NOVEMBER 2026

WAKARUSA NEWSLETTER

574-862-2000 | WANEE.ORG/WAKARUSAELEMENTARY | WAKARUSA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Star Student Recognition

Congratulations to the October Star Students: Bowen, Casen, Karma, Chip, Grayson & Bentley! Keep up the great work!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 3rd** - PTO Meeting - 3:15 pm - cafeteria
- **November 4th** - ECHD 5th grade Healthy Relationships class
- **Novemer 5th** - 5th grade Feed My Starving Children service trip @ Nappanee Missionary Church
- **November 6th** - End of 1st Trimester
- **Novembe 13th** - report cards posted in Skyward
- **November 16th-20th** - Fall Book Fair - library
- **November 17th** - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 3:30-7:00
- **November 19th** - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 3:30-7:00
- **November 25th-27th -** Thanksgiving Break - no school

WAKARUSA ELEMENTARY

Wakarusa Families

Wildcat Families,

This past month of October has been a busy and exciting month! Our students are working hard and having a lot of fun! I am so proud of our students for their hard work at our Jog-a-thon! A big thank you as well to our PTO and all of the volunteers who help to make this event each year a success. We couldn't do it without you! We look forward to seeing you at upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences, and again, appreciate all that you do to support your student. By partnering together, I am so proud of the continued growth and development of our students!

Growing Great Wildcats Through the 7 Habits

At Wakarusa Elementary, the 7 Habits are part of our everyday learning, helping students grow as responsible, respectful, and successful learners and leaders. The 7 Habits are:

- **Be Proactive:** - *take responsiblity for actions/choices*
- **Begin With the End in Mind** - *set goals and have a plan*
- **Put First Things First** - *prioritize important responsilities*
- **Think Win, Win -** look *solutions where everyone can feel successful*
- **Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood** - *listen before you respond*
- **Synergize** - *working together can create something better*
- **Sharpen the Saw** - *learning the importance of taking care of their minds, bodies, hearts, & relationships*

Reminders From the Main Office

- Please remember to report your child's absense by 9:00 a.m.
- If your child has a same day transportation change, please let the office know by **NOON.** This is a corporation policy.
- Classroom snacks/treats need to be store bought - **not** homemade.
- If your student **arrives after** the 8:00 a.m. bell, please bring them to the main entrance to sign them in.

NEW!! Attendance Incentives

In order to create additional excitement around attendance, we are excited to announce a few incentives and opportunities for the 26/27 school year. We will be recognizing a class in each grade level (with the highest overall %) monthly to earn an extra recess (or alternative option weather-depending). We intend to kick this off in September! Additionally, any students with a 95% (or higher) individual attendance rate will have the opportunity to participate in a larger raffle at the end of each trimester. Our tremendous PTO is graciously supporting us with these student opportunities-THANK YOU!

Attendance Word Data Link

Safety Spotlight with Officer Geleske

We want our parents to be familiar with our Standard Response Protocol icons and information. This protocol is based on the response to any given situation not an individual scenario. I Love You Guys Foundation

News from the WES PTO

Congrats Wildcats on an outstanding Jog-a-thon! We are SO proud of all the donations and laps ran by ALL our Wildcats! The WES students and their families hard worked earned a school-wide Pajama Party Friday, Nov. 6th. All the winners from the prize program have been rewarded. Be sure to check out our social media pages for these prize winners from this very successful fundraiser.

Wakarusa Elementary Spiritwear is NOW available! Use the following link to view and purchase your new 2026 apparel!

SPIRIT SHOP LINK

Simply select the style of shirt, color, and design you would like for your custom order. All orders are due by Nov. 9th! If you have any questions, please contact the PTO.

Be sure to follow the WES PTO Facebook and Instagram pages to stay up to date on all the upcoming events and needs! Our next meeting is November 3rd at 3:15pm in the WES cafeteria. Hope to see you there!

Counselor's Corner

Christmas Jubilee: Family Christian Development Center (FCDC) is inviting parents who need assistance with Christmas gifts for their children (ages toddler to 18) to sign up for their Christmas Jubilee which will be held Dec. 12th from 9 a.m. to Noon at FCDC/The Center. Registration is available at The Center/FCDC or you can simply call WES at 574-862-2000 or email Kris Fielstra at kfielstra@wanee.org. Forms must be turned in by Friday, Nov. 20th to register. Thank you.

Christmas Food Boxes are Back! 😊 If you could use a blessing this Christmas, please email Kris Fielstra, WES Counselor at kfielstra@wanee.org and let her know that you are interested in a Christmas box filled with non-perishable food items, paper products and hygiene products. Thank you! 😊

Child Safety Lesson: In the coming months of November and December, a state-mandated child safety lesson will be presented to grades K-5 by the WES counselor, Kris Fielstra. Lesson material will be accessible to view in the school office. For more information, click on the following link WES Curriculum Letter & Parent Opt-Out Form.docx , which includes a link for an opt-out option as well. The opt-out form must be turned into the office by Nov. 7th if you'd like your child to not participate in this lesson. Thank you.

Worth quoting: *"Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.*

-Daniel J. Boorstin

Elementary Volleyball

Third, fourth and fifth grade girls don't forget elementary volleyball starts on Monday. If you haven't signed up yet, grab a form in the office. We will practice twice each week and have two game days through the season. We have a lot of fun and the Wakarusa Wildcats have a tradition of winning! Join us this year!

From the School Nurse November Newsletter

Healthy students ♥ Happy learning ♥ A stronger tomorrow

Over-the-Counter Medication

If you are sending in any over-the-counter medication with your student, it **must** be accompanied by a note signed by a parent or guardian. The note must include:

- When to give the medication
- How much to give
- How long it will be given
- Any special instructions

Thank you for helping us keep your child safe and healthy!

Cough Drops & Cold Medicine

The school nurse does **NOT carry cough drops or cold medicine.**

If your student needs these items, you are welcome to send in cough drops for them to keep in their backpack or at their desk.

Borrowed Clothes

If your student has borrowed clothes from the nurse, please wash and return them as soon as possible. We want to make sure we have clean clothes available for other students who may need them.

Thank you!

Strep Throat Signs & Symptoms

- Sore throat (often sudden onset)
- Fever (often 101°F or higher)
- Swollen, tender lymph nodes (especially in the neck)
- Thick, white patches on the tonsils (sometimes)
- Stomachache, nausea or vomiting (more common in children)
- Headache

When to call your doctor:

If your child has symptoms of strep throat or if symptoms are getting worse, please contact your child's doctor for evaluation and treatment.

Thank you for your continued support!

Your School Nurse

News from the Cafeteria

The cafeteria is doing a giveaway! Eat a school lunch in the month of November and be entered to win a gift basket, full of snacks and an AMC gift card! Drawing will be held Nov. 24 before Thanksgiving break. Happy eating!

Habit 4 Winners: Think Win Win