



Whitfield Monthly

PSSA Assessment Dates

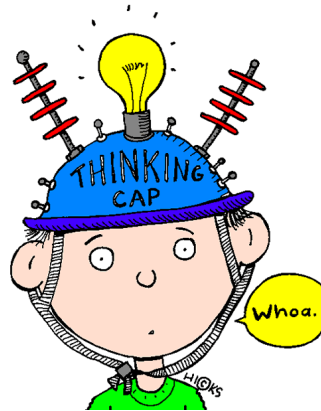
April 4-7, 2017 Grades 3-4-5 ELA

April 25-27, 2017 Grades 3-4-5 Math

May 1-2, 2017 Grade 4 Science

Make-ups will be help throughout the testing window and also May 8-12. Please do everything possible to have your children ready for these assessments. Students should get a good nights sleep and eat a nutritious breakfast. We want to especially emphasize the need to be on time. School starts at 8:50 am and students need to be in the classroom at that time.

In order to ensure reliable test results the Department of Education does not allow the children to have ANY electronic devices in their possession during the testing times. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, iPods, tablets, smartphones (including ALL watch phones) and e-readers. Please keep all electronic devices at home for the duration of the PSSA exams. If a device is found, the teacher will collect the device and give it back at the end of the school day. Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation!



Whitfield Elementary

Volume 2017 Issue 4

April, 2017

Dates to Remember

April 4-7—ELA PSSA's

April 4—WHSA Meeting 6:30

April 6—3rd Quarter Report cards visible on Skyward

April 10—Disney Spirit Day

April 11—Decade Spirit Day

April 12-17—Spring Holiday (No School!!!)

April 20—Student Council Pretzel Sale

April 25-27—Math PSSA's

Kindergarten Registration

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Parents must pre-register for this event. Please stop by the office for a form or you may download a form from the Wilson webpage—wilsonsd.org, Incoming kindergarten student should NOT attend this session!

3rd Quarter Report Cards

The 3rd quarter report cards will be visible through Family Access in Skyward on the evening of Thursday April 6. (Family Access viewing will be closed from the evening of March 29 until reopening on April 6)

Please note: We can not release any Skyward password information over the phone. You must come into the office with valid photo ID to obtain this information. If you have any questions please call the office at 610-670-0180 x 1610.

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Just a reminder that our Reading Olympics event is right around the corner! Students will be showing off their reading skills and teamwork at Wilson Southern on May 17. We are so proud of each team as they are working hard to prepare for the event. We also want to thank the WWSA for purchasing the t-shirts for each Olympian! Your support is greatly appreciated.

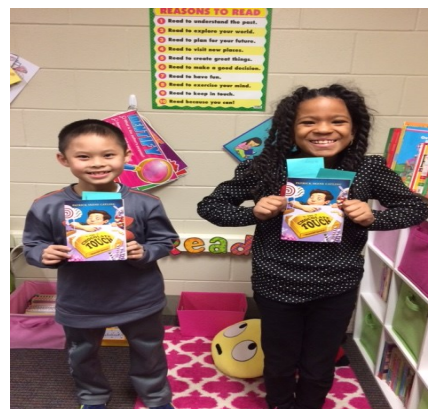
Reading Department

The Reading Department held a special night featuring a local author, Nadine Poper and her dachshund, Wendy, read to the students, made a special dachshund craft and signed books for all the children. Her books, "Dachshunds in Moccasins" and "Wienies in Bikinis" were a huge hit! Thank you to all of the families who made it out for this fun



ESL

3rd Grade ESL students Ashley and Michael are currently reading, *Chocolate Touch* by Patrick Skene Catling. They are learning words like *gracious* and *cranium*. Students will also make their own Chocolate Magic Box and write a Chocolate Rap!



School-Wide Reading Challenge

This year's Reading Challenger will begin on April 3 and end on April 28. During that time, classrooms will be challenged to read 2017 minutes. For every 2 hours read, students will hang a kiss emoji on their classroom door and earn a ticker to vote for which teacher they would like to see kiss an alpaca! For every FOUR classrooms that reach the goal, we will select

another teacher to pucker up! If ALL classes reach the goal there will be SIX teachers kissing out visiting alpaca at the May's Principals Assembly! All students have the chance to win prizes as well!



"You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book."

Dr. Seuss

From the Speech Team

Speech/Language:

Top 10 Ways to Improve Communication Skills (from homespeechhome.com)

1. Give wait time
2. Don't over correct
3. Treat your child as a full communication partner
4. Be a good role model
5. Turn off the TV
6. Read, read, read
7. Ask open ended questions
8. Repeat words often

9. Draw conclusions and explain consequences
10. Praise your child for talking

We have a new member on our staff! Marybeth Rissinger, speech/language pathologist, will work with students at both Whitfield and the High School. All students will continue to be seen ac-

cording to the frequency specified in IEP's.

Jamie McGee—Days 1-6—All related service and 5th grade speech-only students

Marybeth Rissinger—Days 1-3—K-4th speech-only students and RTII.

Happy Communicating!

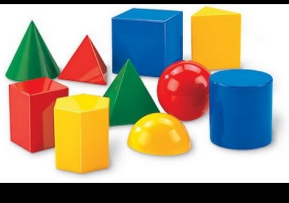
Grade Level Happenings!

Kindergarten—We are finishing our weather unit and are starting our science unit all about plants and animals. We will be doing two author studies in April. We can't wait to read lots of books by Mo Willem and Eric Carle! Our how to writing has come to an end. Next up in writing is opinion writing



First Grade—During the month of April, we will be studying the sun, planets and the moon. We will also begin their study on caterpillars and butterflies. In writing, the students will create a main character and use that character in various adventures. Mrs. Lynch's class is learning about dinosaurs. The students broke into groups and started researching their specific dinosaur. When their research is complete, they will create a project to share their information to the class.

Second Grade—Our second grade students are learning to write opinion pieces. We have to have 3 reasons with examples to convince the reader to have the same opinion. As we head into the 4th quarter, we'll become poets in our writing work. By learning to see things through a poet's eyes we'll be able to help our readers experience all the feelings and emotions we wish to share. Rhyming poetry, haiku, cinquain and free verse are just a sampling of the types of poetry we'll be exploring. In math we are studying Geometry and learning about shapes and their attributes. Starting 4th quarter in Science, we will be learning about soils.



Third Grade—In Social Studies, Mr. Derr helped the students create virtual reality Native American and Colonial villages using cospaces.org. Students created villages containing homes, animals, people and resources unique to the area of North America they had researched. Mr. Derr also worked with the students in their science classes to create a video game using Bloxelsbuilder.com based on the Brassica Rapa plants they are growing in class. The goal of the game was to demonstrate the process of cross pollination.

Books don't
just go with
you, they take
you where
you've never
been.

-Anonymous

Fourth Grade— In Mr. Croft's class, the students have been keeping an eye on the Hanover Bald Eagle nest. They have 2 hatchlings that the students enjoy watching. In Mr. Schultz's Science/Social Studies class, the students are making roller coasters to learn about force and motion. In math, Mrs. Periandi has been busy teaching how to measure angles using protractors. And Mrs. Handwerk has the students starting their narrative writing pieces.

Fifth Grade—In 5th grade writing class, we have just finished their Persuasive pieces. In Social Studies, we are continuing to learn our state capitals. In Science, we said goodbye to the Fiddler Crabs and are tackling the Rubik's cube. Geometry is the latest topic in Math and analyzing poetry and literary fiction is what is happening in ELA. The 5th graders are looking forward to their last quarter of elementary school!

Art Show & Discovery Faire

The Art Show and Discovery Faire will be held on May 18.

In Discovery, the students have been working hard in the engineering and design process to create various projects. Second Grade is working on creating a doodle-bot that requires a series circuit and third grade is creating their own musical instruments out of up-cycled materials! Watch for more info in the coming weeks.

Whitfield Elementary School

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Go Bulldogs!!!



From the Student Council:

Thursday, March 23rd was the 6th annual Student/Faculty basketball game. The teachers won the close game with Mrs. Worrell leading the teachers with 12 points. Cohen Renninger scored 17 points to become the all-time leading scorer for the students. The event raised \$1,595 for The National Brain Tumor Society. Overall, Whitfield raised \$5,944.00. Mr. Huyett's class was the top raising class at \$411. Thank you to everyone who helped us help a great cause.



WHSA Color-A-Thon

When: Saturday, May 13 Time: 9:00 AM Where: Wilson's Gurski Stadium

It's time to prepare for the WHSA's 2nd annual Wilson Color-A-Thon 3k/5k Run/Walk! The Whitfield WHSA is asking that you assist your student in raising donations to meet our school's goal of \$10,000. The money raised by Whitfield students will directly support the WHSA's efforts to provide books for more robust classroom libraries for your children to use, learn from and enjoy.

Fundraising envelopes will be sent home on Tuesday, April 4. Students will have 2 weeks to gather donations in person and online (via a personal website you can create through Color-A-Thon) before the fundraising deadline of Wednesday, April 19. For every donation level a student reaches, they receive rewards. The first donation level of \$30 gets them into the Color-A-Thon Run/Walk, a t-shirt, a color dye pack & Blast Bag. See the prize flyer in their donation envelope for the other levels.

Please plan to help us raise money for books in our school and participate in an exciting and colorful event at the same time. This donation drive ends with an exciting and family friendly Color-A-Thon 3k/5k event that is sure to be a BLAST for all! If you have any questions please contact Tracy Markle, WHSA Color-A-Thon Chairperson at ColorAThon@comcast.net or text 610-659-3549.

