



West Point Elementary School

19 October 2012

Bulldog Blast

Parent Newsletter #9

Telephone: 938-2313/3827/2997 Nurse: 938-2069
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 21st century learners.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

29 Oct—2 Nov—No Pre-K Classes
1 November-School Board Meeting
1 & 2 November—Parent/Teacher conference days

15 November—Picture make up day



GRADES K,1,2,& 3—5 Day Rotation

MON 10/22	TUE 10/23	WED 10/24	THU 10/25	FRI 10/26
Day 4	Day 5	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
MON 10/29	TUE 10/30	WED 10/31	THU 11/1	FRI 11/2
Day 4	Day 5	Day 1	Closed	Closed

GRADE 4 ONLY—3 Day Rotation

MON 10/22	TUE 10/23	WED 10/24	THU 10/25	FRI 10/26
Day 2	Day 3	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
MON 10/29	TUE 10/30	WED 10/31	THU 11/1	FRI 11/2
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Closed	Closed

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

School Board Meeting
The date has been changed
from 7 November to **Thursday,
1 November.**

Immunization Updates:

If your Pre-K or Kindergarten child recently received their school-age vaccinations, please send a copy into school. If you need a copy of the DoDEA requirements or would like to review your child's record, please stop by my office or give me a call. Thank you!!

School Nurse 938-2069



FOR SAFETY REASONS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL, PARENTS ARE REMINDED TO USE THE **KISS & DROP LANE TO DROP-OFF CHILDREN.**

PRIVATE VEHICLES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN BUS LOOP AT ANY-TIME, ESPECIALLY DURING ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIMES
With the exception of handicap marked vehicles

Any vehicles that are witnessed passing a school bus with flashing lights on will be ticketed by an MP per NY state law.
Please see Kiss & Drop Rules & Procedures that are listed in the back of your Calendar/Handbooks.

REMINDER: Please call the school @ **938-2313** by 8:30 am when your child will be absent or tardy.
STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE TARDY AFTER 8:30 AM MUST COME IN THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR, BE SIGNED IN BY A PARENT AT THE FRONT WINDOW AND OBTAIN A TARDY SLIP BEFORE PROCEEDING TO CLASS.

WEST POINT SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY FRIDAYS

Show your school Spirit by wearing **BLACK & GOLD** every Friday.



REMINDERS

29 Oct-2Nov
No Pre-K classes
1 & 2 November
No school—Parent/Teacher Conferences
15 November
Picture make up day

Nadine Sapiente, Principal





WPS PTO Scholastic Book Fair Classroom Sign Up

Monday—Friday, October 22—26
8am—3:30pm

TIME	MON 10/22	TUE 10/23	WED 10/24	THU 10/25
8:30-9:00	L. Le			
9:00-9:30	K - J	K - K		
9:30-10:00	K - G	3 - T		
10:00-10:30	K - M			
10:30-11:00	5 - B	5 - D	5 - S	
11:00-11:30	6 - H	6 - Mc	6 - M	
11:30-12:00		2 - L	2 - D	
12:00-12:30		3 - L	4 - C	
12:30-1:00	3 - D	1 - V	3 - J	1 - C
1:00-1:30	2 - Kr	2 - U	2 - Ko	
1:30-2:00	4 - Ed	1 - B	1 - F	
2:00-2:30	4 - Ev	1 - W		



Read Every Day. Lead a Better Life.

A STUDENT'S DICTIONARY



Thank *verb*, to express gratitude and appreciation

You *pronoun*, the person or persons spoken to

Presented by
The Rotary Club



50
Years



West Point Elementary School will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the school building on 31 October. A fourth grade student brought this important date to our attention after he attended open house. This month, students are researching information about John F. Kennedy and life in 1962. Their findings are being shared on the morning news throughout the month and during our 50th birthday celebration on 31 October. Students are invited to dress as a person or character from 1962 on that day. There will be cake prepared by the cafeteria and classrooms will have varied activities. At 2:10, classes will gather to listen to the presentation by the researchers and to see a special appearance by students portraying President and Mrs. Kennedy. The world has really changed in the last 50 years, but the focus on student learning to ensure success in the future has remained constant.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the Scholastic Book Fair October 22-26 and Family Expo on October 25! If you are willing and available to assist, please sign up at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E45A5A92FA57-scholastic>



The music class is a very active one. If you were to stop by you might see the students up dancing, sitting in their seats following a song sheet, playing rhythm instruments or lying on the floor listening to the music of the day! We have been following the rules of “SQUILT”-Super Quiet Un- Interrupted Listening Time-by relaxing and listening to some classical music. This month, our music has been to compare the differences between Major and minor sounds. Major tends to be “happy” while students often describe minor as “sad or creepy”. Some of the children are very affected by the music they listen to! After listening, the class will either put on paper their thoughts or we will have an open discussion of the piece. We try to use musical terms in our descriptions of tempo and dynamics.

Please ask your child to describe some of the music heard in class. I hope that they will share with you the wonderful things we are learning!

Sincerely,

The Music Specialist



The Reading Nook

(Information, updates, and helpful reading tips from your WPE\$ reading support team)

Using magnetic letters to build words is an effective way to help your child with reading and writing at home. We've included a list of 25 ways you can use magnetic letters to build your child's knowledge of letters, sounds, sight word knowledge and spelling patterns.



Happy Reading,
The Reading Specialists



As you are aware, the sidewalk used by our students during arrival and dismissal has been relocated to the elementary school side of Barry Road. This change has required us to look at safety issues for all of our students. One of the areas that have been looked at is the parking lot directly below the pre-K playground that contains the 15-minute parking spaces. In order to ensure our students safety, individuals parking in this area for school dismissal must be in the parking space prior to school dismissal and may not move out of the parking space until the buses depart the school. This will provide for a safer environment for our students who walk.

Another area that was seen as a safety concern is the handicap parking area located in front of the middle school. If you park in one of these spaces, you must back out and follow the arrows around the bus loop. Please do not back out and depart the area against the direction of the arrows. Keep in mind that you cannot pass the buses parked in the loop when the red lights on the bus are flashing and/or the bus driver has engaged the stop sign on the side of the bus. We know that this might mean you will have to wait until the buses depart prior to leaving the parking spot, but the safety of our students is a priority.



“On the Road to Healthy Living!”

Schools play a critical role in helping children lead active, healthy lives. Physical education (PE) classes, recess, before-school programs, and walking or biking to school, all have the potential to get kids moving. Research shows that kids who move more aren't just healthier, they also tend to do better academically, behave better in class and miss fewer days of school. Please encourage your child and family to take part in our school-wide President's Challenge. The challenge last for eight weeks and encourages children to develop habits of being physically active and making healthy food choices. If your child was physically active for at least 60 minutes a day, at least 5 days this past week and tried to substitute drinking water for sugary drinks, please sign their P.C. log. Participants who turn in their log and have completed the challenge for 6 out of 8 weeks will receive a token of recognition and an opportunity to win a W.P.E.S. pedometer.

A very special invitation to Fourth Grade Students:

On days that you are not scheduled for Physical Education class, you are cordially invited to join us in the Gymnasium from 8:00am-8:30am and participate in “Move to Learn.” “Move to Learn” is designed with fun activities in mind, which help prepare our children to go into the classroom ready to learn. Activities for 1st Quarter will include: Long Jump Rope Skills, Basketball and Fitness Activities. First “Move to Learn” begins Monday, October 15th.



Dear West Point School Parents and Families:

We invite you to visit our Scholastic Book Fair and experience a celebration of reading that provides families the opportunity to get involved in a universal mission:

encouraging kids to read every day so they can lead better lives.

Our Scholastic Book Fair theme – **All-Star Book Fair: Every Reader Is a Star!** – is part of an exciting reading event that brings to school a wonderful selection of fun, engaging, and affordable books kids want to read. Giving kids access to good books and the opportunity to choose their own books will motivate them to read more. And like most acquired skills, the more kids practice reading, the better they'll get.

The Book Fair provides a great opportunity to do some early holiday shopping or to plan ahead for birthdays and other special days. Hope to see you there!

- Book Fair Dates:** October 22-26
- Shopping Hours:** Monday – Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- Special Events:** Family Expo – All Star Carnival:
**Thursday: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Fun, Food and Shopping!

Sincerely,

WPS PTO



Nadine Sapiente, Principal

Read Every Day. Lead a Better Life.



October 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 EARLY RELEASE 11:30 FALL FIELD DAY	6
7	8 NO SCHOOL COLUMBUS DAY	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 NO SCHOOL TEACHER WORK DAY	20
21	22 BOOK FAIR 	23	24	25	26 BOOK FAIR FAMILY EXPO 4-6	27
28	29 No Pre-K Classes	30	31	1 NOVEMBER CONFERENCE DAY NO SCHOOL	2 CONFERENCE DAY NO SCHOOL	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10