

# BLUE JAY BY-LINE

## WHITESVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOME OF THE  
BLUE JAYS

[www.whitesvillesd.org](http://www.whitesvillesd.org)



April/May  
2026  
Edition



Empowering all  
learners to wonder,  
explore, and grow.



## From the desk of Superintendent Emery



Dear Whitesville Community,

As we look ahead to the 2026–27 school year, our focus remains on fiscal responsibility and a student-centered approach; ensuring that all students are empowered to wonder, explore, and grow. Our 2026–27 Budget By-Line will be available after the April 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting and will provide important details about our proposed budget and priorities for the coming year.



We invite you to join us for the Budget Hearing on May 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Library. If you have any questions ahead of time, please email me at [temery@whitesvillesd.org](mailto:temery@whitesvillesd.org). The Budget Vote/Election will take place on May 19 from Noon to 8:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

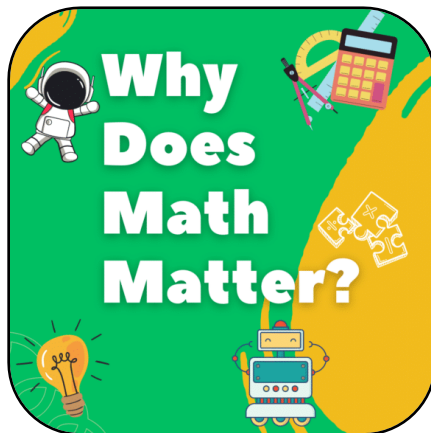
To stay informed, please visit our district website, and be sure to follow our Whitesville Central School Facebook page to see the amazing learning and activities happening in our school each day.

Spring is finally here! Take time to enjoy the sunshine and cheer on our tennis, baseball, and softball teams as they take the court and field.

Lastly, Happy Mother's Day to all the moms and mother figures in our community. Your love, care, and support make a meaningful difference in the lives of our children and our school.



With warm regards,  
Mrs. Tammy Emery



### Why Mathematics Matters in Grades K–6

Tessa Levitt/WCS Curriculum Coordinator

Mathematics in the early grades builds more than number skills—it helps children learn **how to think, reason, and solve problems**. In K–6, students develop strong foundations in number sense, basic operations, and logical thinking that support success in all subjects.

Early math skills are one of the best predictors of later academic achievement. When children understand math concepts early, they gain confidence and are better prepared for future learning.

Math also connects to everyday life. From telling time and measuring to managing money and reading charts, students use math daily. Positive math experiences help children see mistakes as part of learning and build perseverance.

Strong math instruction in elementary school sets students up not just for future math classes, but for lifelong problem-solving and confidence as learners.

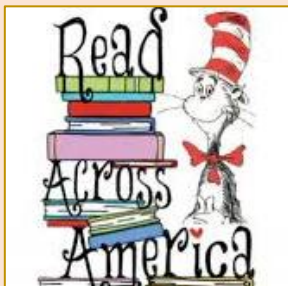


Message from  
Principal McNeely



Our Elementary students celebrated Read Across America during the month of March with themed days, a visit to the Senior center as well as “drop everything and read.”

A big thank you to our Seniors for allowing us to visit. Our students enjoy your company.



**UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

UPK Registration is open. Registration will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:15 in our Library.

Please call the main office or stop by for an application.

A UPK RFP (Request for Proposal) is available on our website.

**READY. SET. LEARN!**



cheer our teams on!

Also, just a reminder that we are a **Drug Free Zone**. Thank you for not smoking, vaping and chewing tobacco on school grounds.

I look forward to seeing you at the games!



**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

- **April 3-10:** Spring Recess – **NO SCHOOL**
- **April 22-23:** ELA Computer-based test
- **May 6-7:** Math Computer-based test
- **May 12:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science computer-based test.





## BUDGET & VOTING INFORMATION



### WHITESVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL **NOTICE OF ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING AND ELECTION**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual District Meeting and Election of the Whitesville Central School District, Whitesville, Allegany County, New York will be held at the Whitesville Central School, 692 Main Street, Whitesville, NY on May 19, 2026, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. At that time, the election of members of the Board of Education will take place, along with the vote on the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures of the School District for the 2026-2027 school year, and a vote on any and all propositions involving the expenditure of money or authorizing the levy of taxes. The election of members of the Whitesville Public Library Board will also be conducted.

**NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that the Annual Budget Hearing for qualified voters of the Whitesville Central School District will be held by the Board of Education at Whitesville Central School in the High School Library, on May 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The proposed 2026-2027 School District budget will be presented to the voters of the District. A copy of the statement of the amount of money required for school purposes for the ensuing year may be obtained by any District resident during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the Annual District Meeting and Election (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) at which the budget vote will occur. District residents may obtain this information at the office of the District Clerk, located at 692 Main Street, Whitesville, New York, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

**NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that pursuant to a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education, the following propositions shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the District at the said meeting:

- Proposition #1: School Budget - Shall the Board of Education of the Whitesville Central School District be authorized to expend the necessary funds as set forth in the proposed 2026-2027 budget and to further authorize the tax levy required to support said budget as required by law?
- Proposition #2: Library Levy - Shall the Board of Education of the Whitesville Central School District be authorized to levy and collect taxes in the amount of \$67,307.34 for support of the Whitesville Public Library?

**NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that Petitions nominating candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education and Member of the Whitesville Public Library Board are available between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. in the Office of the District Clerk at Whitesville Central School. Each nominating Petition must be directed to the District Clerk; be signed by at least 25 qualified voters of the District; state the name and residence of the candidate, and each signer; and state the specific vacancy for which the candidate is nominated, including the name of the incumbent and the length of term to be filled. Completed petitions must be filed with the District Clerk no later than April 21, 2026, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

The following seats are to be filled on the Board of Education:

- Expiring term of Amanda Steadman, commencing July 1, 2026, expiring June 30, 2029
- Expiring term of Tammy Ellison, commencing July 1, 2026, expiring July 1, 2029

The following seats are to be filled on the Whitesville Public Library Board:

- Expiring term of Susan Beckhorn, commencing July 1, 2026, expiring June 30, 2028
- Expiring term of Gay Thistle, commencing July 1, 2026; expiring June 30, 2029
- Expiring term of Marsha Van Vlack, commencing July 1, 2026, expiring June 30, 2029

**NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN** that qualified absentee voters may obtain an absentee ballot application from the Office of District Clerk up to thirty (30) days before the Annual District Meeting. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the qualified voter, or no later than the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered to the qualified voter.

**NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that qualified military voters may apply for a military ballot application through the Office of the District Clerk. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk prior 3:00 p.m. on April 24, 2026. Eligible military voters may indicate their preferred method of receiving the application (mail, facsimile, or electronic mail). If no preference is indicated, the application will be transmitted by mail.

**NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that qualified early mail voters may apply for an early mail ballot application from the Office of the District Clerk. Completed applications must be received by May 12, 2026, for mail delivery or May 18, 2026, for personal delivery.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that a list of all persons to whom absentee, military, and early mail ballots have been issued will be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk on each of the five (5) days prior to the elections (except Saturday, Sunday). This list will also be posted at the polling location on the day of the vote. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of any absentee, military, or early mail voter's ballot of any person on such lists, by making their challenge and the reason for it to the Election Inspector before the close of the polls.

**NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that the District continues to monitor all current and future legal developments relating to district elections and budget votes. Deadlines and procedures stated herein may be subject to change as required by law or by further guidance issued by the State, including possible mandates under executive orders.

By Order of the Whitesville Central School Board of Education.  
Tracey L. Waters, District Clerk



**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Must be a citizen of the United States
2. Must be at least 18 years of age
3. Must be and have been a district resident for a continuous and uninterrupted period of at least one (1) year immediately before the election
4. Must be able to read and write

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATE RESTRICTIONS:**

1. Must not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office, such as town supervisor
2. Must not be a current employee of the district
3. Must not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year
4. Must not reside with another member of the same school board as a member of the same family

**VOTER QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Must be a citizen of the United States
2. Must be at least 18 years of age
3. Must have been a district resident for a continuous period of at least 30 days or more prior to the election

Nominating petitions are for a specific seat and are available in the office of the District Clerk when school is in session. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk, not later than April 20, 2026.

**YOUR VOTE MATTERS**



ERICA MATTESON - President  
CHARLES CUTLER, JR. - Vice-President  
TAMMY ELLISON  
JEFFREY ERDMANN  
AMANDA STEADMAN

The Board of Education consists of five members that were elected by District residents or appointed by the Board to fill a vacancy. Board of Education members volunteer their time. Elections are held each year on the third Tuesday in May; each member is elected to serve a term of three-years.

Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM unless otherwise notified.

Board of Education Meeting dates for the remainder of the school year are scheduled as follows:

- April 21, 2026: Regular Meeting in the high school library at 6:30 PM
- May 12, 2026: Budget Hearing in the High School Library at 6:30 PM
- May 19, 2026: Regular Meeting at 6:30 PM in the elementary library, Budget Vote & Election 12:00 Noon - 8:00 PM in the high school library, followed by a Special Meeting to approve vote results at 8 PM
- June 9, 2026: Regular Meeting in the high school library at 6:30 PM

\* DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE \*

For more information and updates please refer to the Board of Education page on the District's website, [www.whitesvillesd.org](http://www.whitesvillesd.org).



## SNAP helps families buy food.

SNAP provides monthly benefits to buy food at grocery stores and farmers markets. SNAP helps families stretch their food budget so kids get the nutrition they need to learn and grow.

### **With SNAP:**

- Your family can buy more food at the grocery store
- Your school gets more funding that benefits students



Visit **SNAPHelpNY.org** to see if you may be eligible!

Answer just a few questions. In less than five minutes, you can see if you may be eligible and learn how to apply for SNAP. We can even help you complete and submit your application. It is free and confidential.

You can apply for SNAP online at [myBenefits.ny.gov](http://myBenefits.ny.gov).



**Scan to see if you may  
be eligible for SNAP!**

*7/2025. This material was funded, in part, by the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP. Funded by Mother Cabrini Health Foundation and New York Health Foundation.*

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider. [HungerSolutionsNY.org](http://HungerSolutionsNY.org)*



# Whitesville Central School School Calendar 2026-2027



JULY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**3 Independence Day Holiday**

JANUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**1 New Year's Day**  
**18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Teacher Days - 19  
Student Days - 19

AUGUST 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

**8 Parent/Teacher Conferences**  
**15 Presidents' Day**  
**16-19 Mid-Winter Recess**

Teacher Days - 15  
Student Days - 14

SEPTEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**1-3 Superintendent Conference Days**  
**7 Labor Day**  
**8 Students' First Day of School**

Teacher Days - 20  
Student Days - 17

MARCH 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**12 Superintendent Conference Day**  
**26 Good Friday Holiday**  
**29-2 Spring Recess**

Teacher Days - 19  
Student Days - 18

OCTOBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**12 Columbus Day**

Teacher Days - 21  
Student Days - 21

APRIL 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

**1, 2 Spring Recess**

Teacher Days - 20  
Student Days - 20

NOVEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**11 Veterans Day**  
**23 Parent/Teacher Conferences**  
**24-27 Thanksgiving Recess**

Teacher Days - 16  
Student Days - 15

MAY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**31 Memorial Day**

Teacher Days - 20  
Student Days - 20

DECEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**24-1 Winter Recess**

Teacher Days - 17  
Student Days - 17

JUNE 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**25 Graduation at ACS 7PM**

Teacher Days - 19  
Student Days - 19

	Blue - Students' First Day
	Red - Holiday
	Yellow - Superintendent Conf. Day
	Green - Recess
	Orange - Make up Days
	Purple - Graduation Day

Total Teacher Days = 186
Total Student Days = 180

Marking Period End Dates	
1st Quarter -	November 6, 2026
2nd Quarter -	January 29, 2027
3rd Quarter -	April 16, 2027
4th Quarter -	June 25, 2027

# Classroom

# NEWS



## K-THIRD GRADE SEL



Mrs. Lowe's Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade SEL (Social, Emotional, Learning) classes have recently focused on social awareness topics such as **problem-solving and positive peer interactions**. Students have been learning how to use the **STEP process** to solve various problems they may experience at school, at home, or in their community. This process encourages students to use kindness and respect when resolving conflicts with others. We also discussed how to recognize when we are experiencing strong emotions and how to calm ourselves so our "thinking brain" can take

back control. Ask your child to explain the difference between our "**emotional brain**" and our "**thinking brain**."

Students also learned the **Calm Down Process**, which is:  
**"Stop. Name your feeling. Calm down."**

We discussed several calming strategies such as deep breathing, counting, and positive self-talk. Students practiced different scenarios so that when they are faced with real-life situations, they will feel more confident about what to do.



The **STEP problem-solving process** stands for:

**Say the problem. Think of solutions. Explore consequences. Pick the best solution.**

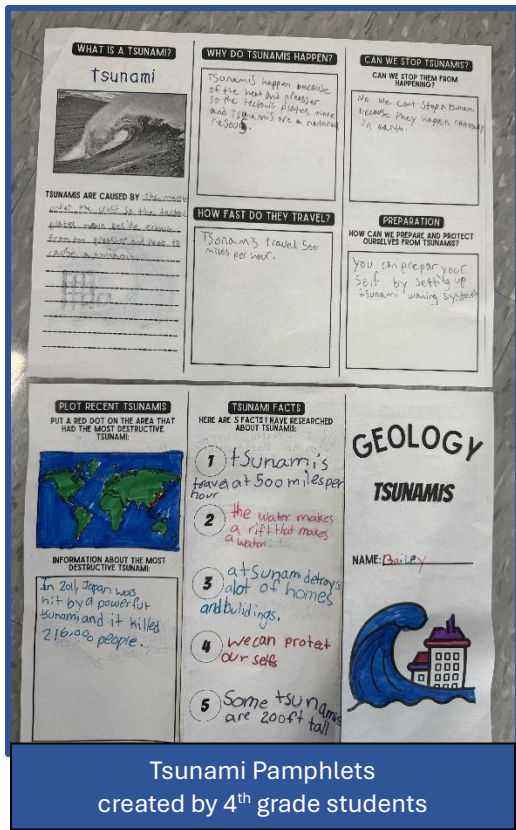
Students practiced a variety of situations where they could use these problem-solving strategies to help them prepare for challenges that may arise.



## FOURTH GRADE



Fourth grade has been busy with learning, curiosity, and many hands-on activities across all subjects. In math, students have been exploring key fourth-grade skills: fractions, long division, and multi-digit multiplication. These topics can be tough, but students are tackling them through fun activities that make practicing feel more like a game. One favorite has been Breakout, an online escape-room-style challenge in which students solve math problems to find clues and advance. We've also played an energetic game of "basketball," where students solve problems and then "shoot" their answers into the basket for points. Alongside other hands-on practice, these activities have helped students build confidence and perseverance as they work through complex math concepts.



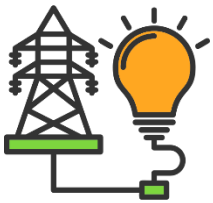
Tsunami Pamphlets  
created by 4<sup>th</sup> grade students

In Science, students have been learning about how the Earth changes over time. They learned about powerful natural events like tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides, and discussed how these events shape the world around us. Students can now explain weathering and erosion and understand how these processes gradually change the Earth's surface. They also learned that Earth is covered with tectonic plates that move over time, causing earthquakes, volcanoes, and other landscape changes.



Students also studied the rock cycle and how rocks change over very long periods. To see these ideas in action, our class used a rock tumbler to simulate weather and erosion. Students observed how water and movement slowly smooth rough rocks, helping them understand how natural forces shape rocks in real life. Students completed several written responses related to Earth's changing surface. They created a volcano wiki, wrote descriptive paragraphs from a rock's point of view, and even crafted myths explaining natural events. In science, students also wrote arguments evaluating whether Niagara Falls needs human help to slow erosion, using

evidence to support their ideas.



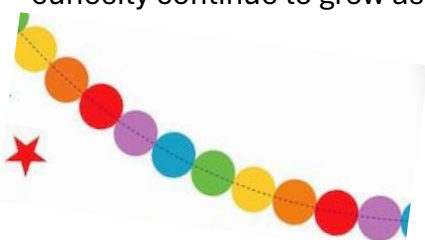
In our upcoming Science unit, students will start a new topic on electricity and energy. They will learn how electrical circuits function and explore how energy moves through a system. Through hands-on activities, students will construct and test simple circuits while discovering how electricity powers many objects we use daily. This unit will prepare students for the New York State fourth-grade investigation on energy and electricity, where they will explain how electrical systems operate.

In Social Studies, students have been learning about Native American cultures and ways of life. Each student researched and presented a poster on one aspect of Native American living, such as clothing, food, economy, technology, or shelter. Presenting their findings helped students practice public speaking and better understand history.



Next, students will start learning about the U.S. government, including the three branches and the freedoms Americans enjoy today. In ELA, this will connect to our upcoming unit on the American Revolution. Students will explore how causes and effects are linked through historical events, including how the French and Indian War eventually led to the American Revolution.

It's been exciting to see students grow as thinkers, writers, mathematicians, and historians. I am proud of the effort they put into their learning each day, and I look forward to watching their curiosity continue to grow as we begin new units together.





# FIFTH GRADE



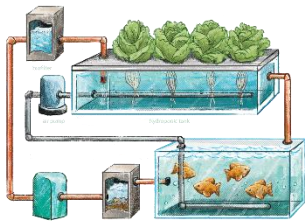
5<sup>th</sup> grade boys have been busy, from planting plants, caring for fish, figurative language, and of course, MATH!



We just finished our early civilization unit, on the Mayan, Aztec, and Inca civilizations. We celebrated the unit by making our own Mayan masks!



Students have begun their PoEtrY unit. They have been adding to their creativity every day with figurative language activities, really focusing on metaphor 's, similes, hyperbole 's, and personification. Up next, we will be learning about the Adventures of Don Quixote!



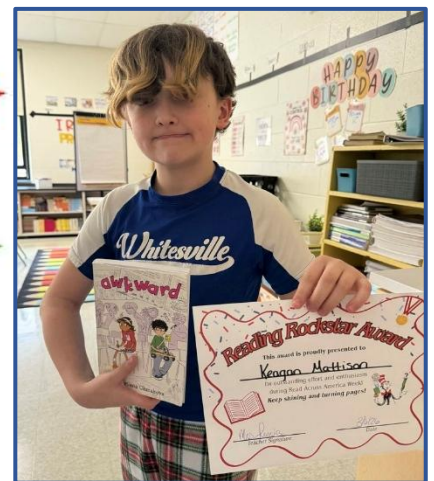
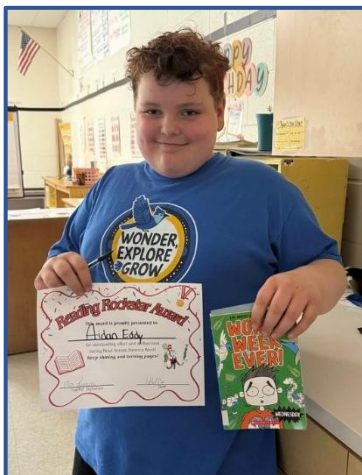
**Science:** Students had a class pet for a while.... Four goldfish, snails, and an earth worm. Students created an aquaponics system to see how matter cycles through the fish tank, into a grow bed, and watched the plants grow with NO SOIL!

Students explore the relationships between the flow of energy and cycling of matter in an ecosystem. Students will make models of energy flows and matter within ecosystems showing how organisms rely on the sun for repair, growth, motion, and warmth. They will explore the importance of plants in an ecosystem and support an argument of where plants get their materials for growth. Concurrently, students will set up and observe ecosystem models and how the individual components benefit the entire system.

Students have been working with decimal numbers, comparing them to fractions, adding them.... multiplying them... and now they are dividing them! Students will be solving numerical expressions involving decimals.

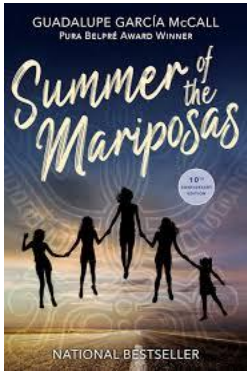


**Congratulations** going out to these 5th grade boys for completing their daily Read Across America challenge packets this week! They earned an award and a special sweet treat!

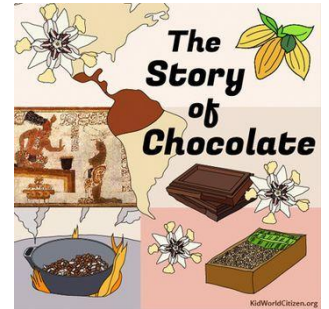




## SIXTH GRADE

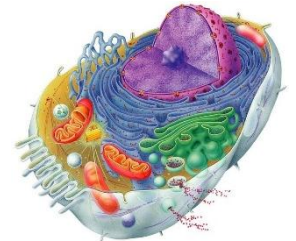


ELA: We just finished learning about the History of Chocolate. We learned how it was farmed as well as its use as a weapon during WWII! When it was first discovered it was only enjoyed by wealthy people. We are in the middle of our Greek Myths Unit. We are reading excerpts of Prometheus, Odysseus, and Arachne. Looking ahead, we will read the book “Summer of the Mariposas” by Guadalupe García McCall. We will also be preparing for the upcoming ELA state assessment in April to ensure students feel confident and prepared.



Math: We have been learning about expressions and one-step equations. We just learned about the order of operations and will move into solving simple expressions. Eventually we will cover inequalities and start area, surface area, and volume as we prepare for the state Math assessment in May.

Science: We are just starting the first investigation we will need to complete in order to take the 8<sup>th</sup> grade science exam in two years. The other three will be covered in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We just completed a unit on cells and all the parts that make them up, as well as making cell posters. After the investigation we will spend time learning about our body systems and land, water, and human interactions.



Social Studies: We will be covering the Eastern Hemisphere this year. We are currently learning about cultural diversity with human interactions, art, music, food, and architecture. We will then learn more about the early people, the rise of civilizations and Feudal Western Europe



## WCS MUSIC DEPARTMENT



The WCS Music Department is excited to invite families and community members to our upcoming **Spring Concert**, themed “Growing Together.” Throughout the school year, students have been developing their musical skills while learning the importance of cooperation, confidence, and creativity.

This special performance will celebrate how our students have grown — not only as musicians, but also as learners and members of our school community. Through song, movement, and instrumental music, our young performers will share messages of friendship, teamwork, and growth.

We hope you will join us for an evening filled with music, joy, and celebration as we recognize the wonderful progress our students have made together this year.

Date: Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> Time: 6:00PM  
Location: WCS Small Gym (Auditorium)



# School CLUBS

## Lady's Club

Lady's Club has been slowing down and focusing on a creative sewing project.

Students are currently working on hand-sewing their own pillows using the backstitch, a technique they previously learned. Recently, they also learned how to tack their projects, so the fabric stays in place and the sewing remains straight. As they continue stitching their pillows together, students are practicing patience, precision, and craftsmanship while building confidence in their sewing skills.



## Nature Club

### Mother's Day Flower Sale



The Nature Club will be selling vases of flowers and potted plants for Mother's Day. This annual sale is our fundraiser to support learning activities for our Nature Club students.

Sales will take place during the lunch hour on Thursday, May 7, 2026, and Friday, May 8, 2026. Prices range from \$2.00 to \$5.00.

Please support our Nature Club and celebrate the special ladies in your life!



## Cooking Club

Cooking Club has been a wonderful opportunity for students to learn practical life skills while having fun in the kitchen.

Over the past few weeks, students

worked hard preparing for a Parents and Partners event where they made homemade cupcakes. The students carefully followed recipes, measured ingredients, and practiced teamwork as they baked their cupcakes. The event was a great success, and students were proud to share the treats they worked so hard to make.

Most recently, Cooking Club has been learning how to prepare a classic meal: spaghetti and meatballs. Students helped mix and season the meat, practiced hand-rolling their own meatballs, and learned how to cook them properly. One of the most interesting lessons was learning how to "hide" vegetables in the pasta sauce by sautéing onions and peppers before putting the sauce in. This allowed students to see how healthy ingredients can be included in meals while still tasting delicious.

Cooking Club continues to give students the chance to build confidence in the kitchen, practice collaboration, and develop skills they can use at home with their families. It has been exciting to see students grow more comfortable cooking and trying new foods.



## Earth Day Clean Up

Nature Club will be hosting an Outdoor Clean Up Day, in celebration of Earth Day! Earth Day is celebrated each year to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote actions to protect our planet. Let's make Whitesville the beautiful town we know it is!

Students, Families and Community members will meet outside of Whitesville Central School on **Saturday, April 18, 2026**, at 10:00. Clean-up will take place from **10:00 to 12:00**, starting around our school and then adult-led groups moving among our neighborhoods. Please come prepared with proper footwear and work gloves if you have them. Latex gloves will be provided.



Our Nature Club students appreciate the support and dedication you have toward taking care of planet Earth! We look forward to working with you!

**\*\*If there is inclement weather scheduled for April 18th, a postponement message will be provided on April 17, 2026. Our make-up date will be the following Saturday, April 25, 2026\*\***

## Parents As Partners



Our April Parents as Partners event will be held on **Friday, April 24, 2026, from 5:30 to 7:00.**

This month we will be providing a Family Hiking Scavenger Hunt. Let your children show you the beautiful trails behind our school where they complete their Outdoor Education classes. Your family will be responsible for finding items throughout the trails, working as a family unit.

The skills used in this event include leadership, teamwork, and collaboration. We look forward to spending an evening with our WCS families!

Look for fliers  
coming home directly  
after spring break!



Whitesville Central School

Dear Friends, we're excited to share with you the impact your clothing shed made over the last year.....

- 8,101 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2025
- This was enough to clothe an estimated 1,492 people all over the world
- Based on this volume of clothing, your organization received \$324



Thank you so much for everything you, your volunteers, and your communities to do support the clothing shed program. Sincerely, The Team at St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

May is  
Mental  
Health  
Awareness  
Month



# Children and Mental Health: Is This Just a Stage?

Children's mental health is as important as their physical health.

*From the* **NATIONAL INSTITUTE of MENTAL HEALTH**

All children are sad, anxious, irritable, or aggressive at times, and many find it occasionally challenging to sit still, pay attention, or interact with others. In most cases, these are just typical developmental phases. However, such behaviors may also indicate a more serious problem in some children.

## What mental disorders can affect children?

Many mental disorders can begin in childhood. Examples include anxiety disorders, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), depression and other mood disorders, eating disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Early treatment can help children manage their symptoms and support their social and emotional well-being. Many adults reflect on how mental disorders affected their childhood and wish they had received help sooner.

## What are the signs of mental health conditions in children?

Distinguishing between challenging behaviors and emotions that are a part of normal development and those that may be cause for concern can be hard. Consider seeking help if your child's behavior or emotions last for weeks or longer, cause distress for your child or your family, or interfere with your child's functioning at school, at home, or with friends. **If your child's behavior is unsafe, or if your child talks about wanting to hurt themselves or someone else, seek help immediately.** Learn more about warning signs at [www.nimh.nih.gov/children](http://www.nimh.nih.gov/children).

## When might children benefit from an evaluation?

### Younger children

- Have frequent tantrums or are irritable much of the time
- Often seem fearful or worried
- Complain about frequent stomachaches or headaches with no known medical cause
- Are in constant motion and cannot sit quietly (except when they are engaged in an activity they enjoy, such as watching videos or playing video games)
- Sleep too much or too little, have frequent nightmares, or seem sleepy during the day
- Are not interested in playing with other children or have difficulty making friends
- Struggle academically or have experienced a recent decline in grades
- Repeat actions or check things many times (for example, repeatedly checking to make sure a door is locked) out of fear that something bad may happen

### Older children

- Have lost interest in things that they used to enjoy
- Have low energy
- Sleep too much or too little or seem sleepy throughout the day
- Have periods of highly elevated energy and activity and require much less sleep than usual
- Spend more and more time alone and avoid social activities with friends or family
- Diet or exercise excessively or fear gaining weight
- Engage in self-harm behaviors (such as cutting or burning their skin)
- Smoke, drink, or use drugs
- Engage in risky or destructive behavior alone or with friends
- Have thoughts of suicide
- Say that they think someone is trying to control their mind or that they hear things that other people cannot hear

## Get immediate help

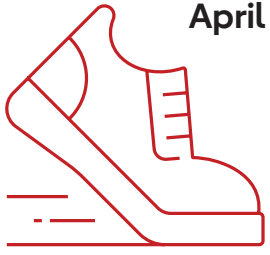
If you, your child, or someone you know is struggling or having thoughts of suicide, call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at **988** or chat at [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org). In life-threatening situations, call **911**.



**GOOD TO KNOW**  
Regular movement helps reduce inflammation over time.

# LET'S WALK TOGETHER

## APRIL IS MOVE MORE MONTH.



April is **MOVE MORE MONTH**, and **NATIONAL WALKING DAY** kicks it off on April 1.

Regular physical exercise is a great way to keep your body healthy and release stress. And walking is one of the simplest and most accessible forms of exercise — no special equipment, no gym membership, just you and the path forward.

## NATIONAL WALKING DAY



- Get free resources like event templates, infographics and flyers at [heart.org/MoveMore](https://heart.org/MoveMore).
- Give out fun prizes. Find great swag at [shopheart.org](https://shopheart.org).

## WHY WALK? HERE'S WHY.



**WALKING AT A BRISK PACE** for 150 minutes a week can boost mood, improve sleep and reduce the risk of heart disease.



**1 IN 4 U.S. ADULTS SIT** for more than 8 hours a day; walking helps counteract the effects of sedentary behavior.



**EVEN 30 MINUTES** of light activity can reduce the risk of death by 17%.



**WALKING WITH PETS** or friends increases accountability and companionship.

WCS has been approved to participate in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) - Breakfast and Lunch are FREE this year for all students.

Extra Meal: \$1.50

**Everyday Breakfast Choices:**  
Main Breakfast, Cereal, Toast, Muffin, Yogurt, Oatmeal, Fruit, Juice & Milk

Lunch is FREE this year.

Extra Meal: \$2.35

**Everyday Lunch Choices:**  
Main Menu, Chicken Patty, Julienne Salad, Cereal, Fresh Carrots, Fruit & Milk

Must have Money on Account to Purchase:

K-5th Grade morning milk or Juice \$0.65 each

Snacks \$0.75 each

Ice Cream \$1.00 each

Any Questions or information on accounts, please contact

**Café BlueJay**

607-356-3301 ext. 231

OR

[ssherman@whitesvillesd.org](mailto:ssherman@whitesvillesd.org)



Monday

# April



Friday

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Egg Bite w/ Sausage Link  General Tso's Chicken Rice, Peas	2 Sausage English Muffin  Spirals with Meat Sauce Garlic Sticks, Tossed Salad	
<b>READY, SET... SPRING BREAK!</b>				
13 Poptarts	14 Egg & Cheese Bagel	15 Bacon Breakfast Pizza	16 Sausage Bagel	17 Frudels
French Bread Pizza Sweet Potatoes	Taco Salad Black Beans	WCS Bowl Corn	Mac & Cheese Broccoli	Chili Roll
20 Cheese Omelet Sausage Link	21 Egg & Cheese Sandwich	22 Waffles	23 Sausage Sandwich	24 Cini Mini
Pizza Crunchers Carrots	Taco Pizza Green Beans	Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes	Meatball Subs Mixed Veggies	Pulled Pork Sandwiches Baked Beans
27 Pancakes	28 Egg & Cheese Biscuit	29 Breakfast on a Stick	30 Sausage Biscuit	
Cheese, Pepperoni, Chicken Wing Pizza, Corn	Walking Taco Black Beans	Chicken Finger Sub Potato Smiles	Chicken Alfredo Broccoli	



# Whitesville Central School

## April 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
 <p>NYS Grades 3-8 ELA assessments are annual, untimed, two-day, computer-based tests designed to measure student proficiency based on the Next Generation Learning Standards.</p> <p>These assessments focus on critical thinking, evidence-based writing, and reading comprehension of fiction and non-fiction texts. Results are reported in four performance levels, with scores helping to guide instruction and identify necessary interventions.</p>						
5 Happy Easter 	 <p>6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> NO SCHOOL</p> 					11
12	13 CLASSES RESUME 	14	15 	16	17	18 EARTH DAY CLEAN UP 10-12:00
19	20 Board of Education and Public Library Candidate Nominating Petitions Due	21  School Board Meeting 6:30 PM	22 Earth Day Grades 3-6 NYS ELA CBT Assessment Administrative Professionals Day	23 Grades 3-6 NYS ELA CBT Assessment UPK/K Registration 3:15 PM	24 Arbor Day Parents as Partners 5:30 End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	25  HAPPY ARBOR DAY
26	27	28	29 	30 		

WCS has been approved to participate in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) - Breakfast and Lunch are FREE this year for all students.

Extra Meal: \$1.50

**Everyday Breakfast Choices:**  
Main Breakfast, Cereal, Toast, Muffin, Yogurt, Oatmeal, Fruit, Juice & Milk

Lunch is FREE this year.

Extra Meal: \$2.35

**Everyday Lunch Choices:**  
Main Menu, Chicken Patty, Julienne Salad, Cereal, Fresh Carrots, Fruit & Milk

Must have Money on Account to Purchase:

K-5th Grade morning milk or Juice \$0.65 each

Snacks \$0.75 each

Ice Cream \$1.00 each

Any Questions or information on accounts, please contact

**CAFÉ BLUEJAY**

607-356-3301 ext. 231

OR

[ssherman@whitesvillesd.org](mailto:ssherman@whitesvillesd.org)


















Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Bagel Bar
4 Sausage Breakfast Pizza	5 Egg & Cheese Croissant	6 Waffles	7 Sausage Croissant	8 Hamburger/Cheeseburger Tater Tots
Stuffed Crust Pizza Carrots	Nachos & Cheese Black Beans	General Tso's Chicken Rice, Broccoli	Pizza Bagel Tossed Salad	9 Cinnamon Roll  Turkey or Ham & Cheese on a Pretzel Roll Sweet Potatoes
11 French Toast Sticks Sausage Link	12 Egg & Cheese English Muffin	13 Egg Bite, Sausage Link	14 Sausage English Muffin	15 Frudel
Cheese, Pepperoni, Chicken Wing Pizza, Peas	Soft Shell Taco Baked Beans	WCS Bowl Corn	Meatball Sub Mixed Veggies	Hot Dog French Fries
18 Breakfast on a Stick	19 Egg & Cheese Bagel	20 Bacon Breakfast Pizza	21 Sausage Bagel	
Mozzarella Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Green Beans	Taco Pizza Carrots	Chicken Fries Potato Smiles	Spaghetti W/ Meatballs Sweet Potatoes	
	26 Egg & Cheese Sandwich	27 Pancakes	28 Sausage Sandwich	29 Cini Mini
	Quesadilla Mixed Veggies	General Tso's Chicken Rice, Peas	Chicken Alfredo Broccoli	Pulled Pork Sandwiches Baked Beans



# Whitesville Central School

## May 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 NYS Grades 3-8 Mathematics Assessments measure student proficiency in state learning standards through untimed, multi-day tests consisting of multiple-choice and constructed-response questions. These tests focus on computation, reasoning, and conceptual understanding. Results are used to inform instruction and identify school support needs.					1	2
3	4 	5 	6 Grades 3-6 NYS Math Assessments  National School Nurse Day	7 Grades 3-6 NYS Math Assessments  Nature Club Mother's Day Flower Sale	8	9
10 	11	12  NYS Science Assessments Budget Presentation High School Library 6:30 PM 	13 	14	15 Spring Concert 6 PM 	16 Happy Armed Forces Day 
17	18 	19 ~ Budget Vote/Election High School Library 12 - 8 PM ~ Board Meeting Elem. Library 6:30 PM ~ Special Meeting High School Library 8 PM	20	21 UPK/K Screening 	22 	23
24 	25 NO SCHOOL	26	27	28	29	30

Whitesville Central School Extracurricular Sign Up  
2026 - 2027 School Year

These positions are posted in the By-Lines in the event a community member may be interested. If you would like to be considered, please sign and date your request and return to Mrs. Waters in the main office (or via email at [twaters@whitesvillesd.org](mailto:twaters@whitesvillesd.org)) by **June 1, 2026**. Applicants will be considered if a position becomes available.

Position	Name	Substitutes - Sign Up Here	Date
Varsity Boys' Soccer - Scoreboard Operator			
Varsity Girls' Soccer - Scoreboard Operator			
Mod. B & G Soccer - Scoreboard Operator			
Boys' Basketball - Scoreboard Operator			
Boys' Basketball - Shot Clock Operator			
Girls' Basketball - Scoreboard Operator			
Girls' Basketball - Shot Clock Operator			
Modified Boys' BB - Scoreboard Operator			
Modified Girls' BB - Scoreboard Operator			
Blanket Athletic Substitute			
Color Guard Director			
Drama Club			
Lego League Advisor			
Lunch Hour Room Monitor			
Marching Band/Memorial Day			
Music Director			
Nature Club Advisor			
Odyssey of the Mind			
Public Relations Point Person			
Publications			
Sixth (6) Grade Class Advisor			
Tech Crew Advisor			
Web Master			
Yearbook Advisor			



**Whitesville Alumni Association**  
Whitesville NY

**Save The Date**

**Alumni Dinner**

Date : Saturday May 23, 2026

Time : Social Hour 5 -6  
Dinner 6

Location: Whitesville Firehall

Band: TBD

Facebook: [Whitesville Central School Alumni Association](#)

**Honoring Classes**

50 Years – 1976

25 Years – 2001

10 Years – 2016

Seniors – 2026





# Memorial Day Pie Sale!

11AM-1PM ON THE LIBRARY LAWN. PROCEEDS HELP THE WHITESVILLE GIRL SCOUTS! DONATIONS ONLY 😊



Whitesville Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts thank you for your help! Tabs can be turned in to any Scout, at the Whitesville Public Library, or Whitesville Corner Market. Collecting now- June 2026



# COLLECT

# Pop TABS

## FOR A CAUSE



All of the pop tabs that are collected by the people in our community are taken to the recycling center in exchange for funds that are put toward our operating costs.

*thank you in advance for your support!*

## Whitesville Memorial Day

# Community Celebration

Supporting Girl Scouts & Cub Scouts | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Memorial Day Parade – 10:30 AM



Car Show Event Until 2:00 PM

## \$5

### ALL-DAY WRISTBAND

For bounce houses and blow-up obstacle courses in Kids Fun Zone!



Kids Fun Zone (11:00 AM – 2:00 PM)



Boba Drinks Food Options Restrooms

Location: Marietta Ave, Whitesville NY

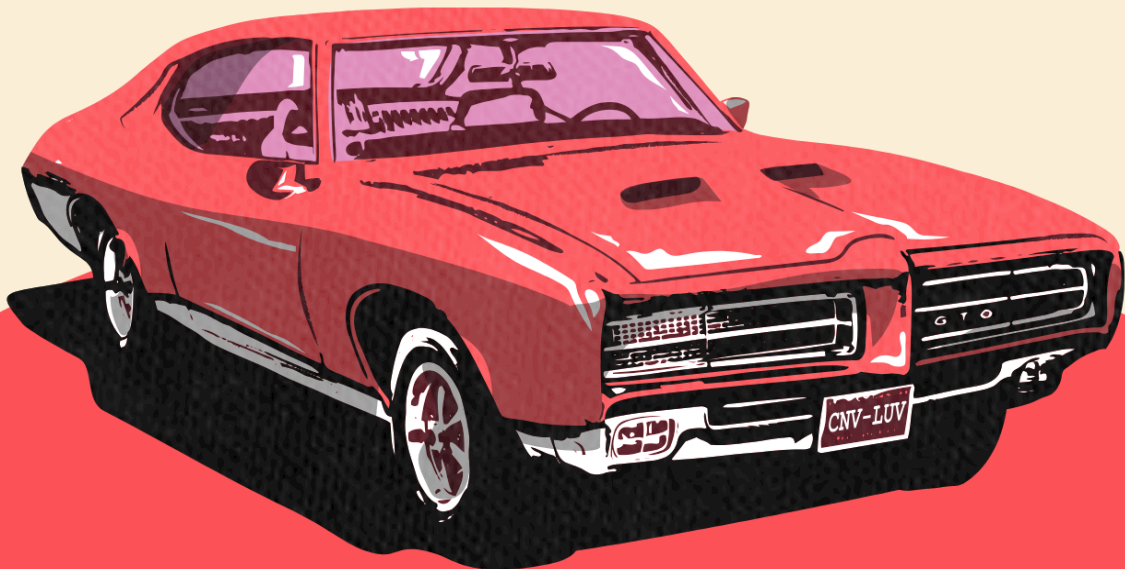
For more information, contact Rashell @ rashellpastore@gmail.com or Sam @ samihoughtaling@gmail.com

SPONSORED BY

WHITESVILLE CUB SCOUTS

# MEMORIAL DAY CAR SHOW!

FLASH YOUR CAR IN THE PARADE AND THEN  
PARK TO BE JUDGED IN THE CAR SHOW



**MONDAY, MAY 25**

**AT 11.00 AM - 2.00 PM**

**RAIN OR SHINE**

\$15 early registration  
\$20 registration day off  
per entry

All wheeled vehicles accepted. Trophies given for many different categories. Example: Mom Mobile, 2005 and Newer, Classic, Motorcycle, Full Custom, Tractor, & Truck, snow MOBILES, Jeep, and More.

We encourage all to partake in Whitesville's Memorial Day Parade. Parade line up starts at 9:30am on Commercial Ave. Free to partake in the parade. By entering you get a chance to win the parade prizes given by the parade committee. Parade starts at 10:30am.

Following the parade all cars entering the car show should park and check in/ register on Marietta Ave Whitesville NY 14897.

To register or for more information please contact Rashell at [rashellpastore@gmail.com](mailto:rashellpastore@gmail.com)



**Whitesville Public Library**  
 500 Main St.; PO Box 158,  
 607-356-3645  
[www.whitesvillelibrary.org](http://www.whitesvillelibrary.org)  
[whitesville@stls.org](mailto:whitesville@stls.org)

**It is not too late to join the Spanish lessons with Keri Coleman.** She provides an interactive learning experience for all ages. Everyone is having a fun time while learning. Classes are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:30. You are also invited to join our Show and Tell Book club on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:30. Bring the book you are currently reading and share it with the group. The classes are being paid for by funds from the Allegany Area Foundation.

**Thank you to Rich Impriano for coming to Bring Your Child to the Library Day.** If you were unable to join us you may borrow his book from the library and read of Billy's Adventure.

**Thank you to all who donated to and/or purchased from our our Chocolate/Jewelry Sale.** We appreciate your continued support of our fundraisers.

**The library will be hosting a Craft/Vendor Show on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fire Hall.** If you have handmade crafts or are a Direct Sale consultant and would like to set up contact Karen for an application and guidelines.

**The library has two gardening kits in our Library of Things.** They contain trowels, gloves, and other garden tools in a leather carrying bag. You may borrow the kit with your library card.

**The library has joined the NYS Talking Book Library.** The NYSTBL provides audio books for those with impaired vision. We have a sample machine and information at the library. This is a free service.

**We have copies of our library budget prepared.** You may stop at the library to pick one up so you can be an informed voter at the May 19<sup>th</sup> vote. Three board of trustee positions expire June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in a position on the board you may pick up a petition from Tracey at the WCS main office or plan a write in campaign. Expiring terms are Gay Thistle, 3 year term, Marsha Van Vlack, 3 year term, Susan Beckhorn, 1 year term.

**On Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 Kate Elliott will be leading a craft, Rainbow Sprinkles.** Kate has received an Arts grant she is using to teach textile arts around Allegany county.

**On Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Walt Franklin, a published author from Greenwood will be at the library to share some of his nature poems.** The program will begin at 5:00.

**The annual Garden Tour will be on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 10-2.** If you have a garden (flower, vegetable, fairy) you would like to show to the public contact us for more information. We would like to keep gardens within a mile from town.

**Dates to Remember:**

**April**

Friday	3	Good Friday	Closed
Tuesday	7	Show & Tell Book Club	5:30
Wednesday	8	Rainbow Sprinkles	9:30-11:30
Tuesday	14	Spanish with Keri	5:30
Tuesday	21	Board Meeting	6:00
Wednesday	22	Walt Franklin	5:00
Tuesday	28	Spanish with Keri	5:30

**May**

Saturday	2	Craft/Vendor Show	10-2
Tuesday	5	Show & Tell Book Club	5:30
Tuesday	12	Budget Presentation WCS	6:30
		Spanish with Keri	5:30
Tuesday	19	Budget Vote (WCS)	12:00-8:00
		Board Meeting	6:00
Monday	25	Memorial Day	Closed
Tuesday	26	Spanish with Keri	5:30



Administration

Tammy Emery, Superintendent  
Renee McNeely, Principal

Board of Education

Erica Matteson, President  
Charles Cutler Jr., Vice-President  
Tammy Ellison  
Jeffrey Erdmann  
Amanda Steadman

By-Line Editor

Tracey Waters

Whitesville Central School

692 Main Street  
Whitesville, NY 14897  
607-356-3301  
www.whitesvillesd.org

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ECRWSS

Volume 37  
Issue No. 5

POSTAL PATRON  
P.O. BOX  
STAR ROUTE  
14897

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
UPCOMING EVENTS



April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Good Friday  
**NO SCHOOL**  
\*

April 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>  
Spring Break  
**NO SCHOOL**  
\*

April 18  
Earth Day Clean-up  
\*

April 21<sup>st</sup>  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
\*

April 22-23  
Grades 3-6 ELA Assessments  
\*

April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
UPK Registration  
\*

April 24<sup>th</sup>  
Parents as Partners

May 6-7  
Grades 3-6 Math Assessments  
\*

May 12<sup>th</sup>  
NYS Science Assessment Budget Presentation  
\*

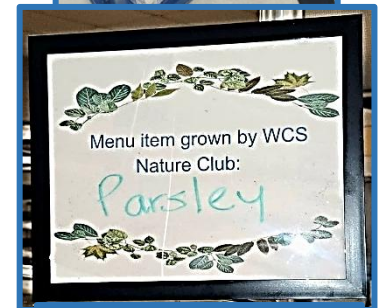
May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Spring Concert  
\*

May 19<sup>th</sup>  
Budget Vote/Election ~ Board of Education Regular Meeting and Special Meeting  
\*

May 21  
UPK/K Screening  
\*

May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
**NO SCHOOL**  
\*

May 25<sup>th</sup>  
Memorial Day  
**NO SCHOOL**



Cafe Blue Jay served Lasagna with fresh parsley from the Nature Club's hydroponic tower garden. Everyone enjoyed the fresh parsley treat!



**OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

