



October Newsletter

October 1st, 2024

Washington Elementary School

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Into the Swing of Things!

Dear Washington Families,

Thank you for a continuing to support our shared learners at home! We are seeing students engaged, excited, and wanting to learn. Students are beginning to feel comfortable in their classrooms and building community.

Punctuality and consistent attendance are the building blocks for a successful school experience. Missing too many days of school can have a serious impact on learning - and arriving late can be disruptive for your child and others. **Please make sure your child arrives on school property no later than 7:50 AM in order to be in the classroom on time.**

If you need to report that your child will be absent or tardy for the day, log into the Parent Portal and complete the absence form. **If dropping them off tardy, please sign them at the office window.**

Our main office is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

Please continue to check your email frequently for updates from our school and from District 63.

Your partners in education,

Ms. Anderson, Principal

Mrs. Zaffar, Assistant Principal

[2024-2025 School Calendar](#)

Follow Us on Instagram [@Washingd63!](#)

Success Without Boundaries
63
EAST MAINE

We are EXCITED to see you EVERYDAY!

Arrive on time to school.

Teachers take attendance at 7:55 AM.

After 7:55 AM, an adult must sign-in their student in the main office.

Specials this Month



Art 🎨

We are continuing the same Focus and Artist studies as provided in the September newsletter. Please ask your artists about what they are learning and creating!

Kindergarten:

- **Focus:** Line and Color
- **Artist:** Jasper Johns
- **Activities:** Create letters and names using lines and explore color mixing to form secondary colors.

1st Grade:

- **Focus:** Color and Shape
- **Artist:** Howardena Pindell
- **Activities:** Design compositions with repeated shapes and primary/secondary colors.

2nd Grade:

- **Focus:** Line
- **Artist:** Charles McGee
- **Activities:** Draw organic lines and create relief sculptures with burlap and yarn.

3rd Grade:

- **Focus:** Line
- **Artist:** Joan Miró
- **Activities:** Draw with non-dominant hand and eyes closed, then create abstract sculptures using Miró-like symbols.

4th Grade:

- **Focus:** Line
- **Artist:** K.A.W.S.
- **Activities:** Design art incorporating lines within



Music 🎵

Kindergarten Focus:

Students will explore different ways to use their speaking and singing voices, as well as demonstrate musical understanding of fast/slow, loud/soft.

1st Grade and 2nd Grade:

Students will revisit pitches "So" an "Mi", and quarter and eighth notes through different musical activities.

3rd Grade Focus:

Students will revisit pitches of "Mi", "So", "La". Students will also start learning how to play the recorder!

4th and 5th Grade Focus:

Students will revisit pitches of "Mi", "So", "La" and rhythmic understanding. They will also learn different "time signatures" and incorporate this knowledge into their compositions.



Library 📖

Grades K-2 - In September we learned how fire hydrants can be superheroes in Lou, and how algorithms are like pizza recipes in Every Night is Pizza Night. In October, we will continue making our way through the Monarch Award nominees and practice our STEM skills through building and typing practice.

Grades 3-5 - In September, we built "waterslides" and used Google Earth to learn more about characters' countries of origin in Invisible. In October, we will continue learning about our Bluestem award nominees, practice our STEM skills and learn more about the mystery/horror genre by writing our own stories.

silhouettes of favorite characters, exploring the concept of art.

5th Grade:

- **Focus:** Line, Shape, and Color
- **Artist:** Victor Vasarely
- **Activities:** Create optical illusion art with varied lines, shapes, and colors to “fool the eye.”



PE 野々々々

Our Wildcats have been rolling into a great start of the year! In October our focus will be as follows:

K-2: Continuing cardiovascular, strength and balance, and flexibility exercises. Sport skills will include activities that involve underhand throwing, bouncing, catching and flag tag games.

Adapted K-2: Continuing cardiovascular, strength and balance, and flexibility exercises. Sport skills will involve bounce and catch by self, and then adding a partner. Four square will be worked on, which is also a recess activity choice. Flag/noodle tag games will also be incorporated.

3-5: Continuing cardiovascular, strength and balance, and flexibility exercises. Football sport skills will involve passing, catching, cradling,

MaineStay

MaineStay offers many free or low-cost programs starting soon, including the new Creative Writing Program and Family Connections Play-Based Parenting Program.

Our [Tutoring Program](#), which resumes on October 16, has expanded to grades 1-8 and provides personalized academic assistance from certified teachers.

Please let MaineStay know how they can help you or your family with these and other programs.

Contact Information:

Richard Lyon, MA, LCPC, CADC
Director

[224-257-4869](tel:224-257-4869)

rlyon@mainetown.com

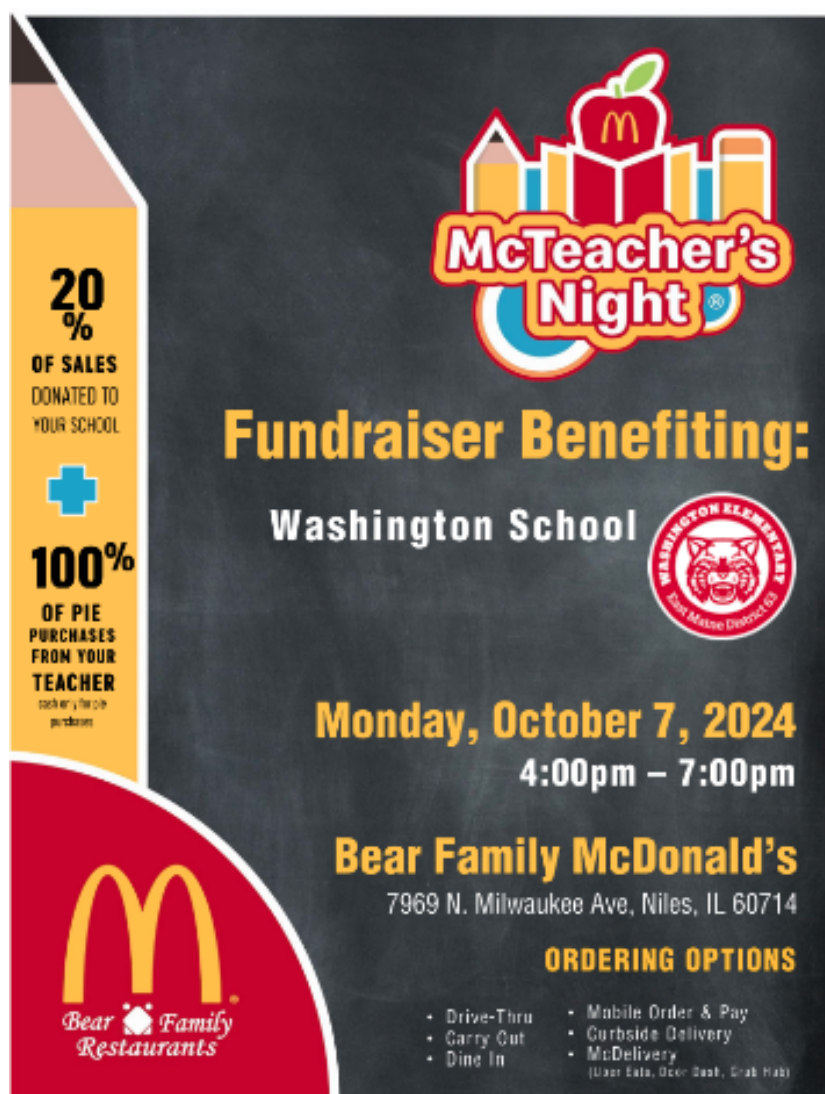
Family Resource Center (FRC)

In need of some warmer clothing before it gets too cold? Check out the [Marketplace](#) at the FRC!

punting, positions and some basic plays. Flag football games will also be played. Prepping for the Fall fitness tests will still be ongoing.

Adapted 3-5: Continuing cardiovascular, strength and balance, and flexibility exercises. Football sport skills will involve passing, catching, and cradling. Flag football will be introduced. Prepping for the Fall fitness tests will also be happening.

McTeacher Night



The poster is for a 'McTeacher's Night' fundraiser. It features a dark background with a yellow and red border on the left and bottom. The top left corner has a yellow box with the text '20% OF SALES DONATED TO YOUR SCHOOL' and a blue plus sign. Below this is another yellow box with '100% OF PIE PURCHASES FROM YOUR TEACHER' and a small note 'eachery for pie purchase'. The top right corner has a logo for 'McTeacher's Night' featuring a McDonald's logo and a book. The center text reads 'Fundraiser Benefiting: Washington School' with the school's logo. The date and time are 'Monday, October 7, 2024 4:00pm - 7:00pm'. The location is 'Bear Family McDonald's 7969 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL 60714'. The bottom right corner lists 'ORDERING OPTIONS' including Drive-Thru, Carry Out, Dine In, Mobile Order & Pay, Curbside Delivery, and McDelivery.

20%
OF SALES
DONATED TO
YOUR SCHOOL

100%
OF PIE
PURCHASES
FROM YOUR
TEACHER
eachery for pie
purchase

**McTeacher's
Night**

Fundraiser Benefiting:
Washington School

Monday, October 7, 2024
4:00pm – 7:00pm

Bear Family McDonald's
7969 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL 60714

ORDERING OPTIONS

- Drive-Thru
- Carry Out
- Dine In
- Mobile Order & Pay
- Curbside Delivery
- McDelivery
(User Rate, Door Dash, Grab Hub)

October Celebrations



Fall Parade

Washington will hold classroom celebrations and a costume parade on Thursday, October 31, 2024.

Costume Parade: We will have a costume parade starting at 1:45 p.m., weather permitting. Students will exit the building at Door F, walk around the outside of the building, and then re-enter the school at Door A.

We welcome Washington families to gather outside of the building as students walk the parade route around Washington School. If you plan to attend the parade on October 31 and will pick your child up instead of having them take the bus at dismissal, please notify your child's teacher by 8 a.m. on October 31.

Please note that we cannot accommodate requests for early dismissal from school on October 31.

Classroom Celebrations

Fall activities will begin in classrooms beginning at 2:00 p.m. Teachers and room parents will facilitate age-appropriate fall activities within the classroom.

In consideration of our students with allergies and our District 63 Wellness Policy, we ask that students refrain from bringing any food items to pass out as treats. We appreciate your cooperation with this request.

Students may bring their costumes to school and will be allowed to change into their costumes prior to the start of the planned activities. Please send costumes that can be worn over top of your child's clothing. **Please note that weapons, masks, hair sprays, and makeup are not permitted.**

Families can pick up their children at lunch/recess if your child needs assistance to put on their outfit.

Alternate Activities

We will offer fun, educational activities in an alternative location for students who choose not to participate in the parade from 1:45 - 2:00 p.m.

Please notify your child's teacher by Friday, October 25th, if you would prefer they not participate in any Halloween activities so that we can plan accordingly.

Parade Route; At 1:45 PM Weather Permitting

See below for the route!



Health Reminder

Welcome Back Washington Families,






I am excited to partner with you to ensure that your child has a healthy school year. Let's work together to teach our young learners good hygiene habits such as good handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, and using tissues properly.

Does your child know how to blow their nose? This is my [FAVORITE TIP](#) for teaching children this important skill. Practice now, in preparation for the upcoming cold and flu season!

As a reminder, sick children must stay home until they are no longer contagious and have recovered from their illness.

As always, please feel free to contact me if there's anything I should know about your child's health.

Thank you!
Nurse Bauer

I NEED TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL IF...				
I have a FEVER	I am VOMITING	I have DIARRHEA	I have a RASH	I have an EYE INFECTION
				
Temperature of 100.4F or higher within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	New onset rash	Redness with drainage from the eye
I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...				
Fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication (ie: Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen).	Free from vomiting for 24 hours without the use of medication.	Free from diarrhea for 24 hours without the use of medication.	I have been evaluated by my doctor, if needed, and have a note to return.	I have been evaluated by my doctor and have a note to return.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

As part of our commitment to support the health of our students, we will be conducting our annual Vision and Hearing Screenings on **Tuesday, October 8th and Thursday, October 10th.**

These screenings are essential in identifying potential issues that may affect your child's learning and development.

Vision screenings will be conducted on students in Kindergarten, 2nd grade, New to the district, Students with an IEP and Teacher recommendations.



Hearing screenings will be conducted on students in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd grade, New to the district, Students with an IEP and Teacher recommendations.



How to help prepare your child:

- Talk about the screenings
- For hearing screenings, the child will listen for a sound through headphones. They should raise their hand each time they hear a new sound.
- For vision screenings, the child will look at the "camera." It will be similar to taking a picture.
- Ensure corrective devices are worn: If your child wears glasses or hearing aids, please make sure they bring them to school everyday and especially on testing day.

After the screening: If any concerns are identified, I will notify you with a recommendation for further evaluation by a healthcare provider.

Thank you for your continued partnership in helping us to support your child's health and academic success.

Terri Bauer, BSN, RN, PEL- CSN

tbauer@emsd63.org

Washington School Nurse

847-745-6302

RULER Tips

RULER Tool Focus:

The Charter



We have the power to create the kind of emotional climate within which we'd like to work and live. The Charter is an agreement we make to act in ways that help us to feel the way we want to feel in our classrooms, schools, workplaces or homes. Most classrooms in District 63 have created their classroom Charter and will revisit the charter throughout the year to talk about how it is impacting their classroom.

Learn more about Charters and other RULER tools at our
RULER Family Night!
Tuesday, October 8th
6:00 - 7:15 PM
Family Resource Center
9000 Capital Drive, Des Plaines

Winter Card Contest

Winter Card Contest 2024 Call for Entries

**Deadline:
Friday, November 1**

**D63 invites all PreK-8th graders to
submit entries featuring a non-
religious winter theme.**

**The winner's design will appear on the
official D63 winter card, website &
social media sites.**

Learn more and download an entry/parent release
form at www.emsd63.org.



Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Washington has an active PTO that plans many fun activities for our community throughout the year. [Click here](#) for more information.

The group meets on the second Thursday of each month. Our next PTO meeting of the school year will take place on **October 10th at 6 p.m.** All parents are invited to join us for our meetings in person. Meetings are typically held in the Library on the second floor.

Here are the dates of the meetings for the school year:

- November 14
- December 12
- January 9
- February 13
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8
- June 12

info@WashingtonPTO.com
board@WashingtonPTO.com

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Important Dates



10/3- No School, Rosh Hashanah
10/7- McTeacher Night, 4-7 PM
10/8- Vision and Hearing Screening
10/9- Early Dismissal Day @ 10:55 AM
10/10- Vision and Hearing Screening
10/10- PTO Meeting 6-7:30 PM
10/14- No School, Indigenous Peoples Day
10/25- Boo Bash, 6:30-8
10/24-26- Gemini Fall Play: Rotten Apples, 4:30 - 6:00 PM, Gemini Middle School
10/28- Love & Logic Parenting Class, at the Family Resource Center, from 6-7 PM



Sania Zaffar

Sania is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters