

West Franklin Elementary

• A South-Western City School • www.swcs.us •

Paw Print



A newsletter for parents and students of West Franklin • 2090 Frank Road • (614) 801-8400

SEPTEMBER 2015

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: SEPT 2015

- **Sep 3:** PTA Meeting
7:15 am at the School
- **Sep 7:** NO SCHOOL-
Labor Day
- **Sep 10:** Bus Safety
Program - 9:30,
Grades 1-4
- **Sep 21:** Skating Party
6-8 PM
- **Oct 1:** PTA Meeting
7:15 am at the School
- **Oct 5 - 9:** Book Fair
More Info to Come!!
- **Oct 7:** Picture Day - 1st
Grade thru 4th Grade
- **Oct 8:** Math/Literacy
Family Night 5:30-7:30
pm

Student Picture Day

HR Imaging Partners, Inc. will be at West Franklin to take school pictures on **Wednesday, October 7th**. Information will be sent home with the students prior to picture day.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to West Franklin and the 2015-2016 school year. The staff and I are looking forward to meeting our new and returning students and families. We welcome each of you to our school community. As valued members of the community, I encourage you to attend PTA meetings, school events, and volunteer activities.

This year we will see some new faces at West Franklin. New staff members include:

Mrs. Jessica Moore - Principal Intern
Mrs. Abby VanAutreve - 1st Grade
Mrs. Kaleigh Dountz - 1st Grade
Ms. Amy Wilder - 3rd Grade
Mrs. Kristin Merkle - 4th Grade
Ms. Shelby Maloney - 4th Grade
Ms. Hanna Abdalla - 4th Grade
Mrs. Melanie Jech - Cross Cat Teacher
Ms. Hannah Maddy - Cross Cat Teacher
Ms. Tara Besancon - Intervention Specialist
Mrs. Becky Winland - Speech Therapist
Mrs. Lori Wobig - Title 1 Reading Teacher

We are excited to have them as a part of the West Franklin family.

We look forward to another year in our academics and community. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the school office if we can be of any assistance. We are committed to providing an outstanding elementary experience for each child.

Sincerely,
Dr. Dawn Lauridsen
Principal



START YOUR DAY WITH PTA!!

Please join us Thursday, September 3rd at 7:15 am, for our 1st PTA meeting here at the school. **We're really excited about the upcoming year!** - Have a voice in your child's education. Feel free to bring your student with you.

PTA OFFICERS 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

President - Litsa Myers
Vice President - Tiffany Dailey
Secretary - Diane Loomis
Treasurer - Kelly Sanders

Instructional Fees are \$20.00 Per Student for 2015-2016

School Supplies

At the beginning of each school year, students are assessed a \$20 fee for instructional supplies. This money allows for the purchase of consumable items required to assist your child in school. If there are additional items, which you want your child to have, you certainly have the choice of purchasing them for your son or daughter.

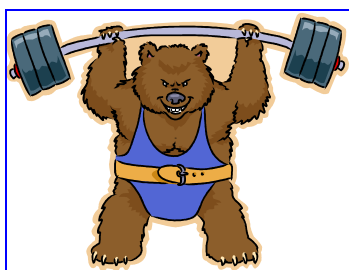
Some parents have also asked about the possibility of donating items such as facial tissues, markers, and colored pencils. Donations are always welcome, and teachers can provide you with guidance as to what items are most needed, if you wish to make a donation. Thank you again for your continued support.

If your student receives free lunch, they will be approved for waived fees if you check the box on the free lunch application. Check the box that indicates, "Please check here to grant permission for the School District to share your information with other programs your child may qualify for, including Fee Waiver Eligibility". Please stop by the office for a free lunch application.

WEST FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY
2090 FRANK ROAD
COLUMBUS OHIO 43223

Phone: 614-801-8400
Fax: 614-801-8411

**THE DREAM BEGINS
WITH A TEACHER WHO
BELIEVES IN YOU, WHO
TUGS AND PUSHES AND
LEADS YOU TO THE
NEXT PLATEAU,
SOMETIMES POKING
YOU WITH A SHARP
STICK CALLED 'TRUTH'
- DAN RATHER**



Your Right to View Teacher Qualifications

Under the No Child Left Behind Education Reform Act, parents have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of their student's classroom teacher including:

If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level taught;

If the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status;

The teacher's baccalaureate degree major, certification, and field of discipline;

Whether the student is provided services by a paraprofessional and if so, their qualifications.



Welcome Back! Cafeteria News 2015-2016

New applications are being accepted.

Families who were free or reduced need to reapply for their meals again.

Forms are being sent home. **REMEMBER to check the box for waived fees on right hand side of application.**

If your student receives free or reduced lunch they will also receive free or reduced breakfast!

Full pay students may buy breakfast for \$1.00 / lunch \$2.45 \$17.25 per week

Reduced students may buy breakfast for \$.30 / lunch \$.40 \$ 3.50 per week.



You can prepay for your student's meals with a check – West Franklin Cafeteria **OR** pay-**PAMS.com OR** cash. You can use payPAMS to check your students account balance and then send cash or check to school.

We will allow students to charge their breakfast or lunch for emergencies. We ask they bring their money the next day.

Any questions, please call – Mrs. Cheryl Bryan – cafeteria phone 614-801-8406

SCHOOL HOURS

**Start: 8:20 am
End: 2:30 pm**

Office Hours:

7:30am - 4:00 pm

Afternoon Dismissal

Please make certain your children know where they are to go after school. **If your child's routine changes, we must have a WRITTEN NOTE from you as the legal guardian at the beginning of the day.**

EARLY RELEASE SCHEDULE

October 14

December 9

February 24

April 13

On these dates, students will be released from school at 1:25 pm for teachers to attend district scheduled in-service work-shops.

CHANGE \$\$

Please remember that the school office is not always able to make change for students. Please be sure that students bring exact change.

Thank you.



Are You Moving?

Please make arrangements to provide SWCS with your new address as soon as possible. A change of address form is available at the district Web site at: http://www.swcs.us/Home/HumanResources/ChangeofAddress_English.pdf.

Take the completed form to the Student Enrollment Center at 4079 Gantz Road, Suite C2, Grove City, along with your photo ID and one of the following proofs of residency in the parent/guardian's name: two current utility bills (gas, water, home phone or electric); lease (current and signed by landlord and tenant); deed; or home purchase settlement statement signed by seller/buyer.

If you have moved and are now living with a friend/relative in SWCS, you must complete a Oath of Residency Form and a Residency Affidavit for Home Owner Form which is also available on the district Web site.



Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Labels

BOX TOP COLLECTION!

Each General Mills' Box Top brings 10 cents directly to West Franklin. The funds from Box Tops help purchase new books for the library!!

We're also collecting Campbell's labels - Bring as many as you can!!

WEST FRANKLIN VIRTUES!!

RESPECT

HONESTY

COMPASSION

RESPONSIBILITY

SELF-DISCIPLINE

PERSEVERANCE

GIVING

These are the virtues that we follow and teach at West Franklin -

WEST FRANKLIN 2015-2016

CAR RIDER PICKUP AND DROPOFF PROCEDURE

PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF STUDENTS BEFORE 7:55 AM IN THE MORNING.

PICKUP YOUR STUDENT NO LATER THAN 2:45 PM AFTER SCHOOL

ALTERNATE

ADDRESS

INFORMATION

If you have baby-sitter addresses or alternating homes for your child, please contact the school with the updated information for transportation purposes.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT CENTER

Parents enrolling students in all grades will now go to the Student Enrollment Center

4079 Gantz Road Suite C2

Grove City Ohio 43123

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

All new student enrollments will be taken by APPOINTMENT

Walk-ins will be served as time allows

801-6280

Students will no longer be enrolled in the schools.

FAMILY HANDBOOK

Each student is provided a Family Handbook (Included in the Agenda Book for grades 2, 3, and 4). Please read it carefully and make sure your child understands their responsibility in following the rules. Keep it in a handy location to refer to throughout the year.



Parent Notification System (PNS)

In an effort to improve communication with our families, we utilize a Parent Notification System (PNS). This system allows us to communicate general announcements, attendance information, cafeteria balances and emergency messages to families. The PNS helps keep you better informed about important dates and events in our school and districtwide.

Please note: In order for the system to be effective, we need to have current telephone numbers and e-mail addresses on record. Please remember to submit changes to your emergency contact information via the Infinite Campus Parent Portal online or by contacting our main office at 801-8400.

Food Consumption at School

(In the Interest of Student Wellness and Safety)

Schools are facing a growing issue with student wellness and nutrition, as well as with children who have specific food allergies. Food allergies can be a life threatening situation for some children, and the state of Ohio recently made new food allergy safety recommendations for schools. Some children with allergies are affected not only by the food itself, but by the smell of the food. *It is with all children's wellness and safety in mind that South-Western Elementary Schools will implement the following changes and precautions during the 2015-2016 school year.*

While we are pleased to celebrate the gift of your child on his/her birthday, **all SWCS elementary schools will NOT accept cupcakes, cookies or any other birthday party foods to be distributed during class time.**

The office will recognize your child's birthday in a personal way, and through the school announcements.

You are welcome to send in a small **non-food item** to be shared with classmates, and YOUR child may enjoy a special treat, at lunch, **for themselves** that you may send/bring.

Balloon or other arrangements larger than your child's backpack are not appropriate for school and are not allowed on the school bus.

For the safety of all students, we will also **NOT** be accepting food donations from home for any events during the school day unless they are specifically asked for and reviewed by school staff. Working together, principals, teachers and parents will provide direction for helping kids know how to celebrate with compassion and concern for each unique participant.

Please notify your school office about any known student allergies, using the student medical form, so that teachers and staff can do their best to meet each student's needs and keep them safe.

Infinite Campus Parent Portal

The South-Western City School District transitioned its student information system (eSIS) to an Internet-based program called Infinite Campus, which has the potential to greatly improve communication among parents, teachers and students.

One of the important features of Infinite Campus is the Campus Parent Portal. The Portal is available to every parent/guardian of a student enrolled within the South-Western City School District. Through the Portal, parents will be able to access their students' information, such as class schedules, coursework, attendance and academic reports via the Internet. Parents will also be able to submit updates to emergency and family contact information via the Portal.

You will be receiving your Campus Portal Activation Key in the Back to School Letter being mailed home in mid-August, prior to the start of school. Please keep this letter in a safe location and do not share your Activation Key with anyone - even your children.



Medicine at School

Medication can only be given at school if we have a Drug Administration Form filled out by the parent and Doctor. This includes all prescription medicine, inhalers, and any over the counter medication. These forms can be picked up before school begins or at any time during the year. All medicine must be in its original container.

Medications must be dropped off and picked up by parent - No medications are to be carried by students unless otherwise directed by a doctor.