

The Western Weekly, Issue 12

November 12th, 2017

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4th and 5th Grade Choir Give Magical Performance!



This past Thursday, Western Avenue's 4th and 5th Grade Choir delivered a spectacular performance to parents and community members under the direction of Mrs. Pasqua. The theme of this year's concert was "Music From Around The World," and included selections that honored so many beautiful countries celebrated together by our 4th and 5th grade choir. We heard "Haida," an Israeli Folksong, "Bonse Aba," a celebratory song from Zambia, "Uno, Dos, Y Tres," a Cuban Conga song, and even "Fireflies," an American pop song. Mrs. Groen was our lead accompanist. She did a fabulous job playing the piano for each musical selection, and Ms. Hoy and Mr. Thielen played percussion as well! The children worked hard in preparation for Thursday's performance. We enjoyed being able to hear their beautiful voices carry through each song. We want to extend our gratitude once again to Mrs. Pasqua, for directing and guiding our students through Thursday's performance. It was an evening to remember!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

The Week of November 13th

In honor of World Peace Day, Western Avenue's PBIS team is hosting a Spirit Week!

Monday, 11.13	Tuesday, 11.14	Wednesday, 11.15	Thursday, 11.16	Friday, 11.17
<p>Millionaire Day, Dress to Impress</p> <p>Lunch: Popcorn Chicken w/French Fries</p>	<p>Tropical Tuesday, wear anything tropical</p> <p>Lunch: Pizza Dipper</p> <p>Chess Club 3:15 pm</p>	<p>Wake up Wed. PJ Day</p> <p><i>Window opens, 5 Essentials Survey</i></p> <p>Lunch: Breaded Chicken Sandwich</p> <p>STEM Club 3:05-4:30 pm</p>	<p>Throwback Thurs. 50s-90s attire</p> <p><i>Picture Day Retakes, 8:30-10:30 am</i></p> <p>Lunch: Hot Dog w/Corn</p> <p><i>End of 1st Trimester</i></p> <p>Girl Scouts 3:15pm</p> <p>Study Buddies Tutoring 3:05-4:00pm</p>	<p>Freaky Friday, dress with wacky hair, mismatched clothes, etc.</p> <p><i>World Peace Day</i></p> <p>Lunch: Cheese Pizza</p> <p><i>Preview Day, Scholastic Book Fair</i></p>

Upcoming Events:

- November 20th & 21st: Book Fair
- November 20th & 21st: Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 22nd-24th: Thanksgiving Break (No School)
- December 6th: Early Release Day (11:15 am Dismissal)



TOP STORIES

World Peace Day on Friday, November 17th

In honor of International Peace Day, Western Avenue will be participating in various peace activities throughout the week of November 13th. World Peace Day was established by Don Morris and Susan Parker as a way of creating a non-religious, non-governmental, world inclusive, grassroots movement for a day to promote peace. Our PBIS Team will host Spirit Dress for each day of the week leading up to November 17th. Please see our calendar and the attached flyer for specific details. Thank you!

P.T.O. Cookie Dough Fundraiser Kick Off

Western Avenue P.T.O. kicked off its first cookie dough fundraiser on Friday, November 10th, with an informational assembly for all students. 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 are due Monday, November 27th. 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!

Picture Retake Day is Thursday, November 16th

There was a mistake in the Western Weekly's Upcoming Events section from last week. Our Picture Retake Day is this **Thursday, November 16th from 8:30-10:30 am**. Pictures were placed in teacher mailboxes to go home this past Friday, November 10th. If you did not receive pictures, please contact the Main Office with any questions or concerns. Ms. Tolonaa or Ms. Spotora will be able to assist 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 on 11.15.17 and can 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 Update

This past week, students in grades 3-5 took a qualifying exam for Western Avenue's Spelling Bee. The winners from this exam will be announced the morning of November 13th, and the top 12-15 spellers will participate in Western Avenue's Spelling Bee on December 19th. Our school winner will then attend the District 161 Spelling Bee in January of 2018. Thank you for supporting your children!

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!

