



WMS WARRIOR NEWS

November 2018

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A NOTE FROM MR. KELLER

It is hard to believe that we are on the threshold of the holiday season! November and December begin one of the most important times in the school year.

Educators understand that the second 9-week grading period, with extended vacations during Thanksgiving and Christmas, present challenges for both teachers and students. As we strive to Improve Academic Achievement each and every day, we cannot overemphasize the importance of parents providing a quiet and organized study time at home for students to complete their assignments and review their daily lessons. Studies have shown that increased parental involvement yields better attendance, more homework completed, higher grades and test scores, better behaviors in school and more positive attitudes towards school.

The Fall Athletic season is now complete and we look forward to the Boys Basketball and Wrestling teams to begin their seasons in November. Our *Volleyball*, *Cross Country* and *Football* teams played hard and represented Willoughby Middle School with pride and passion in their competitions against other area middle schools, while the WMS *Cheerleading* squad supported our 7th and 8th Grade *Football* teams. Congratulations to all of the athletes and coaches!

Parent feedback on use of the Parent Portal continues to be very positive. If you have not logged into your child's portal and need the portal information please contact their guidance counselor or Mrs. Wells in the main office.

Education at all levels is a team effort. While the principal provides the overall leadership for the building and promotes the school's mission and vision, each school building is a community within itself. The staff at WMS is dedicated to Improving Student Achievement through Quality Instruction and Time on Task in all three grade levels; making sure that students are always FIRST!

As I move through our building and visit numerous classrooms on a daily basis, I am consistently impressed by the continued dedication and enthusiasm of our teachers. Students are focused and lessons are linked to real-life applications with hands-on instruction and opportunities for problem-based learning. The educational environment at WMS continues to evolve as students begin taking Quarterly Benchmark Assessments to determine their mastery of the academic standards. Today, more than ever, the teachers at WMS are focusing their instruction on individual student needs, while collecting and analyzing data to enhance instruction.

In closing, let me wish each and every family a blessed, safe and peaceful Thanksgiving. Remember, Thanksgiving Break begins Thursday, November 22nd and school resumes on Tuesday, November 27th.

**24 Hour Attendance
Line: 440-283-2182**



**No School
Thursday – Monday
November 22 – 26
Classes resume
Tuesday
November 27**

IMPORTANT DATES NOVEMBER 2018

- Nov. 1** – Choir Concert 7:30 PM
- Nov. 6** – Professional Development Day – NO STUDENTS
- Nov. 7** – Election Day
PLEASE VOTE
- Nov. 8** – PBIS All School Motivational Assembly Day Assembly
- Nov. 22 – Nov 26** – Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 27** – Classes Resume

HOMEWORK REQUESTS

Please do not put homework requests on the 24/7 attendance line. We work through all the messages very quickly to update attendance and frequently do not even catch the end of the message.

We will put out homework requests for students who have been absent 3 days or more. These requests need to come directly to one of the secretaries. Requests received by 9 a.m. will be ready for pick up by 3 p.m. Requests received after 9 a.m. may not be ready until the following day.

When you come to pick up your child's homework you will also need the locker number and combination so you can pick up textbooks which may be needed as well.

EARLY RELEASE INFORMATION

If your child needs an early release for any reason please send a note with the student. The note should be taken to the attendance window before school starts. This way the student can be given an early release pass to present to the teacher, go to the locker and be in the office waiting when a parent comes to sign them out.

Last minute emergency appointments can be called into the school and we will send for the student. There are times when students are in an assembly and it will take longer to locate them as an overhead page cannot be heard. Staff

members need time to find them when the whole student body is seated together.

2018-2019 School Fees

School fees for this academic year were sent out in an e-mail this year. A SOY (Start of Year) balance line indicates that student fees from prior years have not yet been paid. Students may not participate in extra-curricular activities until all SOY balances have been paid or until parents have arranged a payment plan with the Principal's Secretary.

School fees may be paid on line at the Pay For It site.

WHERE WILL I FIND?

Our WMS website is the place to visit if you need information! Our daily announcements and monthly newsletters are posted on the site.