



THE SAUGATUCK SPOTLIGHT

SES Principal's Newsletter/October 2024

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. MESSLER

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Back to School Night. We hope that the information you received was informative and gave you a window into your child's day. More information to come in November at Parent-Teacher Conferences! Information about conference sign-ups will be sent at the end of October.

October 18 is an early-release day for students and a Professional Development Day for all staff members. Student dismissal is at 11:30 a.m. on this day, and no lunch is served. Students should bring a big snack that follows any allergy requirements for their classroom. It will also be a PJ Spirit Day!

Per Superintendent Scarice's parent communication on September 27, there are two different early release times in WPS this year. The early release times on the following dates are 11:30 a.m. at SES: October 18, January 17, and March 21.

All other early release days will dismiss students at 1:00 p.m. On these early release days, student lunch will be served in our cafeteria.

We recognize the challenge that two different early release times can bring, and we appreciate your support of this additional collaborative professional development time for our staff members!

DATES TO NOTE

Friday, October 18: PJ Spirit Day and Professional Development Day/Early Dismissal for Students @ 11:30 a.m. (No student lunch served)

Sunday, October 20: SES PTA's Afternoon at the Islanders Game/SES Chorus Sings

Thursday, October 24: PTA Halloween Movie Night 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Tuesday, October 29: Diwali After School Event Sponsored by the SES PTA DEIB team (see the PTA Scoop for more information and sign-ups)

Wednesday, October 30: School Appointments Online opens for Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-Up (more info to come)

Thursday, October 31: K-5 Halloween Parade @ 9:15 a.m., followed by SES General PTA meeting

Friday, November 1: PJ Spirit Day sponsored by our SES Student Leadership Council (SLC)

Tuesday, November 5: Election Day/No School

Friday, November 8: Recipe Share Spirit Day sponsored by our SES Student Leadership Council (SLC): Bring in a written recipe to share with your class (More info to come)

Monday, November 11: Veteran's Day- wear red, white and blue! Progress Reports Open to Parents in Home Access Center @ 4:00 p.m.

Monday, November 11-Friday November 15: SES PTA Bookfair in the LMC

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, November 13-15: Parent-Teacher Conferences/Early Release for Students at 1:00 p.m. (student lunch served)

HOW ABOUT AN ALTERNATIVE TO "HOW WAS YOUR DAY?"

HERE ARE THREE MORE IDEAS:

(CREDIT TO @BIGJOURNALLIFE)

"What is one thing you wish you could do over or do differently?"

This helps your child practice reflecting on their behavior and mentally rehearsing a different response.

"What was the coolest thing you learned today?"

It gives your child an opportunity to teach you something (a great confidence boost!)

"Can you think of something kind you noticed today?"

This question promotes empathy and emotional intelligence.

REMINDERS

- As we have previously shared, all reporting of absences are entered using Attendance Monitor within PowerSchool. In order to use this feature families need to log into PowerSchool > Select the child for whom you need to report an absence > Click Attendance Monitor from the menu on the left > choose Report New Attendance. For additional information please refer to the email that was previously sent.
- All early dismissals or bus changes must be entered into School Dismissal Manager (SDM) by the cut-off time: 1:45 p.m. on regular dismissal days, 10:30 a.m. on early release days
- When entering a student as a guest rider in SDM you MUST include the name of the student they are riding /getting off the bus with.
- When entering a student in SDM for an Afterschool Continuing Ed class, you MUST include the name of the Continuing Ed class that the student is attending.

FAMILY GROUPS

Today was our first K-5 Family Group Meeting! We had the chance to reconnect with members we hadn't seen since last year and welcomed new students to our groups!





HALLOWEEN PARADE

Our SES Halloween Parade includes all classes. Led by our Kindergarteners, K-5 classes and staff will parade around our track on October 31 at 9:15am. Families are welcome to come and watch the parade.

All students may come to school in a Halloween costume. Costumes should be appropriate for an elementary school setting: no masks, weapons, blood, scary outfits, or inflatable costumes, etc. will be allowed at school. Please keep that in mind when choosing a costume with your child.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Beginning on November 1, we will celebrate Native American Heritage Month. Heritage Months are just one of the many ways we foster a sense of belonging at SES. We would love to highlight SES families, students, and staff during these special celebrations. If you'd like to contribute, consider sending a short (1-3 minute) video clip, or we can arrange for you to stop by SES to film a brief video with Mr. Lawrence. Please reach out to Mr. Jame'el Lawrence (jlawrence@westportps.org) if you're interested in participating in this month's celebration!



WINTER Coat Drive

Collection Dates:
October 1-11

Drop-off Location: Donation Box by Front Office and Cafeteria

Please Donate

A new or gently used coat to help keep local children warm this winter

THE GOAL IS TO COLLECT 100 NEW OR GENTLY USED COATS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

For more information:
Call Diana Grossman at 305-321-0407 or email: dhorn326@gmail.com

Call Lindsay Cardinali at 917-674-0363 or email: lajcardinali@gmail.com

Thank You for Your Donation!

VETERAN'S DAY

We would like to invite any available Veterans from our Saugatuck families to attend our Veteran's Day Assembly on November 11, 2024 at 9:00a.m. in the Saugatuck Auditorium. Veteran family members will be our guests of honor as we recognize the service they have provided to our country. Please complete this [form](#) by Friday, November 8th if you have a family member who would like to attend.

