



WCES Parent Newsletter

Important Dates:

August 23, 2021

- 8/11 Stuff the Bus Event (volunteers needed – contact Mr. Headlee)
- 8/20 Teacher Clerical Day
Kindergarten Orientation 4:00pm
- 8/23 First Day of School
- 9/6 Labor Day – No School
- 9/10 American Made Fundraiser Kick-Off
- 9/20 PTA Meeting 6:00pm
Smile for Life W.U. Dental Program during Related Arts
- 9/24 American Made Fundraiser Turn-in date
- 9/27-10/1 Spirit Week Sales
- 9/28 **Bonding, Building, and Board Games Family Involvement Event 4:00pm**
- 10/1 Teacher In-Service (Act 80 Day)
- 10/15 Sarris Fundraiser Kick-Off
- 10/18 No School
- 10/25-29 Fall Book Fair
- 10/27 Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting 3:30pm (Elementary School Cafeteria)
Trunk or Treat
- 10/29 Halloween Parties
Sarris Fundraiser Turn-in Date
Grades Due by 8:00am
- 11/2 Report Cards Sent Home
- 11/5 Craft Show Setup
- 11/6 Craft Show
- 11/11 Veteran's Day – No School
- 11/12 Teacher In-Service – No School
- 11/16 WCES Open House (Kindergarten and Grade 1)
- 11/17 WCES Open House (Grade 2 and Grade 3)
- 11/18 WCES Open House (Grade 4, Grade 5, and Grade 6)
- 11/22 Progress Reports Sent Home
- 11/24 2 Hour Early Dismissal
- 11/25-29 Thanksgiving Holiday – No School
- 12/2 Fundraiser Delivery Day
PTA Meeting 6:00pm

Handbook Information

Handbooks are available for viewing on the school website. These handbooks answer nearly all questions you might have about school or school activities. Please take some time to read and become familiar with the information this Handbook contains. This book will resolve many issues on attendance and other relevant issues.



Attendance

Research shows that children who are in school most of the time do better on state tests. Studies also show that kids who are absent more often score lower on state tests. Being late for school hurts a child's learning, too. A student who is 10 minutes late everyday will miss 30 hours of instruction during the school year. Children can copy notes or make up an assignment, but they can never get back what's most important: the discussions, the questions, the explanations by the teacher and the thinking that makes learning come alive. Your child's success in school depends on having a solid educational background. One that can only be gained through regular school attendance.

Attendance Incentive

This year we will be looking to reward students with perfect attendance (no absences) and those with near perfect attendance (1 absences) each semester. These students will earn semester prizes.

Students with 2 or less days absent for the year will be eligible for the end of the year drawing for one of four iPads.

Written Excuses

Students are permitted three days following an absence to present a written excuse to their homeroom teacher, who will then, send it to the office secretary. Excuses must be written, with the **full name** of the student, date of absence, reason for absence, and parent/guardian signature. Failure to submit a written excuse for an absence within the three day window will result in the absence(s) being recorded as an unlawful/unexcused absence. Verbal excuses, computer generated conversation about absences are not considered a written excuse. Although communication is appreciated in this fashion, the auditors require a written note on file.



Schoolbus Safety



For twenty three million students nationwide, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. The greatest risk is not riding the bus, but approaching or leaving the bus.

Drivers

- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking or bicycling to school.
- When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch out for young people who may be thinking about getting to school but may not be thinking of getting there safely.
- Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.
- Slow down. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.
- Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- Learn and obey the school bus laws in your state. Learn the "flashing signal light system" that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:
 - **Yellow flashing lights** indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.
 - **Red flashing lights** and extended stop arms indicate that the bus has stopped, and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.

Children

- Get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- When the bus approaches, stand at least three giant steps (6 feet) away from the curb, and line up away from the street.
- Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says that it's okay before stepping onto the bus.
- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least five giant steps (10 feet) ahead of the bus before you cross. Be sure that the bus driver can see you, and you can see the bus driver.
- Use the handrails to avoid falls. When exiting the bus, be careful that clothing with drawstrings and book bags with straps don't get caught in the handrails or doors.
- Never walk behind the bus.
- Walk at least three giant steps away from the side of the bus.
- If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.

Parents

- Teach children to follow these common sense practices to make school bus transportation safer.



Mr. Scott Headlee, Principal
WCES is a Title 1 School