

The Western Weekly, Issue 29

March 18th, 2018

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## “101 Dalmatians” Steals the Show at Western Avenue Elementary!

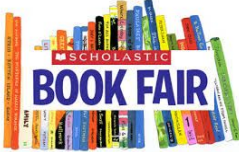


It was a spectacular performance by both casts for our spring musical. “101 Dalmatians” was a hit this week as the featured performance at Western Avenue Elementary. There were two cast performances, one for Wednesday and the other for Thursday evening. Our 4th and 5th graders did a phenomenal job! As a newcomer to Western Avenue, I had heard a great deal about the plays, but never actually experienced just how amazing the performances are for the audience. I was completely blown away at the professionalism and talent of our children at Western Avenue. The contributions from parents and staff went above and beyond. The overall support from families at our school and in the community simply warmed my heart. A very special thank you to all of the adults who helped contribute

to the performance. A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Pasqua and Mrs. Panozzo for all of their time and effort working with our children. As this was my first Spring Musical performance at Western Avenue, I will always hold “101 Dalmatians” close to my heart!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

The Week of March 19th-March 23rd

<p><b>Monday, 3.19</b></p> <p><b>Reading Schedule:</b>  <b>Chapters 35-36</b>  <b>(Pages 245-264)</b></p> <p><b>Hard Lockdown</b>  <b>Drill @ 9:00 am</b></p> <p>Lunch: Breaded  Chicken Sandwich &amp;  Broccoli</p> <p><b>ELA Curriculum</b>  <b>Pilot Parent Night @</b>  <b>Normandy Villa,</b>  <b>7:00-8:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday, 3.20</b></p> <p><b>No School,</b>  <b>Election Day!</b></p> 	<p><b>Wednesday, 3.21</b></p> <p><b>Reading Schedule:</b>  <b>Chapters 37-38</b>  <b>(Pages 265-278)</b></p> <p>Lunch: Corn Dog</p> <p>STEM Club @ 3:15  pm <b>(Last session!)</b></p> <p><b>Kindergarten</b>  <b>Registration,</b>  <b>6:30-8:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Thursday, 3.22</b></p> <p><b>Preview Day:</b>  <b>Spring Book Fair!</b></p>  <p>Lunch: Chicken Fries</p> <p><b>Literacy Night, P.T.O</b>  <b>Silent Auction</b>  <b>5:30-7:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Friday, 3.23</b></p> <p><b>Spring Book Fair!</b></p>  <p>Lunch: Cheese  Pizza &amp; celery  sticks</p>
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Upcoming Events:

- March 23rd: End of 3rd Quarter (43 school days)
- March 26th-April 2nd: Spring Break (classes resume April 3rd)
- April 3rd-April 20th: PARCC Testing for 3rd-5th grade students
- April 26th: Fine Arts Extravaganza!





## TOP STORIES

### *HF Students Come to Western Avenue Elementary!*



### **Western Avenue and the Kindness Week Challenge**

This week, Western Avenue participated in a Kindness Week Challenge. There were a series of activities that we planned for students to promote kindness, self-love, love and appreciation for others. On Tuesday, guest author Tracy Watland read her book, "The Kindness Can," to every grade level. She also



helped to facilitate a discussion about kindness with all of our students. For Wednesday, students showed kindness to their teachers, and on Thursday, there were classroom-to-classroom kindness activities. Kindness Week is a new initiative at Western Elementary, with our HF students creating the hashtag #cool2bkind. This was a tri-district initiative between SD 153, SD 233, and SD 161 to promote kindness, with a special visit from our high school friends at HF on Friday! The high school students read "The Kindness Quilt" to our students, and then every student created their own quilt piece that the HF students glued down our hallways. A special thank you to Mrs. Bachus, Mrs. Kubas, and Mr. Hood for their help in planning our activities. We would also like to thank the students from HF for coming to spend time with us this past Friday. We will never forget your kindness and care for our children!



## **Literacy Night/One School, One Book/Book Fair & P.T.O. Silent Auction**

Everybody mark your calendars for March 22nd! This will be a HUGE evening for all families at Western Avenue Elementary. From 5:30-7:00 pm, there will be multiple activities planned for families to honor Literacy Night. Our annual Spring Book Fair will be ready for any families who wish to purchase books for Spring Break reading. Our Literacy Committee has planned exciting activities for the entire family that will be held throughout our classrooms. This year's theme will be

"Game Night At Western Avenue!" Be prepared to play and have some fun! We will also have a culminating activity planned in the gymnasium for One School, One Book, as March 22nd marks the reading of our final chapter in "The Adventures of a South Pole Pig."

And if that weren't enough, our amazing P.T.O. is also hosting our annual Silent Auction on this evening! Now, we have truly amped up our offerings for the Silent Auction this year, and I think you will all be very happy with what we have available for bidding. We cannot wait to see you all at Western for this amazing family night. Go Western!

## **Western Avenue Spring Book Fair**

The Western Avenue Spring Book Fair is almost here, and we need your help! The dates and times are as follows:

- Setup: Wednesday, March 21st, 3:00-5:30pm
- Previews: Thursday, March 22nd, 8:30-2:55pm
- Book Sale: Thursday, March 22nd, 3:00-7:00pm, and Friday, March 23rd, 3:00-6:30pm

This season's Book Fair will be an exciting celebration full of fun activities and hundreds of books kids want to read. In addition to volunteering at our sale, you can also volunteer during your child's class

preview time (see schedule below). The kids love seeing their parents at school, so please free to stop by during that time if you can.

If you are interested in volunteering, please use the following link to sign up for a slot (or two): [Western 2018 Spring Book Fair](#). Also, as in previous years, volunteers will receive one free book (up to \$5 value) for each volunteer slot they fill. Thank you in advance for making our Spring Book Fair a success!


## Spring Chess Club

The professional staff of GM Chess Academy is now accepting registration forms for the Spring session of Chess Club. Space is limited to 30 players per class and students will be accepted in order of registration. Students will be taught tournament rules which will be practiced during the in-house tournament. We will encourage students to participate in local and state competitions. The Spring session is from April 3rd until May 22nd, and meets every Tuesday from 3:15-4:15 pm. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

## IJP Energy Fair 2018

Infant Jesus of Prague will host an Energy Fair on Thursday, March 22nd. The fair is from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm in the IJP school cafeteria and gym. The Energy Fair is sponsored by IJP's STEAM class and sixth graders. All are welcome to attend!

## **Classroom Visits from Parents**

At Western Avenue Elementary, we welcome visits from our parents into classrooms! However, please remember to contact your teacher directly via email or phone at least 24 hours in advance to arrange a date and time for your visit. Especially now that testing has started, it is important that if a visit is arranged, that it is done around the testing windows. Thank you in advance for your support!

## **Cell Phone Policy at School**

Parents, please remember that even though students may have cell phones on school grounds, all cell phones must be turned off and stored in backpacks. If a child is seen with a cell phone, the cell phone are taken by teachers and staff and turned into the principal's mailbox. An adult may come to pick up the cell phone at any time. If you are unable to pick up your child's cell phone because of your work schedule, if you leave a message with the Main Office or with Dr. Dallacqua, we will make sure your child is given his/her cell phone at the end of the day. Please remember that this policy is in place for the safety of all children in our building. Every classroom is equipped with a telephone, and if the children need to contact home, they may do so with any teacher, or they may also make a call in the Main Office. If your child does have a cell phone, I encourage you to learn the apps and know the usernames and passwords that your child has on his/her phone. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

## **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!

Thank you for reading, and have a wonderful week!