

Mead Family Newsletter

April 2024

A Message From Your Principal

Hello Mead families!

Thank you to all who were able to join us for a fun-filled family movie night this month! It was so great to see so many families spending some important, quality time together. I also want to acknowledge the number of parents who have reached out to the school to ask for support with their children and thank them for their willingness to work with us to do what's best for their kids.

At Mead, we recognize that parenting is not easy, but we know that it's a lot more manageable when there is support. While we certainly do not have all the answers, we invite you to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns with how to best support your child. We've coached dozens of families through some of the struggles they are facing with their Mustangs at home, and we would be happy to help you, as well.

Raising a successful elementary aged student is definitely a team effort, and we appreciate you being a part of this important team. Every time you read at home with your child, get them to bed on time, talk with them about their day, or limit their screen time, help them breathe through and regulate their emotions, you are contributing to their success at school.

Thank you for your continued support!
Amber Applebee, Principal

Important Dates in April & Beyond

- April 1st- Students return from Spring Break
- April 3rd- Paraprofessional Appreciation Day
- April 8th- Solar Eclipse (details below)
- April 11th- Statewide Tornado Drill
- April 16th- Mead PTC Meeting @ 4pm
- April 18th- Friday Specials Schedule
- April 19th- No School (Staff PD Day)
- May 9th- Popsicles on the Playground



For other important events going on in our community, be sure to check out our ["Community Events Page"](#) on our district website.

Forward Testing Continues in April

Our third, fourth and fifth graders will be continuing the very important, state Forward Exam in the weeks ahead.

We need YOU to make sure they are in school each day they are testing and are getting plenty of sleep the night before each testing day to ensure they are able to do their absolute best. Students who are absent will need to be pulled from class to make up these tests when they return.

3rd Grade Test Schedule:

- 4/9: Final Language Arts Test
- 4/16 & 4/17: Math Tests

4th Grade Test Schedule:

- 4/2: Social Studies Tests
- 4/3 & 4/4: Science Tests
- 4/9: Final Language Arts Test
- 4/16 & 4/17: Math Tests

5th Grade Test Schedule:

- 4/4: Final Language Arts Test
- 4/10 & 4/11: Math Tests

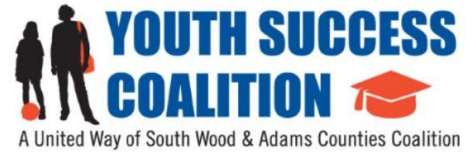
Classrooms will be practicing for these tests the entire month of March, so attendance this month is incredibly important. You can help at home too. [Check out this site to learn more about how families can practice for the Forward Exam at home.](#) To learn more about the Forward Exam in general, [click here.](#)

April 8th- Solar Eclipse Day at School!

Pending the weather, on April 8, during the school day, your child may have the opportunity to participate in the viewing of the solar eclipse. Teachers will share details about how they may or may not be observing this event. We will provide viewing glasses to view the eclipse safely. You may choose to opt your child out of this experience. Please contact your child's teacher; they will be provided with an alternate activity.



April [Breakfast](#) and [Lunch Menus](#)



Children's Book Donations Needed in April

We need your help—and your books! Starting April 1st and running through April 26th, United Way will accept new or gently used children's books to be distributed at Great Book Giveaway events in June.

Board books and easy readers are needed most, but any new or used children's book in good condition will be accepted. Books, or monetary donations can be brought to the United Way office at 351 Oak Street in Wisconsin Rapids between 8:30am and 4:00pm any weekday.

The Great Book Giveaway is a fun, annual event that impacts hundreds of youth each year, aligning with the goal of the Youth Success Coalition. Please consider donating to support this initiative, and help close the literacy gap in our community.

Books collected in this drive will be provided to children free of charge—a simple act that can be life changing for the many families who can't afford to purchase books.

For more information contact Ben Eberlein at 715-421-0390 or ben@uwsdac.org.



United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties





Sweet Peas are the Harvest of the Month!

Add sweet peas to your favorite family meals:

- Add fresh or frozen green peas to soup or pasta salad.
- Toss snow peas in a stir fry.
- Serve sugar snap peas with a healthy dip.

Make meals and memories together. It's a lesson kids will use for life.

- Select** – Choose sugar snap peas that are bright green and firm.
- Store** – For the sweetest flavor, serve peas as soon as possible. Refrigerate in a perforated plastic bag and use within 2 days.
- Prepare** – Rinse and trim both ends.

Did you know?

Peas are seeds! There are three main kinds of peas that we eat: green (or garden) peas, sugar snap peas, and snow peas. With sugar snap peas and snow peas you can eat the whole pod!



Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin!
#WIharvestoftheMonth



This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension is an EEO/AA institution committed to diversity among its employees and in its programs.

School Wide Title I Services: Mead Elementary School offers school-wide Title I services to all students. Title I is a federal program providing funding to support intervention to students who are struggling to reach grade level standards. At Mead, intervention teachers work with small groups of students in need of additional support in reading and math. Our intervention teachers also work in classrooms with the classroom teachers. If you do not want your child to receive these services, please contact the office for a form to fill out to opt your child out of these learning opportunities.

Watch this video to learn more about our Title One Program:



Proper Dress for Recess		
Above 50 Degrees		Short Sleeves
40-50 Degrees		Long Sleeves
0-39 Degrees		Winter Gear: Winter Coat, Hat, Gloves, Boots, Snow Pants
Below 0 (with Wind Chill)		10 Minute Recess
-10 (with Wind Chill)		No Outside Recess



A Message from Mead PTC

- We had a great turn out for our Family Movie night this month. Thank you to all the families who attended.
- **Our next meeting is on April 16th at 4pm.** You can enter through Door B on Alton Street.
- Please join us for our next meeting to help us plan for the next fun family event, coordinate upcoming fundraisers, and plan for teacher appreciation week that's approaching in early May.

WRPS

4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

Registration is Open

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Child must be 4 years old
by September 1, 2024.



Questions about 4K?

Contact:

**Pitsch Early Learning Center
715.424.6779**

Tracy Weiss, 4K Administrative Assistant
Tracy.Weiss@wrps.net

Teri Thomas, 4K Coordinator
Teri.Thomas@wrsp.net

ENROLL NOW



**WRPS Enrollment Center
311 Lincoln Street**

Visit [WRPS.org](https://www.wrps.org) - Families -Registration/Enrollment to pre-print your registration paperwork.

News from Nurse Amanda: April 2024

Allergies and Asthma

With warmer weather, many people notice an increase in allergy symptoms (congestion, runny nose, coughing, sneezing, itchy eyes, etc.) and asthma flare-ups. If you notice these symptoms in your child and they have no history of seasonal allergies or asthma, we encourage you to discuss the symptoms with their doctor, so you can determine if medication (whether over the counter or prescription) is needed. Also, please be sure to keep an eye on your student's inhalers to be sure they are not expired and have enough puffs before an asthma attack occurs!

Sleep for well-being

Is your child getting enough sleep? A child's overall health, well-being, and ability to focus in school could be affected by inadequate sleep. If your child does not get enough sleep they could have a higher risk for many health problems such as poor mental health, obesity, injuries, or behavioral problems that can contribute to poor academic performance in school. We encourage parents to discuss any medical or sleep concerns with their child's physician.

Here is the link to more information and what parents can do at home to help. [CDC: Sleep and Health](#)

Per the CDC:

- 6 out of 10 middle schoolers do not get enough sleep
- 7 out of 10 high schoolers do not get enough sleep

How much sleep someone needs depends on their age. The [American Academy of Sleep Medicine](#) has made the following recommendations for children and adolescents:

Age Group Recommended Hours of Sleep Per Day:

- 6–12 years 9 to 12 hours per 24 hours
- 13–18 years 8 to 10 hours per 24 hours

REMINDER: Immunizations

Please review the following schedule and make sure your child is compliant by next school year. Parents can schedule a nurse visit at the doctor's clinic to get vaccinations. Parents may contact Wood County Public Health for more information on their Immunization Clinic at

715-421-8911 to see if their child is eligible. See brochure for more information. [English & Spanish Brochure](#)

Required Immunizations for School:

*****5 months through 15 months:

2 DTP/DTaP/DT, 2 Polio, 2 Hep B, 2 Hib, 2 PCV

*****16 months through 23 months:

3 DTP/DTaP/DT, 2 Polio, 1 MMR, 2 Hep B, 3 Hib, 3 PCV

*****2 years through 4 years:

4 DTP/DTaP/DT, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 1 Var, 3 Hep B, 3 Hib, 3 PCV

*****Kindergarten through grade 6:

4 DTP/DTaP/DT, 4 Polio, 2 MMR, 2 Var, 3 Hep B

*****Grade 7 through grade 12:

4 DTP/DTaP/DT, 1 Tdap 4 Polio, 2 MMR, 2 Var, 3 Hep B

If your child should not receive immunizations for any reason, please fill out the waiver found at the bottom of the record form signed by a parent or guardian, and return it to the school nurse.

If your child should not receive immunizations due to a medical concern, please discuss it with your child's physician.

The updated student immunization record form is available here: [Student Immunization Record](#).

*****WPRS health information/policies can be found on the WPRS website under the "FAMILIES" option.**



WRPS is excited to offer amazing summer opportunities for students to thrive and grow both socially and academically ! All Summer Academy classes for grades 4K - 5 will be held at Woodside Elementary School in 2024. We have made some changes in programming for 2024 which we believe will enhance the experience for kids as they explore, have their curiosity sparked, laugh, and have fun making new friends. Students should sign up for the grade level course of the grade that they just completed.

[Sign your Mustang up for Summer School Here](#)
Registration Closes March 31st



A New Playground Coming Soon...

Thanks to a generous grant from the community's Legacy Foundation, Mead school's playground will be getting an amazing face lift this summer. Some of the new additions to Mead school grounds and the surrounding fields include: two new playgrounds, a new basketball court, soccer goals, pickleball courts (on the city side by the water tower) and much more. We are working hard to get final bids in place so that we can get more details and pictures out to the public. You can expect to see more before the end of the school year. Construction is planned to begin on June 6th.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS
All day. Every day.

It adds up... + **EVERY** tardy
EVERY early check-out
EVERY absence

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS
towards reading on grade level

ONE DAY	→	ONE WEEK	→	ONE MONTH	→	ONE YEAR
15 MINUTES	=	1.25 HOURS	=	1 DAYS	=	8 DAYS
30 MINUTES	=	2.5 HOURS	=	2 DAYS	=	16 DAYS

Every minute counts!



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helps parents find
jobs while supporting
their families.

Wisconsin Works

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- job skills training
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- childcare assistance



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