



Whitfield Monthly

PSSA Assessment Dates

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!

Kindergarten Registration

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Parents must pre-register for this event. If you have already registered, information should have been sent home to you. Please call the office at 610-670-0180 x 1610 with any questions.

Tabs and Markers!

We are nearing the end of the year! Please continue to send soda tabs in with your child to support our collection for the Ronald McDonald House. Tabs are collected in containers in each homeroom. Don't forget to also send in used markers for our recycling drive with Crayola! Markers can be sent to Mrs. Reppert's room.

Thank you for supporting our service projects!

Whitfield Elementary

Volume 2017, Issue 5

May, 2017

Dates to Remember

May 1-2—Science PSSA's (4th)

May 2—School Store (K-2)
8:15-8:35 (Library Lobby)

May 2-WHSA Meeting 6:30
(all-purpose room)

May 4—School Store (3-5)
8:15-8:35 (Library Lobby)

May 18—Student Council Pretzel Day

May 18—Discovery/Art Show 6-7:30

May 26—Crazy Sock Day

May 26—Early Dismissal 11:45

May 29—Holiday—NO SCHOOL

May 30—Reading Phillies Night

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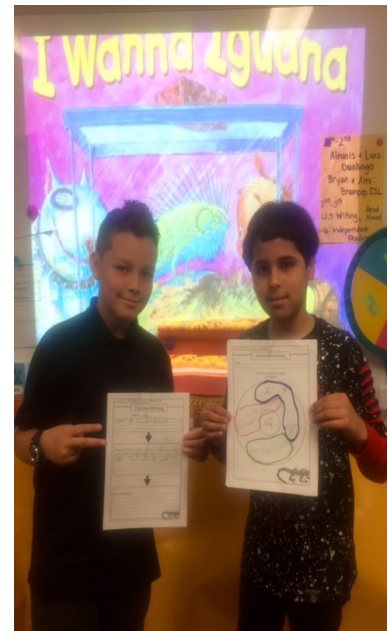


Just a reminder that our Reading Olympics event is right around the corner! Students will be showing off their reading skills and teamwork at Wilson Southern on May 17. We are so proud of each team as they are working hard to prepare for the event. We also want to thank the WSA for purchasing the t-shirts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

ESL

5th Grade ESL students, Luis and Bryan, are working on Opinion Writing. They read, *I Wanna Iguana* by Karen Kaufman Orloff and discussed how the character, Alex, convinced his Mom to let him get an iguana.

Luis and Bryan have brainstormed and they are now organizing their ideas for opinion writing. Luis is writing to persuade his parents that he should have a pet cat. Bryan is writing to convince his parents to allow him to get a dog. Can't wait to read their final pieces!



Come Read with Us in the Whitfield Elementary Library!

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (starting the week of June 20th)

9:00—9:30—Sign-In, Welcome and Read Aloud

9:30—11:00—Activity & Book Selection

Back by popular demand, the Whitfield Library will again be open this summer for students. Each week, teachers will read some of their favorite books and follow up with an activity. Be on the look-out for more specific information coming home regarding this fabulous opportunity to keep reading over the summer. We hope to see you! It is good to keep kids engaged in reading over the summer! A list of suggested titles from our grade level teachers will be sent home soon.



From the Speech Team:

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month! Here are some simple ideas to help promote language and communication in a fun and motivating way!

- **Read the newspaper together!** Hold a discussion on articles, ask questions, and read the comics to practice understanding of humor.
- **Cook and/or bake!** Practice sequencing and following recipe directions. Elicit conversations while preparing food. Practice organization while shopping or preparing ingredients.
- **Keep a summer journal!** Have your child practice their written expression skills by documenting all of the fun and exciting activities they are doing over the break.
- **Create fun puzzles!** Help your child practice answering questions and their vocabulary. There are a variety of websites that can allow you to create a fun puzzle. Check out www.discovery.com
- **Talk, talk, talk!** Talk about your day, the weather, movies that you watched. Keep the conversations going!

Grade Level Happenings!

Kindergarten—We started our new writing unit all about opinions and persuading others. Students have been writing about problems they see in school or in the community. They write about the problem, why it is a problem, and create solutions. This unit is all about creativity because students can write letters, songs, lists, or create posters! Science is all about plants and animals! Students planted their own seeds and we are watching them grow. This week, we will be getting our very own class pets. We will be studying milkweed bugs and zebra fish!

Second Grade—Continues to explore money. We are also using our poet's eyes to write free-verse poetry. We are also excited to have started our composting in Science.

Third Grade—In May, we will continue our study of Fairy Tales and Folktales. Students will be writing their own versions of fairy tales and folktales. In science, we will continue to measure the growth of the Brassica plant and harvest the seeds. We will also be learning about colonial life in Berks County and enjoy a fun-filled field trip to Old Dry Road Farm.



Fourth Grade—Our field trip to Harrisburg will be on Monday, May 8. The students will be experimenting with chemical changes in a science lab using alginate. We are wrapping up a narrative writing unit. In Math, we investigated geometry and learned about symmetry and perpendicular lines.

Fifth Grade—Lots of exciting things coming up for the 5th graders last days of elementary school! On Tuesday, May 2, the class will travel to Landis Valley for their field trip. On Wednesday, May 10, the 5th grade class will be attending a field trip to the Reading Fightin Phils Education Day. On Friday, May 12, the class will travel to West Middle School for the morning for an orientation. Wednesday, May 31, is our track and field day. Friday, June 2, is the WHSA 5th grade picnic at Wilshire Pool. Finally, our End of Year awards/promotion assembly will be held on Thursday, June 8.

"Anything is possible. Anything can be."

~

Shel Silverstein

Art Show & Discovery Fair

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

Kindergarten and First grade have been fairy-tale engineers by creating solutions that use simple machines for popular fairy-tale characters. Second grade students engineered and designed a doodle bot that uses an electrical circuit to draw with markers. Third grade has been hard at work making musical instruments out of up-cycled donations and materials.

Fourth grade is finishing the movies they created with stop-animation or green screen effects. Fifth grade had to devise a plan to engineer a project of their choice. Their projects include up-cycled material creations, videos, board games, video games and various models. Come on out on May 18 to check out all of these great projects and more!

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Go Bulldogs!!!



From the Library!

We will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the library during the last week of school. All books are going to be buy one get one free! Parents can stock up on summer reading materials and help curb the summer slide!

What is summer slide? Summer slide is the academic loss children experience during the extended summer break from school. Children who don't read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect.



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 that 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.

