

# WMS

815.335.2364

# Oct.

School Office

# 2017

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>2</b> 6 VB @ H, 4:30	<b>3</b> XC @ H, 4:00	<b>4</b> Picture Retakes Cheerleading Tryouts 6:30-8:00pm	<b>5</b> Cheerleading Tryouts 6:30- 8:00pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> XC IESA @ H, 10:00
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> NO SCHOOL Columbus Day	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Academic @ Pec, 3:30	<b>17</b> Sport Pictures, 3:05	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	<b>23</b> 6 BBB @ H, 4:00 7/8 BBB @ Rockford Christian, 4:30 Academic @ H, 4:00	<b>24</b> 7/8 BBB @ H, 4:30	<b>25</b> End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Student Dismissal 1:00pm Book Fair, 7:30-7:30pm Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7:30pm <a href="#">Click here</a> to schedule your Parent/Teacher Conferences online ☺	<b>26</b> Parent Teacher Conferences 1-7:30pm <b>NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE</b> Book Fair, 1-7:30pm <a href="#">Click here</a> to schedule your Parent/Teacher Conferences online ☺	<b>27</b> SIP DAY NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Book Fair, 7:30-3:30 Halloween Dance, 3:10-5:00 Academic @ H, 4:00	<b>31</b> Book Fair, 7:30-3:30 6 BBB @ H, 4:00 7/8 BBB @ AFC, 4:00	<b>Cathy Finley</b> Principal  <b>Patrick Brûlé</b> Assistant Principal			

\*\*\*All dates are subject to change. Check daily announcements online for current information.  
<http://www.winnebagoschools.org/schools/middleschool/announcements>

## Homecoming Week - Dress Up Days

WMS Student Council plans dress up days for middle school student during Homecoming Week. Show your excitement! Bring your spirit!

- Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> - Disney Day
- Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> - Class Color Day
  - 6th-Green
  - 7th-Purple
  - 8th-Red
- Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> - Twin Day
- Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> - Spirit Day (Orange and Black)

## Scholastic Book Fair

The whole school is excited about our upcoming Book Fair. An amazing selection of books is headed our way! At the Book Fair you will find the latest and finest titles for kids, as well as books of interest to parents. Mark your calendar for our Family Event where the whole family can shop during parent/teacher conferences. And, you can contribute books to your child's classroom library. The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone excited about reading.

Here's a brief video that highlights the big dreams that can be realized through family reading:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/family>

See you at the Book Fair!

- Wednesday, October 25 open 7:30 am - 7:30 pm
- Thursday, October 26 - open 1:00 pm - 7:30 pm
- Monday, October 30 - Wednesday, November 1 open 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Use this address for more information and shopping online:

<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=winnebagomiddleschool>

## Registration for WMS Activities and Athletics

Registration for WMS Activities and Athletics is now open. Please follow the link provided to register your child.

<http://bagoathletics.com/>

## Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with individual teachers. There is also a second date for Parent Teacher Conferences on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. [Click here](#) to schedule your Parent/Teacher Conferences online ☺

## Safety Drills

Each year our students and staff practice a variety of safety drills to prepare for emergencies. They practice bus and building evacuations, shelter in place for inclement weather, and lock down drills when dangerous situations exist inside or outside of the buildings.

Legislation (SB 1625) requires all schools to include Active Shooter Drills and training. To prepare our students and staff for an active shooter is a sobering topic that is not easy to discuss; however in spite of this topic being difficult and uncomfortable to plan for, it is imperative that we provide our students with options to stay safe. We will be reviewing these procedures specific to Active Shooter Drills with students on **Wednesday, September 27, 2017**. Please take a moment to talk with your child prior to the drill. After the drill on Wednesday, we hope you talk with them again about the different safety procedures they learned at school so that it will help to solidify their learning of these important, life-saving procedures.

Of course, as with all of our safety drills, it is our hope that we will never need to use our active shooter training in a live situation. Also, the more we practice and discuss our plans for any emergency situation, the more prepared we can be to handle a true emergency and achieve the ultimate goal which is to safely survive the event.

## Citizenship Award 2017-2018

Please review the attached sheet if your student may be interested in completing some community service activities.

## High Honor Roll and Honor Roll

Student performance is recognized each quarter by publishing an Honor Roll List on our school website and posted in school. There will be no awards ceremonies at the end of the school year for our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. We will have 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion in May.

Students will be recognized at two different Honor Roll Levels:

- High Honor Roll - Students with all As
- Honor Roll - Students with all As and Bs

### **FAST - Mark Your Calendars**

FAST held their first meeting in September. We planned a number of events. We hope you can join us! Volunteers are still needed for Rec Night Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the school office if you can help that night: 815-335-2364.

- Rec Night - Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>
- Muffins with Mom - Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>
- Father Daughter Dance - Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

### **Halloween Dance Monday, October 30th**

Reminder to parents: Students are not allowed to leave and come back for the dance. They have to stay after school, and the dance will be over at 5:00. Costumes are allowed for the Halloween Dance but students cannot wear them to school. They will have to change at school before the dance starts.

### **Box Tops**

Welcome back to school, parents! My name is Rhonda Furseth, and I'm thrilled to be our school's Box Tops for Education™ Coordinator.



Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to help earn cash for our school. Each one is worth 10¢ for our school! Just look for the pink Box Tops on hundreds of products. All you have to do is clip them and send them to school.

Last school year, we earned \$212.60 for our school from Box Tops. This school year, our goal is to earn \$500.00.

For more information on Box Tops, including a list of participating products, go to BTFE.com. Be sure to sign up as a member (it's free!) so you can check out our school's earnings details and get access to coupons and bonus offers.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm here to help make our school's Box Tops for Education™ program a huge success this year.

Thanks for your help!

Rhonda Furseth, WMS Librarian  
fursethr@winnebagoschools.org

### **Love and Logic**

"How do wise parents and educators respond when kids try to argue and manipulate? The most effective repeat an empathetic one-liner such as, "I love/respect you too much to argue" or "I know" or "What did I say?" They also resist the urge to think too deeply about what the child is saying.

Do we do this when kids are hurting? Do we employ this strategy when they're respectfully expressing their opinions? No! We listen.

When I ask people to describe the parents and teachers they respected the most as kids, they almost always mention something like, "They were always there to listen."

Listening means love. It means that we sincerely care about other's opinions and emotions.

Here's the problem: Many of us have a hard time listening when someone around us is emotional or is disagreeing with us. That's why it's helpful to have a few sincere statements or questions in our back pockets:

- Tell me more.
- Help me understand.
- What would you like to see here?
- How long have you felt this way?

The next time one of your kids expresses their opinion... or their hurt... be sure to lend a sincere and empathetic ear, showing loving interest by using the points above. Remember: The more you listen to them, the more likely they'll listen to you. If the tone turns disrespectful or manipulative, you can always switch gears and repeat, "I love/respect you too much to argue" or "I'll listen when your voice sounds calm like mine."

To learn more about parenting kids who love to argue, read the book, [Love and Logic Magic: When Kids Leave You Speechless](#).

### **Attendance Notes**

#### **Family Vacations**

Parents and guardians are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. Please schedule family vacations during the days off according to our school calendar. Regular attendance is very important for student success.

#### **Arrival on time**

Arriving to school and class on time:

- ensures that students don't miss out on the important learning activities scheduled early in the day when the students are most alert
- helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- gives students time to greet their friends before class and therefore,
- reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption.

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents or guardians in the same way as other forms of absence.

#### **Student Illness at School**

Students who are feeling sick while at school must first contact the school nurse and/or building administrator prior to parent/guardian arrival. Students who need to leave the school, due to an excused reason, must receive permission to do so from the school nurse and/or building administrator. Please remind your student to see the nurse or office staff if they are not feeling well.

More detailed, important information about policies and procedures for attendance and absences can be found in our [2017-2018 District 323 Student/Parent Handbook](#) starting on Page 5.

### **Dress Code Reminders**

- Clothing that may be revealing or visually inappropriate is not allowed.
- Clothing must cover undergarments and private body parts.
- Holes in the garments are acceptable as long as no skin is exposed between the shoulders and the middle of the thigh.
- Shorts may be worn and must cover the middle of the thigh.
- Yoga pants, leggings, spandex, jeggings, or biking pants must be worn with other clothing covering private areas.
- Shirts, blouses, dresses, or other tops must cover midriff, undergarments and private body parts.
- Shirts, blouses, dresses or other tops must include a sleeve.
- Dresses/skirts must be no shorter than two inches above the top of the knee.

More detailed, important information about dress code guidelines can be found in our [201-2018 District 323 Student/Parent Handbook](#) starting on Page 15.

### **September is National Children's Cancer Awareness Month**

To help raise awareness and support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital the students and staff at Winnebago Middle School have been holding special dress-up days. For a \$1 donation to St. Jude students were able to participate in "putting a cap on cancer" and "putting cancer to rest." Staff throughout the district were also able to make a \$5 donation to participate in special "jeans for St. Jude" days in their buildings. In addition to the dress up days, funds have also been raised by having a dunk tank at the high school Homecoming football game for the past several years. All money raised will be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in honor of a former middle school student whose life was impacted by this terrible disease.

Thank you to Culvers of Winnebago and Anna's pizza for their generous donations and continued support of our events.



