



Trinity West PTA

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023



School Snapshot

By Principal Michelle Ostrosky

What a great time of year! The holidays are busy time for our West students, faculty and staff, and families. It is exciting to see the joy in the faces of our students during the holiday season. We have a lot of exciting events in December, including chorus and band concerts, Santa Shop, kindergarten's Polar Express, classroom parties, and more! Due to the busy nature of the season, schedules and added responsibilities can cause stress. With that in mind, I want to say "thank you" to all the parents and guardians who do your very best to send your child(ren) to school every day ready to learn, to all the volunteers and the PTA for giving countless hours of your time, and to our staff for your commitment to giving your best to our students every day! I am proud of our West community and how we work together to make our school the best! During this time of year, we also join together to help local area charities through donation. Our office staff is collecting donations for three charities this year - thank you in advance for your support! On behalf of myself and the entire West staff, I hope you have a joyous holiday season!

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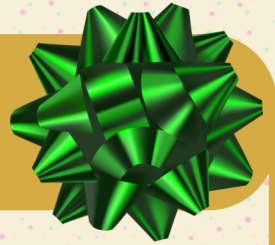
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A Message From PBIS



Holiday Tips to Be Safe, Be Ready, and Be Kind:

SAFE: Holidays can include a lot of baking, cooking, and coziness. Encourage your child(ren) to be careful around the stove, fireplace, or any other very hot spot in the home. If they're older, always make sure they're monitored around any of those areas and know what to do in case they get hurt.

READY: With all the busyness around the holidays, accidents and unexpected things can happen. Remind them what to do in case of an emergency. For younger kids - teach them their address, phone number, and how to call 911. For older students - have a list of who to call if they need help, partner with your neighbors to make sure they can go somewhere safe if needed, and show them items they could use (fire extinguisher, flashlight, etc).

KIND: We all get the warm fuzzies during the holiday season. Encourage your child(ren) to make someone else's day and show kindness to others.
(For more ideas, see the Counselor's Corner).

Shining a Light on Autism

Thank you to everyone that participated in our Fall Spectrum Fudge Fundraiser! The goal was to raise funds for our TWS Color Walk 4 Autism in April. With your help, we were able to raise over \$3,000! Thank you! Congrats to our top sellers and winners!
Atlanta Ashton
Paisley Presto
Lily Armstrong

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

The holidays are a time for family and traditions. Here is a list of some of our West Staff and their family traditions:

Mrs. Gojmerac- My family packs toiletry bags for the Washington City Mission every Christmas in honor of my grandmother.

Mrs. Bowman- We decorate our tree with bulbs that have family names on them.

Mrs. Gallagher- We make sugar cookies and lady locks every year with my in-laws.

Ms. Ricker- Every year we make a Polish dish called Bobalky (bread balls and sauerkraut).

Ms. Kubatka- I always go to North Carolina to stay with my parents, and we always walk the beach on Christmas Day!

Mrs. Buri- Caroling with our friends.

Mrs. Daloia- We ski every Christmas break as an entire family.

Mrs. Flowers- Driving to Oglebay to see the lights.

Mrs. Ocharzak- My family and I go to Kennywood for the holiday lights at Christmastime.

Ms. McCracken- Every year, I go see the Nutcracker at the Benedum Center in Pittsburgh.

From everyone here at West, have a safe and happy holiday!



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3 Ways to Give Back

Here are three ways you can help our community through donation during this holiday season:

- **Support our local Veterans:** West is collecting items for care packages that will be donated to local veterans. Donations can be dropped off to the main lobby by December 12th.
- **Support the Washington Humane Society:** West is collecting items for the humane society, such as food, treats, and care items. Donations can be dropped off in the main lobby by December 15th.
- **Support Toys for Tots:** West will be collecting toy donations for local children in need. Donations can be dropped off in the main lobby by December 8th.



Volunteer to help at Santa Shop! We need help gift wrapping and assisting the students with their shopping. If you are a PTA member on the approved volunteer list, please sign up!



What is Santa Shop?

Santa Shop is a PTA fundraiser where students can shop for their family, friends, and teachers with the help of PTA staff. Students can choose from dozens of items for sale - and the best part is they come home wrapped, labeled, and ready to go under the tree! Our PTA buys items all year long to create the shop - all items are carefully curated to ensure these are gifts you'll actually be excited to receive! Students were sent home with an envelope for parents to fill out. PTA members will help your kids shop. The more specific you can be, the better the results!





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PTA Update

In November we celebrated Veterans Day with an amazing assembly to honor our veterans, with many veterans in attendance from our West family. The PTA helped raise money for PA VetPets through popcorn and patriotic accessories sales. Thank you for your support as we were able to donate \$950 to the charity!

We also had another visit from our local fire department, where students were able to tour a fire truck and received a gift! November also kicked off our Holiday Fundraiser (Sarris, Wagner's Greenhouse, and Fuss Free). Thank you to those that participated!





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COUNSELOR'S CORNER By Mrs. Gallagher



Happy Holidays dear TWS Families! Holidays are full of fun, laughter, excitement, busyness, and cheer! Here are some ways to spread it around:

- Visit a senior center and spend some time with residents or offer to read to them.
- Take a trip to the local animal shelter and offer to walk the dogs or see if you can donate some animal food.
- See if the local domestic violence shelter is in need of any items (toiletries, diapers, clothing, etc).
- Get to know your neighbors by hosting a get together or drop off a sweet treat.
- Volunteer your time to serve a meal at a homeless shelter.
- Donate gently used toys and clothes.
- Take your child(ren) shopping for toys to donate to Toys for Tots for The Salvation Army.
- Or find another way to show your child(ren) how to spread love and kindness this holiday season!

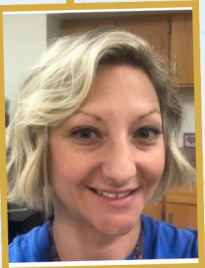
What matters most is not only are you spending time with them, but you're showing them how much it matters to care for others! Happy Holidays!



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT Kelly Patrick

Mrs. Kelly Patrick is new to Trinity West, but she isn't a new face too the district. Mrs. Patrick joins us as a Title I Reading Specialist this year and travels between West and North servicing kindergarten, first, and second graders. Over the past 16 years, she has enjoyed all of her placements at Trinity and is looking forward to getting to know thee Trinity West faculty, staff, and students.

Mrs. Patrick has 3 grown sons and lives in Weirton with her husband, two dogs, and one cat. She enjoys a good book and a cozy fire.



SURVEY SAYS



We surveyed 75 Second Grade students and asked them:

"Who would you rather meet in person?"

a) Santa Claus; b) The Grinch;
c) Mickey Mouse



1st Place: Santa Claus (52 votes)
2nd Place: Mickey Mouse (16 votes)
3rd Place: The Grinch (7 votes)





December



CALENDAR

MONDAY **TUESDAY** **WEDNESDAY** **THURSDAY** **FRIDAY**

Santa Shop Volunteer Sign Up



Popcorn is FREE to all students on the 13th. Lemonade will be for sale.

1

Contest!
5th Grade Cover Contest Entries Due

4

Santa Shop
Elementary Chorus Concert @ 6:00PM



5

Santa Shop



6

Santa Shop



7

Santa Shop



Wear Black and Gold



8

Santa Shop
Parent's Night Out at the High School



11

Elementary Band Concert @ 6:00PM

12



Sarris & Wagners Delivery 4-5:30PM

14

Kindergarten Polar Express



18

School Store
K & 5th Grade



19

School Store
1st & 4th Grade



20

School Store
2nd & 3rd Grade



21

Classroom Parties
Wear Ugly Sweaters



2 Hour Early Dismissal

22

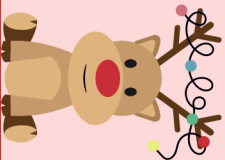
WINTER BREAK



25



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WINTER BREAK