

# WILLARD 3-5 NEWSLETTER



## Principal's Message

Dear Willard 3-5 Families,

It's hard to believe the end of the 2018-2019 school year is upon us! Our students and teachers have worked extremely hard this year and we couldn't be more proud of our Willard students! :)

While May will bring us warmer weather, please note that all school attire must meet the expectations of the students' handbook [p. 8-9 states no tank tops, halter tops, flip flops, etc]. We want to ensure that all students are safe at school and are focused and ready to learn.

May is a very busy month and we have several activities planned for our students. Many lessons are still to be learned in class and school attendance is highly important. We are looking forward to ending our school year on a positive note. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the school. Go Raiders!

Vicki Raptis

3-5 Principal



As we reach the warmer weather, please be sure that you are adding academics to your summer fun! We need your support and help to prevent SUMMER SLIDE. There is a great article from Scholastic.com: Many children, especially struggling readers, forget some of what they've learned or slip out of practice during the summer months. Try these strategies to help your reader improve her reading during the summer and beyond:

**Six books to summer success:** Research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing. When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right — not too hard and not too easy. Take advantage of your local library. Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities. Libraries often run summer reading programs that motivate kids to read, so find out what's available in your area. Also check our book lists for recommendations.

**Read something every day:** Encourage your child to take advantage of every opportunity to read. Find them throughout the day:

- **Morning:** The newspaper — even if it is just the comics or today's weather.
- **Daytime:** Schedules, TV guides, magazines, online resources, etc. For example, if your daughter likes the food channel, help her look for a recipe on the network's Web site — then cook it together for more reading practice.
- **Evening:** End the day by having your child read to you from the book he is currently reading (one of the six books, above). Have him rehearse a paragraph, page, or chapter before reading to you. Rereading will help him be more fluent — able to read at an appropriate speed, correctly, and with nice expression.
- **Keep reading aloud:** Reading aloud benefits all children and teens, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so she will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This will increase her knowledge and expand her experience with text, so that she will do better when she reads on her own.
- **Let's keep moving forward and continue to be #WillardStrong! Have a great summer! Be sure to follow us on Twitter: @HCBWCS ~Heidi Cope-Barker, School Improvement Supervisor**

### Upcoming Events:

**May 8:** Science Fair

**May 9:** Spring Choir Concert

**May 16:** Spring Band Concert

**May 17:** Spring Student Council Dance

**May 22:** 3rd/4th Grade Awards Ceremony

**May 23:** 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony; 4th Grade Visit to Butler Museum of Art

May 27—NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day

May 30— LAST DAY OF SCHOOL, EARLY RELEASE

There are still yearbooks available! \$16.00.  
Questions-Mrs. Feeney-330675-8700, xt1301

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## Academic Updates: A Glimpse into the Classrooms

### Grade 3:

For the month of May, readers and writers will be studying poetry. Students will be analyzing how poems make us feel and the emotions that come through when reading our favorite types of poems. As we study them, we will begin to create poems in the poetry notebooks. In Math, students will continue their work with multiplication as they explore and discuss 1 by 2 digit arrays and add to their collection of multiplication strategies. During Science studies, students will use the scientific method with a focus on life cycles and plants. 3rd grade students will discover meditation as focus for social-emotional learning and on strategies to Make a Difference in their communities.



### Grade 4:

In ELA, students will be exploring poetry during the month of May so that we can determine how authors use language to convey emotions. There are so many different types of poems so we will analyze the types and try out our writing skills in creating our own. In Math, students will create decimal strips and use these to represent, compare, order, and add fractions with denominators of 10 and 100. 4th grade Science students will discuss electrical energy and how it can be converted into heat, light, sound, and motion. Students will also be thinking about culture and economics. For social-emotional learning, students will learn exercises to calm the body and focus on the mind through techniques using mindfulness.

### Grade 5:

In May, 5th graders will be exploring poetry and will be understanding how authors use figurative language and set up their poems. The layout and use of stanzas and lines helps the readers to understand what is most important within a poem and what the author wants us to really take away. In Math, students extend their strategies for multi-digit and fraction division through sharing and grouping division. Mayan, Incan and Aztec civilizations will be a focus of daily study in Social Studies as well. Students will utilize strategies to identify prejudice, discrimination, and stereotypes in their own attitudes and behaviors as well as explore techniques to resolve conflict with others.

