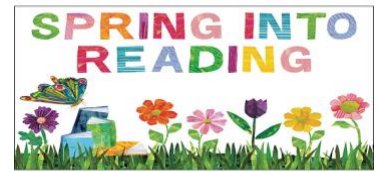


NORTHWEST HIGHLIGHTS



April Highlights!

Northwest Administration Notes

The PSSAs are coming in April! The PSSAs are the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment. The PSSAs are a series of four reading and three math subtests that every student in third, fourth, and fifth grades must be assessed each year. In addition, fourth grade students are administered two science PSSA assessments.

Your child benefits greatly from taking the PSSA assessments! Lebanon School District and Northwest Elementary School use PSSA scores as a tool when making decisions, such as, student placement, curricula, learning resources and materials, and student interventions.

The PSSAs are scheduled **every morning from April 16th through May 1st**. Your student will do their best on the PSSA assessments when they **attend school every day on time!** Please make sure that all vacations and appointments are **scheduled outside of the PSSAs** (before April 9th, after May 4th, and after school is dismissed each day).

Thank you for your teamwork as we help our **students do their best on the PSSA assessments!** Please contact our school counselor, Mr. Travis, (717) 270-6800, extension 5518 if you have any questions or concerns.

As always, communication is important. Please do not hesitate to contact a principal, school counselor, or teacher with any questions or concerns. You are a valued member of the Northwest Community, and we look forward to continuing to working with you throughout the school year.

Thank you,
Northwest Administration

Save the Date!!!

Book Fair / Poetry Café / Art Show

Our Spring Scholastic book fair will be held from March 29th through April 5th on the Cafetorium stage. Family night will be Thursday, April 4th from 5:30 -7:00 PM. Every Northwest student that attends family night will receive a raffle ticket and be entered to win a basket full of books, snacks, and other goodies. Our annual Poetry Café will be held the same evening in the cafetorium. Families may also tour our annual Art Show exhibit. We hope to see Northwest families on April 4th beginning at 5:30 PM!!

IMPORTANT DATES

April 4: Book Fair/ Poetry Café/ Art Show, 5:30 – 7 PM

April 9: PTO Meeting, 3:35 PM

March 12: NW Roller Skating Night at Mount Gretna Roller Rink, 5 – 7 PM

April 19: No School



PBIS:

Positive Behavior Interventions Supports

Ask your child about the following reward systems at Northwest! If students are caught demonstrating our three school expectations in the classroom, cafetorium, recess, and hallways, they may be rewarded at random through several celebrations!

Northwest's three school expectations for students include the following:

- **Be Responsible** (of others, the environment, and ourselves)
- **Be Respectful** (for our actions)
- **Be Safe** (keep hand, feet, and objects to ourselves)



Spring Into Reading Fest!

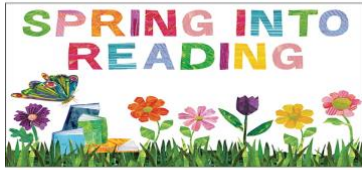
Join us for the "Spring Into Reading Fest" at the Lebanon Public Library. Saturday, April 27th from 12-2. There will be food, entertainment and activity tables. Stop by and visit the Northwest Activity Table. We hope to see you there!

Student Attendance and Drop-Off / Pick-up

A reminder that breakfast begins at 8:10 AM and the start of the is 8:50 AM, and dismissal is 3:30 PM. It is important for our students to attend school on time every day.

We ask that you work with us to make sure that all of our students, especially our younger students, are safe during drop off and pick up times. Please make sure students are escorted to and from the school entrance area assigned to their specific grade level and not walking across the street by themselves. They should be using the crosswalks where crossing guards are positioned at all times. Thank you for helping in keeping our students safe!

NORTHWEST HIGHLIGHTS




Northwest's Parent Parking Lot: Monthly Strategies to Help at Home!! Supporting Your Students During Testing

- * **Show an interest in the test.** Encourage your child to do his/her best. Ask about the test and discuss some of the test items at home so that your child knows you also view the testing as important.
- * **Be sure your child gets a good night's sleep.** Experts recommend that children this age need eight to ten hours of sleep to function at their best during the day.
- * **Wake your child early enough so that you are not rushed on test mornings.** Rushing will only cause additional stress on both you and your child.
- * **Have your child to school at 8:50 AM.** Arriving later may make the child late for test instructions. Arriving too early before students are permitted in the building often provides opportunities for negative interactions with other students. Both situations could impact on your child's emotional state and affect concentration on the test itself.
- * **Carefully monitor complaints of illness.** We all experience "butterflies" in our stomachs when we are excited about an upcoming event. A truly sick child should stay home, but in many cases, the child should try to come to school. The nurse can contact you if the child is not feeling well.
- * **Keep outside activities and stresses at a minimum** so that your son's/daughter's mind is focused on the test and not special activities or problems.
- * **Stress the positive to your son or daughter.** You know that your child will put forth her/his best effort and will do well on many aspects of the test.

"Follow" and "Like" us on Twitter and Facebook to receive Northwest updates, news, and events!

Twitter: [@Northwest_Elem](https://twitter.com/Northwest_Elem) 

Facebook: Northwest Elementary 

Hershey Park Tickets

If you ordered Hersheypark tickets, they will be available for pick up in the school office on April 8th from 8-9 AM, or April 9th from 3-4 PM. Please be advised that tickets must be picked up by a designated adult and a signature of receipt will be required.



Counselor's Corner! Positive! Positive! Positive!

Would someone (who knows you well) say that most of your looks, comments, and actions are positive? A personal goal of mine is to increase my positive looks, positive comments, and positive actions as I see and talk to students and adults each day!

Do you want to feel better? Do you want to act better? Research shows that most people feel better and act better when they both give "positives" and get "positives." Positive style, such as high-fives and fist bumps (and especially hugs and back rubs when appropriate) encourage most everyone to feel better. A positive cue like a thumbs-up or a smile, lets others know that they are valuable and special. Positive comments, such as a "good morning" and a "thank you" help us to do our best. A positive action, such as writing or receiving a "thank you" note, energizes us to do better.

When our relationships begin with encouragement and with a focus on strengths, then others are more willing to hear our advice and correction. Your challenge and my challenge today is to give an extra positive look, an extra positive touch, an extra positive comment, and an extra positive action, to a friend, neighbor, or family member who needs a little improvement and encouragement. When you do, then please email me ktravis@lebanon.k12.pa.us and let me know about the positive results to your relationship with that person!

NORTHWEST SAFETY PROCEDURES:

- All visitors need a photo ID to enter the building.
- PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PHOTO ID FOR ENTRANCE INTO BUILDING.
- All purses and bags are subject to be searched. Visitors will not be permitted to enter the building with bookbags.
- Children will only be released to those individuals that are listed on the Student Pickup Authorization list.

STEM

Science * Technology * Engineering * Math



ROBOTIC LEGOS

Northwest has recently received the WE DO 2.0 Robotic Legos, which has helped students truly be able to build and engineer creative robots. Students can connect their lego creations to electronic motors and sensors. They can also use drag-and-drop coding to program their device to create something that moves. Go future roboticists!



STEM IN THE COMMUNITY

Kid's Workshop at Home Depot

When: Saturday, April 6th

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Where: Any local Home Depot

You and your child can build a bird house for FREE. All kids get to keep their craft, receive a FREE certificate of achievement, a Workshop Apron, and a commemorative pin while supplies last.

STEM IN THE CLASSROOM

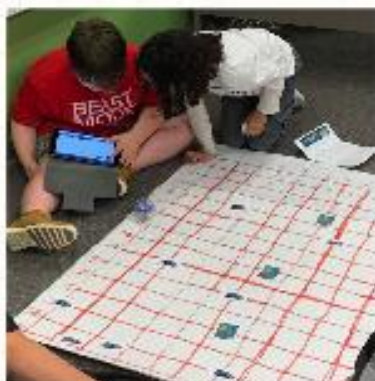


Students using Robotic Legos to build and code their own robot.

Students using glow-in-the-dark sticks to engineer polyhedrons.



Nataliah using LittleBits Electronics to build a bubble machine.



Students using Sphero Robots to practice plotting ordered pairs on a coordinate grid.

