



West Holmes Middle School

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Mr. Jeff Woods, Principal
Mr. Nic Fioritto, Asst. Principal
Ms. Madison Simon, Guidance

October/November 2024

Dates to Remember – 2024

October 14th- Teacher conferences –
3 pm – 6:45 pm

October 16th – Teacher conferences -
3 pm – 6:45 pm

October 17th – Picture Retake day

October 18th – End of 1st 9 weeks

October 18th - No school for students

Oct 14th – 20th – Book Fair

October 24th – Grade cards go home

November 15th – Midterms home

November 21st – Choir Concert 7 pm

November 27th – 29th – Thanksgiving
Break

December 2nd – Conference Comp Day –
No school

December 3rd – Inservice – No school

Eric Jurkovic, Superintendent of Schools
WEST HOLMES LOCAL BOARD OF
EDUCATION

ERIC STROUSE HANS RAMSEYER
ANDREW JONES TINA ZICKEFOOSE
PATRICIA SAGE

FROM THE DESK OF MR. WOODS...

Parents and students,

Welcome to 2024-25 school year. We are off to a good start with schedules, locker combinations, bus assignments, PBIS, sporting events and classes. I am looking forward to a productive and educational year.

Parents, be proactive in your child's education. Check on their work daily through Progress Book. All assignments and grades are updated daily. If a question arises about a class, contact the teacher. If a problem pops up outside of class contact Mr. Fioritto or myself. Attend parent/teacher conferences.

Students, school can be relatively easy if you do your work. Don't miss assignments, participate in class, do not miss school and be on time. Education is a student's payment for coming to school. Your

future self will thank you if you put in the time and work to prepare you for adulthood. I want to thank all of our parents for giving us the opportunity to work with your children. This is a very rewarding profession when the students we work with go on to bigger and better things.

Lastly, the following are some important dates to remember:

October 18th - End of the 1st 9 weeks, No School for students

October 14th & 16th - Parent Teacher Conferences

November 27th – 29th
Thanksgiving Break

December 2nd - No School
Conference Comp Day

December 3rd - No School, Staff In-Service

Everyone, enjoy the year for this time goes all too fast. Go Knights!

Sincerely

Jeff Woods, Principal

**WHMS 6th GRADE
OUTDOOR EDUCATION
CAMP
APRIL 23RD– 25TH, 2025**

The cost of the trip this year is \$210.

1st Payment of \$100 deposit due by November 4th, 2024 (This deposit is non-refundable).

Final payment is due by March 10th, 2025. Payments can be made at anytime to the office or paid in full online with Payschools.

A mandatory parent will be scheduled at a later date.

West Holmes does not earn any proceeds from this trip.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS.....

The West Holmes Athletic department would like to remind everyone to visit the athletic website, www.knightsnation.org, to obtain athletic news and updates. You are also encouraged to sign up for the text alerts, join us on twitter and like us on Facebook, in order to keep up with all of our athletic information. Click on the KNIGHTSHQ tab for athletic pass information for the 2024-2025 school year and you can also see the team rosters, schedules, as well as booster club information here. Be sure to check it out!

***STUDENTS* are not permitted to stay after school without supervision for sporting events. The only students who are allowed to stay after school are those students who are a member of a club, sport team, or after school tutoring that is scheduled for that evening. Students are welcome to come back to the game but just not to stay after school.**

Immunization Alert!!

Parents please note that students entering the 7th Grade now need the TDAP booster as well as the Meningococcal vaccine. We require proof of this at schedule pickup. Please keep this in mind as you take your children to other appointments throughout this school year.

**CHROME BOOK INSURANCE
AVAILABLE**

Dear Parent

Chromebook Insurance is available through West Holmes Local Schools and is highly recommended. If you choose to elect Chromebook Insurance you can sign up by clicking on the below link:

<https://securranty.com/westholmes>

Insurance must be purchased within 30 days of the start of the insurance program and before any failure, damage or loss occurs to the device. For any questions, please contact West Holmes technology department located at West Holmes High School, 330-674-6085

This is what we will be studying during

August/September/October: ♥♥♥♥

Mr. Wengerd's Writing Class

has been and will continue working on a Journalism Writing Unit. We will write several different types/syles of journalist writing over the next several weeks.

Mr. Wengerd's Reading Class

just recently finished reading the middle school classic, *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton! We will begin reading another book, *The Contender* by Robert Lipsyte (a journalist-tie in with Writing) in the near future!

Mr. Wengerd's Public Speaking Class

has completed a couple of speeches! We are currently working on an Informative Speech, which requires some research and then teaching of their topic through their presentation.

Mr. Dombrady's 7th grade classes - We are solving problems involving percent. Students should be bringing a calculator to class everyday.

Mr. Dombrady's Algebra class - We are solving problems related to equations. Our next unit is over inequalities.

Mr. Wilcox's World History: In World History, In my opinion, we are now getting to some of the most interesting aspects of world history. We are learning about many different aspects of life for the ancient Greeks of Athens and Sparta. This will include their culture, their beliefs, how they fought, and even why they fought. We will also be completing different group projects and individual assignments to reinforce student learning before the large unit test we will take before the end of the first quarter.

In September, Mrs. Rohr's 6th graders will be shading with colored pencil. 7th graders will be painting a color wheel. 8th graders will be finishing their clay boxes.

Mrs. Ogi's 6th grade math class will be working on number patterns, statistics, and graphs.

Mrs. Ogi's 7th grade math class will be working on rates, ratios and proportions.

Mr. Ogi's 6th grade social studies class are continuing to work on basic maps, timelines, and economics.

Mr. Ogi's 7th grade history class will be covering Greece over the next several weeks.

Mr. Ogi's 8th grade American history class will be covering colonial life in the original 13 colonies as we head toward the American Revolution.

Mrs. Chaney and Mrs. Burgett's 6th grade language arts classes are working on writing personal narratives as well as fine tuning our grammar skills. We are finishing up our Ocean Unit in reading and will begin our Mystery Unit at the beginning of October.

Mrs. Doty's 6th grade math students will be working on algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities in the upcoming weeks. All students should be practicing their multiplication facts at home!

Mrs. Doty's 7th grade accelerated math students will be working on equivalent expressions, using equations and inequalities, and drawing inferences about populations in the upcoming weeks.

Mrs. Wengerd's 7th graders are working with proportions, ratios, & percents.

Mrs. Wengerd's 8th graders are working on solving equations with variables on both sides of the equal sign.

Ms. Lang's 6th Grade Science Classes are starting out the year in physical science. The students have chosen a physicist to research and will be sharing the information from his/her perspective in the form of a wax museum for class and at 5:30PM on Thursday, October 24th, prior to Literacy Night. Along with studying matter and energy, the students enjoyed lessons through the OSU Extension program with Ella Lorentz.

Mrs. Acker's Heath - 6th graders are learning about the structures and functions of our eyes, ears, skin, hair, nails and teeth along with the Activation program focused on character development.

7th graders are focusing on the harmful effects of Tobacco (vaping), Alcohol and Drugs. We will follow up with Personal Safety: internet, weather and neighborhood.

8th grade are learning the basic bones and joints of the Skeleton. Followed with basic nutrition and eating disorders, The Endocrine system will be taught which will included basic information about the reproductive system.

Mrs. McCluggage / Mrs. Downs: In reading, we just finished a fantasy selection called *Tuck Everlasting* and will move into nonfiction and read *Growing Up in Coal County* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. In writing, we are working on writing more specifically with details that bring our writing to life for the reader. We will be writing a

personal narrative this quarter. In our grammar studies, we are examining how clauses add information to an independent clause.

During the first term, Mrs. Lance's Language Arts classes will be reviewing the basic elements in fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. We will read short selections, as well as the classic historical fiction, "The Cay," by Theodore Taylor. Writing will focus on personal narrative as we learn the routines and procedures of the writing workshop model. We will continue utilizing the ACES strategy for extended responses, and work on spelling and grammar.

Mrs. Blankenship's 6th Grade Science started off the year learning about what science is, including how to make observations and inferences. We are currently focusing on how to use lab equipment and how to be safe during a lab. Next we are moving into how to use a microscope so we can learn about cells and cell functions. Mrs. Blankenship's 8th Grade Science started off the year reviewing scientific measurements and tools. We are currently working on our Physical Science Standards Learning about Force and Motion. We learned about Non-Contact Forces and how they affect our everyday life. Next we will be moving into our Earth Science Unit and focusing on the layers of the Earth.

In Mrs. Rennecker and Mrs. Snyder's Writing Class We are working on complex sentences and putting our ACES knowledge to work. We just kicked off our journalism unit.

Mrs. Rennecker and Mrs. Snyder just finished up *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. The students truly enjoy this novel of friendship and heartbreak. In October we will be reading short stories from the literature book. Please talk with your child about what we are reading in class and remind them they need to be working towards their AR goal for this nine weeks. Please schedule a conference, or email me with questions or concerns.

In Ms. Camacho and Mrs. Down's 8th grade math class, we have been working on simplifying expressions, solving one and two step equations, and learning how

letters fit into math 🙄 !!

In Ms. C's 7th grade science class, the students have learned about how elements are arranged in the periodic table along with the phases/states of matter.

Knights' Council

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen for Knights Council for the 2024-2025 school year:

7th Grade

Autumn Casey
Trinity Compton
Brooklyn Efaw
Caleigh Felton
Keith Kaster
Jenna Mast
Delanie Pringle
Joycie Raber
Ave Reiheld
Zara Shultz
Ellie Sigler
Annie Snyder
Addison Tracey
Alexis Wallace
Sloane Weber
Maci Zaugg

8th Grade

Logan Cronin
Brandon Cronin
Danielle Keck
Zaylia Majzer
Deisy Ramos
Ayla Waltos

6th graders will have the opportunity to campaign and join after the 1st 9 weeks. Listen to the announcements for more information.

FALL LITERACY NIGHT

Fall Literacy Night will be October 24th from 6-7 here at the Middle School join us for a fun night and all students who attend will receive a free book.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

Please listen to one of the following radio or TV stations for information regarding school closings, early dismissals or delays:

WKLM...Millersburg95.3 FM
WNCO ...Ashland 1340 AM
101.3 FM
WQKTWooster.....960 AM
104.5 FM
WTNSCoshocton.....1560 AM
99.3 FM
KISS...Loudonville.....107.7 FM
Cleveland TV Stations.....3, 5 & 8

Log onto www.westholmes.k12.oh.us and click on "West Holmes Alert Sign-Up" to receive texts about school closings, delay or early releases.

WHMS 8th GRADE WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP APRIL 23rd-25th, 2025

The cost of the trip this year is \$480.

1st Payment of \$100 deposit due by November 4th, 2024 (This deposit is non-refundable).

Final payment is due by March 10th, 2025. Payments can be made at anytime to the office or paid in full online with Payschools.

A mandatory parent will be scheduled at a later date.

West Holmes does not earn any proceeds from this trip



Choir Notes:

The WHMS choirs are up and running for this school year. I'm looking forward to singing some great music together and working on our choral skills. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs performed with the high school choirs for Youth Night and did a great job! We are working on our music for our fall concert in November and learning how to sing in 2 and 3 parts.

As always, the West Holmes Music Boosters are looking for new parents to help volunteer and support the entire music program in the district. The Music Boosters help purchase uniforms, instruments, music and support students in honors band and choir activities. Please consider joining this important group of parents! Feel free to email Mrs. O'Brien if you have any questions!

Electronics:



ELECTRONIC DEVICES "E-TOYS"

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU READ THE MIDDLE SCHOOL POLICY
SEE PAGE 23/24 IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANNER...

Cell phones must be turned off and locked in each student's locker!!

YOU TAKE THE RISK OF LOSS OR DAMAGE WHEN YOU BRING ONE OF THESE DEVICES TO SCHOOL. THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE.

BOOK FAIR....

The annual book fair will be taking place soon in the Library. Students will have an opportunity to visit **once** with their Lang. Arts classes. We will show videos and pass out flyers early Oct.

This annual event and is in cooperation with Scholastic Book Co. The students enjoy this shopping experience, and the books are selected especially for middle school students.

The dates for the fair during school hours will be Friday Oct. 11 through

Thurs. Oct. 17. The library book fair will also be open during one of the Conference nights for A FAMILY EVENT on Mon. Oct. 14 from 3:30 – 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

If you don't want to send money with your student, you may set up an eWallet account through our bookfair page at Scholastic.com. Each student who has an eWallet account will receive a free bookmark for the convenience of being cash free at the fair. They do check out quicker! 😊

Link to Get started

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/westholmesmiddle> scroll down and click on the blue eWallet symbol.

***ATTN; families with students in Elementary and Middle School: each WH Student must set up eWallet for THEIR BUILDING, we cannot share funds between us. Set up ewallet for EACH child at their building's book fair **homepage**. We also accept cash, credit cards, and checks payable to: WH MEDIA CENTER. We will be rounding up all sales to the nearest dollar to speed things along at the check out register. These funds will go to **SHARE THE FAIR** donation, and will buy books for our library. If you do not want your extra change rounded up and donated, please send a note with your student on their shopping day.

If you're all booked up during Book Fair week (or just want to keep shopping), be sure to visit <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/westholmesmiddle> The online Book Fair is available for an *extended time* from Oct 11th - Oct 24th.

Students will receive more information from their Language Arts teachersPLEASE NOTE, we are required by Scholastic to charge Sales Tax on all book fair sales. We will also have a SUCKER PULL, kids can pay 50 cents to pull a sucker for a chance to win books, posters or other prizes. If they don't win, they do at least get to keep the sucker!**

ARTIST OF THE MONTH.....

September Artists of the Month are 8th grader Ariana Hostetler, 7th grader Elizabeth Gray, and 6th grader Audrey Streng. Artists of the Month are chosen based on their artwork created in class. Artwork is displayed outside the art room and on the WHMS website. Students are given a certificate and art supplies.

<https://sites.google.com/westholmes.org/msartgallery/home>

ARCHERY CLUB.....

Now that members of archery club have learned how to safely shoot a bow and arrow in the presence of others, we are now focusing on shooting accurately and consistently. This is the time of year when we start to focus more on more, on good grouping and establishing a routine for each kid before every shot. Soon, the most accurate members will be shooting at 3d targets to both change up our target, and to prepare those for the hunting season. We will do this until October 28th, which will be our last practice of the fall. No worries, Archery club will be back in the spring once the weather warms up again!

ART CLUB NEWS....

The next art club meeting will be November 13th in the middle school art room until 4:00. Students will be working with clay. Please have rides at the middle school by 4:00

SKI/SNOWBOARD CLUB.....

Any 6th, 7th, or 8th grade student interested in learning how to ski or snowboard or wanting to practice the skills you have already learned please see Mrs. Doty for information on how to sign up! Any questions please email Mrs. Doty @ mdoty@westholmes.org

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH FORMS.....

Free and Reduced lunch forms are available on the West Holmes website @ www.westholmes.org They are also available in the office of the Middle School. Please fill out a new form for this school year as previous year's approvals do not carry over to the 2024-2025 school year.

"Doe vs. ODE"

"Doe vs. Ohio Department of Education" with the statement , "A class action lawsuit was filed against the Department of Education concerning Special Education services in public school districts. This applies primarily to 11 large school districts in Ohio, (West Holmes is **not** one of them), but does apply to all public districts. One of the requirements of the agreement is to post it, and to make it available to parents. You can find the agreement on our district website."

FROM THE DESK OF MR. FIORITTO.....

We are now a few weeks into our school year and it has started off well. The students seem to be excited about being back at school and behaviors and attendance have been good up till this point. That being said I want to take a moment and remind the parents that there are some things that we cannot do without you. Your child's behavior and attendance are vital for them to be successful here at the middle school and beyond. As parents, we have a responsibility to give our kids shelter, food, clothing and a safe environment. Nowhere does it say they need to have a cell phone (social media) or video

games. These devices alone seem to derail behavior and attendance quickly at this level. Please monitor this heavily or better yet do not allow them to have them until they are responsible enough to handle them appropriately. Controlling these two things will help in school and with your child's attitude at home as well.

Speaking of behavior, your child's behavior, attendance and grades will dictate whether or not they will be able to participate in the first Knight Pride Celebration at the end of the semester. We have Knight Pride Celebrations at the end of each semester in order to celebrate positive behaviors, grades and attendance.

Our Knight Pride program is designed to help teach and reinforce positive, respectful and responsible behaviors. The majority of students are performing well in class and displaying appropriate and respectful behavior towards teachers and students.

I want to encourage you to stay on top of your child's grades. Check progress book daily. If you do not have access to progress book give us a call and we would be happy to set it up for you. Progress book can also alert you when your child gets below a certain grade on an

assignment or test. Please stay on top of the grades early and if you see a problem or a concern do hesitate to call or email their teacher.

Mr. Fioritto
Assistant Principal

PARENTS:

PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE MIDDLE SCHOOL OFFICE WITH ANY CHANGES TO YOUR ADDRESS and/or ANY NEW PHONE NUMBERS, ETC. THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. *ATTENDANCE*

In order to succeed in school, students should be prompt and regular in attendance. However, when it is necessary for a child to miss school, parents must call the school by 9:00 AM the day of the absence. A written note(containing the date of the absence, your child full name and reason for missing school) regarding the absence is to be sent with the child when he or she returns to school.

✦If we do not receive a call and/or a note from a parent/guardian your child's absence will be unexcused.

✦If your child misses three (3) or more consecutive days, we will need a doctor's excuse.

✦For a pre planned absence (vacation etc.) **use the form on page 31 of your Student Handbook.** Please try to have this form completed and turned into the Middle school office two (2) weeks before your planned absence.

✦**Always** notify the Middle School Office of absences.

Thank you for your help!!

BOX TOPS HAVE GONE DIGITAL

HOW TO SUBMIT

YOUR DIGITAL RECEIPT

Before you begin, make sure you have an account on the Box Tops app or website so we know which school should receive your earnings.

1

FIRST, FIND YOUR STORE

Check out our list of preferred retailers. These retailers are already in our system, which enables faster processing. A few of the retailers have their own app with specific instructions on how to submit a digital receipt. We will continue to link those instructions as they become available. Click on the Kroger link below to see an example. **If you do not see**

your store here, keep scrolling for further instructions.

BJ's Wholesale Club
Costco
CVS
Food Lion
Fresh Direct
Giant Eagle
Hannaford
Harris Teeter
H-E-B
Hy-Vee
InstaCart*
Jet.com
Jewl Osco
Kroger >
Lowe's Foods
Meijer Home Delivery
Peapod
Rite Aid
Safeway
SamsClub.com
Sams Club Scan & Go
Shipt
Shoprite From Home
Target.com
Target Pick-up/Drive-Up
Thrive Market
Tom Thumb
Vons

Walgreens
Walmart Grocery
Walmart Pay
Walmart.com
Wegmans
Weis
Woodman's

2

IF YOU SEE YOUR STORE ON THE LIST

If your retailer is included in the list above, forward your digital receipt to receipts@boxtops4education.com within 14 days of purchase, using the same email you use for your Box Tops account.

**Instacart users: If your digital receipt has more than 8 items, please submit your receipt through [Contact Us](#). See instructions below. You can download your full receipt from your order history page on the Instacart website.*

IMPORTANT TIPS

- **Don't send your receipt as an attachment**, otherwise it will not process correctly; just forward the whole email directly from your inbox.
- **If your digital receipt is only available through your store's shopping app**, you can forward it to receipts@boxtops4education.com directly from there. [See an example »](#)
- **If your digital receipt does not display all your Box Tops products**, submit your receipt via our [Contact Us](#) form (instructions below).

IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR STORE IN THIS LIST

Go to our [Contact Us](#) page and choose "**Submit a Digital Receipt**" in the dropdown.

Then just fill out the form, upload your receipt and click "**Submit.**"

Please note: Receipts submitted through the contact form may take longer to process. In order to receive your Box Top as soon as possible, it's helpful to add how many earnings you should receive in the Comments Box of the form. Don't forget to include Bonus Box Tops!

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE CREDIT FOR ALL THE PRODUCTS ON YOUR DIGITAL RECEIPT

Go to our [Contact Us](#) page and choose "Submit a Digital Receipt" in the dropdown.

Then just fill out the form,

upload your receipt and click "Submit."

Please note: Receipts submitted through the contact form may take longer to process. In order to receive your Box Top as soon as possible, it's helpful to add how many earnings you should receive in the Comments Box of the form. Don't forget to include Bonus Box Tops!

3

AFTER YOU SUBMIT YOUR RECEIPT

We'll send you a confirmation email once we receive your receipt, and your digital Box Tops earnings will be credited to your school's account within 2 weeks. You can view your earnings in the My Earnings section of the app or [Your Activity section](#) of the website.