



Wellfleet Elementary School Principal's Newsletter - October 2020

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Thank You!

Thank you for helping us usher in the 2020 - 2021 school year! Students are arriving to school on time, are settling into their routines, and are ready to learn! It has truly been a safe return to school. Our goals and priorities are inspired by a changing educational landscape. WES is dedicated to teaching and practicing 21st century skills, developing students' cognitive, interpersonal and intrapersonal competencies fundamental to global citizenship, and supporting all students' social-emotional learning.



Student Enrollment

WES has welcomed 88 students to In-Person Learning and 15 students are participating in the Remote Learning program.

WES Parent & Student Handbook 2020-2021

The updated WES Parent & Student Handbook is now available on the WES homepage.

Parent Drop-Off & Pick-Up Procedures - A Gentle Reminder

To expedite Parent Pick-Up (at dismissal), continue to drive into the preschool parking lot. Once buses have exited the bus circle, we can then move the line of cars that are remaining, into the bus circle. Please follow the directive of the monitor or me. **Please remain in the line rather than driving around a waiting vehicle. Why remain in line rather than driving around a waiting vehicle?** WES has families with more than one child therefore, requiring one child to enter the lot or bus circle to access the



opposite side of the vehicle. We must ensure every child's and staff member's safety. Thank you!

Early Pick-Up

If you need to pick your child up from school early (i.e. doctor or dentist appointment), please provide the classroom teacher a note the morning of. When you arrive for pick-up, drive into the bus circle, remain in your

vehicle, call the main office [508-349-3101](tel:508-349-3101), ext. 10 and your child will exit via the lobby double doors.

Drop-off a Forgotten Item

If you need to drop-off an item (i.e. lunch box, homework) for your child during the school day, please call the office first, at [508-349-3101](tel:508-349-3101), ext. 10 to let us know. A table has been set-up outside the lobby double doors for you to place the item. Please be sure to wear a face mask/covering when you exit your vehicle.

Student & Family Resource Page

Mrs. Francis, WES School Psychologist, has created a resource page on the WES homepage or can be accessed [HERE](#). Resources and supports for

Social-Emotional Learning, COVID-19, Mental Health, Special Education, and Community Agencies are available on the page. If you need or wish to contact Mrs. Francis, please either call 508-349-3101, ext. 37 or email at francisk@nausetschools.org.

Communication

It is important to keep the lines of communication open between home and school. Notes, phone calls, parent-teacher conferences, email messages, and report cards provide this communication.

- **Backpack Mail:** **Thursday** is “**notice day**” at WES. Occasionally notices will be sent home on other days. Most news and notices will be sent via email (**ParentSquare***).
- **Monthly Calendars:** Monthly calendars provide a snapshot of known activities scheduled each month and are subject to change.
- **Telephone:** Our voice messaging system will take your call. Due to classroom responsibilities, teachers will return calls outside of the student day.
- **Report Cards:** Report Cards are issued three times each school year.
- **Conferences:** Conferences are held two times (Fall and Spring) each school year. Students are dismissed early (11:00 AM) on afternoon conference days.

ParentSquare*

The district-wide communication system, ParentSquare, easily allows you to choose how you would like to receive school messages. If you do not have a ParentSquare account, please log on to set up your account and to set your communication preferences (i.e. email, phone call, text message).

1. Log on to **ParentSquare.com**
2. Click the down arrow next to your name in upper right-hand corner
3. Click on **My Account**
4. Click on **Customize Your Settings** (under Notification Setting)
5. Check or Uncheck your Preferences (choose email, text, app notifications)

Please note: You will receive phone calls/voicemails for emergency situations, weather related school cancellations, or announcements about school events.

Fire Safety Week

Firefighter Justin Kinshaw will be providing remote fire safety lessons for all WES classrooms during Fire Safety Week, October 5th – 9th.

Columbus Day ~ NO SCHOOL

School will not be in session on Monday, October 12th in observance of Columbus Day.

Early Dismissals

There will be 11:00 AM dismissals for students on Wednesday, October 21st and Friday, October 30th.

Dress For the Weather!

Students will be going outside almost every day for class, PE, recess, meals, and breaks. Please make sure your child has the proper clothing for the elements. Dressing in layers and keeping a sweatshirt at school will help keep everyone warm as the weather gets chilly.

News from the Health Office

It is great to have our children back in school and they are doing a terrific job wearing their face coverings, social distancing, and practicing hand hygiene.

Any student who arrives at school with a mask that doesn't cover their nose and mouth will be provided a disposable mask. It is really important to teach children to handle their masks carefully as there is a clean side, the part that touches the face, and a dirty side, the outside that may be contaminated with respiratory droplets. You can support good masking habits by practicing hand hygiene before putting on a face covering, handling by the elastics only, folding the clean side in, placing on a clean paper towel or in a bag, and practicing hand hygiene again after removal.

Cloth face coverings should be laundered after use and a clean mask provided for each school day. If a student has a soiled or wet face covering, they will be provided with a disposable mask. Sometimes finding a face covering that fits snugly and is comfortable takes a few tries before you find one that is suitable. Remember, no valved masks, gaiters or bandanas, as they offer little protection to others and may break the respiratory droplets into smaller particles that can float longer and farther in air currents.

The latest research seems to indicate that wearing at least a double layer face covering not only protects others from COVID-19, but protects the wearer, as well. We are all masked super heros doing our part!

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

New Influenza Vaccine Requirement Kindergarten through Grade 12

Beginning this school year, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is requiring all students to receive the influenza vaccine by 12/31/20. The flu vaccine is always important in reducing the risk of getting sick with flu, reducing the severity of the disease, and reducing spread to others. During the COVID-19 pandemic, receiving a flu vaccine will be more important than ever to reduce the impact of respiratory illness and protect the more vulnerable in our population, such as grandparents, or those with an underlying health condition.



Wellfleet Elementary School
100 Lawrence Road
Wellfleet, MA 02667

Phone: 508-349-3101, ext. 11 Fax: 508-349-1377