

WestWood Elementary & SAGE Academy **NEWSLETTER** 

February 2025



## Quicklinks

- School Supply Lists
- District Calendar
- WestWood Calendar
- Parent/Student Handbook
- School Contact Info
- Technology Help

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we embark on the second semester of the school year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. The first half of the year has been filled with growth, learning, and excitement, and we're eager to build on that momentum.

As we look ahead, we are focusing on helping our students continue to develop both academically and socially. Our dedicated teachers are committed to providing a nurturing environment where every child can thrive, and we're excited about the opportunities for learning that lie ahead.

We encourage you to stay connected with your child's progress and engage with us whenever you have questions or ideas. Please look for your child's report card and winter FastBridge Learning report to come home in backpacks this afternoon. We also look forward to seeing you soon at parent-teacher conferences.

Here's to a fantastic second half of the year!

Mrs. Manders

# Information

Students will be bringing home envelopes in their backpacks Friday, January 31st. Grades K-5 will have their semester 1 report card and Grades 1-5 will also have their FastBridge Testing Family Report included in their envelope.

#### Early Release and No School Days:

February 5 is an early release day. Students will be released 2 hours early. February 17 is a no school days.

Be sure to click the "District Calendar" link above to view all of the early release and no school days for the school year.

#### Conferences

Conferences will be held on February 11, 13 and 20th. Please sign up for a conference time with your student's teacher by visiting <a href="https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/WestWood\_Elementary">ptcfast.com/schools/WestWood\_Elementary</a>.

Click here to sign up for a conference time

#### **School Spotlight**

Every year, 5th grade students apply to be a Laker Leader which refers to a student who takes on leadership roles, demonstrating responsibility, initiative, and positive influence within the school community. This fall, our 5th Grade Laker Leaders came up with the idea to share the spirit of WestWood Pride across all classrooms. Since then, they've been working hard to create a series of dynamic slideshows focused on finding solutions to common challenges students might face at WestWood. These impressive presentations will be shared with K-4th grade classrooms during Super Kindness Month in February, covering a range of topics that resonate with students throughout the school day. The excitement around the Laker Leaders' upcoming visits is palpable, and we can't wait to see them inspire their peers with positivity, problem-solving, and leadership.

#### **Did You Know?**

Every month WestWood has monthly themes?

This February, we are excited to celebrate **Super Kindness Month** with our students! It's a time for us to come together and focus on the power of kindness—both big and small. Kindness has the ability to transform our classrooms, homes, and communities, and we want to make sure it's front and center throughout the month.

Throughout February, students will engage in activities that promote empathy, compassion, and gratitude. From random acts of kindness to kindness challenges, we'll be encouraging our young learners to show kindness to everyone they meet—whether it's a classmate, a teacher, or even someone in the community.

We also invite you, our wonderful parents, to be part of the kindness movement at home! Encourage your child to take part in simple but impactful acts of kindness, like helping a neighbor or complimenting a friend. Together, we can create a ripple effect that spreads kindness everywhere!

Let's make February a month to remember by filling it with good deeds, thoughtful words, and a lot of smiles. Thank you for helping us make kindness the heart of our school!

#### **Art Room Donation Request**

The art room is in need of donations of yarn for a weaving project. If you have any you would like to donate please send to school with your student. Thank you!

Yearbook Ordering - February 3 through March 14th



### Kudos!

A team representing WestWood Elementary/SAGE Academy achieved Highest Honors in the 38th annual WordMasters Challenge™—a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 125,000 students annually. The third-grade team, coached by Ms. Rimbo, scored an impressive 165 points out of a possible 200 in the first of three meets this year, placing fourth in the nation.

Competing in the difficult Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge™, fourth grader Xander Wilson earned a perfect score of 20 on the challenge. Nationally, only 18 fourth graders achieved this result. Xander and his teammates were coached in preparation for the WordMasters Challenge<sup>™</sup> by Mrs. Bui.

#### **February Events and Valentines**

As we look ahead to February, I wanted to take a moment to share with you some exciting upcoming school events and experiences!

February is I Love to Read Month. Our wonderful PTC has planned activities throughout the month for students to celebrate reading with dress up days, fun reading experiences and a special author visit. Look for more details about these events to be shared soon.

Our school theme for the month of February is "Super Kindness" to go with our year long theme of "There's a superhero in all of us!" Teachers will be planning meaningful opportunities for students to learn about and demonstrate kindness. As a reminder, per our PLSAS Elementary Handbook, classrooms will not be holding specific Valentine's parties. We also ask that families not send in valentines or treats. There will be plenty of opportunities at school to acknowledge and celebrate kindness, friendship and love.

In addition to some grade level field trips, the 100th day of school, an All School Meeting, and parent-teacher conferences, we look forward to a fun-filled month at WestWood. I am proud to be a part of such an amazing school community.



## Sub in our building - Work for Teachers on Call!

We are partnering with Teachers On Call, a Kelly Education Company to help staff substitute positions in our district. This is a fantastic chance for parents to engage with our schools, support our students, and contribute to their education in a meaningful way.

Why Become a Substitute Teacher? Flexible scheduling Opportunity to make a positive impact Gain valuable experience in the education field

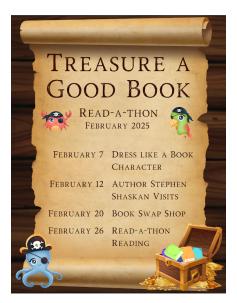
If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a substitute teacher, please reach out Maranda Brown maranda.brown2@teachersoncall.com or you apply directly on their website https://www.teachersoncall.com/talent/apply-now/.

We encourage you to consider this rewarding opportunity to help shape the future of our students! Thank you for your continued support of our schools.



## Readathon

The PTC will be having our annual read-a-thon fundraiser this month. Flyers will be coming home on February 4. We have a fun event planned for each week, starting with "Dress like a book character" day on Friday, February 7.



## **Restaurant Fundraisers:**

Charlies on Prior Tuesday, Feb. 11, 4pm-close 10% of all sales donated to WestWood! (Flyer Below)

Save the Date! WestWood Family Roller Skating Fundraiser Party at Skateville! March 6th from 5:30-7:30pm \$10 admission for all ages (includes regular skate rental if needed, inline skate rental \$5 extra)

\$2.00 per admission will be given back to WestWood!