



Dates to Remember in December

- 2-13—MUSC Toy Drive (PTA Sponsors)
- 3—5th Grade Spelling Bee (8:00 A.M. in Media Center)
- 4—Early Release (12:35 P.M.) No Afterschool Program
- 10—Community Meeting (Meet the Superintendent Candidates)
- 13—Hat Day (District Teacher Forum Sponsors-\$1.00)
- 13—Cookies with Santa (5:30-6:30 P.M. PTA Sponsors)
- 16-19—Polar Pals Store (PTA Sponsors)
- 16-20—No Afterschool Program
- 19—Holiday Program (9:00 A.M. & 10:30 P.M.)
- 20—Early Release (11:30 A.M.)
- 23-January 6—No School (Winter Break)
- *January 7—School Resumes



- *Attendance directly impacts academic achievement.
- *State law requires students to attend 90% of all school days for promotion.

If your child is absent...

- *Send a note stating the date and reason for the absence within 3 days of his/her return.
- *Medical documentation must be provided if a child misses more than 4 consecutive days.

Tardies:

- *Students must be in the classroom by 7:45 A.M., or they will be counted as tardy.



From the WMES Administration, Faculty, and Staff



Spelling Bee Winners for WMES

- 1st Place- Imani Daniels
- 2nd Place- Caleb Bunch
- 3rd Place- Jervaz'e Salley
- *1st and 2nd Places will represent WMES at the District Spelling Bee to be held at Woodland High School on January 16th.

The WMES Choir will perform at the Yonder Field Lowcountry Extravaganza on December 8th at 3:30 P.M.
(180 Log Cabin Road, Bowman, SC)



From the Literacy Coach ...

What is the **Questioning Strategy** for reading comprehension?



Students who use the **questioning strategy** while reading always ask themselves questions about what they are reading. When readers are asking questions while reading, they are connected to the text and always make sure they understand what is being read. It is VERY important that students ask questions while reading text.

Here are some questions to remind your child/children to ask while reading:

- What does this title mean?
- Is there a word you do not understand?
- What does this paragraph mean?
- What do the illustrations tell you?
- What parts of the story did you like?
- Can you make any connections to the text?



Here is a link to read more about student questioning:

<https://www.readinghorizons.com/reading-strategies/teaching/comprehension/building-reading-comprehension-through-questioning-techniques>

Our Vision Statement

The vision of Williams Memorial Elementary School is to create a community of academic excellence for our students by establishing high expectations and academic rigor, providing effective and innovative educational practices in a safe and supportive environment, and helping our students develop world-class skills and to graduate with a 21st Century education and to be globally competitive in their chosen career path.

The Paw Print

WMES is "PAWS"-itively The Best!
290 South Metts Street
St. George, South Carolina
Phone (843)563-3231 Fax (843)563-3421
Website: <http://wm.dorchester4.k12.sc.us>

DECEMBER 2019



Dear WMES Family-

As the holiday season approaches, no matter how busy you are, I hope you take a moment to reflect on the people who have enhanced your life. In the pressures of daily life, we may sometimes take for granted the people most important to us. The holiday season gives us an opportunity to remember and reflect on the ways certain individuals add value to our lives. I want to take this time to express my appreciation to everyone who is working so diligently to make WMES "PAWS"-itively the Best: our students, our faculty and staff, and our parents and guardians.

The next three weeks will be very busy at WMES. The December Calendar of upcoming events is on the back page, and please note that our PTA has several events planned during the month.

I sincerely hope that you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ruth Mims



Just a reminder...To help keep our students, faculty, and staff healthy, please keep your child(ren) home anytime they have a fever or appear physically sick. A child should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. Additionally, you should contact the nurse if your child has any physical or health limitations, so appropriate accommodations can be made for your child.

Don't forget!

Please have your child dressed for the weather on a daily basis. Please

take the time and label your child's clothing with either their initials or last name.

Please use extra caution when dropping off and picking up your child(ren) in the Car Rider Line. Please pull all the way forward when dropping off or picking up and do not go around other cars. If you must use the outside lane, please make sure duty personnel have you in sight. Cell phones should not be used in the Car Rider Line. We want to keep our student, faculty, and staff safe!

Please remember school hours are 7:45 A.M.- 2:30 P.M. Students arriving after 7:45 A.M. are considered tardy and must be signed in by a parent or guardian. Any afternoon changes in transportation must be made prior to 2:00 P.M. All early sign-outs should be done before 2:00 P.M.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Students can go on the WMES website under Media Center and find the link to Accelerated Reader. Tests can be taken Monday thru Friday until 6 P.M., the time set by the District.

Our Mission Statement

The children, parents, faculty, and staff of Williams Memorial Elementary School are unified in their purpose of accelerating the learning of all students through shared decision-making and powerful learning experiences.