

WHITESIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MR. NATHAN RAKERS, PRINCIPAL

MRS. KIM BOSSLER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

WHITESIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

MRS. MONICA LAURENT, PRINCIPAL

MR. JAIME COTTO, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1 Final Day to Order Yearbooks
- 2 Middle School Wacky Warrior Week Begins
- 3 PTC - Joe's Dine & Donate First Day
STEM Club Challenge
- 4 Elementary School Hat Day
Early Dismissal (MS 1:45 PM, ES 2:00 PM)
- 5 Math Team Meeting
PTC - Joe's Dine & Donate Final Day
- 6 MS Wacky Warrior Week Ends
Young Author Contest Due Date
- 7 Math Team Competition at SIUE
- 9 NJHS Meeting
PTC Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM
Band Kettle Corn Fundraiser Begins
Student Council Valentine Candy-Grams Day 1
- 11 Student Council Meeting 2:50 - 3:45 PM
- 12 Student Council Valentine Candy-Grams Last Call
- 13 Elementary Friendship Class Parties
- 14 STEM Club Challenge
- 16 No school - Presidents' Day
- 18 Early Dismissal (MS 1:45 PM, ES 2:00 PM)
Booster Club Meeting - 6:00 PM
- 20 Band Kettle Corn Fundraiser Ends
- 25 Glee Club Field Trip
- 27 End of 3rd Quarter

NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 16



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following elementary students who were selected by their teachers for showing Honesty!

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Zaya Adkins | Sal Owens |
| Alayna Cebrelli | Joseph Rocker |
| Cordero (CJ) Edwards | Demi Virginia |
| Kamryn Jenkins | Alius Weeks |
| Aaliyah Martin | Londyn Wilborn |


Congratulations to the following middle school students who were selected by their teachers!

- Nicholas Jenkins
Noelle Smith


2ND SEMESTER
CHARACTER COUNCIL

The following elementary students were chosen by their teachers for being leaders in our school, always showing great character!

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Jhustice Brown | Jordin Lee |
| Jamani Derisca | Adrian Leverston |
| Carter Doyle | Thomas Norton |
| Gracie Finley | Londyn Sloan |
| Marley Gill | Paige Sterns |
| Ian Goldman | Jayda Wooten |
| Carter Hill | |



The Student Council will be selling **Valentine candy grams** before school on **February 9-12!** The candy grams are **\$1.00 each**, and they come with a card and a strawberry cream lollipop. Be sure to send your friends a candy gram and make someone smile!! Candy grams will be delivered during homeroom on Friday, February 13th!



WHITESIDE BAND

The Belle Fair Music Festival has been **rescheduled for Monday, March 16**. This is for the students who were selected for this festival originally scheduled on January 26.

The 6th, 7th and 8th Band students will have the opportunity to participate in a PAPA'S KETTLE CORN fundraiser starting February 9-20. All money earned from this event will go to a student's personal band account and can be used to buy tickets for the Cardinals game on April 14 or to their Six Flags music festival expenses (7th and 8th grade only) on May 2. Watch for details coming soon.

Take note of these important dates:

February 23: Cardinal tickets go on sale for April 14

March 13: Solo and Ensemble Contest (6th, 7th, and 8th grade)

March 16: Makeup date for Belle Fair Music Festival (selected students)

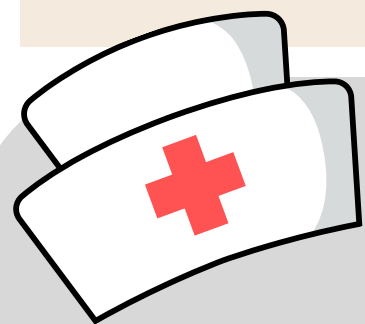
April 14: National Anthem at the Cardinals Game (6th, 7th, and 8th grade)

May 2: Six Flags Music Festival (Concert band)



~Mrs. Korak

jennifer.korak@wssd115.org



NURSES' NOTES

Reminder!

Any new students to Illinois, Kindergarten, 2nd, and 6th Grade must have a dental exam by May 1, 2026.

Miles of Smiles will be back at the Elementary School on March 30 and 31. They will be at the Middle School on April 1.

Thank you!

~Nurse Crystal and Nurse Heather



IAR & ISA Testing

Elementary School IAR
(3rd and 4th Grade Only!)
March 23 - March 27

Middle School IAR
March 23 - March 27

5th Grade ISA
April 14 - April 16

8th Grade ISA
TBD

STAFF SHOUT OUTS

A special THANK YOU to these staff members for their hard work and dedication to excellent service for our students.

DECEMBER

Elle Badgley

Dave Thompson

JANUARY

Michelle Glascock

Crystal Rakers

WACKY WARRIOR!



WEEK: FEB 2ND-6TH

MON

SPORTS DAY

Wear your favorite sport/team shirt or jersey!

TUE

GRADE LEVEL COLOR DAY

5th Grade - Green 7th Grade - Blue
6th Grade - Yellow 8th Grade - Pink

WED

QUARTER ZIP & ANYTHING BUT A TRAPPER KEEPER DAY

Be creative! No bags.

THU

TEACHER/STUDENT SWAP DAY

Dress like your favorite teacher!

FRI

WACKY WARRIOR DAY

Wear as much red and Whiteside gear as possible!

GLEE CLUB

Field Trip on Wednesday, February 25 to St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Permission slips going home on February 13. Must be signed and returned for students to attend the trip. Wear Glee Club Shirts and nice jeans/pants.



~Mrs. Keys
nicole.keys@wssd115.org

Completed Young Author stories, for the Young Author Contest, are **due** to teachers on **Friday, February 6th**. Grade Level winners will be chosen to represent our school at the St. Clair County Young Authors Conference on Wednesday Evening, March 11th.



Whiteside Education Foundation Fundraisers

Need groceries? Why not make them count for something bigger? **Until May 15, EVERY** Instacart Gift Card you buy through our fundraising page helps support Whiteside Education Foundation. Redeem it on the Instacart app for delivery or pickup nationwide from top stores like Target, Walmart, Costco, Safeway, Kroger, and CVS. Get all your groceries, snacks & essentials while giving back at the same time. Groceries that give back? Yes, please! Get yours here:



Doughnuts for a cause!! Whiteside Education Foundation is giving you the best reason to indulge in a dozen (or two) Krispy Kreme doughnuts. **Until May 15, 2026, 50% of your order** will be donated back to Whiteside Education Foundation when you purchase via our fundraising sales page! Simply buy online, visit your local store & redeem using your code. Treat yourself or even gift them to friends and family here:



Drama Club!

Save the Date for the
Play on **Friday, April 24th**!



SNOW DAYS

If school is cancelled due to weather, the closing will be announced on TV channels **2, 4, 5, and 11** and on the district website. 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.

WHITESIDE ELEMENTARY

S.T.E.A.M CARNIVAL

Thursday, February 26, 2026
6:00-7:30pm
Whiteside Elementary School Gym

Join us for a FUN experience! The STEAM Carnival is a come and go event. Stay for as long or short of time as you'd like. Experience booths with themed activities relating to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math Activities.

Cost: \$1.00 per person
CASH ONLY at the door
No Reservations Needed!

*If arriving before 6:00pm please wait outside the gym doors.



The **Middle School Art Room** is looking for donations! We love to make **ART** with **FOUND** and Recycled Objects. Ms. McGehee is looking for bottle caps, recycled plastic food containers, lids, old buttons, cans, jars (especially cleaned baby food or yogurt jars), water bottles, magazines, newspapers, and other knick-knacks. Help us breathe new life into something you might otherwise throw away.



Athletic Arena

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the 8th Grade Boys Basketball team for going 23-1 during their season! Shout out to Braylon Williams and Jeremiah Perkins for being selected for the All Star game at Belleville East!



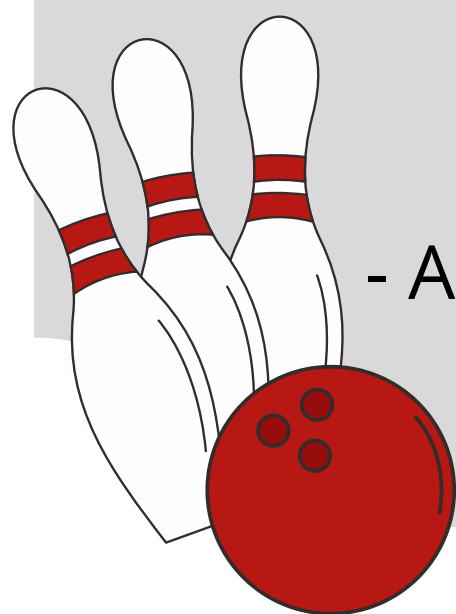
Admission Prices for Volleyball Games:

Adults - \$3

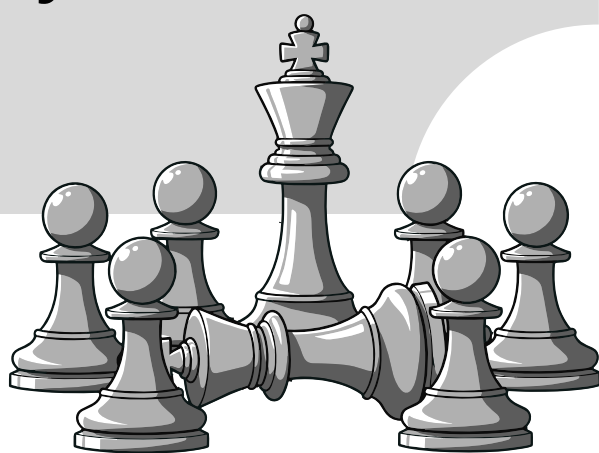
Students - \$2

Seniors (65+ with ID) - Free

Under 5 - Free



- Athletic Director Luke Ryterski



Booster Club

The Whiteside Booster Club is looking for more members and encourages everyone to participate in these upcoming events.

- Wednesday, February 18th - Booster Club Meeting in the MS lobby at 6pm



School Fees Reminder!

Please remember all fees, including lunch balances, have to be paid in full in order for students to participate in clubs, extra curricular activities, and sports as well as attend field trips, end-of-year activities and for 8th graders to attend graduation. Please check your student's account throughout the school year for any outstanding lunch or school fees. If you have any questions or would like to set up a payment plan, please contact Mrs. Rist at rachel.rist@wssd115.org or 618-641-6051.

Sports Calendar

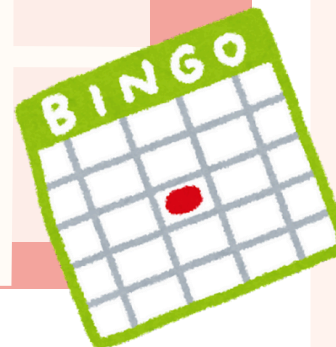
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|-----------|--|
| 2 | 4:00PM Whiteside v. Shiloh 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Whiteside v. Shiloh JV & Varsity Boys VB |
| 3 | TBD Whiteside v. Belle Valley Bowling |
| 4 | 4:00PM Whiteside v. High Mount Chess
4:00PM Whiteside v. Wolf Branch 5&6 Girls VB
5:30PM 8 th Boys Basketball Regionals |
| 5 | 4:00PM Home v. JAMS 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Home v. JAMS JV & Varsity Boys VB
TBD Whiteside v. JAMS 5&6 Girls VB
TBD Whiteside v. JAMS Bowling |
| 6 | 5:30PM 8 th Boys Basketball Regionals |
| 7 | 9:00 AM Chess Tournament at Pontiac |
| 9 | TBD St. James Tournament Varsity Boys VB |
| 10 | 4:00PM Home v. Belle Valley 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Home v. Belle Valley JV & Varsity Boys VB
TBD Whiteside v. Belle Valley 5&6 Girls VB |
| 11 | 4:00PM Home v. Carriel 7&8 Girls VB
TBD St. James Tournament Varsity Boys VB |
| 12 | 4:00PM Home v. Signal Hill 6 th Girls VB
4:00PM Whiteside v. Signal Hill 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Whiteside v. Signal Hill JV/Varsity Boys VB
TBD Whiteside v. Pontiac Bowling |
| 13 | TBD St. James Tournament Varsity Boys VB |
| 14 | TBD St. James Tournament Varsity Boys VB |
| 17 | 4:00PM Home v. West 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Home v. West JV & Varsity Boys VB
TBD 8 th Boys Basketball State at Rend Lake |
| 18 | TBD Home v. Wesclin 5&6 Girls VB
TBD Whiteside v. Signal Hill Bowling |
| 19 | 4:00PM Home v. ICS 5&6 Girls VB
4:00PM Whiteside v. Grant 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Whiteside v. Grant JV & Varsity Boys VB
TBD Whiteside v. EMGE Bowling
TBD 8 th Boys Basketball State at Rend Lake |
| 20 | TBD 7 th Girls Volleyball Tournament at Home |
| 21 | TBD 7 th Girls Volleyball Tournament at Home |
| 24 | 4:00PM Home v. EMGE 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Home v. EMGE JV & Varsity Boys VB
TBD Whiteside v. EMGE 5&6 Girls VB
TBD Whiteside v. Central Bowling |
| 26 | 4:00PM Whiteside v. High Mount 7&8 Girls VB
6:00PM Whiteside v. High Mount JV/Varsity Boys VB
TBD Home v. JAMS 5&6 Girls VB
TBD Whiteside v. Smithton Bowling |



PTC CORNER

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 3-5
 - Dine & Donate at Joe's Pizza & Pasta
 - 15% of all sales will be donated to the PTC.
 - Class with the best sales will win a pizza party!
- Monday, February 9 - Monthly PTC Meeting
 - 6 PM in Middle School Library
 - Join us to find out what's happening in our schools and be in the know with all the events coming.
 - Can't join us in person? Join us on [Zoom](#)
- Friday, February 13
 - Elementary Friendship Class Parties
- Thursday, February 26 - STEAM Carnival



Get Ready to Build Some Fun!

Join us for **Whiteside's Annual Glo Bingo & Auction** on **Friday, March 27, 2026** at Tribout's Belle Vegas Bingo Hall (517 S Illinois St, Belleville).

Doors open at 5:30 PM | Bingo starts at 7:00 PM

Ages 18+ only

Grab your hard hat and get ready to light up the night. Guests can bring their own snacks to fuel up, and there will be a cash bar.

Bingo Registration Includes:

- 10 rounds of Glo Bingo (with your bingo cards)
- A dauber to mark your blueprint for success
- A glowing hard hat to help you shine on site ✨

Whiteside PTC thanks **GRP Wegman** for serving as a Premier Sponsor for Glo Bingo.

SAVE THE DATE

March 2 - 5

Middle School Book Fair
(see next page for more details)

We are looking for adult volunteers. [Sign up today!](#)



Monday, March 9

Monthly PTC Meeting
6 PM

Friday, March 13

Kindergarten
Grandparents Lunch

Friday, March 27

Glo Bingo!

Need more tools in your belt? Extra bingo cards will be available for purchase. Plus, don't miss our raffle tickets, silent auction treasures, and live auction excitement—there's always something worth "building on"!

Come ready to play, bid, and help **Whiteside Parent Teacher Club** lay the foundation for another amazing year.

Buy your tickets today!

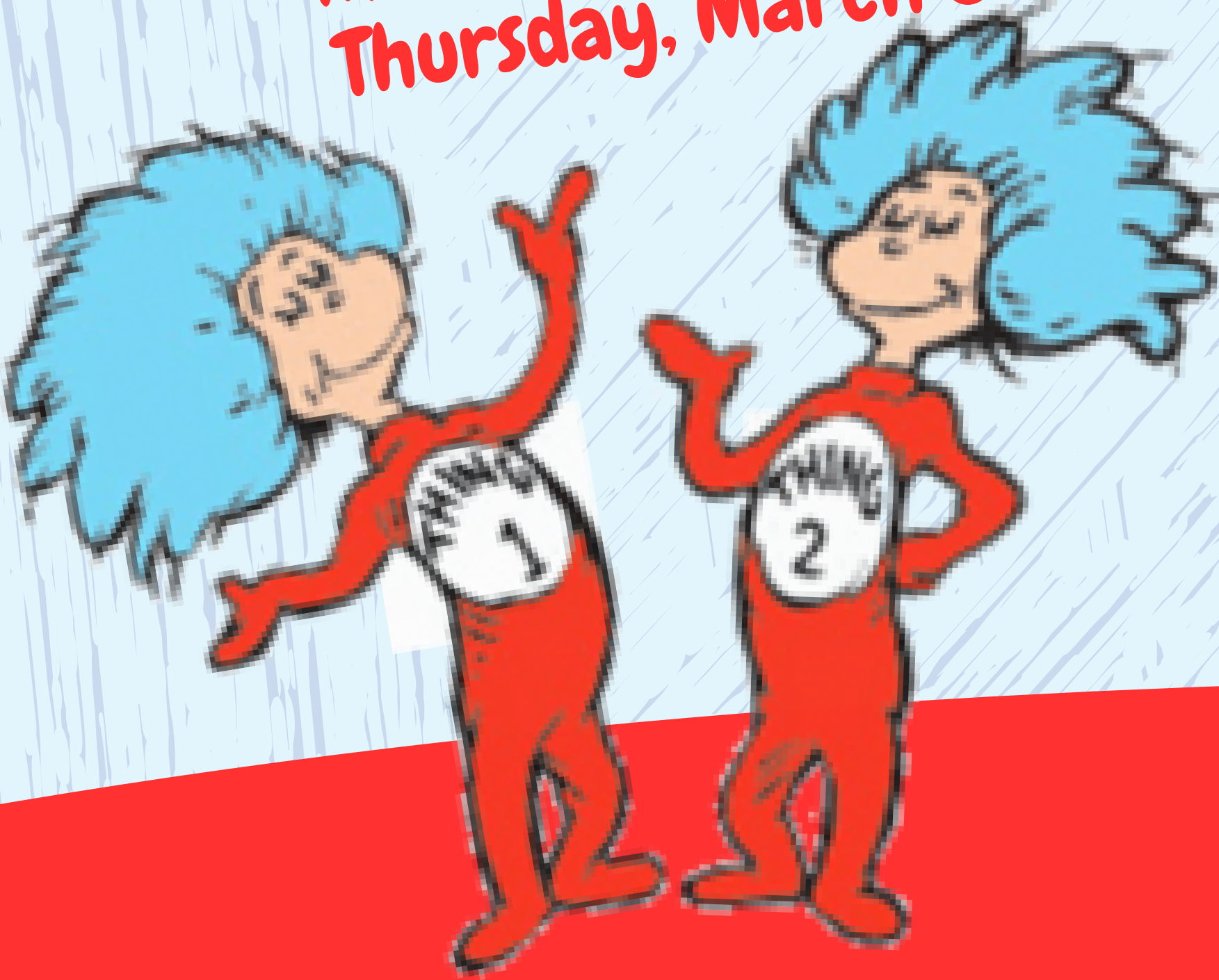




WHITESIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

BOOK FAIR Week

Monday, March 2 -
Thursday, March 5



SPIRIT WEEK THEMES

Help us Celebrate Dr. Seuss at our Middle School Book Fair! We will be hosting a Spirit Week while the fair is going on.

Each day you participate, you will be entered into a drawing to win a free book from the bookfair! We will select 1 winner from every homeroom on Thursday (must be in attendance Thursday to be selected). Students are encouraged to dress out each day to increase their chances of winning!

Each grade will have the opportunity to visit the book fair with their literature or reading teacher.

Donations to the fair can be made here:



MONDAY

5TH

GRADE

Green Eggs and Ham

Wear Green!

TUESDAY

6TH

GRADE

Thing 1 & Thing 2

Dress as Twins with someone in your Homeroom

WEDNESDAY

7TH

GRADE

Wacky Wednesday

Crazy socks, fun hairstyles, and silly outfits.

THURSDAY

8TH

GRADE

Cat in the Hat

Hat Day!
(no charge)