

WHITESIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT #115

Smoke Signals – December 2018

Mrs. Peggy Burke, Superintendent

Whiteside Elementary School

Mr. Nathan Rakers, Principal

Mr. Kevin Johnson, Assistant Principal

Whiteside Middle School

Mrs. Monica Laurent, Principal

Mr. Jaime Cotto, Assistant Principal

Calendar of Events – December

- 1 Robotics Tournament 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- 3 Student Council Meeting 3 p.m.
Booster Club Meeting 6 p.m.
- 4 5th Grade Book Club 3 p.m.
Math Team Meeting 3 p.m.
Hour of Code 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Middle School
Girls' 5/6 BB vs. JAMS at Home 4 p.m.
Boys' 5/6 BB at Central of O'Fallon 4 p.m.
Girls' 7/8 BB vs. JAMS at Home 6 p.m.
Boys' 7th BB at Central of O'Fallon 6 p.m.
PTC Meeting at 7 p.m. at Middle School
- 5 Photo Club Meeting 3 p.m.
Winter Band Concert 7 p.m.
- 6 Dare Graduation 9 a.m. (Middle School)
Art Club Meeting 3 p.m.
Newspaper Meeting 3 p.m.
Girls' 5/6 BB at Belle Valley 4 p.m.
Boys' 5/6 BB vs. Belle Valley at Home 4 p.m.
Girls' 7/8 BB at Belle Valley 6 p.m.
Boys' 7/8 BB vs. Belle Valley at Home 6 p.m.
- 7 Girls' 7th BB Tourney at Pontiac/Grant (Dec. 7-8)
- 8 Boys' 7th BB Tourney at Belle Valley
- 10 Girls' Science Club Meeting 3 p.m.
8th BB Tourney at West Jr. High (Dec. 10-13)
Boys' 8th BB Tourney at Central Jr. High (Dec. 10-13)
- 11 Sign Language Club 3 p.m.
Math Team Meeting 3 p.m.
GO Team Meeting 3 p.m.
Girls' 6th BB Tourney at Central of O'Fallon (Dec. 11-13)
Boys' 6th BB Tourney at Emge (Dec. 11-13)
Student Council Field Trip (Morningside Assisted Living Ctr.)
- 12 Photo Club Meeting 3 p.m. (Christmas party)
GO Team Meeting 3 p.m.
- 13 6th Grade Book Club 3 p.m.
Art Club Meeting 3 p.m. (Christmas party)
- 14 7th and 8th Grade Winter Dance 6-8 p.m.
- 17 Girls' 7/8 Tourney at Smithton
- 18 End of 2nd Quarter
Sign Language Club Meeting 3 p.m.
- 19 **First Day of Winter Break – NO SCHOOL**
Classes Resume Thursday, January 3rd



DECEMBER 19th – JANUARY 2nd
HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY!

WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS

The Bowling Team (grades 6-8) tryouts will be in mid-January. Bowlers permitted to tryout will be notified December 17th. Tryout dates, times and location will be given at this time.

Girls' & Boys' Volleyball tryouts will be as follows:

7th & 8th Grade Girls – (Tryouts at Middle School)
January 7 & 9 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

5th & 6th Grade Girls - (Tryouts at Elementary School)
January 22 & 23
3:00 - 4:45 p.m. (5th) & 4:45 – 6:00 p.m. (6th)

Boys' Volleyball (6-8) (Tryouts at Middle School)
January 10 from 3:00 – 4:45 p.m. &
January 11 from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

All students interested in trying out MUST have a 2018-2019 sports packet and a current physical (less than 1 yr. old) turned in to the middle school office no later than **Wednesday, December 12th**. Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and have no outstanding fees in order to try out. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** If you have questions, contact Mr. Jacob, Athletic Director, at ext. 3605.



The Winter Dance is Friday, December 14th from 6-8 p.m. All 7th & 8th graders are invited to attend.
**Must meet GPA & behavior requirements.

We are looking for volunteers to help decorate and work the concessions! Please contact Mrs. Laurent if you can help out! monica.laurent@wssdus.org

If school is cancelled due to weather, the closing will be announced on TV channels 2, 4, 5 and 11. You will also receive a call via Skyward. Please check Skyward to ensure your phone number is current. Whiteside will never dismiss early, but you may pick up your child at your discretion.



Our after-school ESP program is currently at capacity. We are not accepting any additional students at this time. If you would like to be put on a waiting list for participation in after-school ESP, please contact the elementary school office.



Miles of Smiles dental forms will be sent home in December and will need to be returned in early January. All students with a completed form will receive a dental exam, cleaning, fluoride treatment and sealants as indicated. This exam is a free service and doesn't interfere with your regular dental visits. It also fulfills the state dental requirement for those students in K, 2nd and 6th grade.

NO TIME FOR BREAKFAST?

Breakfast is served at both schools from 8-8:15 a.m., with extended time for later arriving bus students. Fuel up to start the day! *This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



It's that time of year- cold and flu season! Please keep your students home if they have a fever, are coughing continuously or are too ill to participate in their usual school program. Remember, hand washing is your best defense against

illness! **All students must be fever free for 24 hours, without medication, before returning to school.**

ELEMENTARY SERVICE PROJECT

Thank you to all of the students, families, and staff who helped raise money for UNICEF during the month of October. Our goal this year was to raise \$750 and we collected \$808! Thank you for your kindness and generosity. We should all be proud of ourselves! The money we raised for UNICEF will help children in over 150 countries around the world. Teachers, thank you for your efforts in collecting the money in your classroom. Also, thank you to Mrs. Karla and Ms. Bridget in the office for their help in counting the money.



Hat/Doughnut Day is Thursday, December 6th at the Middle School. Please bring \$1 to support Eden's Army! Eden's Army provides assistance to families with children in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at St. Louis Children's Hospital.



The Winter Band Concert is Wednesday, December 5th at 7 p.m. at the Middle School.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Butter Braid fundraiser. **Please pick up your orders Saturday, December 8th, from 9-11 a.m. in the middle school lobby.**



Elementary School Science Night

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Registration forms will be sent home in early January.

Congratulations to Mrs. Cathy Lippert on receiving this year's Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award!



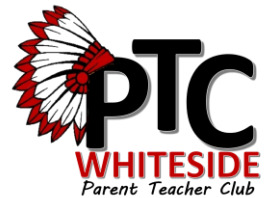
EMERSON
EXCELLENCE
IN TEACHING

Empathy Service Project

As a supplement to the December Character Word of the Month, Empathy, 4th grade is working with Caritas Family Solutions to collect new clothing items for foster children in the Belleville, IL, area. There are currently 333 children in foster care and 31 children in St. John Bosco Children's Center. If you would like to help ensure that these children have a great Christmas, please consider donating new children's clothing, sizes 4-20. Some suggestions are headbands and ponytail holders, pajamas, underwear, socks, hats, scarves and mittens. Donation boxes will be set up in the Elementary School Multi-purpose room from December 3-14, 2018.



PTC Corner



Upcoming Events

December 4 - PTC Meeting at 7 p.m. at the Middle School
"Wish I Knew" segment = Gain information, suggestions, and helpful hints about 5th and 6th grade.

Save the date

January 27 - Family Puzzle Night (more info. coming soon)

March 8 - Family Reading Night

April 6 - GLO Bingo and Auction

April 13 - WS Warrior Wellness Day and 5K

FREE Wellness & Fitness Fair = The PTC is currently seeking various businesses/organizations that can showcase activities, highlight events, share information, and/or provide giveaways/refreshments. We currently have the following businesses/organizations set to participate: Belleville Little Devils Football & Cheerleading Club, DoTerra, YMCA, Belleville East Boys and Girls Basketball and 3T Martial Arts. If interested, please contact Kelly Remijan (wamser.remijan@yahoo.com).

BOX TOPS for Education

Collect those Holiday Box Tops! We will be collecting BOX TOPS at both WS Elementary and WS Middle School.

The next contest deadline is February 15th - BOX TOPS must include teacher name and can be turned in at any time on collection sheets or in an envelope or baggie!

For more information on WS PTC events, please contact whitesideptc@wssd115.org or follow us on Facebook: **Whiteside PTC**