

The Western Weekly, Issue 13

November 19th, 2017



Scholastic Book Fair Comes to Western Avenue!



Who doesn't love a good book? At Western Avenue, our annual Scholastic Book Fair has commenced! We started by holding mini "Book Talks" during our morning announcements this past week. There have been preview book posters set up in the Main Foyer of our building, and our fifth graders did an amazing job helping to decorate our hallways for the fair. The official Preview Day was this Friday, November 17th, for all students to browse and create "wish lists" of books that they would be interested in purchasing from the fair. The fair will be open during both Parent Conferences dates on November 20th and November 21st. So swing by, feel free to browse and find that perfect book for your child! We have an incredible selection that covers all ages, genres, and interests. A HUGE thank you to all of our parents who have volunteered to set up our book fair, especially to Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Daggett. We could not have done this without your support. #WesternReads!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

The Week of November 20th

Monday, 11.20	Tuesday, 11.21	Wednesday, 11.22	Thursday, 11.23	Friday, 11.24
Parent Teacher Conferences, 1:00 pm -8:30 pm (non-attendance day for children) Scholastic Book Fair! 	Parent Teacher Conferences, 8:15 am-1:15 pm (non-attendance day for children) Scholastic Book Fair! 	Non-attendance day for children	Thanksgiving Day (No School) 	Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)

Upcoming Events:

- November 29th: Last Day to submit orders for cookie dough! Please order from website:
https://www.cherrydale.com/landingpage/landingpage/organization/code/44282-FRWESAFI_2017F
- December 6th: Early Release Day (11:15 am Dismissal)

TOP STORIES



World Peace Day A Success!

Western Avenue students participated in a Peaceable Week, in honor of World Peace Day on November 17th. We ended our week with Wacky Tacky Friday. Our focus quote was "Being different is one of the most beautiful things on earth." The children participated in various activities to celebrate peace, and we hope you enjoy all of our beautiful artwork during Parent Teacher Conferences! A huge thank you to Mrs. Kubas and Mr. Hood for coordinating all of our activities.

P.T.O. Cookie Dough Fundraiser Under Way

Western Avenue P.T.O. is working hard to ensure a successful fundraiser with Cherrydale Farms. The website for making purchases is right here:

https://www.cherrydale.com/landingpage/landingpage/organization/code/44282-FRWESAFI_2017F/

Orders and money for the cookie dough and other items are due **Wednesday, November 29th**. Cookie Dough pick-up will be the afternoon of December 21st. Please see attached letter from our P.T.O. for important information regarding this fundraiser. Thank you!

5 Essentials Survey-Parent Participation Needed!

District 161 will join the [Illinois State Board of Education](#) (ISBE) in the sixth statewide survey of school climate and learning conditions. The survey provides a unique opportunity for students, teachers and parents to have a voice in improving their schools. From November 15 through January 18, students in grades four through eight, teachers and parents will be asked to take a 25 minute research-based survey to help identify strengths and weaknesses in their school's learning environment. This survey will serve as an opportunity for schools to reflect on progress in the district. We encourage parents and guardians to complete the survey to provide feedback to impact change in the district. ***All District 161 parents and guardians will receive the link to the survey very soon (there has been a slight delay in its release) and you are able to complete the survey on any device.*** Surveys can also be completed during parent teacher conferences on 11.20.17 and 11.21.17. Please contact the Main Office with any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Western Avenue Spelling Bee Participants Announced

In order to participate in Western Avenue's Spelling Bee, students in grades 3-5 had to take a very difficult qualifying exam. The winners from this exam will now compete in Western Avenue's Spelling Bee on December 19th. We would like to extend our congratulations to the following students who will be participating in the December 19th Spelling Bee at Western Avenue:

Vivian Dixon, Noelle Dolan, Reagan Seye, Cormac Saunders, Mia Caporale, Cameron Holt, Rachel Griggs, Logan Jackson, Annelise Latham, Carrington Hughes, Ava Nickerson, Brynn Williams, Isaac Griggs, Ewan Duckett, and Russell Harris

Our school winner will attend the District 161 Spelling Bee in January of 2018. Thank you to all who participated in the qualifying exam, and we are looking forward to our Spelling Bee in December!

Box Top Winner Announced!

A big thank you to all of our Western Avenue families who clipped and turned in Box Tops for our annual Fall drive. Our school earned \$420.00 that will go towards classroom supplies and improvements. Congratulations to Ms. Leatzow's class for collecting the most Box Tops and earning a reward. Please continue to clip and save Box Tops during the next few months and look for our next drive and contest in February. We need your help in order to reach our goal of \$1,200 for the 2017-2018 year.

Second Session of STEM Club

The second session of Western Avenue's STEM Club begins on November 29th. The second session will be entirely new activities, and we will continue to run on the same dates and times. November 29th, December 13th, and December 20th from 3:05-4:30 pm will be our set times. If you would like to register, please sign up at www.engineeringforkids.net/illiana. There is a flyer attached for more information.

Lost and Found

Now that the weather has changed, we are noticing the Lost and Found locations bursting with coats, hats, sweaters, scarves, and other clothing items. Please make sure to check both locations--there is one area at the end of the primary hallway near Door I (closest to the primary playground), and another location in the breezeway between the 3rd and 4th grade classrooms. Parent conferences is a perfect opportunity to look for lost items, so please make sure to stop by and check for any missing clothing items. Thank you!

Traffic Flow at Arrival and Dismissal Times

Parents, we understand that everyone is rushing to get their days started in the morning. However, we need to do a better job driving safely in the drop-off and pick-up lines. We have three staff members directing traffic at the front lot, two staff members posted at door I, and multiple people posted at the playgrounds and blacktop area between the playgrounds. We also have one person directing traffic in the North parking lot. Please remember that there is a traffic flow. Students must be dropped off in the designated car lines. Please do not drop off your children on any other street or sidewalk other than the designated lines. Please do not wait in line to make sure your child walks to the door because that stops the flow for other parents behind you. And please be very mindful when you are pulling away from the car line. There should only be one priority for morning drop off and afternoon pick up--and that priority is the safety of all our kids at Western Avenue. If we all work together, we can ensure the safety of all students. Thank you!

Cubs Scouts Membership Drive

Cub Scout Pack 304 is open to boys in the Homewood-Flossmoor area who are in 1st through 5th grade. For more information on scouting, to learn more about your local pack, or to register for your local pack, please visit www.pack304.com, or email hfpack304@gmail.com. Thank you!

Thank you for reading, and have a wonderful week!

we ♥ school !

