

# White River School



October 14, 2016

## Anti-Bullying and Harassment Lessons:

October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month and next week I will teach our students the differences between harassment and bullying and how to report it if one has experienced it or observed it. Additionally, I will explain the consequences of when one is found to have bullied or harassed. *Please reference our school handbook to read these differences yourself.* While I teach these differences during an assembly each year, it is important for you to know that we at WRS teach about anti-bullying ALL year long! On any given day you will hear staff members teaching students about being responsible and respectful and you'll hear students talking to each other about this. We at WRS are deeply committed to making sure that our students know and understand that bullying and/or harassment will not be tolerated. Moreover, we are committed to ensuring that our students feel safe, accepted and respected in our school. Our three expected actions: **be responsible**, **be respectful** and **be safe** are truly part of the culture here. Here are a few websites that I encourage you to explore:

[Here www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov) (Includes information on cyberbullying, prevention, risk factors and warning signs.) **Susan Flanagan and I are the bullying/harassment investigators.**

## Assessment Information

While we at WRS strive to focus on excellent teaching versus excellent test results; statewide testing is a reality. I'm very proud of the work that our students do each day in both big and small ways! The SBAC results from last May were released statewide a few weeks ago and the results were as expected. Overall, our students that are currently in grades 3-6 performed very well when compared to their peers in the HSD and across the state. These individual results will be shared at parent-teacher conferences on **November 3rd and 4th**. We've also just received the individual NECAP science results for our current 5th graders. These will also be shared during parent-teacher conferences.

Our students in grades k-2 are assessed individually by their teachers using the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Reading Assessment as well as the Primary Number Observation Assessment. You'll learn about these results during parent teacher conferences as well.

## Welcome Caroline Grace

Many of you know Sara Turunen, one of our first grade teachers. She and her husband have a new addition to the family, Caroline Grace who was born on September 28th. Please join us in wishing the Turunen family much happiness. Mrs. Turunen expects to return in early January.

## Updates from PTA:

Our PTA board is encouraging all families to save Box Tops for Education tabs that are on a lot of food containers. When collected and sent in, these add up to a significant amount of money for our PTA! Each classroom has a Box Tops for Education collection envelope in it. These will be collected monthly and the classroom with the most Box Tops will earn a small reward (popsicles or something along that line)! PLEASE CHECK ALL EXPIRATION DATES AND IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN 50, CLUSTER THEM IN INDIVIDUAL BAGGIES IN GROUPS OF 50. This will save us all a tremendous amount of time.

Also, the Meadow Brook Farms fundraiser is due TODAY, Friday October 14th! Please drop off our send in the final packets not later than Wednesday, October 19th. Sara Cooney has been kind enough to coordinate this fundraiser which is our biggest one! Thank you Sara for your ongoing help and support of the White River School!

HELP WANTED! The PTA plans to run our third annual Craft Fair on Saturday, December 3rd. They desperately need volunteers to serve on a Craft Fair Committee as this fundraiser requires a great deal of coordination. Most urgently, we need people who are willing to contact the previous vendors and advertise for new vendors. The PTA has lists and spreadsheets that will help tremendously with this. Please email Krystal Brown, PTA President at [www.wrspta@gmail.com](mailto:www.wrspta@gmail.com)

### Calendar:

Thurs. Nov. 3 - Early dismissal for Parent/Teachers conferences. Buses run 2 hours early.  
Fri. Nov. 4th - No School Parent/Teacher Conferences.  
Fri. Nov. 11th - No School Veterans Day.