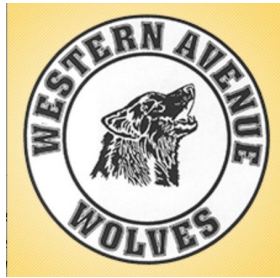


The Western Weekly, Issue 28

March 11th, 2018

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Girls on the Run Begins at Western Avenue!



This week, Girls on the Run (GOTR) commenced at Western Avenue. Led by our fearless teachers, Girls on the Run is an extracurricular program for girls in grades 3-5 with a curriculum that promotes values of health, confidence, and joy through the integration of running activities. The mission of Girls on the Run asks that “every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams.”



At Western Avenue, we have always had strong participation from our female students in this program. The program lasts for ten weeks, and the culminating activity is a Girls on the Run 5K. This final experience is held in conjunction with other school districts from around the state, and is an empowering way for young girls to come together and make the statement, “YES I CAN!” We are thrilled to have another year of Girls on the Run at Western Avenue. A huge thank you to Mrs. Jana Budz for organizing and coordinating all of the GOTR efforts. Go Western!



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

The Week of March 12th-March 16th

Kindness Week Challenge at Western Avenue Elementary!

Monday, 3.12	Tuesday, 3.13	Wednesday, 3.14	Thursday, 3.15	Friday, 3.16
<p>Kindness to Self Bucket Filler Pledge</p> <p>Reading Schedule: Chapters 24-25 (Pages 170-184)</p> <p>Lunch: Popcorn Chicken w/Dinner Roll</p> <p>Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Kindness to Others, Guest Author Visits!</p> <p>Reading Schedule: Chapters 26-27 (Pages 185-194)</p> <p>Lunch: Rotisserie Chicken w/Rice</p> <p>Chess Club @ 3:15 pm</p>	<p>Kindness to our Teachers and Staff</p> <p>Reading Schedule: Chapters 28-29 (Pages 195-207)</p> <p>Lunch: Pizza Dippers w/ Marinara Sauce</p> <p>Erin's Law Presentations for all grade levels</p> <p>Grades are posted in Skyward</p> <p>STEM Club @ 3:15 pm</p> <p>4th/5th Musical: 101 Dalmatians @ 6:30 pm</p> 	<p>Random Acts of Kindness with Another Class</p> <p>Reading Schedule: Chapters 30-31 (Pages 208-221)</p> <p>Lunch: French Toast w/ Turkey Sausage</p> <p>5th Grade takes ISA Science Exam @ 8:30 am</p> <p>Girl Scouts @ 3:15 pm</p> <p>4th/5th Musical: 101 Dalmatians @ 6:30 pm</p> 	<p>HF Students Visit! Cuddle with Kindness PJ Day!</p> <p>Reading Schedule: Chapters 32 (Pages 222-231)</p> <p>Lunch: Cheese Pizza</p>

Upcoming Events:

- March 19th: ELA Curriculum Pilot Parent Night, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. @ Normandy Villa
- March 20th: Election Day, Non-attendance day
- March 21st: Kindergarten Registration, 6:30-8:00 pm
- March 22nd: Literacy Night, One Book, One School and P.T.O. Silent Auction 5:30-7:00 pm
- March 22nd and 23rd: Spring Book Fair!



**"You're never
too old, too wacky, too wild,
to pick up a book and
read to a child."
-Dr. Seuss**

Western Avenue Green Team Crushes Plastic Bag Collection!



THANK YOU WESTERN AVENUE!

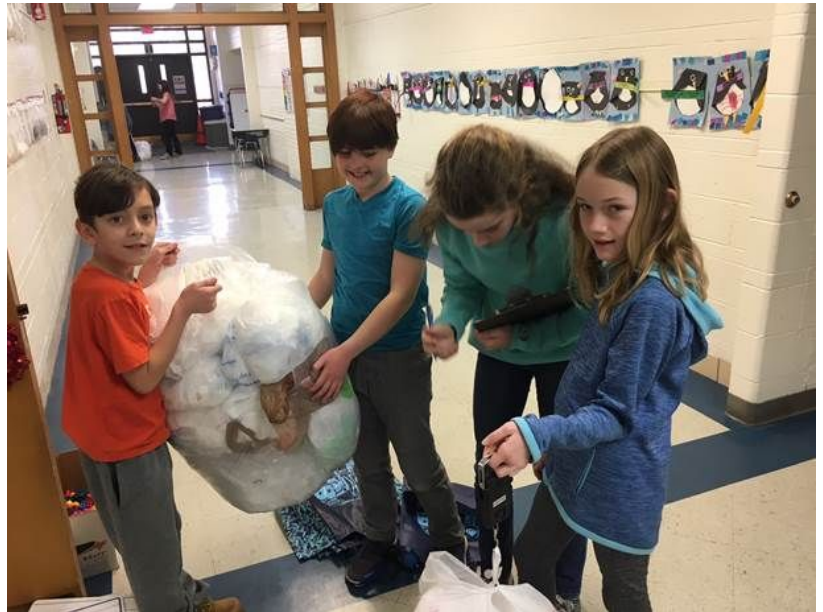
The Green Team's Plastic Bag Drive was an amazing success! We crushed the 10,500 bag goal and collected 164 lb of plastic, which is equivalent to 13,560 plastic grocery bags! Four car loads of plastic were delivered to Kohl's in Homewood to be recycled instead of landing in the trash. Ms. Piekosz's classroom collected the most bags in Week 1: 15 lbs (1,200 plastic bags). Ms. Piekosz's classroom also collected the most bags in Week 2, but Ms. Hoy's class was a close second with 10 lbs (850 plastic bags).

Western Avenue will continue to collect plastic all school year, so keep sending in the bags. Thank you Western Avenue for helping save the planet, one plastic bag at a time!

I would like to give a huge thank you to Mrs. Matthys and Mrs. Ermsler for helping collect all of the bags, loading them into their cars, and dropping them off at the recycling locations. We have some amazing, passionate parents at Western Avenue!

Erin's Law Presentations

On Wednesday, March 14th, Western Avenue students will receive presentations for Erin's Law. Erin's Law has been passed in 32 states, with 18 additional states introducing the legislation for the 2017-2018 school year. Erin's Law requires all public schools to implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program to ensure that children are educated on how to protect themselves. Our presentations are differentiated for each grade level, and will be held in our library and gymnasium. If you would like more information on Erin's Law, please visit <http://www.erinslaw.org/>. The parent presentation that was given this past week will be available on the district website soon. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Robin Latman at district office. Thank you!



Western Avenue and the Kindness Week Challenge

Next week, Western Avenue will participate in a Kindness Week Challenge. There will be a series of activities that we have planned for students to promote kindness, self-love, love and appreciation for others. This tri-district initiative between SD 153, SD 233, and SD 161 to promote kindness will begin on Monday and continue throughout the week, with a special visit from HF students on Friday! We will be taking photos and documenting all of our activities throughout the week with the hashtag #cool2bkind. Spread the word, Western Avenue is super excited to have an

opportunity to work with our students and to promote healthy, social emotional learning. 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 on this coming Friday!



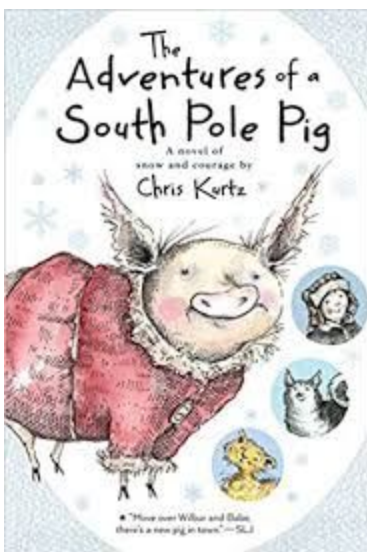
101 Dalmatians Musical Performance This Week!



This year's 4th/5th grade musical performance of 101 Dalmatians will be on Wednesday, March 14th and Thursday, March 15th from 6:30-7:30 pm in Western Avenue's gymnasium. The students have been working with Mrs. Pasqua and Mrs. Panozzo to deliver a performance to remember! The cost of tickets will be \$2 for kids ages 5-17, and \$4 for adults ages 18 and over. Our doors will not open until 6:10 pm, because we have sound checks for our students beginning at 6:00 pm. From what I have seen at dress rehearsal, this is a show not to be missed! So bring your family out, we hope to see you all there! A huge thank you to Mrs. Pasqua and Mrs. Panozzo for their countless

hours in rehearsal with our students. And to all of our students participating in the musical, BREAK A LEG!

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!

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!

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!

