, as are payment programs.

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

Kindergarten Round-Up will occur on **March 14th from 6-8 PM**. Registration packets will be available by March 1st in the school office for you to complete ahead of time. If your child attends the WLPS preschool, packets will be sent home with your child. Please pass this information on to families who do not have children in our schools. If you would like a personal tour please call the school office and we will schedule a time for you. If you have questions about our kindergarten or our school, please email or call the school office so we can assist you. More information to come.

Our annual **kindergarten “field trip”** will occur on **May 2nd from 10:00-11:30 AM**. Children and families can visit the classrooms and the school during school time. Children in the WLPS preschool will ride the bus to and from the school. Children who do not attend our preschool are welcome to join if parents attend as well. More to come!

Kindergarten screening will occur on **May 14th-May 18th**. Screening will occur at the WLPS Early Childhood Center for those children attending school there. For those children who are not in our preschool the screening will occur at the elementary school. More information will be available at kindergarten round-up.

WLPS EARLY CHILDHOOD FALL ENROLLMENT

Preschool pre-enrollment will begin on March 8th with evening open house events. These will take place on March 8th & 15th, April 4th & 10th, May 2nd & 22nd and June 12th. For more information please call Charlie Basham at extension 4001 or through email at charlie.basham@wlps.net.



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BOOK BINGO

GOT BOOKS? WLES is collecting gently used and new books for the 3rd Annual Book Bingo event. Book donations may be placed in the green bin across from the media center or dropped off in room A-10. Monetary donations for the purchase of new books are also accepted. Book Bingo is scheduled for **June 2018**. Contact Mrs. Roy-Borland with any questions: heidi.roy-borland@wlps.net or [734-449-2051 x1310](tel:734-449-2051)

SCHOOL HOURS

School Office Hours 7:15 AM – 4:15 PM

School Times: 5th and 6th Grades 7:50 AM - 2:35 PM Kindergarten – 4th Grades 8:50 AM – 3:35 PM

5th and 6th Grade students who eat breakfast at school may arrive and enter the building at 7:30 AM

5th and 6th Grade students that walk to school should arrive no earlier than 7:40 AM and no later than 7:50 AM.

Kindergarten-4th Grade students who eat breakfast at school may arrive and enter the building at 8:20 AM all other students can enter the building at 8:40 AM.

Kindergarten – 4th Grade students that walk to school should arrive no earlier than 8:40 AM and no later than 8:50 AM *See above for arrival and building entry if eating breakfast.*