“Commitment: It's not about the competition;
The goal is to exceed my own expectations.”

For the 2013-2014 school year, commitment is our motto. Our staff and students are committed to setting and exceeding challenging goals.

WHITTIER STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK!

Bike Night Returns – May 6th
Whittier Elementary School will be hosting its Second Annual Bike Night. Students and their families are encouraged to join the PTA for a night of bike safety and activities. The event is free, and there will also be concessions for sale. The event starts at 6:30 P.M. in the Whittier South parking lot. Families can ride their bikes to the school or bring bikes in their cars. Cars must park in the North parking lot. Planned activities include: Helmet Check, Bike Fit, Wheel Shop, Bike Safety, Ride Right Obstacle Course, and Safe Places to Wheel. Ray Rowe, our Officer Friendly, and Kenosha Velodrome Association will be hosting the stations.

Tiki Torchin’ for Technology
Don’t forget about the exciting Tiki Torchin’ for Technology Night on May 17th. We hope to see you there!

Great Job on Attendance!
Attendance for the week of April 28-May 2 was 96.2%! Keep up the good work!

FREE Car Seats!
On Thursday, May 8th, from 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M., the PSN Family Resource Center at 8600 Sheridan Road, Entrance B, will give away one free car seat per family. Children and a vehicle are required to be present to receive the free car seat. Please call Beth Mattson at 262-697-4635 to register. You will need your child’s birth date and current weight when calling. For more information, please call Safe Kids Kenosha-Racine at 687-3366.

5th Grade Parents - LAST CALL FOR PICTURES!
We will be having a slideshow presentation at the 5th grade banquet on Thursday, June 5, 2014. We would like to include a baby/toddler photo of every 5th grade student. Please send your child’s name and favorite baby/toddler photo to Paula West at pbockenp@gmail.com to be included in the video. Don’t have a digital version? No problem! Send your image with your child’s name on the back to your child’s teacher, and we will get it scanned and returned to you. Pictures are due by Friday, May 9, 2014.
Camp Invention

Camp Invention is coming to Kenosha this summer June 16-20 at Somers Elementary and July 28-Aug 1 at Whittier Elementary! Camp Invention is a unique, hands-on experience that blends fun with science, technology, and invention! Students going into grades 1-6 are invited to participate in this fast-paced, one-of-a-kind experience that is supported by the National Inventor’s Hall of Fame. Each day, children participate in four continuous modules that place them in settings like a strange planet, a faraway island, or deep under sea. Children use their creativity, imagination, and inventive thinking skills to solve problems within each environment, building on what they learned the previous day. Using upcycled materials brought from home, they could be challenged to rebuild a rocket ship, cross a river of hot lava, rescue sea creatures, or assume another mission. Through hands-on fun, children get excited about science while working together as a team. Though activities will vary depending on the program selected, each one is designed to educate, entertain, and inspire. For more information, contact Director Sarah Aguilar at saguilar1221@gmail.com.

Calling all Kindergarten Boys!

Have you been waiting all year to join Cub Scouts? Please join our Whittier Cub Scout Pack 570 on Thursday, May 15, 2014, at Lake Andrea Picnic Area #5 from 6:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M. We will have a fun-filled meeting with a campfire, flag retiring ceremony, hot dogs, s'mores, games, and tons of fun! Come see what scouting is all about! Please RSVP Cubmaster Lawler at (262) 496-6363.

IT’S TIME FOR THE TALENT SHOW!

Talent Show Information: Mr. Hamilton passed out information to all students who were interested this week.
1. This year’s talent show will take place in the multipurpose room at 1:00 P.M. on June 11th, 2014.
2. Any Whittier student may try-out to be in the talent show.
3. Three teacher/staff judges will view the auditions and select approximately 20 “acts.”
4. Try-outs will be in late May. They are tentatively scheduled for Friday May 16th and Friday May 23rd. Students will fill out an audition form and must try-out on the day and at the time they are scheduled.
5. The location for the auditions has yet to be determined. Besides the judges, parents may watch their own children try-out.
6. Students may try-out for no more than two acts. They can be a solo act or a group act.
7. Acts must be around 3 minutes in length – no exceptions.
8. If students do a singing act and they use recorded music, the music must be of a karaoke nature – no vocals on the recording. (All of the songs in our singing books have this format available.)
9. Students who are chosen to be in the show must be available for one of the after school practices that will take place on Friday May 30th and Friday June 6th as well as the dress rehearsal that will be after school on June 10th.

Some “Try-Out” Pointers:
1. Acts should be of performance quality at the time of the try-out. If it still needs lots of work, it probably won’t be selected.
2. For singing acts, stick with child-friendly songs and stay away from mature content, such as boy/girl relationship songs.
3. For singing acts, adding some movement or props adds interest…in other words; try not to just stand there. However, remember that you will have to use a microphone, which will restrict some of your motions.
4. Students who take any kind of lessons are encouraged to audition to share their talent with the rest of the Whittier students.
5. Be creative. Put together an act that no one else would think of.
6. Don’t limit yourself to the obvious. Past talent shows have included pogo stick routines, magic acts, joke telling, poetry readings, jump rope routines, Tae Kwon Do demonstrations, juggling, and hula dancing.

Kid’s Castle Daycare – Summer Hours
Kid’s Castle will be offering summer hours at Whittier. Starting on June 16 through August 27, Kid’s Castle will be open from 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M. at Whittier. If you have any questions, please contact Kid’s Castle.

Message from Mrs. Dryer, our Counselor/Social Worker
Just a quick note for parents of Whittier students: I am giving short classroom lessons this month about the importance of window safety in our homes. One of the leading causes of child fatalities in the United States is accidents related to children falling out of windows or screens. Of course, we want to prevent anything like that from ever happening in our lives and our community. In addition, for 5th grade parents, I am also giving lessons this week about Shaken Baby Syndrome. As many 5th graders are entering into the world of babysitting, this is a lesson designed to educate and inform children of the risks and dangers of handling babies and small children in an aggressive way. Your child will bring home a letter and information related to the lesson presented.

Message from Our School Nurse: Linda Rieschl about School Medications
As the end of the school year approaches, please remember to pick up your student’s medication on the last day of school. Any medication not picked up and taken home will be discarded. The school will not store any medication for the next school year.

As a reminder for next year:
1. All nonprescription medication must be in the original bottle or package, with the student’s name clearly marked on the container. All prescription medication must be in the original pharmacy container with correct
information on the label. If half tablets are to be given, the parent will be responsible for sending the medication in that form.

2. **All medication, prescription or nonprescription, must** be accompanied by a “Medication Authorization Form”, with parent or guardian’s signature. Prescription medications will also require a health care provider’s signature. Medications will only be administered at school the specified times noted on the form. Any changes in dose, time or medication will require a new form and new container with the correct pharmacy label.

3. The above rules still apply to any medication a student may need to carry with them, such as auto epinephrine injectors or inhalers. *Both* the medication and the medication administration form *must* be checked in at the office. The health care provider *must* check “YES” on the form stating “Student may carry medication for Emergency purposes.”

**4K and Kindergarten Registration**

We are accepting 4K and Kindergarten registrations. Please visit our office for all of the details!

**Thank you and Congratulations! WHAT AN EXCITING WEEK!**

- Thank you to all of the families who submitted pictures for the Spring Break Reading Challenge. We received over 80 pictures. All of the pictures are displayed in the Main Hallway Showcase. KUDOS!
- Thank you to Mrs. Clark for organizing and facilitating a great WHITTIER EARTH DAY! The students loved all of the stations! Additionally, thank you, Mrs. Clark, for writing a grant so that each student was able to go home with a tree. Thank you, also, to Mr. Kevin, for all of the support preparing the playground! Thank you to Ms. Mann, Ms. Losee, Mrs. Dubaniewicz, Mr. Fulton, Ms. Dycus, Mr. Mike Sieger, and Mr. LaMotte – our fantastic presenters. Thank you for sharing your expertise with all of our students. Finally, check out Saturday’s Kenosha News for a great article and pictures. There are more pictures on the Kenosha News Website, as well as a video.
- Thank you, Mr. Nick Ramsey, Racine’s Poet Laureate, for visiting with our Kindergarten and fifth grade students. The students truly enjoyed your presentations.
- Congratulations, Whittier Staff and Students – excellent work with the Tornado Drill!
- Thank you, Mrs. Pytel and the Lance Middle School Orchestra Students. Our students loved the concert!
- Thank you, Mrs. Robertson and the Lance 6th Grade Choir. What a great concert!
- Great job to our Chat and Chew Presenters: Dawn Lampada, Jessi Lowney, Karen Franco, and Peggy Schofield. You did a great job. We had 20 people attend. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Chat and Chew on Autism! We would also like to thank the childcare providers. We appreciate you!
• Thank you, Lance Middle School Student Council for your gift of seeds. We definitely will put them to good use!
• Congratulations, Selasi Banini, for your poster entry for the Gateway Technical College’s Inaugural Celebrate Earth Day Poster Contest. We are proud of you!

**THIS WEEK: May 5-9**

**Monday, May 5**
- **Spring Picture Money Due**
- **PTA will be providing breakfast for the WHITTIER STAFF!**
- **2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. – 5th Grade Minecraft Club**

**Tuesday, May 6**
- **1:15 P.M. – Perfect Attendance PIZZA PARTY**
- **2:30-3:30 – Chess Club**
- **6:30 P.M. - PTA Bike Safety Night**

**Wednesday, May 7**
- **Fifth Grade visits Lance Middle School for the Science Emporium**
  - Mrs. Galley’s Group – 9:35 A.M.-10:45 A.M.
  - Mr. Dahl and Mrs. Knudtson’s Groups – 9:55 A.M.-11:05 A.M.
- **2:30 P.M.-3:30 P.M.- Choir Practice**

**Thursday, May 8**
- PTA will be providing LUNCH for the WHITTIER STAFF!
- **2:30 P.M. – LAST Bible Club for the school year!**
- **2:30 P.M. – 4th Grade Intramurals**

**Friday, May 9**
- **K-5 Student dismissal is at 12:30 P.M.**
  - Early Education Afternoon Session – 9:18 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
- **12:30 P.M. – 5th Grade Intramurals**

**FYI:** I TRIED TO PUT EVERY DATE UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR IN THIS SECTION. I WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP IT UP TO DATE SO YOU MAY PLAN ACCORDING. ANY NEW EVENTS THAT I ADD WILL BE IN RED TO HELP YOU.

**Upcoming Events:**
- **May 12 – PTA Meeting**
- **May 15 – Mrs. Tenuta’s class visits the One Room School House at Hawthorne Hallow – 8:30 A.M.-1:45 P.M.**
- **May 16 - K-5 Student dismissal is at 12:30 P.M.**
- **May 16 - Early Education Afternoon Session – 9:18 A.M.-12:30 P.M.**
- **MAY 17 – TIKI TORCHIN’ FOR TECHNOLOGY – ADULT FUNDRAISER**
- **May 20 – Fourth Grade Field Trip to Madison**
- **May 21 – Mrs. West’s class visits the One Room School House at Hawthorne Hallow – 8:30 A.M.-1:45 P.M.**
- **May 22 – Mrs. Alho’s class visits the One Room School House at Hawthorne Hallow – 8:30 A.M.-1:45 P.M.**
- **May 22-23 – 5th Grade Field Trip to Phantom Ranch**
- **May 22 – Popcorn Day**
- **May 23 - K-5 Student dismissal is at 12:30 P.M.**
• May 23 Early Education Afternoon Session – 9:18 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
• May 26 – Memorial Day – No School
• May 28 – Market Day Pick-Up
• May 28 – Joint Concert – Orchestra, Band, and Choir – 6:00 P.M.
• May 29 – First Grade Field Trip to the Racine Zoo from 8:30 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
• May 29 – Third Grade Field Trip to Kemper Center/History Center 8:45 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
• May 29 – Kindergarten Field Trip to Milwaukee Zoo – all day
• May 30 - K-5 Student dismissal is at 12:30 P.M.
• May 30 Early Education Afternoon Session – 9:18 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
• June 1- Action Territory from 1:00 P.M. to close (Information will be sent home.)
• June 2 – Safety Patrol Bowling Field Trip
• June 3 – Last Chess Club Meeting
• June 4 – Second Grade Field Trip – all day
• June 5 – 5th Grade Banquet
• June 6 - K-5 Student dismissal is at 12:30 P.M.
• June 9 – Kingfish Baseball Night
• June 10 – Track and Field Day (K-2 will be in the A.M., and 3-5 will be in the P.M.)
• June 11 – Fourth Quarter Ends
• June 11 – Early Education Morning Session – 7:25 A.M.-10:32 A.M.
• June 11 – Early Education Afternoon Session – 11:13 A.M. – 2:25 P.M.
• June 11 – 1:00 P.M. – Talent Show
• June 11 – K-5 Student dismissal at 2:25 P.M.
• June 12 - Early Education Morning Session – 7:25 A.M.-10:32 A.M.
• June 12 - K-5 Student dismissal is at 12:30 P.M. – Last Day for Students

Have a meritorious week!

Jo