

WEST BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2007

Message from the Principal-

Attendance: A Key to Success

Research shows that children who attend school regularly perform better on state tests. Just as important is being on time. A student who is 10 minutes late a day will miss 30 hours of instruction time each year. It may be easy to get copies of notes taken or to make-up missed work, but what is most important in the classroom – class discussions, questions and answer sessions, and explanations by the teachers-cannot be regained. Your child's success in school depends on having a solid educational background, and that can only be gained through regular attendance. Schools are responsible for teaching your child. However, schools can't do their job if your child is absent or tardy. Learning builds day by day. A child who misses a day of school misses a day of learning. Please: schedule appointments after school as often as possible, discuss with your child what happens in school each day, help your child stay healthy with nutritious food/snacks and plenty of rest, plan vacations during school vacations and summer break.

Fire Safety/Prevention-

Mr. Paul Lupacchino, members of the West Brookfield Fire Department and Smokey the Bear provided students in grades Preschool – 6th with safety tips for fire safety/prevention on Wednesday October 10th. Thank you!

5th Grade Homework Help-

After school Monday through Thursday, Mr. Hibbard or Mrs. Salem will be available from 3:00-4:00pm for the 5th grade students who need assistance with assignments. Please send in a note with your child if you would like them to stay after for help.

Ferry Beach Trip-

6th Grade Students will be attending Ferry Beach Environmental School in Saco, Maine from October 15th-19th. Chaperones will be Mrs. Provost, Mrs. Moberg, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. King and Mrs. Ramsey. Students need to arrive at school between 7-7:30am on Monday in order to depart around 7:30-7:45am. They will return approximately at 4:00pm on Friday. Students who are not attending the trip must report to school as scheduled.

Internet Safety-

On October 24th, the Attorney General's office will be doing a presentation on Internet Safety at 6:30pm in the WBES cafeteria. Pre-registration is recommended. Please call Denise at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library or contact the school with questions. Forms have already been sent home.

Halloween Family Fun Night-

The PTG will be sponsoring a Halloween Family Fun Night on Friday, October 26th. More information will be sent home.

Basketball Registration-

As we did last year, it is mail-in registration for West Brookfield Youth Basketball. Please do not send registrations into school with your child. Deadline for registration is October 21st. There will be a meeting for all those interested in helping with basketball this year on Sunday, October 21st at 7:00pm in the West Brookfield Elementary School cafeteria.



Quaboag Regional School Ski Club-

Once again this year, the Quaboag Regional School District has organized a ski club at Wachusett Mountain in Princeton, MA. We are looking for students in grades 3-12, teachers, and parents of those students to sign up. If you are interested, please send your child in with a note requesting a registration packet be sent home. The deadline to register is November 15, 2007. The program runs from January 5th - February 9th, 2008.

Lost & Found-

Please keep in mind our lost & found box located in the main lobby of the school. If your child is missing anything, please ask them to come and check the box. There are also items located in the gymnasium, which have been left in the rear of the building.

Please Drive Slow!-

We have had some complaints about people speeding through the school yard. PLEASE drive slowly!

Dismissal Changes-

It is much easier for your child as well as the staff if your child has a consistent dismissal plan every week and it does not change. However, we know there comes a time when plans change. Please send your child with a note if they are not going to follow their regular dismissal plan. Phone calls should only be made in emergency situations and should not be made after 2:00pm. We need to be sure there is enough time to communicate the change with your child's teacher and your child.

Dates to Remember!!!-

October 31st - ½ day of school for Professional Development Day, no lunch will be served
November 6th - Picture Retake Day
November 9th - Report cards will be sent home. Please sign and return in the envelopes provided.
November 12th - No School, Veteran's Day Observed
November 15th - ½ day of school for Parents/Teacher Conferences, no lunch will be served
November 21st - ½ day of school, Thanksgiving Break, no lunch will be served
November 22nd-23rd-No school, Thanksgiving Break

