



# Watson Elementary Newsletter

## March 2020



### Did you know that your participation in the United States Census impacts our school funding?

#### How the 2020 Census Affects Children:

The 2020 Census count impacts the federal funds that communities receive each year for programs and services that are critical for schools, students, and younger children, such as:

- Special education, Head Start, after-school programs, and classroom technology.
- Food assistance, including free and reduced-price school lunches.
- Maternal and child health programs.

**April 1:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond on behalf of your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. When you respond to the census, you'll tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020.

#### Census Background Info:

As mandated by the U.S. Constitution, our nation gets just one chance each decade to count its population. The U.S. census counts every resident in the United States. It is mandated by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution and takes place every 10 years. The data collected by the census determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives (a process called apportionment) and is also used to distribute billions in federal funds to local communities.

\*\*\*SEE ATTACHMENT

#### Office News

#### Kindergarten information for the 2020-2021 school year:

\*\*\*See Attachment

#### **Kindergarten Registration**

3/11/2020-3/12/2020 from 9:00-11:00 & 12:00-2:00

#### **Kindergarten Hands-On Workshop for Parents** (For incoming kindergarten parents)

3/19/20

6:00 p.m. Homan Elementary

#### Birthday Invitations

To avoid hurt feelings, approval from the teacher must be obtained prior to passing out invitations.

Invitations must be given to all the boys, or all the girls, or the entire class.

#### Important Note for All Watson Families:

If you are using the handicap parking spaces either during or after school hours, you must have a handicap placard that is visible to see. These spots are NOT to be taken by any other than those who have the correct placard to do so. Please be respectful to our Watson community, and do not park in this area! This includes the blue stripes next to the handicap spaces. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter!

**Recess Reminder:** Our Watson students go outside for recess as often as possible. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. We go outside daily if the temperature is 20 degrees or above and the conditions are dry.

**SKYWARD:** Please make sure that your phone and email information is updated in SKYWARD. It is important that this is updated. It will keep you informed when important messages and emails are sent out to our families.



Dog Man visits with our Wildcats during our annual book fair!



Watson and Mrs. Toczek, our wonderful librarian, would like to THANK YOU all for your support with our annual book fair. A BIG thank you to our PTO members that assisted as well. It was a huge success!!

## Two Hour Delay

On occasion, the Lake Central School Corporation will call for a two hour delay. In the event of a two hour delay, please be aware of the following:

- School will start at 10:00 a.m.
- Bus schedules will run about two hours behind. If you get picked up at 7:30, your pick-up for a two hour delay will be 9:30.
- Car riders can be dropped off beginning at 9:45.
- All morning activities (tutoring, yoga, clubs, etc.) are cancelled.
- Breakfast will not be served.
- The Adventure Club is open as usual @ 6:30 a.m

## Our Helpful Wildcats!

Thank you to our student council representatives that assisted our Early Childhood students during their Game Day on February 25th!

Addison Furdo  
 Luke Czaja  
 Allie Lane  
 Mark Grantner  
 Autumn Nelson  
 Reese Marksteiner  
 Aleks Damjanovic  
 Nolan Caposey  
 Christian Johnson  
 Vivian Kelly  
 Josie Jagadich  
 Addyson Green  
 Ari Slavo





## Drumming class has arrived!

Coach K and Mrs. Puzey combine their music and gym classes to instruct our students using rhythm, song and drums for an aerobic exercise that our Wildcats are just crazy about!!



Our Early Childhood afternoon classes prepared for the very first Game Day. Mrs. Bonnie Gruver, the adaptive PE teacher for our district, has worked hard in preparing our littles for their big event! We are proud of our youngest Wildcats!





### Staff in the Spotlight!



My name is Stephanie Scissom and I am so excited to be teaching 2nd grade this year! Throughout my education, I always knew I wanted to teach second grade. From the first day I walked into Watson, I felt so welcomed! I feel blessed to be part of the Wildcat family! I grew up in New Buffalo, Michigan and moved to Schererville two years ago. Last May, I graduated from Purdue University Northwest with a degree in Elementary Education with a focus in English Language Arts. Before starting my career in teaching, I worked as a Registered Behavioral Therapist for almost two years. Some things I love include traveling, ice coffee, the beach, shopping, and most of all... teaching!



My name is Mrs. Ashleigh Simon! This will be my 5th year teaching, but my 1<sup>st</sup> year teaching at Watson Elementary. I grew up in Highland, Indiana where I went to elementary school at Warren Elementary. I also attended Highland Middle School. I graduated from Highland High School in 2009. In May of 2015, I graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in Elementary Education/Special Education from Purdue University Calumet. I am married and we have 2 girls. Addison is 3 and Alyse is 1. I love nothing more than spending time with my family.

### Early Childhood Screening:

Lake Central Special Education provides screenings throughout the school year for children age 2 years 10 months-5 years.

The screening is a global assessment of a child's developmental functioning as compared to his/her peers of similar age and gender.

Pre-school requirements are:

- Child must participate in screening
- Peers must be potty trained
- Must speak fluent English

There are only a few dates left to schedule screenings:

- March 17, 2020
- April 17, 2020
- May 11, 2020

To make an appointment for a screening contact Robin Mestrich at 219-365-8507. Screening locations are at Lake Central High School.



# Important Dates

## March

10-PTO meeting 3:00  
11-3rd quarter ends, Kindergarten enrollment  
12-4th quarter begins, Kindergarten enrollment  
16-April 3 IREAD testing window for 3rd  
19-Kindergarten hands-on workshop for 2020-2021 kindergarten parents 6:00 @ Homan  
23-27-No school/spring break

## April

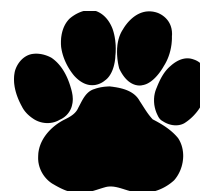


1-4th grade trip (Pishkur/Olenik)  
2-4th grade trip (Starcevich/Kowalewicz)  
7-Spring Picture Day  
10-No school/Easter break  
14-3rd grade trip, 2nd/Scissom trip  
15-2nd/Lyda trip, Nick Bruel/Author visit  
20-May 15-ILEARN testing window (test for 3rd and 4th grade)

## May



8-1st grade trip  
12-PTO meeting 3:00, 2nd grade trip (Mikuly/Krachenfels)  
13-2nd grade trip (Lyda/Scissom)  
14-Last day tutoring  
18-Recorder concert 6:00  
20-3rd grade trip  
22-Last day for students



This calendar will be updated for each newsletter as new events are scheduled. Also, sign up for the Eventlink calendar on the LCSC web page for more information about scheduled events. You will find the Eventlink link under "Quick Links" in the middle of LCSC web page.