

STAR SCOOP

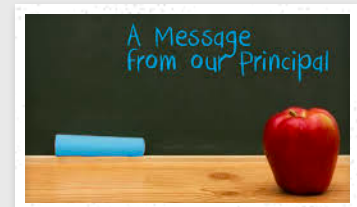
WAKANDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022



MESSAGE FROM MRS. BRANCH

We have had a busy fall with kindergarten class visits to the Environmental Site, a family-friendly BINGO night, and Parent-Teacher Conferences! We greatly enjoyed taking the opportunity to meet with your family and encourage you to continue to communicate with your child's teacher throughout the winter months regarding their academic and social-emotional progress.

~Mrs. Shannon Branch, Principal



BULLY PREVENTION MONTH

October was National Bully Prevention Month and we spent the month sharing information with our students and teaching them how to identify and respond to a bullying situation. The district has a [Bully Prevention Zone](#) on the SDMA website. Please review the information about the district's value statement on bullying and what can be done if a situation arises. Please call or email me if there are any concerns. There is also an online form that can be submitted that will go directly to me. Mrs. Nelson, our school counselor, has been using the Second Step Bullying Prevention lessons with our students this month.

[Is It Bullying?.pdf](#)

[Is it Bullying? See Something, Say Something.pdf](#)

We also celebrated Unity Day across the district on October 19th. We asked staff and students to wear orange wear as a

tangible representation of the supportive, universal message that we want to prevent bullying, and are united for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

VETERANS DAY

Wakanda will be honoring our veterans during a special Veterans Day program on Friday, November 11th at 9:30 a.m. We would like to invite our families, veterans, and community members to attend.



If you have a family member that has served in the armed forces, we would like to honor him/her in a slideshow during our program. Please email a photograph of the veteran to brianna_feuster@msd.k12.wi.us. Please also include the following information:

- *Veteran's Name
- *Branch of service
- *Relationship to student
- *Student name(s)
- *Grade level of student(s)

If you submitted a photo and information in the past and would like it included again this year, you do not need to resend the photograph(s) and information. Please just email and let us know the updated information. If you have a photo you would like removed, please let us know as well.

Please have all pictures/emails sent by Friday, November 4th to be included in the program.

We would also like to give students an opportunity to share what Veterans Day means to them or show appreciation for veterans. If interested, please have your child record a short video (2 minutes or less) telling why Veterans Day is special to them or thanking our veterans. These videos will be shared during our program on November 11th. All videos should be sent to lori_weinstein@msd.k12.wi.us by Friday, November 4th.

If you are interested in assisting with decorating for the Veteran's Day program on Thursday, November 10th, please email lori_weinstein@msd.k12.wi.us or call 715-232-3898. Your help would be appreciated!

We are looking forward to seeing you at the program!

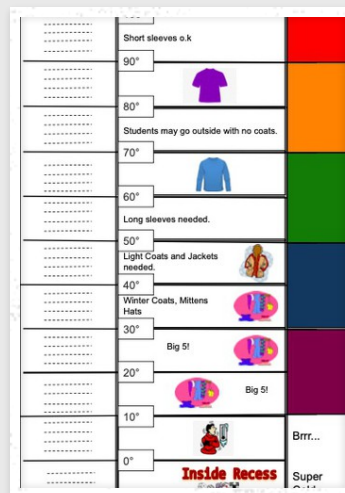
WAKANDA COLD WEATHER EXPECTATIONS

As temperatures turn colder, there are expectations at Wakanda to come to school each day dressed appropriately for the weather.

Wakanda uses this consistent Recess Thermometer daily, so please feel free to consult it each

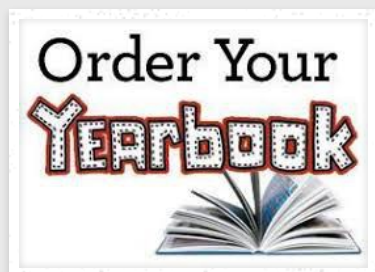
morning so your student is coming to school properly prepared. If you are unable to provide a warmer Jacket or any of the "Big 5": hat, mittens/gloves, coat, snow pants, boots, please contact our School Counselor, Mrs. Nelson, and we will work with you to find these items for your child.

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe and warm while enjoying their outdoor playtime!



LOST AND FOUND

If your child has misplaced something at recess or in the classroom at Wakanda, there is a Lost and Found area available in the entryway by the office. Please encourage your child to check this location to claim lost items. In addition, please label your child's sweatshirts, coats, hats, gloves, and additional winter gear.



YEARBOOK

You are now able to Preorder your Wakanda Elementary School Yearbook. Yearbooks will arrive in the Spring of 2022 and are a wonderful way to celebrate the school year. The Yearbook ID: 13413623 [Preorder Yearbook](#)

ATTENDANCE

Attendance matters! Please make every effort to help your child get to school on time. If your child is not present, please call or email us. Students are reminded that they have a maximum of 10 school days that can be missed during the school year for personal illness, religious services, and family activities.



If a student needs to attend an appointment during school hours, a note from that business office needs to be turned into the Wakanda office upon returning to school. If your child will be absent or is leaving school during the school day, please call the school office at 715-232-3898.

If there are issues surrounding your child's ability to attend school, please reach out to your child's teacher, our school social worker, or administration.

When we are able to develop a strong partnership with the student and their family, we can make an immediate and positive impact upon their attendance.



SCHOOL HOURS

8:30A.M. is our Warning Bell

8:35A.M. is our Start Time-Attendance is Taken

3:30P.M. is our Dismissal Time



KINDERGARTEN

The month of October has been very busy for Kindergarten. We began our Tuesday stations with the help of parent volunteers. For Reading Workshop we are using our tools/strategies we learned from "We are Readers" and continue to do some fun reading, acting out stories and enjoying some October themed reading activities.

For the Writing Workshop we wrapped up our Illustration unit and then launched the Writer's Workshop where we are putting ideas on paper with pictures and labels.

In Module one Math we continue to write and count numbers to 10.

In Science we will wrap up our Tree unit by taking a field trip to the Environmental Site on Wednesday, October 26th. In Social Studies while working in small groups we made a class book, "What it means to be a Good Citizen." Since October is Fire Safety Month we also have plans to have the fire Department try to make a visit to our school. We will end the month of October with a Kindergarten Halloween Party in the cafeteria on Friday, October 28th with the help of many parent volunteers!

FIRST GRADE

First graders have been busy learning how to add fluently within 10 and are beginning to solve subtraction problems. In Social Studies they learned how to be a good citizen, why we have laws and rules, and even partook in a voting activity. The first grade scientists have been busy studying objects in the sky and the weather. They are also learning more snap words and strategies for solving hard words, building their reading stamina, and are finishing up writing small moment stories. First graders are settling nicely into their classroom routines, have enjoyed several pumpkin activities, and are looking forward to more fun in the weeks to come.

SECOND GRADE

Happy Fall from second grade!

The second graders have almost completed their 2nd month of school and they are making nice progress. In literacy we are building our phonics skills by working on blends and digraphs,

as well as noticing words that are rule breakers that do not follow phonics rules. We have been working on strategies of what to do when we don't know how to read words and if we don't know what the words mean as well as continuing to work on building our reading stamina each day.

In writing we are enjoying writing books about ourselves and the small moments we have had. We are excited to share them with each other!

Our math focus in this module is understanding numbers by building them and breaking them apart. We have really focused on understanding hundreds, tens, and ones. We also continue to work on our fact fluency every day.

In science we are completing our study of rocks and erosion by learning about water and its three states, as well as building materials that are made out of rocks. We have also started Jr. Achievement, a program that pairs someone from the community with our classroom, to teach 5 lessons about our community.

THIRD GRADE

We enjoyed visiting with everyone at conferences! The students are having a great start to 3rd grade! In social studies, they have been learning about urban, suburban and rural communities and about the different regions of the United States. In science, students will be exploring weather and climate and how that impacts how people live in these regions. They have completed their first module in math. Students will come back to multiplication after completing a short module on telling time, measuring and rounding. Students made autumn colored leaves. We are planning to deliver these to a care center for residents to enjoy. As a reminder, students are welcome to bring their Halloween costumes to school on Friday, October 28th. Keep reading at home and happy fall!

FOURTH GRADE

Fourth grade is beginning one of its core math modules: multiplication and division. Students will learn how to multiply with double digits as well as the long division algorithm. We strongly encourage the boys and girls to practice and learn their facts as it will help them immensely as we move through this unit.

We are beginning the second unit of the Benchmark Advance literacy curriculum. Students will learn about characters' actions and reactions while reading fiction. The writing focus has our 4th graders creating opinion essays.

We are completing our study of changes in the earth's landscape over time and will begin studying the northeast region of the United States. While learning about the geography of this part of our county, fourth graders will also study the time period in history that includes the French and Indian War.

FIFTH GRADE

Our High-Achieving 5th Grade Elementary Seniors recently wrapped up several units of study and will now set their sights on the "**L.A.U.N.C.H.**" of the annual National Park Ranger Project. The first phase of our Design Thinking Framework, *Look, Listen and Learn* begins next week. Students will spend the week finding the park that was meant for them to claim as the focus of the project. We will use our Text-dependent Analysis Tool, The R.A.C.E.R. paragraph format to discuss and debate our park selections. This is a great way to receive immediate assessment feedback and practice our PVLEGS/public speaking skills at the same time! We will *Ask Lots of*

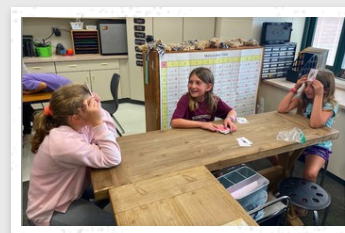
Questions about our parks. Life is good in Wakanda 5th Grade!



- 11/2 - PTO Meeting 5:30pm
- 11/11 - Veterans Day Program 9:30am
- 11/23 - NO SCHOOL
- 11/24 - NO SCHOOL
- 11/25 - NO SCHOOL



THIRD GRADE



MATH GAMES



CONTACT INFORMATION

 @SDMA_Wakanda

 801 Pine Avenue E Menomonie...  715-232-3898

 wk.sdmaonline.com