

WHITESIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT #115

Smoke Signals – December 2017

Mrs. Peggy Burke, Superintendent

Whiteside Elementary School

Mr. Nathan Rakers, Principal

Mr. Kevin Johnson, Assistant Principal

Whiteside Middle School

Mrs. Monica Laurent, Principal

Mr. Jaime Cotto Assistant Principal

Calendar of Events – December

- 1 Gingerbread House Night 6-8pm at Elementary School
- 4 Chess Club Meeting 3:00 pm
- 5 GO Team Meeting 3:00 pm
- PTC Meeting at Middle School Library 7:00 pm
- Boys 5/6 BB vs Belle Valley @ Belle Valley 4:00 pm
- Girls 5/6 BB vs Belle Valley @ Home 4:00 pm
- Boys 7/8 BB vs Belle Valley @ Belle Valley 6:00 pm
- Girls 7/8 BB vs Belle Valley @ Home 6:00 pm
- 6 Photo Club Meeting 3:00 pm
- Winter Band Concert 7:00 pm
- 7 Boys 5/6 BB vs Wolf Branch @ Home 4:00 pm
- Girls 5/6 BB vs Wolf Branch @ Wolf Branch 4:00 pm
- Boys 7/8 BB vs Wolf Branch @ Home 6:00 pm
- Girls 7/8 BB vs Wolf Branch @ Wolf Branch 6:00 pm
- 8 Girls 7th BB Tourney @ Pontiac/Grant (Dec 8-9)
- 9 Boys 7th BB Tourney @ Belle Valley

Whiteside Craft & Vendor Fair 10am-3pm at Middle School

- 11 Chess Club Meeting 3:00 pm
- Student Council Meeting 3:00 pm
- Girls 6th BB Tourney @ Central O'Fallon (Dec 11-13)
- Boys 8th BB Tourney @ B'ville Central Jr High (Dec 11-14)
- Girls 8th BB Tourney @ West Jr High Dec 11-14)
- 12 Boys 6th BB Tourney @ Emge (Dec 12-14)
- 13 Broadcast Club 3:00 pm
- 15 End of 2nd Quarter
- Elementary class parties 1:30-2:30 pm
- 7th and 8th grade Winter Dance 6-8pm

18 First Day of Winter Break – NO SCHOOL

Classes Resume Tuesday, January 2nd



The Winter Dance is Friday, December 15th from 6-8pm. All 7th & 8th graders are invited to attend.*

*Must meet GPA & behavior requirements.

We are looking for volunteers to help decorate and work the concessions! Please contact Mrs. Laurent if you can help out!

monica.laurent@wssd115.org

If school is cancelled due to weather, the closing will be announced on TV channels 2, 4, 5, and 11. You will also receive a call via Skyward. Please check Skyward to ensure your phone number is current. Whiteside will never dismiss early, but you may pick up your child at your discretion.



DECEMBER 18th – JANUARY 1st
HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY!

WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS

The Boys' Volleyball (grades 6-8) and Bowling Team (grades 6-8) tryouts will be in early January.

Girls' Volleyball tryouts will be as follows:

7th & 8th Grade Girls

January 3 from 4:45-6:00pm &
January 4 from 3:00-4:30pm



5th Grade Girls

Tryouts at Elementary School
January 24 & 25 from 3:30-4:45pm

6th Grade Girls

Tryouts at Elementary School
January 24 & 25 from 4:45-6:00pm

Other tryout dates are TBD. All students interested in trying out MUST have a 2017-2018 sports packet and a current physical (less than 1 yr. old) turned in to the middle school office no later than **Wednesday, December 13**. Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and have no outstanding fees in order to try out. NO EXCEPTIONS! If you have questions, contact Mr. Jacob, Athletic Director x 3605.



The Miles of Smiles dental team will be at school in the early spring to see Whiteside students. Any student returning a completed dental exam form will get a dental exam, cleaning, and fluoride treatment. This exam

does NOT interfere with your child's regular dental exams or dental insurance. It can be considered an "extra check-up". For those students in kindergarten and 6th grade who are required to turn in a dental exam, this will meet that state health requirement. Please return a completed permission form no later than January 2, 2018 if you would like your child to see the dentist at school.

NO TIME FOR BREAKFAST?

Breakfast is served at both schools from 8:00-8:15am, with extended time for later arriving bus students. Fuel up to start the day! This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





Watch out for that flu bug! The best prevention - get a flu shot and to wash your hands often with soap & water or sanitizer. Check with your doctor when your child, especially a child under age 5 or with health problems, is ill. Stay

home if you have a fever and cough, get lots of rest, and drink plenty of fluids. **All students must be fever free for 24 hours, without medication, before returning to school.**

ELEMENTARY SERVICE PROJECT



Thank you to all of the students, families, and staff who helped raise money for UNICEF during the month of October. Our goal this year was to raise \$750. We collected \$739, just short of our goal.

Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and compassion. The money we raise for UNICEF helps children in over 150 countries around the world. Teachers, thank you for your efforts in collecting the money in your classroom. Also, thank you to Mrs. McKee for her help in counting the money.



Hat Day is Wednesday, December 6 at the Middle School. Please bring \$1 to support Eden's Army! Eden's Army provides assistance to families with children in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at St. Louis Children's Hospital.



The Winter Concert is set for Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00pm at the Middle School.

Beginning Band, 6th Grade Band & Concert Band will perform.

*Thank you to everyone who participated in the Butter Braid fundraiser. **Please pickup your orders Saturday, December 2, from 9-11am in the middle school lobby.**



Middle School Parents: Be on the look out for a permission slip for you and your child to participate in the **Hour of Code** event the middle school is hosting on December 7!

Students are invited to stay after school to spend time on computers, Chromebooks and even personal devices while participating in code.org's national Computer Science Education Week event. Our world is consumed by technology and Whiteside's mission to create tomorrow's leaders drives us to make sure our students don't just know how to use technology, but how to create and program it! Parents will be invited to come starting at 4pm until the close at 6:30pm. Make sure you put this on your calendar and fill out the permission slip.

PTC NEWS



Gingerbread House Night

will be December 1st at the Elementary School from 6-8pm. This event is for both elementary and middle school families.

Kits are \$5 (CASH ONLY) and include the base, two packages of graham crackers, and icing. Additional packages of graham crackers, icing, as well as refreshments will be available for \$1 each while supplies last. Don't forget your items to decorate your house (candy, sprinkles, etc.) Glee Club will be performing at 6pm.

You don't want to miss out on this fun, family night!

Whiteside Craft and Vendor Fair

will be December 9th from 10am-3pm at the Middle school

Save the Date for

WHITESIDE Galactic Glo BINGO & AUCTION!!

March 10th -More information coming soon!

BOX TOPS

The current Box Top contest will end Dec 15th. Please keep turning in box tops & include the homeroom teacher's name.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact whitesideptc@wssd115.org.

Help Wanted

Interested in working at Whiteside? We are currently taking applications for a Part Time Cafeteria Position at the Elementary School. The hours for this position are 10:00am to 1:00 pm, Monday-Friday. Please pick up an application in the school office if you are interested.

RECYCLING PROJECT

Whiteside will recycle your spent print cartridges and old cell phones. Turn these in to either school office. Help Whiteside while helping the environment.



Elementary School Science Night

Thursday, January 18, 2018
6:00-8:00pm

Registration forms will be sent home the first week of January.



EMERSON
EXCELLENCE
IN TEACHING

Congratulations to Dr. Jean Hasenstab, our middle school social worker, on receiving this year's Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award!