

Oak Trace Weekly Update

March 8, 2024

Hello From Mrs. Hitch

Happy Friday!

It was to get back to a regular 5 day week! Our students have worked so hard this week on many projects. We are proud of them!

Can you help us with attendance? Please keep your child home if he/she is sick. However, we have had an increase in the number of students taking vacations not during breaks, late arrivals, early dismissals, etc. Our teachers are doing their best to help everyone keep up, but students are missing a lot of direct instruction, discourse between students as they practice skills, and time for enrichment/remediation. Recently we dug into some districtwide data and found the following correlation between absences and NWEA growth (see below.) Again, please keep your child home for illness, but thank you for trying to get them to school on the other days. We love spending our days with your children!

Shout out to our amazing students, staff, and families!!!! The state recognized schools with scores of 95% or above in the 2023 administration of IREAD assessment (last year's test.) Oak Trace was one of the those schools. We are so proud of everyone's hard work. Third graders again took part in the IREAD state assessment this week. I am so proud of how hard they have worked over the years to improve their reading! Thank you to all of you for reading at home and talking about books with your children. It makes such a difference. We appreciate you.

We welcomed author Troy Cummings to Oak Trace this week. He explained how he comes up with ideas for books and told great stories. The students did an amazing job! Thank you, Mrs. Walker, for organizing this special day!

Great job to our fourth graders for the performance of Delirium! It was such a fun journey through Indiana history! Our beloved, Mrs. Paul, is retiring after this school year so this will be her last time directing this program that she wrote. We are so thankful to her for all of her hard work! You can watch the performance here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_MvJMBfezl

Our kindergarten playground construction began this week. The students are enjoying watching the progress. Thank you to our PTO who helped the school district pay for this project. We can't wait to see the finished playground!

Second graders enjoyed a trip to Ag Day at the fairgrounds on Thursday. They had a great time!

We had SO much fun at the Winter Carnival! Thank you to all who organized it including Heather Hohla, Mary and Rod Francisco, Reagan Graman, Molly Jackson, Chelsie Markland, Lana Lavengood, Emily Herron, Jodi Hardt, Heather Hayner, Danielle Prosser, Christine Sampia, Ali Coyne, and Kelly Braun. Thank you to all of you who donated items and/or time. The kids had a blast. We appreciate your help!

Good luck to our Lego Team who competes this weekend! We are proud of you!

Have a great weekend!

Jane Hitch @MrsHitchOTES hitchj@wws.k12.in.us

Attendance	Missed	Percent Who Meet or Exceeded Winter NWEA
Rate	Days	Goal
95.69% - 100%	0-5	73.20%
91.38% - 95.68%	6-10	70%
87.07% - 91.37%	11-15	65.80%
67% - 86.06%	16 or more	60%



























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What's Happening

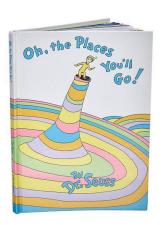
- March 20th Little Acorn Night
- March 27th All Pro Dads
- March 29th- April 8th Spring Break (school resumes April 9th)
- April 10th Economan @ WHS (3rd grade)
- April 15th May 2nd ILEARN (3rd and 4th grade)

Counselors Chronicle

Well it has happened. It is that time in our school year when state testing begins for our 3rd and 4th graders. It is also the time we choose to focus on the lifeline of Courage! This week the ambassadors were visiting classrooms sharing this month's lifeline. We define courage as being brave and to do the right thing when



needed. Our students demonstrate this lifeline everyday and it is important for us to recognize their courage. So, when you see your child showing courage, take the time to share your appreciation for their actions. Have a great weekend! Mr. F



Book signing

It's hard to believe we are close to winding down the 23/24 school year. We know some parents like to have teachers sign special books for their students (see attached picture), but we are asking you to bring these books in earlier rather than later. Teachers are so busy the month of May so it is hard for them to get these books signed and returned before school ends.

Summer Childcare and Camps

Summer Childcare and Summer Camp Program-Enrollment will open on March 15th, 2024 at 6:00 AM.

Before and After Care Program for the 2024-2025 School Year - Enrollment will Open on May 1st, 2024 at 6:00 AM.

Click <u>HERE</u> to register and for more information.



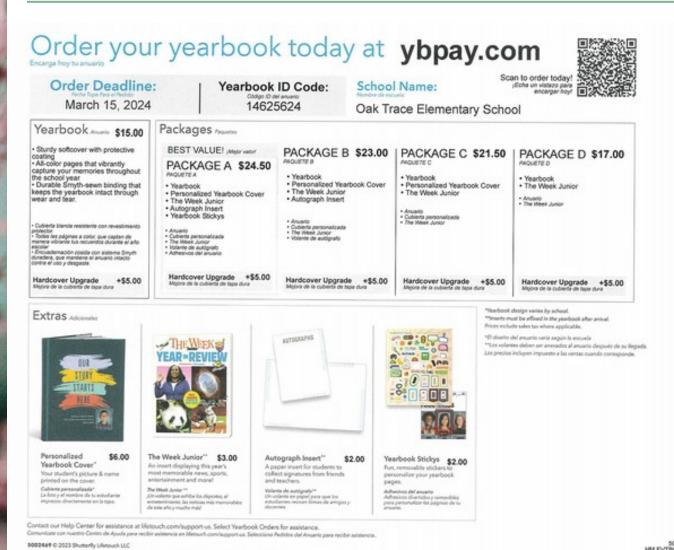
These programs are very popular and fill up quickly. Please do not delay registering once enrollment opens.

Head lice

Head Lice is a common community problem and infestations peak from September to February. It is the parent's prime responsibility of assisting in the prevention and management of head lice by regularly checking your child's head for lice. If they are showing signs of head lice such as tickling on the scalp, itching, irritability, difficulty sleeping and sores on the head (from scratching, please contact the child's physician. While head lice are a nuisance, it is not a health issue and does not

spread disease. For information on how to identify head lice, when to seek treatment and general information about head lice, please see the Oak Trace website under parents and nurse's clinic. If you suspect your child has head lice contact your health care provider for treatment options and let the school nurse know if you are treating a case concerning your child. All information is confidential between the school nurse, parent and child. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Melissa Hurst RN 317-867-6405



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OAK TRACE ELEMENTARY

LITTLE ACORN NIGHT

Parents of the Oak Trace community and their incoming kindergarten student are invited to attend this fun and informational evening!

Wednesday, March 20th, 2024 Oak Trace Elementary School 16504 Oak Ridge Rd 6PM-7PM

Scan QR Code to RSVP



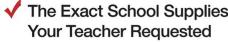
If you can't use the QR code, here is the link to RSVP for Little Acorn Night.

https://forms.gle/471jTEBctNkR5vkZA









Name Brand Products Like:











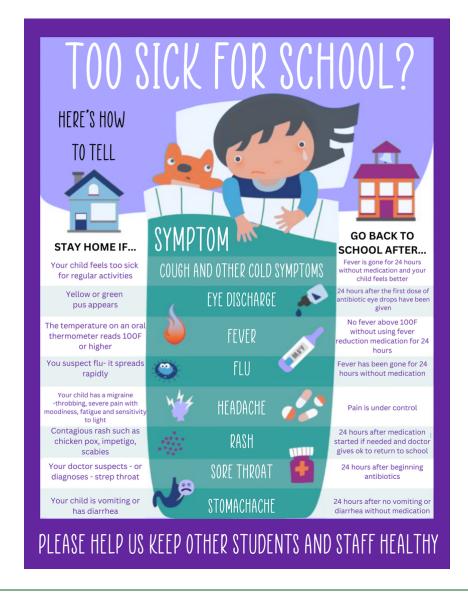
Pre-Order Today at: 1stDaySchoolSupplies.com



WWS Supply List 2024-2025

Westfield Washington Schools 2024-2025 School Supply List

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Reminder from the nurse's clinic

The nurse is missing a lot of clothes that were sent home with children. If your child borrowed clothes from the clinic, please wash and return the clothes ASAP. Thank you!



Thinking Thursday

Which three women (sometimes called human computers) helped pave the way for the first American astronaut to successfully orbit the Earth?



Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson and Dorothy Vaughan,

Attendance Line

Attendance line phone # is 317-867-6401.

For all absences and late arrivals, press 1 to leave a message. Please call by 8:30 A.M.

For all transportation changes, please call 317-867-6401 and press 1 to leave a message by 1:30 P.M.

If calling after 1:30 P.M., please call the office directly at #317-867-6411

Safe Visitor Registration

If you want to participate in classroom activities or chaperone field trips, you must be registered in SafeVisitor. To register or renew your registration in Safe Visitor, please use the link below.



https://secure.safevisitorsolutions.com/Safe/Volunteer/003471/volunteer



Lunch duty helpers

If you'd like to help with lunch duty this year, please open the link below. You can also find this sign-up on our website.

https://signup.com/go/TQYrRfS

Lunch times

Kindergarten 10:45-11:15 1st 11:20-11:50 2nd 12:40-1:10 3rd 11:45-12:15

4th 12:10-12:40



Membership Toolkit

Hi! Oak Trace Families! We are so excited for another amazing year at Oak Trace. Please sign up for Membership Toolkit. Membership Toolkit is the system that we run all of the PTO events

you sign up your family can be added to the directory which is super helpful for planning birthday parties or playdates! Returning families <u>do need</u> to sign back up every year and update their info. https://oaktrace.membershiptoolkit.com

Thanks

Oak Trace PTO

Questions? OakTracepto@gmail.com

Rent the Rock!

Starting Friday, August 5, at 9 am. You will be able to Rent the Rock through Membership toolkit. The Rock is able to be rented Sunday-Thursday for \$20. You are able to begin painting at 4:00 pm on the day of your rental. Your beautiful artwork stays up for 24 hours or until the next person has it rented. All rentable days are divided up



by trimester and posted on membership toolkit. We do block out some days for special events. If you have questions feel free to email Jodi Hardt at hardti@wws.k12.in.



We had a wonderful week in STEM! This week we started a new rotation that will take us through March 19th. During this rotation 4th grade students are reviewing electrical energy and creating a light up card of the Indiana state flag. Third grade students are building and programming VEX Go robots to perform a simple task. 2nd graders are learning about the life cycle of a frog by building the stages from tadpole to adult frog with our VEX Go kits. First graders are doing a Breakout EDU called, Sam, The **Shape Stealer to review** shapes, and learning about the



Troy Cummings was amazing! He was our visiting author that came to Oak Trace this week! Story writing and illustrating were some of the topics that he taught about. He gave us three rules to follow: 1. Have fun! 2. Ask "What if ..?" and 3. Never give up! Fourth grade presented Delirium with style! I am so proud of the students! In the library we have been reading more Indiana Young **Hoosier Books!** Eyes that Kiss in the Corner by Joanna Ho and there's a Ghost in this House by Oliver Jeffers were our stories this week! This has been a fun way to explore new books!



To safeguard the transportation of medication to and from school, all medication prescriptions and over the counter must be dropped off by a parent or guardian in the health clinic. Students are not permitted to carry any medication without a physician's order in writing on file with the school nurse. Please contact your school nurse for assistance if needed.

path of the sun in the sky. Kindergarten students are doing stations with our coding robots, LEGOs, pattern blocks, and building shapes out of toothpicks and playdough. I hope everyone has a fantastic weekend, and, as always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at gibbsj@wws.k12.in.us.

SAVE-THE_DATE for our next Oak Trace Book Fair!!! It will be set up just like our first Book Fair where the students will come during the week of May 6th-10th to browse the Book Fair and create a "Wish List" to bring home to share! Then, during the week of May 13th-17th to have the opportunity to purchase any books they would like! We will also have our "Family Night" on Tuesday, May 14th from 3:30-6:30 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to purchase books for summer reading! More information will be coming as the weeks continue! Be sure to put this on your calendar! Happy Reading!

Mrs. Walker





I am so proud of our 4th graders! They did such a great job during their performance of Delirium: A Trip through Indiana History. They worked so hard, and it paid off.

Kindergarten is playing instruments while we say the onomatopoeias in the book Road Work.



Oak Trace families, I am happy to announce that we have a new Amazing Art Gallery in the hallway by the art room. It is divided into 3 sections- visual arts like paintings, drawings ,artist trading cards, printmaking, paper sculptures-3-D paper projects, paper collages and textile arts- for weaving and sewing. Very soon the 3rd and 4th graders will be transitioning into more of a studio setting for art. We will



2nd-4th Grades

We have just completed our volleyball unit. We closed that up with our King/Queen of the Court game. Ask your child about how their team did. They had a lot of fun competing with each other and cheering each other on. Some classes began their basketball unit this week. It's MARCH MADNESS so I wanted to get some basketball going in the gym. Below is a

1st Grade is beginning to listen to and learn about instrument families from the musical story Peter and the Wolf.

2nd Grade is going to learn about different tempos of music through the music composition and story Carnival of the Animals.

3rd Grade is continuing to learn the music for Economan. Ask them to play the soca rhythm for you. It is a rhythm often used in music from Trinidad.

4th Grade- Job well done!

Have a Harmonious Weekend, Mrs. Paul

standards and have "Learning Days" but students will get to work at different studios to learn more about a type of art that interests them . They will be working on projects for several art sessions. Work that is "WOW" worthy will be displayed in the Art Gallery. I will be sending home more information about this new approach called TAB- Teaching for Artistic Behaviors in a few weeks. 2nd grade will begin to have studio art after spring break. My littles will continue with more project inspired by artists projects, like we have been doing. I am really excited to begin this new format for teaching art. It should be areat!!

quick video link of a game we played called Cone Flip Basketball. They had to dribble, flip a cone and then try and make a basket. We will continue doing basketball all of this month.

CONE FLIP BASKETBALL

Kindergarten and 1st Grades

Some classes this week have also begun the basketball unit. We started with a couple of simple stations to work on dribbling, passing and shooting. I also threw in a bonus bowling station which they loved. We will continue playing basketball the rest of the month of march. Below are some pictures of the stations from this week.

DICE DRIBBLING

AROUND THE WORLD

BOUNCE PASS BUILDERS

