



# West Point Elementary School

14 September 2012

## Bulldog Blast

Parent Newsletter #4

Telephone: 938-2313/3827/2997 Nurse: 938-2069  
[http://www.am.dodea.edu/NY\\_VA/westpoint/elementary/Index.htm](http://www.am.dodea.edu/NY_VA/westpoint/elementary/Index.htm)

Morning Bell: 8:30  
 Tardy Bell: 8:35  
 Dismissal Bell: 2:50  
 Early Dismissal Bell: 11:30

### WEST POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

West Point Elementary School and the Department of Defense Education Activity provide, in military communities worldwide, exemplary educational programs that inspire and prepare all students for success in a global environment.

### WEST POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

West Point Elementary School provides opportunities for all students to achieve their personal best and to become caring, respectful, and responsible citizens. Our school strives to create a differentiated learning environment to ensure that every child is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. We work with the community to motivate and enable all students to be life-long 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5 October Early Release 11:30  
 8 October Columbus Day—no school  
 19 October—Teacher work day

1 & 2 November—Parent/Teacher conference days



#### GRADES K,1,2,& 3—5 Day Rotation

| MON 9/17 | TUE 9/18 | WED 9/19 | THU 9/20 | FRI 9/21 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Day 2    | Day 3    | Day 4    | Day 5    | Day 1    |
| MON 9/24 | TUE 9/25 | WED 9/26 | THU 9/27 | FRI 9/28 |
| Day 2    | Day 3    | Day 4    | Day 5    | Day 1    |

#### GRADE 4 ONLY—3 Day Rotation

| MON 9/17 | TUE 9/18 | WED 9/19 | THU 9/20 | FRI 9/21 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Day 1    | Day 2    | Day 3    | Day 1    | Day 2    |
| MON 9/24 | TUE 9/25 | WED 9/26 | THU 9/27 | FRI 9/28 |
| Day 3    | Day 1    | Day 2    | Day 3    | Day 1    |

#### SPECIALS SCHEDULE

8:45-9:35 Third Grade  
 9:40-10:30 Second Grade  
 10:35-11:25 First Grade  
 12:20-1:10 Fourth Grade  
 1:15-2:05 Kindergarten



#### REMINDERS

**18 September  
SCHOOL-WIDE  
Picture DAY**

Parent Calendar/Handbooks are being sent home today—one per family—going home with the oldest child in the school. **WEE CAN WRITE** books for PK-K and **6+1 LEARNING TRAITS** books for grades 1-4 will be included as well.

#### WPES LUNCH SCHEDULE

GRADE 4—11:10  
 GRADE 3—11:25  
 GRADE—11:45  
 GRADE 2—12:05  
 KINDERGARTEN 12:20  
 All grades go to recess first & then to lunch

Pre-K & Kindergarten  
 Parents of bus riders,  
 Please make sure that a parent or responsible older sibling is available at the bus stop to meet students and assist them off the bus each day.

**REMINDER:** Please call the school @ 938-2313 by 8:30 am when your child will be absent or tardy

West Point Schools PTO is on Facebook. "Like" us at <http://www.facebook.com/WPSPTO>.

#### WEST POINT SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY FRIDAYS

Show your school Spirit by wearing the BLACK & GOLD school or spirit attire on Fridays.



Nadine Sapiente, Principal

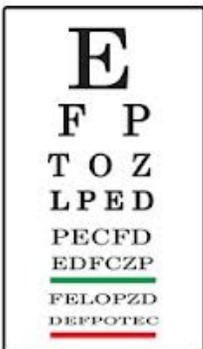


The Annual Health Screening for grades K-8 of vision, hearing and dental will take place from **Sep 24-27th**. During this week your child will be screened by a Keller Hospital Optometrist, Audiologist and Dental Hygienist.



**\*\*\*Parent volunteers** have made the Health Screening a huge success in the past. If you are able to donate your time to work a 2 hour block, it would be greatly appreciated! **Our needs are Mon-Thurs 8-10am and Mon-Thurs 10am-12pm.**

Please contact the school nurse at 938-2313 or 938-2923 if you are interested. Thank you!!



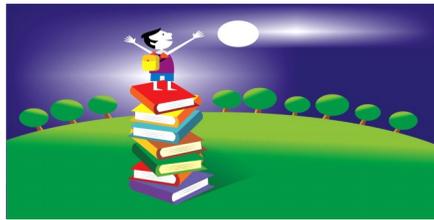
If you do not want your child to participate in the screening, please notify the office at x2313/2923 by Sep 19<sup>th</sup>. Parents will be notified of any health screening that requires further medical evaluation.



# The Reading Nook

(Information, updates, and helpful reading tips from your WPES reading support team)

West Point Elementary School offers a reading program to support students who may benefit from some small group instruction emphasizing effective use of reading strategies. This program will supplement and support the students' classroom instruction based on individual needs. If a classroom teacher feels a child would benefit from participating in the reading support program, parents will be contacted. We will be working closely with classroom teachers in an effort to ensure all students are meeting reading expectations. Look for 'The Reading Nook' in future Bulldog Blast issues for helpful tips and suggestions on how to support your child's reading and writing at home.



Happy Reading



Parents – Our school needs your help. We can earn cash from “Box Tops for Education Coupons” that look just like the example above. These coupons are printed on a variety of products you buy every day. Please do your part by clipping, and sending the box tops in a small bag or envelope with your child. Your child's teacher will take care of the rest. The class collecting the most box tops will be rewarded with a pizza party each quarter. For a list of products containing box top coupons or more information, go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com>.

## **Reminder**

# **PTO sponsored READ-A-THON**

**September 17-30**



**Free Developmental Screening  
EDIS/Audiology/West Point School**

Who: All children ages 0 to 5 years

What: Developmental & Hearing Screenings

When: Tuesday, 2 October 2012, from 0830 to 1500

Where: The Lee Child Development Center, 140 Buckner Loop@ West Point, NY

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

FOR QUESTIONS OR APPOINTMENTS, PLEASE CALL 938-2698/6868  
or the EDIS office: 845-938-2698/6868

To parents of Preschool Students:

I will be conducting speech and language screenings for preschool students during September. These screenings will be brief and will occur during the school day. Children who are already receiving speech-language services will not be screened.

If you have any questions or prefer that I do not screen your child please feel free to contact me. I will provide follow up with results of these screenings once they are completed.

Thank you!

Speech-Language Department  
845-938-6844





Dear Parents,

Our children see an amazing number of images every day. Just look around. Our world is a very visual place. We are surrounded by images, whether they are on TV, videos, magazines, newspapers, billboards, text book or the internet. Children need to know how to read, judge and act in the information they receive from these images.

This school year the children in art class will discover how to think critically about what they see. Exploring art from various cultures will help children analyze, explain and judge art images. They will also have the opportunity to produce art, allowing them to share their ideas with others.

Since children's skills and interests develop at different rates, I am likely to find a large range of artistic abilities within an age group. Because of these differences, it's important to be aware of the four stages of artistic development.

#### Scribbling Stage Pre-school to First Grade

The first stage that all children go through is the scribbling stage, which occurs until the first grade. Children begin drawing disorganized scribbles and progress to more controlled scribbling and then advance to named scribbling in which they begin to name the shapes they create.

#### Primary Stage First Grade to Second Grade

In this stage, children often portray themselves as the dominant figure in their art, with figures floating in space. Children tend to include only the parts of themselves that they consider important and there are few correct proportions. However, children at this stage also like to use their imagination and are open to discovery.

#### Intermediate Stage Second Grade to Third Grade

Children in this stage are moving away from preoccupation with themselves and are developing an interest in others. They are more open to ideas and are refining their techniques. At this stage, children begin to develop techniques, to present objects in proportion and to pay attention to the arrangement of objects on lines or along the bottom edge of the paper.

#### Upper Intermediate Stage Third Grade to Fourth Grade

Children become more independent at this stage and their understanding of art matures. Children pay greater attention to detail and often try to mirror reality in their artwork. By this stage, children have a working vocabulary and a good understanding of techniques and ideas. They also have a good background of analyzing, discussing and criticizing different art works.

You can help to make your child's art experiences rich and fulfilling. What your child brings home will be his or her response to the materials and lessons provided. What your child creates will be based on his or her interests, needs, skills, stage, and imagination. I suggest that when your child brings their art work home, you comment about the colors, the mood, the lines, the shapes, the textures and the art media itself. Making specific observations about your child's art work not only show an interest but also acknowledges the artistic process.

Sincerely  
Art Department



Dear Parents and Students,

The first full weeks of Music classes are complete and every student K-4 should have been through the music room doors. The students have learned about the Levels of Responsibility and how they apply in the Music class. Each class has learned at least one song to start the new school year! We will be studying various aspects of music following the National Standards for Music Education. Singing, playing basic rhythm instruments, reading and notating music are only a few examples of what the children will learn. I am also devoting a part of the music class to "SQUILT"- Super Quiet Un-Interrupted Listening Time. During SQUILT, I plan to expose the students to a wide variety of music and discuss the history, composer and overall feeling of the work with hopes of having children appreciate music. This will be an exciting year and I hope that soon your child will share with you some of the songs we have studied in class! Music Specialist

*Nadine Sapiente, Principal*

# AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012

| SUN | MON                         | TUE               | WED | THU  | FRI  | SAT  |
|-----|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|--|--|------|
| 26  | 27                          | 28                | 29  | 30<br>WPES OPEN HOUSE<br>5-6:30 (TO BEGIN AT wpms THEN MOVE TO wpes) | 31<br>SPIRIT DAY   | 1SEP |
| 2   | 3<br>No school<br>LABOR DAY | 4                 | 5   | 6  | 7<br>EARLY RELEASE<br>11:30<br>SPIRIT DAY  | 8    |
| 9   | 10                          | 11                | 12  | 13   | 14<br>SPIRIT DAY   | 15   |
| 16  | 17                          | 18<br>PICTURE DAY | 19  | 20   | 21<br>SPIRIT DAY   | 22   |
| 23  | 24                          | 25                | 26  | 27   | 28<br>SPIRIT DAY   | 29   |
| 30  | 1OCTOBER                    | 2                 | 3   | 4  | 5<br>EARLY RELEASE<br>11:30<br>SPIRIT DAY<br>FALL FIELD DAY<br>9-11 Lower Fields | 6    |