



# Watson Elementary Newsletter

## December 2019/January 2020



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### Employment opportunities in Lake Central!!

The School Board approved \$21/hr for nurse substitutes!! Please apply on-line if you are interested in subbing!

Lake Central is in need of substitute teachers, paraprofessional, and bus drivers. Please fill out an application at [lcsc.us](https://lcsc.us/administrators/human-resources/) if you are interested.  
<https://lcsc.us/administrators/human-resources/>

### Veterans Day Program

Watson's Veterans Day Program was held on Friday, November 8. THANK YOU to all the Veterans who attended this event. We are also proud of our Wildcats for the pride they displayed as they decorated the halls and all participated in our program. Each grade level was provided an opportunity to sing their praises for our special guests!



*Ms. Sandy's Early Childhood class*

### Office News

Thank you to all of our parents who have submitted their background check!!

If you are planning on volunteering this year, you must complete a background check. Forms are available in the office. Background checks must be completed each year. Background checks can take up to three weeks to complete. Please fill one out now if you think it is a possibility that you may volunteer or chaperone.

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.

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.

### 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.

### **Mindfulness**

Parents, our students begin their day with a mindful minute. This helps our kids prepare their brains to actively learn and engage in the classroom. Be sure to ask your child and encourage him/her to practice these exercises at home!!

### **Wellness Wednesday**

Every Wednesday is Wellness Wednesday at Watson! During the morning announcements, an interesting wellness fact is shared with our school. Here are a few of our fun facts we have heard this year.

- You take approximately 20,000 breaths each day.
- Exercise! It helps your body become strong and remain healthy. When you exercise, your blood flow increases, which helps your heart and lungs work more efficiently.
- Eating breakfast kick starts the body and makes it easier to maintain lasting energy throughout the day.

### **Spirit Wear Fridays**

Every Friday is Watson spirit wear day! Don't forget to wear your favorite Watson wear or our school colors!

### **Lost and Found**

Is your child missing their hat, gloves, or even a coat or sweatshirt? Have them check in our lost and found box. It is located by the main office at Door AA.



### **From the Desk of Mrs. Claesgens**

Lake Central Counseling Coordinators, Mrs. Karen Bowman (Secondary Counseling Coordinator) and Mrs. Marcie Claesgens (Elementary Counseling Coordinator), will be speaking at the January 13th PTO meeting. Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Claesgens will be sharing an informational presentation about Whole Child Education and Social Emotional Learning.

### **Watson K-4 Monthly School Wide Social Emotional Learning topics presented by School Service Provider Mrs. Claesgens:**

- November K-4 Social Emotional Learning: Demonstrating Respect for self and others through Courtesy and Manners.
- December K-4 Social Emotional Learning: Recognizing Emotions and Developing strategies for Coping.
- January K-4 Social Emotional Learning: Watson C.A.R.E.S. Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Cooperation-Accountability-Respect -Effort- Success.

### **What's new with our Wildcats?**

Mrs. Lyda's 2nd Grade class is participating in a 16 week pilot of the MindUp curriculum. Based firmly in neuroscience, MindUP gives children the knowledge and tools they need to manage stress, regulate emotions and face challenges with optimism, resilience and compassion.

Early Childhood classes participate in monthly Social Emotional Learning(SEL) Lessons exploring Emotional Regulation through the Strong Start Curriculum.

Social Emotional Learning Enrichment is offered quarterly to classes in Kindergarten through 4th grade. The PeaceFirst curriculum gives students the opportunity to become peacemakers by developing the peacemaking skills of courage, compassion and collaborative change.

## Our Wildcats are making learning fun!!



All four 3rd grade classes participated in our first book tasting. Mrs. Toczek gathered books from all the genres for us. Tables were set up in the cafeteria with books from different genres for the students to sample during the book tasting. Students were given a slip to keep track of books they would like to check out from the library after they got to read and look through the books. Starbucks donated cups and lids which our students drank water out of.



## Student Council-Helping Heroes Project

Helping Heroes was an amazing way to donate items to soldiers who are protecting America. Our school donated over 800 items! 4th grade alone donated over 300 items! After sorting, we filled 15 big boxes of donations. This was a great way to give back." The items will be taken to the St. John VFW. They will be shipping the items overseas. Here is a picture of Vivian and Josie next to the donations. Thank you to Mrs. Robin Cox and her son, Dylan, for taking the items in to the VFW for our troops!

Written By: Josie and Vivian



Miss Yelich's class had their Fashions of Thanksgiving Program. The students loved learning about the Native Americans and Pilgrims. The Kindergartners sang songs and danced for their families and then had a feast afterwards. A big thanks to everyone who helped in anyway with the program. We had a turkey-riffic time! Gobble Gobble Gooble!!!





### Staff in the Spotlight!!

This month we are highlighting Mrs. Carolyn Verrett and Brittany Witham!!

Mrs. Carolyn Verrett



My name is Carolyn Verrett, and I teach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. This is my first year teaching full-time here at Watson. Some of my students may know me as Miss Siedelmann because I recently married the love of my life. My husband and I have two children, Caiden and Cora. We also have a golden retriever, Bryce, who is very much a part of our family as well. We enjoy spending time together as a family whether it's traveling or just watching movies together on the couch.

I graduated from Purdue Northwest with a degree in Elementary Education and Special Education. Upon graduation, I fulfilled a maternity leave here at Watson in kindergarten. Last year, I taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Hosford Park New Tech Elementary in Gary. I was beyond thrilled to be able to come to Watson because this is where I attended elementary school. It is really amazing to be able to work with some of my former teachers that have inspired me throughout the years! Watson is truly "home" to me!

### Staff in the Spotlight!!

Mrs. Brittany Witham



I was lucky enough to be a 'Watson Wildcat' through my elementary years! Three years ago I graduated from Purdue University and quickly found my way back, in hopes to help make the same impact so many of my teachers made in my life back then.

Surrounded by many of my past students, this past March I married my high school sweetheart. My husband serves in our military & will finally be home for good next fall after his final deployment. We have an active pup, Scout, that we love to take hiking. If prior students were asked what my favorite things are, they would say the beach, Purdue, my family, and them!



## RED for ED!!



Our Wildcats are so proud of our LC staff who took the time to stand up for our kids!!



Mrs. Lyda meeting with our state legislators pictured with Rep. Chris Chung and also Dr. Veracco and Bibich music teacher Mrs. Maurek.



Way to represent our Watson Wildcats Mrs. Verrett, Mrs. Simon, and Miss Scissom!!

## RED FOR ED!!

Watson teachers represented Lake Central in Indianapolis on November 19. While those teachers represented us at the statehouse, the rest of our teachers and staff members stood with them in spirit! We may have been apart, but we were standing together for our Watson kids!!



View from Senator Niemeyers' window, we all gathered to look after our meeting!



Our staff is committed to Public Education and our kids!!



# Mrs. Claesgens Corner:

from Room 22 to You. :)

## Social Emotional and Behavioral Wellness

Lake Central  
Counseling Coordinators,  
Mrs. Karen Bowman  
(Secondary Coordinator)  
and  
Mrs. Marcie Claesgens  
(Elementary Coordinator),  
will be speaking at the  
January 14th Watson PTO  
meeting, at 6 P.M.  
Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Claes-  
gens will be sharing  
an informational presentation  
about

Whole Child Education &  
Social Emotional Learning.



Social Emotional Learning Enrichment is offered  
quarterly to Classes in Kindergarten through 4th  
grade. The PeaceFirst curriculum gives students the  
opportunity to become Peacemakers by developing the

Watson K-4 Monthly School Wide Social Emo-  
tional Learning topics presented by School Service  
Provider Mrs. Claesgens:

- November K-4 Social Emotional Learning:  
Demonstrating Respect, for self and others  
through  
Courtesy and Manners.

Indiana SEL competency: Connection-: the ability to have strong  
social awareness, the ability to take the perspectives of others and  
empathize with people of diverse backgrounds and cultures.

- December K-4 Social Emotional Learn-  
ing: Recognizing Emotions and Developing  
strategies for Coping.

Indiana SEL Competency: Insight & Regulation: the ability to know  
your emotions and how they affect your thoughts and actions and the  
ability to recognize and manage one's emotions.

- January K-4 Social Emotional Learning: Wat-  
son C.A.R.E.S. Positive Behavior Intervention  
and Supports (PBIS) Cooperation-  
Accountability-Respect -Effort- Success.

Indiana SEL competency: Regulation & Collaboration: the ability to  
recognize and manage one's emotions. Regulation skills build positive  
self-control, positive self-discipline, and impulse control.

Mrs. Lyda's 2nd Grade class is participating in a  
16 week pilot of the MindUp curriculum. Based  
firmly in neuroscience, MindUP gives children the  
knowledge and tools they need to manage stress,  
regulate emotions and face challenges with opti-  
mism, resil- ience and com-

**MINDUP**

Early childhood classes are learning all about emotions,  
managing anger, reducing stress, and solving interpersonal  
problems each month with Strong Start.



## Fall News

- Fall Session  
of Kids Yoga :  
Last day  
Wednesday  
December  
18th.
- Winter Yoga  
Session will  
begin early  
January-  
Dates yet to  
be deter-  
mined.

## Word Scramble

Unscramble the  
Words. The first  
ten students  
who turn the  
correct answers  
in to Mrs. Claes-  
gens will win a  
prize!

1. nanerms
2. leasp
3. uoy hankt
4. eitlop
5. em xcesue
6. m'i yrosr
7. tesruocy
8. tpsrec
9. hersa
10. reac

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.

## Important Dates

### December



2-6-PTO Santa Secret Shop  
6-Student Council President/VP meeting 7:30  
13- Student Council meeting, 7:30, Perry, Walker, Trzupek program 1:00  
18-Choir trip  
19-Holiday party day  
20-Last day before break/End of Quarter 2  
23-January 6 winter break No School

### January



6-No school/teacher record day  
7 -First day back from winter break/1st day of 3rd quarter, no tutoring  
9-Tutoring resumes  
14-PTO meeting 6:00 p.m.  
20-No school/Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
24-PTO Winter Fest

### February



3-7-Book Fair Week  
14-Holiday party day  
17-No school/Presidents Day  
20-District wide Kindergarten Parent meeting (for 2020-2021 kindergarten students @ LCHS)  
24-28-Dollars for Scholars Penny Wars

### 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  
23-27-No school/spring break

### April

10-No school/Easter break  
20-May 15-ILEARN testing window (test for 3rd and 4th grade)

### May

12-PTO meeting 3:00  
22-Last day for students