

WEST END ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

<https://www.craw.org/schools/west-end-elementary-school>
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Office: (814) 724-1450



West End Elementary School
Mrs. Meghan Stefanucci, Principal

April 2024

Upcoming Events



- 2 School closed
Autism Awareness Day – **Wear Blue**
- 8 **No school for Students**
Solar Eclipse
- 10 PTO meeting 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Kindergarten Registration 7:30 – 3:30
- 22 School Board Meeting 5:30 p.m. (ISC)
Earth Day
- 23-25 **PSSA ELA testing for grades 3-6**
- 30-May 1 **PSSA MATH testing for grades 3-6**
- May 2 **PSSA Science testing for grade 4**

Message from the Principal

Welcome to the April edition of our West End newsletter. We hope this message finds you and your families well as we transition into the spring season. Here are some important updates and highlights for the month ahead:

1. Autism Awareness Day is April 2nd, 2024. We encourage everyone to wear blue on this day to demonstrate support for showing acceptance and awareness for individuals with Autism.
2. School Dress Code: This was sent home previously, please be sure that your child is dressed properly and that his/her attire follows the districts dress code policy.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support in creating a positive learning environment for our students. Together, we can make this a successful and fulfilling month of April!

-Mrs. Stefanucci

State Assessments

West End will administer the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) on the following dates:

- April 23,24,25 (ELA grades 3-6)
- April 30 – May 1 (Math grades 3-6)
- May 2 (Science grade 4)

It is important that your child is in attendance on these dates. There is evidence that students perform better when they test as a whole group. Students with perfect attendance during testing days will receive a special treat from PTO.

Please help your child to do his or her best by ensuring they have a healthy breakfast and a good night's rest. Also, electronic devices are not allowed in the testing site. Students are encouraged to leave their cell phones and electronic devices at home.

April Nurse Notes

Allergy Season is Ramping Up....

- If your child develops "cold" symptoms at the same time every year, seasonal allergies might be to blame. Allergy symptoms, which usually come on suddenly and last for as long as a person is exposed to the allergen, can include:
 - sneezing, itchy nose and/or throat, nasal congestion, clear runny nose and/or postnasal drip
- These symptoms often come with itchy, watery, and/or red eyes, which is called allergic conjunctivitis.
- If your child is experiencing these symptoms, consult with your family doctor and consider giving them a non-drowsy antihistamine **prior** to the school day.

Solar Eclipse Eye Safety

- Our area will experience a total solar eclipse on April 8th, please remember staring at the sun for even a short time without wearing the right eye protection can damage your retina permanently. It can even cause blindness, called solar retinopathy.

- When viewing the eclipse be sure you are using “eclipse glasses” or hand-held solar viewers with solar filters. These must meet a very specific worldwide standard known as ISO 12312-2.
 - Keep in mind that ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, or homemade filters are not safe for looking at the sun.
- The only time that you can look at the sun without a solar viewer/glasses is during a total eclipse during totality. When the moon completely covers the sun’s bright face and it suddenly gets dark, you can remove your solar filter to watch this unique experience. Then, as soon as the bright sun begins to reappear very slightly, immediately use your solar viewer/glasses again to watch the remaining partial phase of the eclipse.

Warmer Temperatures

- We are all so excited to be outside again, please send an extra set of clothes with your child in the event they become muddy or wet during outside recess.
- Keep in mind that with the warmer weather we will start to see an increase in Ticks. Protect yourself and your child by:
 - Using EPA registered insect repellents
 - Showering as soon as possible after spending time outdoors.
 - Checking for ticks after being outdoors
 - Ticks can hide under the armpits, behind the knees, behind the ears, in the hair, and in the groin.
 - Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors.

Illness at School

- If your child is ill and fevered (100.0 or greater), they may not attend or return to school unless they have been fever-free without the use of a fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.

Kindergarten Registration for 2024-2025 School Year

- **Monday, April 15, 2024** in the West End Library 7:30am to 3:30pm
- Bring the following documentation: Proof of Residency, Child’s Birth Certificate, Immunization Record and their most recent Physical/Wellness Exam

West End Nurse Contact Info

- Nurse’s Office Phone #: 814-724-1450 Ext. 4
- Nurse’s Office Text Messenger: 814-732-0247
- Email: jennifer.deval@crow.org or onnalea.reed@crow.org
- Fax #: 814-337-5886 Attn. Nurse

Happy Spring,
Mrs. DeVaul 😊

PTO

We encourage you to attend our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting on Wednesday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the art room. We meet the second



Wednesday of each month throughout the school year. There is no membership fee.

A major goal of PTO is to support the school by holding fundraisers that help to pay for things that the school’s limited budget does not. We fund field trips and other school events this way. One goal this school year is to raise funds for the renovation of the school playground. The PTO also helps support the school by mobilizing volunteers at various school events.

Your child and others are the beneficiaries of this support. We hope you will join us.

Kindergarten Registration

- **Wednesday, April 15, 2024**, in the West End Library, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.
- **To be registered, your child must be five years old before August 28, 2024**
- Bring the following documentation:
 - Proof of Residency
 - Child’s Birth Certificate
 - Immunization Record
 - Child’s most recent Physical/Wellness Exam.

Social Media

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