

# WALHALLA ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

<https://sites.google.com/a/g.oconee.k12.sc.us/walhalla-elementary/home>

A Title I School

The mission of Walhalla Elementary School, in cooperation with home and community, is to develop confident, responsible, productive lifelong learners, by providing a total educational experience in a positive environment.

## May 2018

### Principal's Points

Shanon Lusk

I can't believe that it is already May! May is going to be a very busy month. SC Ready begins soon for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our students are well-prepared for testing, so please remind your child to do his/her best on the test. Spring testing is very important as we make future instructional decisions regarding our students. Testing begins right after the morning news each day, so please make sure your child is at school and on time. This is crucial in beginning a day of positive learning!

Our spring carnival was a huge SUCCESS. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported this event. The money raised at the carnival will be used to support our teachers with classroom instructional materials and technology for our students. I really appreciate everyone who signed up to help us at the carnival!

Due to the ongoing construction, we will have a modified field day schedule this year. Field day will be held on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, but it will not be our traditional field day activities. Field day will consist of inflatables and extra recess time. Please see the schedule inside of the newsletter for exact grade level times.

Please pay close attention to our May calendar. It is full of important dates as we wrap up the school year. The month of May includes SC Ready Testing, PASS Testing, MAP Testing, Teacher Appreciation Week, Career Day, Mayfest, Awards Days, and many other opportunities for our students and staff. I would also like to remind everyone that learning and instruction will continue to occur through the end of the year. Please ensure that your child is at school and on time each and every day.

Walhalla Elementary School is proud to be a Title I school. As a reminder, Title I simply means that our school receives additional funding based on our school population on free and reduced lunch. We have used these additional funds to support our family night activities, support literacy intervention for students, and to purchase technology. If you would like to see our Title I Plan or have ideas on how best to use the funds in the future, you are welcome to contact me. I welcome and appreciate your feedback to make our school be the best it can be! In addition, if you would like to be a part of our School Improvement Council (SIC) or Parent Teacher Student Team (PTST), please contact me.

Again, I thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school. It has been a wonderful year of learning due to the efforts of our students, staff, parents and community.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions or concerns.

**Have a fun and safe summer!**

## Don't Forget to Send in Excuses for Absences, Tardies & Early Dismissals

There has been a change from the SCDE regarding attendance and how long a student must be at school to be counted present for the day. **Per the SCDE, a pupil is counted absent if he/she is not present for greater than 50% of the school day.**

The actual calculation (done automatically by PowerSchool) is based on the minutes covered in a school's bell schedule.

A student who misses school must present a written excuse within three (3) days after the student returns to school. If your child was absent but did not go to the doctor, we still need a written excuse, signed by a parent/legal guardian, stating why the child was absent.

Make sure the excuse contains the following information:

- date(s) student was absent
- student's first and last name
- teacher's name

These requirements also apply for tardies and early dismissals.

## Per The Walhalla Elementary Family Handbook

Parents are not allowed to bring in, or drop off, specially purchased meals (McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, etc.) for a child's lunch. No child will be allowed to have soft drinks at lunch or snack time.

## **Don't forget to shop for points at Ingles!**

If you shop at Ingles, please make sure our school is listed on your Ingles Advantage Card. Please go to the Ingles website, [www.ingles-markets.com/advantage\\_card](http://www.ingles-markets.com/advantage_card), to register your card. This has to be renewed each school year!



Look for this symbol to collect points!

Walhalla Elementary School continues to collect BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION. The school receives a dime for every box top that you send to school. Look for the labels pictured here for us to receive credit. They are on several brands of cereal, refrigerated/dairy, frozen, snacks, baking, and others.

## Coke Rewards Program

Codes can be found on your favorite Coca-Cola brand's packaging. Check underneath the cap, inside the tear-off of 12-packs and inside the wrap of our multi-packs.

Points donated will be converted to cash and the school will receive a quarterly payment to be used on physical education, sports, technology, arts and/or classroom supplies.

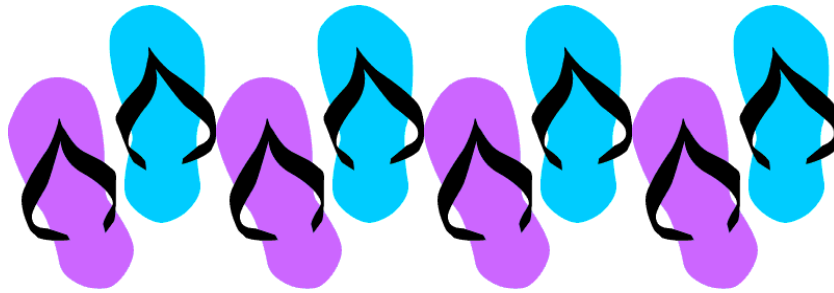


**PLEASE KEEP COLLECTING OVER THE SUMMER! OUR SCHOOL HAS RAISED OVER \$400 THIS YEAR JUST IN THIS PROGRAM!**

# Calendar of Events

## May/June 2018

5/17	Career Day
5/18	Field Day
5/22	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Awards Day at 8:45 am
5/23	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Awards Day at 8:45 am
5/24	Kindergarten Graduation at 8:45 am
5/25	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Day at 8:45 am
5/28	<b>Memorial Day Holiday</b>
5/29	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Awards Day at 8:45 am
5/30	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Day at 8:45 am
5/31	½ Day-Dismissal at 11:00 am
6/1	½ Day-Dismissal at 11:00 am
	<b>Last Day of School</b>



## Curriculum for Students Christi Hartsock

### MAP testing

Spring MAP testing will begin on 4/11 and continues until 5/4.

### SC Ready Testing:

5/7-5/16

Please make sure your child has a healthy breakfast and plenty of sleep!

### PASS Testing

4th and 5th graders will be taking the Science and Social Studies PASS test online.

Science: 5th- 5/15

Social Studies: 4th- 5/15

We are looking for volunteers for SC Ready proctors!

Please contact me if you are available to help!



## Procedures for Responding to Parents

It is the procedure of the School District of Oconee County that the Title I schools respond to all written and oral parent concerns, problems, recommendations, or commendations related to the Title I school program within 24 hours or by the next school day, whichever comes first. If needed or requested, school officials also inform parents or other interested parties of the issue/request. All issues related to Title I compliance submitted by parents or other interested parties are filed with the principal and with the Federal Programs Office.

### HAT DAYS

(sponsored by WES Student Council)



Cost \$1 each Friday

Thursday, May 10th  
Friday, May 25th  
Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED  
TO MAGGIE WELLS AND FAMILY!**

## A Note from the Nurse



**All medicine in the Nurse's room needs to be picked up before the end of school. Any medicine not picked up will be thrown away.**

## Lost-and-Found



Parents, if your child is missing any garments or personal items, please ask them to check the school's Lost-and-Found. We have an *abundance* of lost coats, hats, gloves, sweatshirts, lunch boxes, etc. located in our Lost-and-Found. Walhalla Elementary's Lost-and-Found is located in the Front Hall.



## School Choice 2018-2019 School Year

School Choice for the 2018-2019 school year is now open on the SDOC website and will remain open until June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you would like for your child to attend a school that is outside of the attendance area in which you live, you must complete a school choice form. Please use the online form that can be found on the school district website located under the **PARENTS** tab. If you are unable to complete the online form, a paper copy may be obtained in the school office. School choice forms are required annually even if your child is currently on school choice. Contact the school office for any questions.

The following are highlights of the SDOC school choice policy:

- Only students that reside in Oconee County are eligible for choice.
- Transportation to a “choice school” is the responsibility of the parents/guardians (no bus service will be provided).
- *Students on school choice must submit an application each year.*
- Principals will consider behavior, attendance, and grades before approving applications.
- *The completed application is due to the choice school on or before June 30th.*
- If more applications are received than the number of spaces available at any school, a lottery system will be used to fill spaces.

The school district reserves the right to limit school choice enrollment by grade level or program as staffing or funding requires. Choice may also be limited by classroom space in the school(s).



## LIBRARY NEWS

**ALL LIBRARY BOOKS ARE DUE MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>!** The library will be sending home notices for overdue books soon! If you have checked out a library book that has been lost or damaged, or you are SURE you've already turned a book in that is still showing up on your record, please see Mrs. Waller or Mrs. Sanders right away.

Thank you, Book Fair volunteers! You helped us survive a really crazy week

## Summer Reading from WES

Students in grades Prek-5 will be bringing home a book at the end of the school year, that they got to choose from the Spring Book Fair, for summer reading! The WES teachers and the WES Library teamed up with the Walhalla Rotary Club to make this happen. Thanks, Walhalla Rotary, for partnering with our school!

## OCPL Summer Reading Program

The Oconee County Public Library (OCPL) will have a Summer Reading Program from May 21 – August 1 with a LIBRARIES ROCK! Theme. There will be programs for children, teens and adults. Stop by your local library branch to sign up!

## Literacy Coach's Corner

By Linda Smith

Hello Families!

It is so hard to believe that we have almost completed this school year! I hope that these snippets of information in the newsletter have made you more aware of ways to keep literacy growing for your children. As the school year comes to a close, students will be ready to do fun summer activities. I hope that the following list will help you to "SWiRL" literacy into all that summer fun!

- Create an outdoor reading space with chairs, a hammock, fans, a tent, strings of party lights... whatever tickles your child's fancy!
- Check out Barnes and Noble's Summer Reading Program at :  
<https://dispatch.barnesandnoble.com/content/dam/ccr/pdf/2018/summer-reading/bn-summer-reading-journal.pdf?x=y>
- Pack a cool tote bag with books, journals, pens, colored pencils, to keep in the car. That way the kids always have something to do. Writing about what they are seeing, making up stories as their imaginations wander, reading fiction, non-fiction, comic books, etc.
- Scholastic's Summer Reading Challenge includes tracking online and videos:  
<https://www.scholastic.com/summer/home/>
- If you have an upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade student, have them get a jump start on reading the Battle of the Book titles this summer! The list will be sent home at the end of this year.
- Go to the public library!
- Get audiobooks to listen to while traveling (or while relaxing at home!)
- Have fun speaking, listening, reading and writing with your family this summer!!

Have a  
Great  
Summer!



## Talent Show

**The Talent Show for this year has been cancelled due to the ongoing construction in the new gym.**

**We appreciate your understanding and look forward to a wonderful show next year on our new stage!**

**2018—2019**

### Kindergarten Registration

Do you have a child that will be starting Kindergarten in the fall of 2018. Parents are asked to pre-register children online at the school district's website, [www.oconee.k12.sc.us](http://www.oconee.k12.sc.us) by choosing the link for Parents. Please visit the elementary school in your attendance area for registration assistance, if needed. Children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2018, to qualify for Kindergarten. Please see the list below for items needed to register your student.

- Child's *long form* Birth Certificate
- Child's Social Security card
- Child's updated Immunization Form
- Driver's License or Identification Card of Parent/Guardian who is registering student
- Proof of residency: A copy of either a Power Bill, Water Bill, Gas Bill or a Rental Agreement

Please provide the school with a copy of any legal documentation, such as custody papers, safety plans, etc.) All documentation provided will be copied and the originals will be returned to parent/guardian.