

WHITEFORD ELEMENTARY NEWS BLAST

OCTOBER
17TH

Updates

• Halloween Costume Requests & Donations

- If your child is in need of a Halloween costume we will do our best to find him or her one!
- Please reach out to either Mrs. Iott, Mrs. Smiddy, Mrs. Brossia or Mrs. Hillard if you have a need!

• Costume guidelines

- No masks
- No weapon props
- No fake blood
- Costumes are not to be worn to school. Students will change into them for the parade.

OUR OCTOBER VALUE:

RESPECT

UPCOMING EVENTS

UNITY DAY (WEAR ORANGE)

OCTOBER 22ND

HEALTHY CHOICES WEEK

OCTOBER 27TH - 31ST

HALLOWEEN PARADE

OCTOBER 31ST 2:00PM

NO SCHOOL (TEACHER PD)

NOVEMBER 3RD

HELPFUL LINKS

- FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH
- CLASS SUPPLY LIST
- INFINITE CAMPUS LOGIN
- VOLUNTEER FORM
- SCHOOL CALENDAR
- WPA GROUP
- DROP OFF/PICK UP INFO

GO BOBCATS!



Unity Day (Wednesday, October 22nd)

- Unity Day, started by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center in October 2011, is the signature event of National Bullying Prevention Month.
- This is a day when we can come together to send a visible message of building commUNITY through kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. **The call to action is simple: wear and share the color orange.** This vibrant statement becomes a conversation starter, showing support for students who have been bullied and for bullying prevention.

HALLOWEEN

- We will be continuing our Halloween parade!
 - Friday, October 31st
 - 2:00-2:30
- Staff is currently working on getting out information on any Halloween related classroom activities
- Parent Letter Link

Book Fair 11/10-11/14

- Mrs. Tyrrell will be running our Scholastic Book Fair November 4th through the 8th. (THANK YOU MRS. TYRRELL)
 - Dates: November 10-November 14
 - Location: Elementary Library
 - Family Event schedule and location: Thursday November 13 12:00-4:00 p.m.
 - For full details, and to create an eWallet, visit our school's Book Fair homepage:
 - Book Fair Link!



OCTOBER

Counselor's Corner



Whiteford Elementary

October brings cooler weather and the excitement of fall activities! This month, I will be visiting classrooms to teach social-emotional lessons focused on empathy, accepting others, responsible decision-making, and being a good friend. Small groups will also begin this month and will be held during lunch. Groups were formed based on teacher recommendations, but if you feel your child would benefit from participating, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Upcoming Events

National Bullying Prevention Month!

- **October 22:** Unity Day! Wear Orange to promote kindness and inclusion!
- **October 27th-31st:** Healthy Choice Week! This week we will be focusing on keeping our minds and bodies healthy. Stay tuned for fun activities and a themed spirit week!

Building Empathy & Understanding

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. This month, we'll be exploring how students can practice empathy in their daily interactions and why it's so important for creating a supportive and inclusive school environment.



Contact Information:

If you have any questions or concerns, I'm here to help. You can reach me at danielle.brossia@whiteford.k12.mi.us or call 734-856-1443 ext.309.

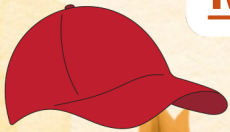
Healthy Choice Week!

Spirit Days

Help us celebrate a healthy heart, body and mind by dressing up this week!

Monday, 10/27 : Keep your Head up!

Wear your favorite Hat!



Tuesday, 10/28: Be positive!

Wear a shirt with a positive message!



Wednesday, 10/29: Shine Bright!

Wear neon colors!



Thursday, 10/30: Giddy up and get your body moving!

Wear your best cowboy/cowgirl attire



Friday, 10/31: Happy Halloween!

Bring your Halloween costume to school for our parade!



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Dear families,

Get ready—the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! This is a great opportunity to build your child’s home library with new books they’ll dive into again and again.

The easiest way to let your child shop the Fair independently is by creating an eWallet. It’s easy to set up and easy for others to add funds.

Create an eWallet, and you’ll also have the opportunity to contribute to Share the Fair - the giving program that supports students at our school who need help buying books. Consider participating so that no child leaves the Fair empty-handed!

Here’s everything else you need to know about the Book Fair:

Dates: **November 10-November 14**

Location: **Elementary Library**

Family Event schedule and location: **Thursday November 13 12:00-4:00 p.m.**

For full details, and to create an eWallet, visit our school’s Book Fair homepage:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/whitefordelementaryschool1>

More than ever, we need to get students reading. Studies prove* that children with more books at home have higher-level reading skills, and attain more years of education overall.

Lastly, this is a great opportunity to be a Book Fair volunteer! When you give your time, it helps make our Fair an unforgettable reading experience where *every purchase* benefits our school directly.

Happy reading,

Mr. Sam Marsh

Principal

Whiteford Agricultural Elementary School

P.S. Don’t miss out! A new Scholastic sweepstakes offers a chance to get more books for your child’s home library—plus an unbelievable vacation!



Enter for a chance to
WIN a trip for 4 to Walt Disney World.
+ a collection of Disney books*
Infinite worlds and infinite stories await!

*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to legal US residents age 18+ who are currently a parent or legal guardian of a PreK through 8th grade child in US schools. Open for entries 8/11/25 at 12:01am ET through 11/2/25 at 11:59pm ET. Void where prohibited. Sponsor: Scholastic Inc. For complete rules, go to: s-bf.com/magic-sweeps-rules

s-bf.com/magic-sweeps

*Scholastic Research & Validation. (2023). Scholastic Home Libraries Topic Paper. New York: Scholastic

WHITEFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Whiteford Agricultural School District
6655 Consear Rd, Ottawa, Lake, MI 49267



Hello Whiteford Families,

Here are our two plans for the Halloween parade and costume guidelines at WES!

Halloween Parade will be held on Friday October 31, 2025.

Bad Weather Plan:

- Doors to the elementary will open for families at 1:45 to sign in.
- Staff will start lining families up around the elementary halls.
- Classes will be called over the PA to start the parade at 2:00.

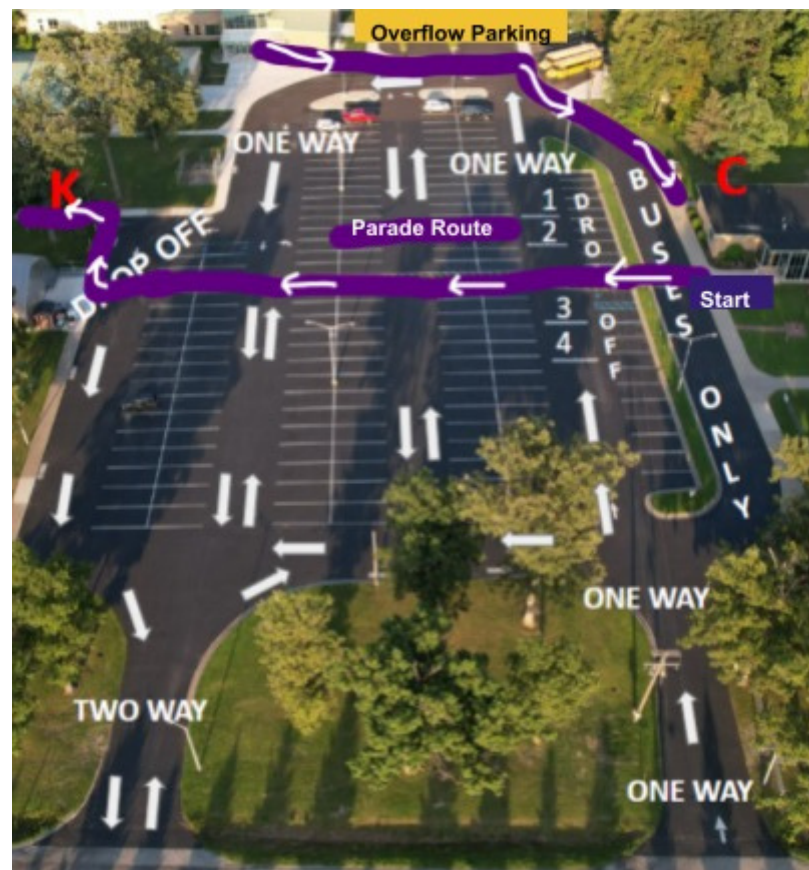
To ensure you get to see your child, please arrive at the elementary before 2:00. At the conclusion of the parade, families will be able to sign out their children.

Good weather plan:

- Parking is limited, please arrive early to make sure you have a place to park.
- Parade will start at 2:00 and will follow the purple parade route to the right. The students will cross the parking lot, then parade through the middle school/high school halls before exiting through the new gym doors and returning back to the elementary.
- Parents are welcome to line the outdoor parade route.
- Parents will be able to sign out their students directly after. **AT TEACHERS OUTSIDE DOOR!**
 - Sign out with your student's teacher.

Costume Guidelines:

- Students are not to wear costumes to school on Halloween. They will be able to change for their classroom parties/parade.
- No masks
- No weapon props
- No fake blood



Please direct any questions or concerns to the elementary school office. Have a happy Halloween!

Sincerely,

Samuel Marsh
Whiteford Elementary Principal



WPA Events



- 8/20/2025- Elementary Back to School Picnic*
- 9/23/2025-10/9/2025- Cookie Dough Fundraiser
- 11/13/2025- Cookie Dough Pick-Up
- 11/15/2025- Mother/Son Night
- 11/21/2025- Limo for Cookie Dough Sales Winners
- 12/8/2025-12/12/2025- Santa's Workshop
- Date TBD- Family Fun Night
- 3/3/2026-3/31/2026- Reading Month- WPA will support!
- 3/14/2026- Daddy/Daughter Dance
- 5/4/2026-5/8/2026- Staff Appreciation Week
- 5/12/2026- Honors Celebration
- 5/15/2026- Field Day**

*Rain Date for Back ToSchoolPicnicis8/21/2026

**Rain Date for Field Day is 5/29/2026



Monthly Meetings:

Second Wednesday of the month -6 pm in the Elementary Cafeteria
September 10, October 8, November 12, January 14,
February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13

More information: Facebook-Search: Whiteford Parents' Association

Michigan's secure storage law went into effect Feb. 13, 2024 to help protect Michigan's youth and reduce firearm injuries. The law requires firearm owners to securely store firearms whenever minors are present or likely to be present. It also requires schools to share this information with all parents and guardians, which is intended to help parents, guardians and firearm owners understand and comply with Michigan's secure storage law.

Summary of the Law (MCL 28.429)

Secure Storage Requirements

If a firearm is unattended where a minor (under 18) is or is likely to be present, it must be:

- Secured in a locked box or container, and/or
- Unloaded and secured with a locking device, like a trigger or cable lock, that would prevent anyone from using it.

This law applies whether firearms are in your own home or brought to another location.

Firearms in Vehicles

While traveling with a firearm in a vehicle, the vehicle must be locked when not in use, and the firearm must be secured and either locked in a container or unloaded and disabled with a trigger or cable lock if a child is present or likely to be present in the vehicle or destination.

Importance and Benefits of Secure Storage to Help Keep Children Safe

Legal ownership of firearms is a Constitutional right. This comes with important safety responsibilities to prevent thefts, firearm homicide, firearm suicide, and unintentional firearm injuries, including among children. **Simply hiding unlocked firearms or keeping them on a shelf out of reach does not guarantee or equal secure storage under Michigan law.** Secure storage reduces the risk of unintentional injuries among children and theft of guns. When access to guns is reduced, the overall suicide rate drops.



Unintentional firearm injuries among children 17 years and younger happen most often:

- With guns that are loaded and unlocked.
- When a child is playing with a gun or showing it to someone else.



In these situations, the most common victim of an unintentional firearm injury is a friend or a sibling of the child.



Closets and nightstands are common locations of guns used in these fatal unintended shootings.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For more information and a full list of other resources, including Project ChildSafe, visit the MDHHS firearm secure storage page at [MDHHS Secure Storage](#).

Project ChildSafe

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Call or text 988)

University of Michigan Family Guide to Firearm Home Safety

Or scan the QR code below:

