

The Paw Print

WMES is "PAWS"-itively The Best!

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2023 SCHOOL REPORT CARD RATING—51 AVERAGE

JANUARY 2024



Dear WMES Family-

Happy New Year! As we embark on the New Year, I just want to take this opportunity to revisit the vision of Williams Memorial Elementary School. The administrators, faculty, and staff are diligently working on...

- creating a community of academic excellence for our students by establishing high expectations and academic rigor;
- providing effective and innovative educational practices in a safe and supportive environment; and
- helping our students develop world-class skills and to graduate with a 21st Century education and to be globally competitive in their chosen career path.

According to Section 59-155-160 of ACT 284, Read to Succeed, it is our school's goal that your child become a proficient reader and advance on schedule to fourth grade. Your child's progress has been regularly assessed and additional supports have been provided based on the results of those assessments. "A student must be retained in the third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency at the end of the third grade as indicated by scoring at the lowest achievement level on the State summative reading assessment [SC READY]."

A special "THANK YOU" goes out to our parents, grandparents, and other stakeholders who contributed to our MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital Toy Drive. Your contributions were greatly appreciated! Our next school-wide community service project will be in February.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the front office.

Ruth Mims

Our Mission Statement

The children, parents, faculty, and staff of Williams Memorial Elementary School are unified in their purpose of accelerating the learning of all students through shared decision-making and powerful learning experiences



From Officer Williams

Happy New Year! Continue to be patient and cautious while driving on the school campus during the loading and unloading hours. Students may step out in front or cars may pull out behind you during your loading or unloading process.

Our goal is to be 100% accident free!!

Congratulations To...

Zachary Snay—highest gains on the i-Ready Math Winter Assessment

Malachi George—highest gains on the i-Ready Reading Winter Assessment

NOTE: Students in each class who made the largest gains on their i-Ready Winter Reading or Math Winter Assessment were awarded a new book bag filled with school supplies.

Students took the i-Ready Winter Reading and Math Assessments before Winter Break. Please be on the lookout for your child's reports to see the progress that he or she made from Fall to Winter.

*We will test again before Spring Break.



Dates to Remember in January

- January 3—School Resumes
- January 15—No School (Observance of M.L. King Day)
- January 16—DD4 Board Meeting @ 6:00 P.M. (WHS)
- January 16-19—Parent/Teacher 2nd Quarter Conferences
- January 17—SIC Meeting @ 4:30 P.M.
- January 18—Kevin Lovegreen (Visiting Author)
- January 19—End of 2nd Quarter
- January 22—Staff Work Day (No Students)
- January 23—District Spelling Bee @ 6:00 (WHS)
- January 25—3rd-5th Grade Parent Workshop @ 5:30 P.M.
- January 29—Report Cards Home
- January 30—Academic Celebrations (Virtual Link will be Sent)
- January 31—Character Kids Celebration (Excellence) @ 8:00 A.M.



- *Attendance directly impacts academic achievement.
- *State law requires students to attend 90% of all school days for promotion.

If your child is absent...

- *Send a note stating the date and reason for the absence within 3 days of his/her return.
- *Medical documentation must be provided if a child misses more than 3 consecutive days.



From the WMES Faculty, Staff, and Administration



5th Grade Spelling Bee Results

- Jenasys Morris (1st Place)
- Avery Brown (2nd Place)
- Noah James (3rd Place)

The top three finishers will represent WMES at Dorchester District Four's District Spelling Bee that will be held at Woodland High School on Thursday evening, January 23rd, at 6:00 P.M.



January 16-19, 2024

Please look for information that will be sent by your child's/children's teacher(s) through REMIND.

Our Vision Statement

The vision of Williams Memorial Elementary School is to create a community of academic excellence for our students by establishing high expectations and academic rigor, providing effective and innovative educational practices in a safe and supportive environment, and helping our students develop world-class skills and to graduate with a 21st Century education and to be globally competitive in their chosen career path.

From the Literacy Coach ...



It's that time of year to think about and make New Year's Resolutions! Most adult Americans make goals for positive changes in their personal diet, exercise and finance habits.

But why not reading or writing?! The best way to enrich and encourage a child's literary growth is through support. Consider sitting down with your child and creating a goal to build their educational self-esteem in school.

- Could they read a book, a chapter or a number of pages each day?
- How about writing a short story, paragraph, sentences, words or letters?

I challenge you to assist your child in growing their brain this year! Happy New Year! Wishing everyone a wonderful, exciting year in 2024!