



Dates to Remember in May

May 1-31—Pre-Kindergarten Registration
May 1—Kindergarten Cap & Gown Pictures
May 3—Cocky Readers Express @ 9:00 A.M. (1st Grade ONLY)
May 4—5th Graders to SGMS
May 4—Top TIGERS Celebration 10:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
May 5—Sound off Program Pizza Party (2nd & 3rd Grades)
May 8-12—Teacher Appreciation Week
May 9 & 10—SC Ready ELA Assessment (3rd-5th Grade)
May 11—SC Ready Math Assessment (3rd-5th Grade)
May 15-19—Unified Champions Spirit Week
May 16—SC Ready Science Assessment (4th Grade ONLY)
May 18—STEM Family Night 5:00-6:30 P.M.
May 23 & 24—Grade Level Spelling Bees & Grade Level Math Bees
May 25 & 26—Field Day
May 25—Kindergarten Fun in the Sun Day
May 26—Ag Lab (5th Grade)
May 29—Memorial Day (NO SCHOOL)
May 31—Promotion Programs
In Gym: Pre-Kindergarten @ 8:30 A.M. & Kindergarten @ 11:00 A.M.
Johnston Field: 5th Grade @ 7:00 P.M. (in gym if inclement weather)

June 1 & 2 (1/2 Days)—Awards Programs
June 5 (1/2 Day)—Last Day for Students
June 6—Last Day for Teachers

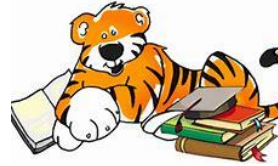


A Message from the Media Specialist...

As we wrap up the 2022-2023 school year, the Media Center will close Friday, May 12, 2023. All books must be returned by Wednesday May 17, 2023. Students who have lost or damaged books will need to pay for these books, or the lost or damaged book fees will follow them to the next grade level. Please remember in order to participate in any extra-curricular activities or field trips during the 2023- 2024 school year, student's accounts must be cleared. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Miss Ruane at rRuane@dd4.k12.sc.us.

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 Our Literacy Coach...

How to Utilize FREE Technology to Promote Literacy

The life of a parent or guardian is not easy and it's a busy one! There just isn't enough time in the day to do everything! Sometimes it is hard to drop everything and read after school. However, according to Meghan Cox Gurdon, "The evidence has become so overwhelming that social scientists now consider read-aloud time **one of the most important indicators of a child's prospects in life.**"

So what can we do? If you have access to the Internet, you can access <https://storylineonline.net/> to get FREE videos of celebrities who are reading children's picture books. Through this website, students can listen to the engaging celebrities read while seeing the book's pictures and words.

Do you have a child who struggles with reading a text alone or needs to have their writing read aloud to check it over? Another technology to consider using is Text to Speech. One example of a FREE program is naturalreaders.com. You can use the provided QR code below to access it.



Has your child earned screen time? Do you still want to promote literacy? Use the closed captioning. You wouldn't believe the number of words they will be exposed to, just by simply displaying them on the screen. You will also be amazed at the amount of content you missed or misheard!

Being a parent is a challenge but one worth taking. Lighten your load and allow technology to help pave the way for your child.

EOY Promotion Program and Academic Awards Programs

Information will be sent home later this month, so please make sure you check your child's folder.

- EOY Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Promotion Programs will be in the gym—**May 31**
- EOY 5th Grade Promotion Program will be held at Johnston Field—**May 31**

EOY Awards Programs will be held...

- **June 1** (1st Grade-8:30 A.M. & 4th Grade-11:00 A.M.)
- **June 2** (2nd Grade -8:30 A.M. & 3rd Grade-11:00 A.M.)

The Paw Print

WMES is "PAWS"-itively the Best!

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2019 SCHOOL REPORT CARD RATING—42 (AVERAGE) MAY 2023



Dear WMES Family-

We are entering the last month of school, and our 3rd-5th graders will be taking State assessments May 9th-11th and the 16th. You will find the testing schedule to the right and the events happening in May on the back page of this newsletter.

Please do not forget to take a few minutes to complete the State Department of Education's Parent Report Card Survey. All Kindergarten-12th grade parents and guardians are asked to participate. A letter was sent home with your child's Interim Report with the link or QR Code to use to access the Survey. We will also have i-Pads available at our Family STEM Night that can be used to complete the survey.

Pre-Kindergarten Registration will be continuing through May 31, 2023. Please check our school's website for the documentation that needs to be submitted with the registration packet. Registration for new Kindergarten-5th graders is also open.

Promotion Program information will be sent home (schedule is on the back). Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten programs will be held in the gym, and the 5th grade program will be held at Johnston Football Field. If it rains, the 5th grade program may have to be moved to the gym. Please remember that tickets will be used because of the limited seating.

Thank you again for your continued support for our teachers and school. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the front office.

Ruth

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.



All 3rd-5th graders will follow the following schedule for State SC Ready Testing:

May 9 & 10—SC Ready ELA Testing
May 11—SC Ready Mathematics Testing
May 16—SC Ready Science (ONLY 4th Grade Students)

Please make sure students have a good night's rest, eat breakfast, and are at school on time.



Unified Champions Spirit Week Activities

May 15-(Mindful Monday) Love, Peace, and Unified—Wear Your Tie-Dye OR Flower Child Attire

May 16-(Takes a Team Tuesday) Rally UP Your Team!—Dress up as a Squad with Group Costumes

May 17-(Wellness Wednesday) Healthy & Happy!—Wear Your Favorite (Happy) Attire from ANY Holiday

May 18-(Thoughtful Thursday) Destination Inclusion!—Dress as a Tourist for Your Inclusion Adventure

May 19-(Fearless Friday) Be Fearless by Dressing as Tacky or as Mixed Up as Possible!