

Wasco News for May 1, 2017

Good afternoon!

One of my favorite quotes comes from Dr. Seuss and I find it rings true as I sit here today, turning yet another calendar page to start a new month. Welcome to May!

"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June. My goodness how the time has flown! How did it get so late so soon?" ~Dr. Seuss

May is a very busy month. Please keep your eyes out for communications coming from PTO and your child's classroom teachers. They will keep you informed of specific happenings throughout the next few weeks.

- Today, May 1 5:30-6:30 Wasco Kindergarten Parent Preview
- Wed., May 3 9:00-10:30 Wasco 5th Grade visits Middle School
- Wed., May 3 7:00-Spring Orchestra Concert @ NHS Auditorium
- Thur., May 4 6:30-Wasco 5th Grade Music Performance
- Mon., May 8 Wasco "One School" Reading Launch: *Lemonade Wars*
- Tues., May 9 D303 Parent University: Google Tools and how to use them will be held at the District Administration Center 6:00-7:30
- Thurs., May 11 Regular Monthly PTO Meeting 6:30 at Wasco School
- Fri., May 12 Author Allan Woodrow visits grades 3, 4 & 5 -9:00-9:45
- Fri., May 12 Mother/Parent/Guardian & Son or Date Night 6:30-8:30@ Wasco
- Tues., May 16 Orchestra Parent Information Night for students interested in starting orchestra. Meeting will be held at Bell-Graham Elem. 6:30-7:30
- Wed., May 17 PTO Family Night Out @ California Pizza Kitchen
- Sat. May 20 PTO Barnes & Noble Book Fair 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tues., May 23 Band Open House for interested incoming 5th graders. Meeting will be held at Munhall Elementary School
- Thurs., May 25 Wasco Annual PE/Health "FIELD DAY" All day!
- Thurs, May 25 Volunteer Appreciation Day-All volunteers are invited to join us as we celebrate the many wonderful people who devote their time, talents and energy to Wasco School. This is an all day event.
- Friday, May 26-Wasco Spirit Club sponsors, "Beach Day"-break out your sunglasses, Hawaiian Shirts and floppy hats!
- Monday, May 29-Memorial Day-NO SCHOOL/OFFICES CLOSED
- Wed., May 31 5th Grade's Too Good for Drugs Graduation-2:00 p.m.
- Fri., June 2 PTO Annual End of Year Family Picnic-Wasco School
- Tues., June 6 Last Day of School-3:00 Dismissal

REMINDER! Registration paperwork and fees are due by May 20th! Please get them in as soon as possible to ensure your child is included in next year's enrollment! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office at [331.228.2900](tel:331.228.2900). Thank you!

Fidgets:

It seems that having a fidget these day is all the rage. Fidgets are devices that a person can hold onto and use to help focus and maintain attention during academic tasks. While the intent is a good one, unfortunately students with and without diagnoses of specific attention or anxiety disorders are bringing a variety of fidgets into the classroom and misusing them, causing significant disruptions. Therefore, from this point forward, fidgets must be pre-approved by staff and must meet a child's specific sensory need to maintain

attention. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting to discuss your child's sensory needs in greater detail to determine if a fidget is appropriate for him/her. Thank you!

Living Well Cancer Resource Center's "Every Cent Counts!" Coin Drive this week!

On Friday, your child brought home a letter and a coin box that explains the Living Well Cancer Resource Center's "Every Cent Counts!" Coin drive. The LWCRC's annual coin drive collects donations used to provide patient and family services to those affected by cancer in the tri-cities area. Because of your generous donations, these services are free of charge for families. Some of our very own Wasco families have received some of the many wonderful services the LWCRC provides. The coin drive is optional, but if you do choose to donate, please have your child return the coin boxes on or before Friday, May 12. Please check out the [LWCRC Website here](#). Thank you in advance!

Wasco "One School, One Book" coming next week!

As an end of year literacy activity, our school will be embarking on a special project, an all school reading initiative **One School, One Book**. Every family will receive ONE copy of the book **The Lemonade War** by Jacqueline Davies. We are encouraging everyone in the Wasco Community to follow the same reading schedule each night- which you will receive on Monday, along with your family's copy of the book.

One School, One Book is a unique program because students in all grade levels will be reading and listening to the same book (K-5). Strange and daring as that may seem, it actually makes sound educational sense. Reading professionals recommend reading material out loud that is beyond a child's independent reading level. We also believe that you can, and should, continue reading chapter books with your older children, even when they are able to read by themselves. We have selected a title that can be followed, understood, and enjoyed by younger students, but that will still captivate and stimulate older children.

Reading aloud at home is valuable because it better prepares students to be effective readers and listeners. It is also a fun, worthwhile family activity. We aim to build a community of readers at our school. Everyone- *students, parents, teachers and support staff*- will be participating. *How does it work?*

- On Monday, May 8th, a surprise member of our staff will read chapter one in your student's classroom. That day, the youngest or only child in each family will bring home one copy of the book and the reading schedule.
- The daily readings will be posted on the Wasco website (wasco.d303.org) read by a different member of our staff daily. This provides students the opportunity to have a shared reading, away from school, on any internet device in the event that reading aloud as a family is difficult on a given night.
- In school, your child will be invited to answer daily trivia questions to encourage active listening and participation.

Thank you for your support as we conclude the school year with this exciting event!!

Sincerely, Mrs. Butcher, Reading Specialist, Mrs. Bradley, LRC Director, Mrs. Furlong, LRC Director

"There is no such thing as a kid who hates reading. There are kids who love reading and kids who are reading the wrong books." ~James Patterson

Wanted! Super Readers for Rep. Steve Andersson's Summer Reading Program!

The 2016-2017 school year is coming to a close, summer is just around the corner and I am gearing up for my third annual summer reading program! Last year's program was a great success and I have had nearly 100 children participate. Last September, those children, along with their entire families, were treated to a special

pizza party. A good time was had by all!!! You can check out last year's summer reading party at <http://www.repandersson.com/2016/05/andersson-launches-2nd-annual-summer.html>

Attached is my 2017 summer reading brochure. I believe the more we can do to encourage young children to read and continue learning during the out-of-school months, the better it is for the future and well being of each student.

With great admiration for all you do,

Steve Andersson, State Representative District 65

127 S. 1st Street, Suite 204 Geneva, IL 60134 [630-457-5460](tel:630-457-5460)

Not getting much from your kiddo when you ask "how was your day?" Try these simple and creative ways to engage your child in a conversation about his/her day:

1. What made you smile today?
2. Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
3. Was there an example of unkindness? How did you respond?
4. Does everyone have a friend at recess?
5. What was the book about that your teacher read?
6. What's the word of the week?
7. Did anyone do anything silly to make you laugh?
8. Did anyone cry?
9. What did you do that was creative?
10. What is the most popular game at recess?
11. What was the best thing that happened today?
12. Did you help anyone today?
13. Did you tell anyone "thank you?"
14. Who did you sit with at lunch?
15. What made you laugh?
16. Did you learn something you didn't understand?
17. Who inspired you today?
18. What was the peak and the pit?
19. What was your least favorite part of the day?
20. Was anyone in your class gone today?
21. Did you ever feel unsafe?
22. What is something you heard that surprised you?
23. What is something you saw that made you think?
24. Who did you play with today?
25. Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.
26. What is something that challenged you?
27. How did someone fill your bucket today? Whose bucket did you fill?
28. Did you like your lunch?
29. Rate your day on a scale from 1-10.
30. Did anyone get in trouble today?
31. How were you brave today?
32. What questions did you ask at school today?
33. Tell us your top two things from the day (before you can be excused from the dinner table!).
34. What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
35. What are you reading?
36. What was the hardest rule to follow today?
37. Teach me something I don't know.
38. If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be?

39. (For older kids): Do you feel prepared for your history test?" or, "Is there anything on your mind that you'd like to talk about?" (In my opinion, the key is not only the way a question is phrased, but responding in a supportive way.)
40. Who did you share your snacks with at lunch?
41. What made your teacher smile? What made her frown?
42. What kind of person were you today?
43. What made you feel happy?
44. What made you feel proud?
45. What made you feel loved?
46. Did you learn any new words today?
47. What do you hope to do before school is out for the year?
48. If you could switch seats with anyone in class, who would it be? And why?
49. What is your least favorite part of the school building? And favorite?
50. If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?

Have a wonderful week!

Attachments:

 [Super Readers Summer Program.pdf](#) (206.2 KB)