

Red Smith School Newsletter

March/April, 2023



Together WE... Appreciate Diversity, Dream Big, Value Learning, Inspire Thinking, Celebrate Talent, and Embrace Challenges



Message from the Principals

Hello Raptors Families!

Welcome to Spring...for now! We had a wonderful week leading up to Spring Break and can predict the week returning will be the same! If travels placed you near or far to spend time with family and friends, we are glad you have arrived home safely. Our classrooms and halls continue to be filled with bright, inspiring minds and kind, caring hearts eager to learn and grow together. We hope that as we enter into taking our State Assessment, students will display admirable effort and utilize what they have learned throughout the first third of the year to do their best for themselves and our school.

We believe this monthly newsletter serves as a source of valuable information to questions you have or wonderings you may be thinking. If after looking through this resource you are still in need of clarification, do not hesitate to ask your student's teacher(s) or contact our school office. Safety has, and will continue to be a priority at Red Smith School. We are thankful you have placed your trust with us to provide a meaningful, positive educational experience for your student(s). Please remind one another to show Respect, Responsibility and Safety at all times and most importantly, Be Kind.

Willie Birkholz, Dave Monfils & Jenna Starry

Wisconsin State Assessment Forward Exam

Please review the link above for Red Smith information for the Wisconsin Forward Exam. Red Smith students in grades 3-8 will be participating in the exam.

Students will begin testing at Red Smith on Monday, April 3rd and will complete portions of the test throughout the month of April. All testing will be completed by Friday, April 28th.

Important Dates & Times



Looking Ahead

- April 3rd - Forward Exam Testing begins
- April 7th - No School
- April 17-21 - Tornado Awareness Week
- April 18th - WSMA Band Festival
- April 21st - Early Release
- April 26th - GBAPS Honors Choir
- April 26th - Academic & Career Planning 7th Grade Field Trip
- April 28th - End of MS 5th Grade Grading Period
- April 28th - Forward Exam Testing ends
- May 12 - School in Session (weather make-up day)
- May 26 - No School

Encourage your student to put forth their best effort on the exam!
Attendance is extremely important during the testing window, as students who are absent for portions of the test will need to make-up missed portions, which will be from regularly scheduled class time.

- **May 29 - No School**
- **June 2 - 8th Grade Celebration (Movie & Snacks)**
- **June 8 - Last Student Day**
- **June 9 - Staff Workday**

Elementary Teacher Requests for 2023-2024

As April is approaching, classroom teachers will begin conversations around student placement for the 2023 -24 school year. Teachers spend a great deal of time and effort in recommending the most appropriate and positive placement for each and every student. In order to do that, teachers strive to establish classrooms that contain a mixture of varying abilities, leadership qualities, learning styles, personalities, achievement levels and special learning needs. Also strongly considered will be a positive, productive match of students with both peers and the teacher. This is never an easy process.

While a specific teacher cannot be guaranteed, sound rationale that provides further insight in knowing your student is helpful throughout the placement process. **Previous student/family relationships with a teacher will be honored.** If you believe that your student's teacher and I need additional information when considering placement for the coming school year, parent/guardian input must be provided in writing/email **no later than Thursday, April 13th.** All email communication shall be addressed to Willie Birkholz, principal at wjbirkholz@gbaps.org. We are confident that our Staff will create the best possible classroom opportunities for learning and growth for all children.

Wear Yellow Day

Red Smith Families and Staff: Sting Cancer's "Wear Yellow Day" is coming soon! Friday, May 5th will be a day when Northeast Wisconsin will wear yellow in support of cancer survivors and loved ones who have passed away from this terrible disease. Join in supporting STING CANCER by ordering Wear Yellow Day gear! The [ONLINE STORE](#) closes March 27. All proceeds will go to the individual school Sting Cancer Groups and will be delivered to the school before May 5th. Thanks in advance for your support! Any questions, please email Red Smith's Sting Cancer advisor Emily Van Nuland (emvannuland@gbaps.org).

Parent/Guardian Resources

- [GBAPS Parent Education Gateway](#)
- [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#)
- [Transportation Department](#)

Beginning April 10, 2023, the Green Bay Area Public School District (GBAPS) will be moving to a Single SMS Opt-in for our School Messenger notification system. Cell phone numbers that were provided during enrollment or through annual updates will be uploaded into the notification system. For individuals that had not previously opted-in to receive texts **or had previously opted-out of receiving texts**, they will receive a welcome text which will read:

"You're registered for 4 SchoolMessenger messages. Txt STOP to quit, HELP 4 help. Std msg/data rates may apply. Freq varies. schoolmessenger.com/tm"



At any time, parents/guardians can choose to stop receiving text messages by texting "STOP" to 67587 or opt-out online at <http://schoolmessenger.com/tm>, scroll to the bottom and fill out the unsubscribe form. **However, the system does not distinguish between opting out of general messages vs. emergency notifications. So once a parent/guardian opts-out of receiving text messages, they will no longer receive text**

Activities & Athletics

- Contact Dave Monfils, Activities Director @ dlmonfils@gbaps.org or Mark DeMuth, Assistant Activities Director @ mpdemuth@gbaps.org

Green Bay Preble Hornets Volleyball Jersey Girls

Red Smith PTO

Click above to access the Red Smith PTO page. You can find newsletters, upcoming fundraisers, community involvement activities, along with meeting dates, and volunteer opportunities.

Tech Ed. Talk

Red Smith is looking for partnerships from the Red Smith Community as well as The Greater Green Bay Area to help grow our Tech Ed. Department. We want to further engage our students and make sure we are expanding their opportunities that will lead to real-world experiences. Please follow the link above to see how you can be part of building our student's futures.

Summer School 2023

Registration window opens on March 27TH! Learn more by visiting the district website linked above!

messages from GBAPS or their child's school, including for school closures or emergencies.

Yearly Newsletters

- [August/September](#)
- [October](#)
- November
- [December](#)
- January
- [February](#)
- March/April
- May
- June

Save the dates!

(Elementary and Middle School Course dates are the same)

Session 1: June 19-July 14 (No classes July 3-7)

Session 2: July 17-August 4

The Baird, Red Smith & Wequiock cohort for elementary summer school will offer GBAPS courses in the morning. and optional paid community programming in the afternoon. Baird is the host site. Hub transportation will be provided.

The Edison & Red Smith middle school program will offer an option of GBAPS courses in the morning. Edison is the host site.

Student Services Team

Resource of the Month Cool & Calm Down Tools for Students

Tony Tibaldo
Grades K-1, 5-6 School Counselor
ajtibaldo@gbaps.org

Katie Koehl
Social Worker
kakoehl@gbaps.org

Nicole Forsythe
School Psychologist
nlforsythe@gbaps.org

Kendra Yang
Grades 7-8 School Counselor
keyang@gbaps.org

Sean Mckenzie
Grades 2-4 School Counselor
svmckenzie@gbaps.org

Do you
Have A
Question?



We Want to
Help!

Call the Main
Office:
920-391-2425
Weekdays:
7:00am-2:20pm or

CLICK HERE

To view our staff
directory.

Administrative Team

Willie Birkholz
Principal
wjbirkholz@gbaps.org

Dave Monfils
Associate Principal/Activities Director
dlmonfils@gbaps.org

Jenna Starry
Associate Principal
jmstarry@gbaps.org

From the School Nurse

Red Smith School Nurse Jill Watzka, jmwatzka@gbaps.org

[School Nurse Newsletter -English](#)

[School Nurse Newsletter-Spanish](#)

[Medication Lock Box Information](#)

Social Emotional Learning Culturally Responsive Minds

Students will be learning about Self-Management in [morning meetings \(PK-5\)](#) & [advisory \(6-8\)](#)! To learn more about the Self Management Units view the links attached above!

GBAPS Food Service

Click above for a complete access to all school meal breakfast and lunch menus.

Students will need their ID card or know their ID number when coming through the line. If your student is in need of an ID card, they can be purchased in the main office for five dollars.

[Parent Portal Application](#)