



Washington Elementary School

April, 2016



NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL—Dr. Bill Tithof

This month's newsletter is mainly a recap of the many happenings in March. I hope you enjoy this edition. April is another busy month, too. With Spring Break ahead/behind us, the students and staff are re-energized for the important last two months of the school year. April is also the month in which we recognize our office staff on Administrative Professionals Day, April 27. At Washington, Ms. Kelly Hutchison and Ms. Rose Longuski take care of so many things. Besides all the paperwork, phones, etc., each of them tend to your students with birthday pencils, band aids, ice for bumps, a smile, or a hug, and many other needs. All of these "little things" make your child feel comfortable and safe. I can't say enough thanks to our Administrative Assistants for all they do at Washington! If you have the opportunity, please thank them, too, for all they do.

SPRING BREAK

As a reminder, Spring Break is here. Our Spring Break begins on Friday, March 25 through Sunday, April 3. Students return to school on Monday, April 4. Have a safe vacation!

NEW M-STEP

The M-STEP, the Michigan assessment, is coming up. This test is administered on the computer and is now taken in the spring. Fifth graders begin on April 11; fourth graders begin on May 9; third graders begin on April 25. Students have been training on the testing tools they will be using. If you would like to look at sample questions, testing tools, and other M-STEP info, please visit: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_70117---,00.html



Important Dates to Remember

- March 25-April 3**—Spring Break. Students return to School on Tuesday, April 7th
- April 11**—M-STEP begins for 5th Grades
- April 11**—Board of Education Meeting @ 7:15 PM at Western Middle School
- April 13**—V & O Assembly @ 2pm
- April 14**—Family Science Night @ 6 PM.
- April 22**—Half Day of school; dismissal @ 12:07 PM
- April 25**—M-STEP begins for 3rd Graders
- April 26**—College Wear Tuesday
- April 27**—Administrative Professionals' Day
- April 27**—Mid Term Reports sent home
- April 29**—1st grades to Temple Theatre

BAFFLING BILL'S READING IS MAGIC SHOW



At left, Baffling Bill performing for parents and students at Washington's Family Reading Night. Earlier in the evening, parents received free books to read to their children.

FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT

Washington Family Science Night will be Thursday, April 14 at 6 PM. Parents will learn what science topics students are covering. Then parents and students will be entertained by the “Extreme Science Show”! The first 20 students at each grade level will receive a science activity bag valued at over \$20. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!



VOLUNTEER NEWS—Upcoming Events in April

April is volunteer appreciation month so we would like to extend a big THANK YOU to all of our volunteers. We greatly appreciate you and couldn't pull off what we do here without you.
Joanie—Volunteer Coordinator

PARENT CONNECT

Our next Parent Connect Meeting is on April 20 at 8:30 AM. We will discuss Title I, M-STEP Testing, and Love and Logic. I hope you can attend.

HALF DAY OF SCHOOL

Friday, April 22, will be a half day of school. Students will be dismissed after lunch at 12:07 PM. This a record day for teachers. This is the halfway point of the 3rd and final trimester!

SECOND AND THIRD GRADE MUSIC PROGRAM

The 2nd and 3rd Graders, under the direction of Ms. Moore, our music teacher, will be having their spring concert on Tuesday, April 19 at 6 PM. We hope you can join us!



REDUCING BULLYING



Staff and students continue each day to discuss bullying and the effects on others. At Washington, we believe, that continuing discussion among students, with examples, assist them in their behavior relating to others.

What is Bullying?

Bullying hurts someone's feelings.
When mean kids do bad things to other kids, it's just wrong.
Bullying is the wrong thing to do.

When you get bullied, what do you do?
Tell them nice people don't talk that way and walk away.
Ignore the person that is bullying you. Tell someone you know and trust.
Always treat others the way you would like to be treated.

Jordan—Third Grade

TEACHER REQUESTS

The office will be accepting teacher requests for the 2016-2017 school year from Monday, April 4 thru Friday, April 29. Please stop by the office and complete the form if you have a teacher preference. We will try to honor each request, but students will be placed so their educational needs can be met.

SCHOOL STORE

Our school store is still up and running! Each Tuesday, the store is open for business. We have many school supplies: Pencils, book marks, highlighters, note pads, and many other items. The students have a lot of fun "buying" items. Thanks for your support.

NURSE STACY

Did you know that most Cold & Flu symptoms are viruses? Viruses DO NOT require an antibiotic as they are only effective for bacterial infections, not viral infections. What this means is that usually the virus just needs to "run its course" with the help from lots of fluids, extra rest and maybe some children's symptom relief medication if indicated. If your child has a fever that lasts longer than 24 hours or other symptoms that are not improving, it's always a good idea to call your child's doctor's office and speak to the nurse to see if they think your child needs to be seen in the office.



**CHANGE OF ADDRESS/
PHONE/EMERGENCY FORMS**

It is very important that parents notify the school office of any changes in address, home, and work phone numbers, etc. When we have emergencies, it is important that we have the correct information to reach a parent as soon as possible.



If you have had any changes on your emergency/profile sheet, please let us know. Please call Ms. Rose at 894-2744 with any changes.



ATTENDANCE

Our goal is to have all of our students in class, learning every day for the entire learning day, 8:14 am-3:17 pm. When it is necessary for a child to miss school for any reason, it is the parent's responsibility to call the school office at 894-2744 to excuse your child. If at all possible it is best for your child's education to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after school or during scheduled vacations.

The Learning Day

8:04—Universal Breakfast

8:14— Student's must be in classrooms ready to learn.

3:19—The end of the learning day.

Spring Break

March 25-April 3

Students return April 4!

**HOMEWORK
POLICY**

If your child is absent for a very short term, they can contact their teachers upon returning to school. For absences more than one day, parents may call the school and request assignments that may be worked on prior to the student returning. Please request your student's homework at least 24 hours in advance only if they will be out for more than one day.



Please complete the bottom portion and have your child return it to their teacher.

.....
_____ Yes, I received and have read the April Newsletter.

Student _____ Parent (optional) _____

Parent Signature _____ Phone #: _____

Any comments, concerns, suggestions, or congratulations are appreciated!

Thank you for your thoughts!