



Parents,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Walnut Springs Elementary. We are excited that your child/children will be with us this year. We have had a smooth start and are look forward to a great year. I know that your child's teacher/teachers will be sending out newsletters but I also would like to keep in communication with you so I will be sending out a bi-monthly newsletter as well. You child's teacher will forward this to you and it will also be posted on the WSE website for you to have access to or refer to as needed.

Please know that my door is always open to your thoughts and suggestions as well as concerns you may have. I truly want Walnut Springs to be the best school experience that you and your child/ children can have. Feel free to set up and appt. with me, call or email me at dcary@nbisd.org any time.

Lunch

We love for parents and grandparents to join their students during lunch time. We ask that when you come you sign in through the office to get a visitors badge, enter at the back of the stage as this is where our guest sit with their child and please never share food with other students. We have many students with food allergies that we do not want to put at risk.

Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers. If you would be available to help out in anyway please let us know. We are also always in need of mentors for students. Being a mentor would only take about 30 min. of your time a week. A mentor can be invaluable to a student who just needs someone to spend a little time with them. Please let us know if this is something you might be able to do. To be a volunteer you must have a background check done. This is for the safety of our students. You can pick up these forms in the office.

Traffic

We know that the traffic has been very heavy this first week but that is the case every year during the first week of school. Everyone wants to drop off and pick up the first week of school as most of you do also. This week and following should be much better. Thank you for your patience. For the safety of our students please follow all drop off and pick up procedures. For morning drop off drive through the main school entrance drop off area at the front of the school. We have staff there to help your child get out of the car and into the school safely. Please do not drop students off in the bus drop off in front of the cafeteria. This is also where staff park and it is not safe to have them in this area. In the afternoons we have many students that walk so please be careful as you are entering and exiting the school area. Please be reminded that there is no cell phone use while driving.



PTA

Parents, please consider joining our PTA this year. They help out with doing so many things on our campus for our students. They are also needing volunteers to help with various activities, parties and fundraisers. You can pick up a membership form in the school office if you are still needing one. The PTA is also selling our WSE Unicorn T-Shirts. They hold a competition between classes each Friday to see which class wears the most spirit shirts. If their class is the winner they get a popcorn party at the end of the school day.

Safety At Our School

Your child's safety is always our biggest priority. I would like to make you aware of a few of the safety measures that we take to always ensure that your child is safe when they are at school.

1. All outside and classrooms doors stay locked at all times. The only way that someone can get into our building is through the front main door entrance into the office. To get out into the building the door must first be released by a staff member. Classroom doors are locked at all times and our students are taught to not let anyone into the classrooms unless instructed by the teacher.
2. Monthly fire drills – we hold monthly fire drills to ensure that our students know what to do in the event that we had a fire in the building.
3. Bad weather drills – we also do tornado drills several times a year so the students know what to do in the event of a tornado.
4. Shelter in place drill – this is a drill that we do with the students to ensure their safety if anyone got into the building with a threat to harm.

Water Bottles

Last year through a grant we were able to add water bottle filling stations to our current water fountains. We are encouraging our students be healthy and to drink more water. To promote this last year we order some water bottles that say WSE on them and still have a few left. If you would like to purchase one for your child they are \$3.00 and they can get one in the office.

What's Happening at WSE

September

- 5 - Labor Day Holiday
- 7 - Fall Pictures
- 15 - Back to School Dance 3rd-5th grade only
- 21 – Progress Reports go home
- 23 – Comal County Fair Day Holiday
- 27 – 6:00 WSE Open House & PTA mtg.
- 29 – 6:00 Watch D.O.G.S. Kick off

October

- Bully Prevention Month
- 7- Family Fitness Fun Day
- 11 – 6:00 3rd Grade Music Program
- 14 – Fall Picture Retakes
End of 1st 9 weeks
- 19 – Report Cards go home
- 21 – 8:30 Awards Assembly 4th & 5th grade
9:30 Awards Assembly 2nd & 3rd grade
- 26, 27, & 28th - 1:35 Early Release Days for
Parent Teacher Conferences