

WEST VINE/WEST BROAD STREET SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER!

October 9 - COLUMBUS DAY - No school

October 20 - 27 - BOOK FAIR! - West Vine and West Broad Street Schools

Oct 24 - Early Dismissal - Parent / Teacher conferences

Oct 27 - Early dismissal - Parent / Teacher conferences

Oct 30 - Early dismissal - Parent / Teacher conferences

Nov 13 - Picture retake day



Dear West Vine and West Broad Street Families,



Welcome to the 2017-18 school year !

Words cannot express how joyful it was to hear the footsteps, zippering of backpacks, lockers closing and of course the conversations being had by our students!

It has been such a pleasure to visit with students, staff and families across our schools during the last three weeks. We heard so many wonderful stories about trips to the beach, long weekends in Maine, and family time at home! We are so very excited about the year ahead!

In addition, we will be using this newsletter and our school's FaceBook page to provide you with Building Updates! Please click on the link below to view and "like" our FaceBook page!

[FaceBook!](#)

Enjoy,
Mrs. Dawe

PARENT/GUARDIAN REMINDERS

Morning drop off begins at 8:40 am. Students are not expected in the building before that time, and there is no adult supervision.

Please do not allow students to bring toys to school.

When the lights on the buses are flashing, please do not drive past the buses.

FROM THE NURSES' DESK

Welcome back!



As the new school year is here, so are illnesses! If your child is ill and needs to stay home, please notify the school nurse via phone or email in the morning. Any child with a temperature of 100 or higher, vomiting and/or diarrhea should not attend school and should remain home until symptom free for at least 24 hours, per Stonington policy. Any child with communicable illnesses such as pink eye, impetigo, head lice and strep throat should also remain home and will require a doctor's note or proof of treatment in order to return to school. Not sure if your child needs to stay home? Call us and we can help you decide!

Medication may be administered in school with a written order from a medical provider. Medication must be brought to the school nurse by a parent or guardian, and must be in its original packaging or with a pharmacy label. *Elementary children are not allowed to transport their own medication to and from school, per Stonington policy.*

Please remember to fill out the returning student registration for your child. The medical information and updated contact information is very important, and helps us to provide the best care for your child!

As a reminder, we will be conducting annual State of CT mandated hearing and vision screens on all students in October. If your child has recently had a vision or hearing test from a doctor, please provide the school nurse with this information so we can screen your child in the best way.

Parents will be notified of the results of these school screenings only if further evaluation from a doctor is indicated.

Thank you, and have a healthy day!

Karen Rollins, RN - Gloria Murray-DeBiasi, RN - Liz Bessette, RN

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gmurraydebiasi@stoningtonschools.org
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KINDERGARTEN

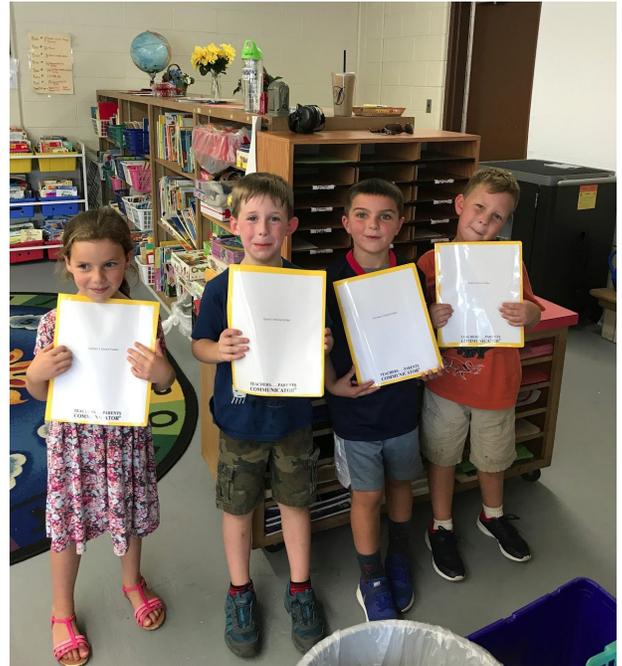
Kindergarteners have had a great start to their school year. We have loved reading Pete the Cat books and went on a hunt for him around our school. What a surprise to find him waiting for us in our classrooms!



We have been working on rhyming and forming our letters from the top. In Math, we have learned how to sort objects into various categories. We are making many new friends and have settled into routines.

GRADE 1

First graders are learning all of the routines and procedures to make our days run smoothly. Please be



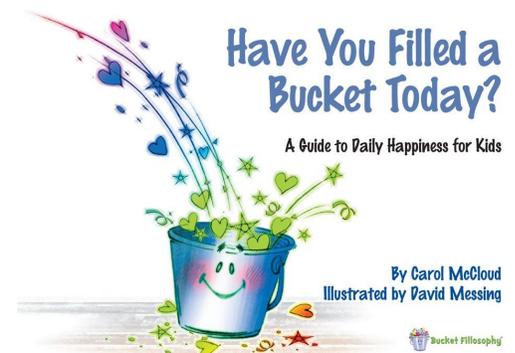
sure that your child has his/her home folder every day. They certainly help to keep all of us organized.

GRADE 2

The second graders have enjoyed getting to know one another and their new classrooms and routines over these past two weeks. They have learned ways to be bucket fillers after listening to the story, Have You Filled A Bucket Today? Ask your child how he/she can be a bucket filler in the classroom and at home!

Please help your child to remember to bring his/her yellow folder to school each day. Checking its contents with your child after school each day is a great way to spark conversations about their day at school - try it! Also, please note the homework sheet for each week - that will include important information about the happenings in our classrooms in addition to weekly homework assignments.

So far, we are off to a great start!



GRADE 3

We have had a wonderful start to third grade! Third graders are quickly learning classroom routines, and their way around West Broad. They are using ChromeBooks to practice typing, writing, and math facts. In math, third graders are using division and skip-counting to find equal groups. We have learned how to draw an array and write multiplication and division equations to represent any size of array. In reading, we are starting week one of Wonders and learning about our essential question: "What can stories teach you?" We will also start to practice synonyms!



We enjoyed meeting grade 3 families on Back to School Night!

WORKING TOGETHER!

Mr. Burns and Mrs. Noyes' classes worked on a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) project together to close out the first week back to school.



Their challenge was to create the strongest and tallest structure, sturdy enough to hold the weight of a basketball, using only newspaper and masking tape!

They worked hard, were creative and inventive, cooperated and got to know some new classmates... not to mention had tons of FUN!



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS:

It has been an exciting start to the 2017-2018 school year! Students at both West Vine and West Broad have participated in activities to keep them moving, while working on cooperation. Kindergarten and First Graders are working on locomotor and manipulative skills utilizing a parachute, while Second Graders are working on teamwork and overhand throwing skills within a game called Castle Crushers. Our West Broad students are now in a striking unit focusing on soccer skill development with culminating activities geared toward variations of soccer games. We will also be practicing for the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment in the coming months.



BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT



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NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM:

Welcome to another year of Creativity!

Each issue, I will share "A Reason for Art!" from the National Art Education Association. Here's the first:

"The arts teach children to make GOOD JUDGMENTS about qualitative relationships. Unlike much of the curriculum in which correct answers and rules prevail, in the arts, it is judgement rather than rules that prevail."

Source: Eisner, Elliot (2002). [The Arts and the Creation of the Mind](#). Yale University Press

Also, I will usually include a link to a local or fairly local art museum or gallery, in case you would like to look into the artwork and child-friendly educational opportunities offered there. Visit the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, Ct. They will be featuring the annual "Wee Faerie Village" exhibit from September 30 to October 29. florencegriswoldmuseum.org

In addition to featuring pictures of students at work and/or highlighted student art pieces, the newsletter will share art contests that come to my attention and other options for art enrichment.

Third Graders working on the spectrum of colors in the rainbow and learning about the color wheel: primary, secondary, and intermediate colors.



Students: Corinne M, Maxton H, Rhiann W, and Ryan D
Lauren D, Elixia D, Austin C., Brooke M.
Students in First Grade work on a torn paper apple tree:
Gavin P., Alexander W., and Rowan H.



A reminder to Grade 4 parents: A flyer was sent home on Friday, Sept 16th explaining the Grade 4 Home School Sketchbook Program. Please return the signed permission slip if your child would like to be included in the program.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, my email address is: jbrummund@stoningtonschools.org

MUSIC NEWS !

We have had a wonderful start to our year in music and there is a lot to look forward to. Kindergarten is currently working on listening skills and identifying sounds in music. First through fourth grade has been working on developing their singing voices and learning about the importance of steady beat. Fourth grade parents - be on the lookout for news about our recorder program set to begin in late October!



Check out our new space at West Vine! How lucky are we?!

Happy singing!

Mrs. McClenahan
emcclenahan@stoningtonschools.org



SUMMER LEARNING PACKET CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to the students who finished the Summer Learning Packet.



These students received a certificate and a coupon for Mel's Ice Cream !

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BUILDING UPDATE:

Construction of the steel structure is scheduled to complete the week of 9/25, at which time roofing will start along with installation of concrete block on the exterior of the building. Inside the structure, the concrete slabs for the first and second floors will be poured, followed by installation of overhead mechanical duct and piping, electrical conduits, and pipe for plumbing and fire protection systems. Site work will continue outside the building, consisting of installing the underground water detention system at the north end of the site by Liberty Street as well as bringing up to grade the back of the site for the outdoor play area

