

January 2021 Newsletter

Jean McNair Elementary School

304 East McNair Road, Winnebago, IL 61088



IMPORTANT DATES

- ***Second Quarter Grading Period Ends*** Friday, January 15
- ***No School*** Monday, January 18 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday) and Tuesday, January 19 (School Improvement Day)
- ***Second Semester Begins*** Wednesday, January 20
- ***5th Grade Band Lessons Begin***, Wednesday, January 20
- ***Second Quarter Report Card Grades Available*** Friday, January 22
- ***Tentative NWEA Test Dates***, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 2 and 3



REMOTE LEARNING ATTENDANCE AND WORK COMPLETION



As we head into the second half of the school year, it's important that remote learning students check in each morning with Mrs. Wandell to review their schedule for the day, but it's even more important that you be sure to attend Zoom meetings with your ELA and Math teachers to not only get the lesson presented, but to make sure you understand what's being assigned. In addition, it's important to make sure assignments are completed in a timely manner or they will begin to affect your grades.

Finally, for our in-person learners who spend some time in quarantine learning, it's equally important that you also keep up on the work provided to you through Google Classroom by your classroom teacher to make sure you're caught up when returning to school.

815 RISING STARS

The Golden Apple Foundation of Rockford is presenting 815 Rising Stars, a Virtual Fundraising Talent Show. They are looking for the hottest talent in the 815 area, including singers, dancers, magicians, poets,



comedians and more! *There is a STAR prize of \$500.00 cash, so check out the sight below for more details TODAY as the deadline is FEBRUARY 3!*

[815 Rising Stars Information](#)

PICTURE DAY INFORMATION

Class Composites are now available to order! Get yours today at inter-state.com/order. Use Order Code 56424NQ. These are available until February 17, 2021 at 11:59 pm.



WINTER RECESS

Outside recess happens when the “feels like” temperature is 22 degrees or higher per the Childcare Weather Watch guidelines. If it doesn’t quite make it to that point, recess will be held inside. For outside recess, please make sure students are dressed for the colder temperatures. This should include, at a minimum, winter coats, hats, and gloves. In order to play in the snow, students should also have snow pants and boots. An extra pair of socks for days where our feet might get cold and wet isn’t a bad idea, either.

In addition, since there is virtually no barrier to the wind whipping across our playground, there could be an occasional time where we decide to stay in ignoring that “feels like” number due to extreme winds.



HOLIDAY GIVING TREE



Thank you to all who donated to the Pecatonica Food Pantry Holiday Giving Tree Project in partnership with Schoolhouse Farm. From both Simon and McNair Elementary School, we managed to donate a wagon and truck full of food items.

These were delivered right before Christmas and again thank you to each and every one of you who donated and Schoolhouse Farm for organizing this community event!

NWEA ELA AND MATH TEST INFORMATION

The Winter NWEA Map Test window opens in late January and in-person students will be taking these ELA and Math tests in early February.

NEWS FROM THE NURSES

Hearing and Vision Screening will be taking place yet this year. You will be notified if your child is screened and does not pass the screening. Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision examination by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo the vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report indicating that an eye examination has been administered within the previous 12 months. Parents who DO NOT want their child screened for either vision and/or hearing will need to send a letter to the school nurse indicating that request. If you have any questions, please reach out to the school nurse.



WHAT IS GO GUARDIAN PARENT?



GoGuardian Parent, is a mobile app to help keep parents/guardians aware of your children's activity on school-issued devices and provide you with additional controls during out-of-school hours. GoGuardian Parent is a companion to the classroom management and internet filtering tools that your child's school uses for devices issued to students. Through the use of this app, we hope to encourage more open and honest conversations between parents and children that will result in safer practices and responsible browsing habits.

GoGuardian Parent was created to help provide additional educational support to administrators and teachers by allowing parents to see what sites and documents their children are browsing and providing parents with additional internet controls at home. The app gives parents a bird's eye view of the apps and websites that their kids are on most often and control over school-issued devices during out-of-school hours. With this perspective, parents can be made aware of what types of browsing behavior schools are seeing from students so we can all work together to encourage more effective internet browsing habits at home and at school.

If you have any questions about this, you can reach our tech department at helpdesk@winnebagoschools.org.



NEWS FROM THE LUNCHROOM

Winnebago Schools offer both breakfast and lunch for students. Also, if you notice your child's lanyard and ID at home, please make sure they bring it to school and keep it here as it's used to scan when they take a hot lunch or breakfast.

In addition, just a reminder that the Winnebago School District is part of the USDA Free Lunch Program this year, which allows us to provide our students with free lunches. Please watch for additional guidance from Dr. Schwuchow should anything change regarding this program.

HOME AND SCHOOL CONNECTION

Here's the latest news from Home and School Connection. Please take a moment to look over the information on Managing Emotions, Reviewing Report Cards, Creative Writing, and other strategies for supporting your child's education.



[Home and School Connection #5](#)

[Home and School Connection #6](#)

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

The Winnebago PTO may look a little different this year, but they are still collecting Boxtops for Education through the mobile app that requires no more clipping! More information can be found here, [Boxtops for Education](#)



[Yearbook Remote Picture Form](#)