

WILLOW WEEKLY

www.willowspringsschool.org

April 9, 2021

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE/ PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

****IN PERSON STUDENTS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER, WEAR A MASK,
BRING DEVICES & CHARGERS EVERYDAY**

Monday, April 12- Intramurals 3:30-4:15pm on the blacktop
Remote Kindergarten 1:25-3:25pm/Special Tues-Fri 8:45-9:15am
Remote XC1-Mrs. Theo 1:25-3:25pm/ Special M-F *K & 2 8:45-9:15am* 1st 2:55-3:25pm
Remote 1st Grade 8:25-12:30pm/ Special M-F 2:55-3:25pm
Remote 2nd Grade 12:55-3:25pm/ Special M-F 8:45-9:15am
Remote 3rd Grade 12:55-3:25pm/ Special M-F 10:55-11:30am
Remote 4th Grade 12:55-3:25pm/ Special M-F 10:55-11:30am
Remote 5th Grade 12:55-3:25pm/ Special M-F 10:55-11:30am
Remote XC2-Ms.Esposito 1:25-3:25pm /Special M-F 10:55-11:30am
Remote 6th-8th Grade 12:55pm-3:25pm
Remote and In Person Learning XC3-Mrs.Tristano 8:25-11:30am/ Specials 12:55-3:25p
In person Kindergarten 8:25-12:30pm/Special Tues-Fri 2:55-3:25pm
In Person XC1-Mrs.Theo 8:25-12:30pm/ Special 2:55-3:25pm
In Person 1st Grade 8:25-12:30pm/ Special 2:55-3:25pm
In Person 2nd Grade 8:25-12:30pm/ Special 2:55-3:25pm
In Person 3rd Grade 8:25-11:30pm / Special 12:55-1:30pm
In Person 4th Grade 8:25-11:30am/ Special 12:55-1:30pm
In Person 5th Grade 8:25-11:30am/ Special 12:55-1:30pm
In Person XC2-Ms.Esposito 8:25-12:30pm/Special 12:55-1:30pm
In Person 6th-8th Grade 8:25-11:30am
In person CD-Ms.Daley-8:30-12:30pm
Tuesday, April 13- Intramurals 3:30-4:15pm on the blacktop
See schedule above
Wednesday, April 14- Intramurals 3:30-4:15pm on the blacktop
See schedule above
Thursday, April 15- Intramurals 3:30-4:15pm on the blacktop
See schedule above
Friday, April 16- See schedule above
4th Quarter Mid-Term
Last day to submit dental clinic forms for in person learners.

PLEASE NOTE:
SCHEDULE DOES
NOT CHANGE
Same schedule all week

Students are ONLY
allowed to switch from
in person to remote
learning if they are in
quarantine from COVID
or exposure
Participation requires approval
from Nurse Lisa or Mrs.Smuda

Coming up:

Friday, April 23- 4th Quarter Mid-Terms should arrive home today
Monday, April 26-Dental Clinic for In Person Learners ONLY-Sign up forms are due April 16
Friday, May 21-Mark your calendars 8th Grade **2021 Graduation**
Wednesday, May 26- Last day of school

Grab and Go Meals

ALL children under the age of 18 can get a free meal! Meals are first come first serve. In person students can take a breakfast/lunch home with them. Please remember to wash all fruits and vegetables in your child's bag before eating



Monday, April 12-Corned Beef Sandwich
Tuesday, April 13- Turkey Luncheon Sandwich
Wednesday, April 14-Turkey Ham with Cheese
Thursday, April 15-Roast Beef with Cheese
Friday, April 16-Lunch Able

Pick up meals 10:00-10:30am ONLY at the Willow Springs School office or the Sterling Estates Clubhouse parking lot.

In person learning students will only be allowed to take 1 bagged lunch home with them. Families who need more than 1 lunch MUST pick up lunches during the scheduled times of 10:00-10:30am.

Snack break Reminders

On April 7th, students in EC-5th grade started bringing a small snack to school. The snacks are eaten outside while taking a mask break. Please remember it should be something easy to open and not require utensils. School will not be providing a snack.

Examples of small appropriate snacks: granola bar, grapes, crackers, etc.

Inappropriate examples: sandwich, fruit cup, lunchable, candy, etc



IAR TESTING

IAR Testing is scheduled next week for **in-person students** in grades 3rd-8th. There are 3 reading and 3 math tests scheduled. Depending on the grade level, students will take one or two tests per day.

Despite this COVID year, the State of Illinois is requiring all schools to administer the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) test. In past years, the IAR tests were used to determine the designation rating for the school. For this COVID school year, Willow will retain the “Commendable” rating until the students are assessed on the 2022 set of tests.

Students in the remote setting will be asked to take the tests on Saturday, May 1st. Although the IAR test is administered on the computer, it cannot be completed remotely. Therefore, the students will need to test “in-person” at school. An individualized letter is being sent to each remote student in grades 3rd-8th explaining the testing procedures.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions,

Mrs. Lori Smuda



ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM IS UP AND RUNNING

Need to make an online payment?
Please follow the instructions below:

- Parents log into their parent portal
- Click the "Misc." Tab
- Click on the "Fees Option"
- Click on "make online payment"
- Follow the prompts to tell it what fees you are paying and then enter your payment information.

For questions regarding fees, please call Mrs. Wacker at 708-839-6828



Dear Families and Parents,

Wednesday, April 7th, was a wonderful day! Besides the beautiful spring weather, we welcomed back 51 new students! Even with masks on, you could tell they were smiling! It was a taste of "getting back to normal".

Currently, we have 67% of the students learning in-person and 33% logging on remotely. We are thrilled we could accommodate each family's choice of instructional model, and also happy the blue and gold schedule was eliminated!

Safety remains our top priority at Willow. All of the desks remain 6 feet apart so the students can socially distance. Over spring break, twelve homerooms moved to a different room in the building so we could complete the 6 foot puzzle. Everyone wears masks the entire time and bathrooms are being cleaned on a rotating schedule. This week, we instituted snack breaks for the younger students and they're eaten outside for safety reasons.

The COVID percentages have risen slightly in the past few weeks. Let's all work together to keep illness out of the school building! I would love to make it to May 26th without quarantining any more students or staff members.



Happy spring,
Mrs. Lori Smuda

WILLOW SPRINGS SCHOOL 3rd Qtr 2020-2021

4TH GRADE

Cuellar, Renzo
Pena, Parker
Szymczyk, Sky
Wilinski, Andrew

5TH GRADE

Ristic, Marko
Solis, Noah

6TH GRADE

Janeway, Madison
Zethmayr, Serafina

7TH GRADE

Church, Kristen
Goodman, Romeo
Piruta, Alexander

8TH GRADE

Graterol, Andrea
Maturlak, Mirelle

4TH GRADE

Szlaga, Nicole

5TH GRADE

Obosla Jr, Jeremy

6TH GRADE

Perez-E, Ereik

7TH GRADE

8TH GRADE

Hirtzer, Katherine
Perez-E, Jose

4th GRADE

Ulloa, Alexa

5TH GRADE

6TH GRADE

Pokrzywa, Rory

7TH GRADE

Lopez-Gomez, Alonso

8TH GRADE

Pedersen, Christiana

Buss, Brooke
Gonzalez-M, Fatima
Solano, Jonathan
Triplett, Jeremiah
Zigman, Abigail
Coglianese, Cori
Ristic, Mirena
Szopinski, Davian
Bauza, Gabriele
Pena, Peyton

Atempa D, Ashley
Dunlap, Susann
Jackson, Oshea
Ramirez, Saul
Alramli, Dalia
Guzman, Elise
Ristic, Stella

Encher, Lilyana

Barger, Hailey
Quinones, DiAngelo
Garcia, Brittney
Raudalez, Maria
Barrientos, Selena
Butkus, Emily
Kessler, Jonavin
Sasso, Katherine

Castillo, Natalie
Washington, Amile
Jean, Angelina
Cardenas, Hetzemony
Tristan, Emmanuel
Al-Tahif, Samah

Galindo, Viviana
Rangel, Mia

GOLD HONORS

Ciota, Michael
Hawkins, Kayla May
Suarez, Natalie
VanSickle, Zavrin

Medina, Andrew
Solano, Anthony

Chavarria, Jose
Sandoval, Javier

Carlisle, Alexis
Espinosa, Montserrat
Laaouina, Nora
Wendt, Avery
Billie, Gabbryelle
Ilic, Marina
Williams, Gabriella

BLUE HONORS

Engler Jr, Michael

Guzman, Elijah
Staszal, Krystian
Mast, Rylea
Thiele, Kaylynn
ONEill, Austin
Galvan, Alejandra
Lopez, Romeo

HONORABLE MENTION

Fensin, Victoria
Roberts, Raegan
Fabian, Anthony
Godinez, Sofia
Kessler, Jovani
Szlaga, Angelica

Covarrubias, Citlali
Kubis, Adrian
Szopinski, Matthew
Villagomez, Jayden

Ristic, Marijka
Solis, Isaac

Ciota, Savannah
Stasik, Michelle

Cervantes, Rommel
Garcia, Ivonne
Palomar, Karim
Zimmerman, Kaia
Cura, Brianna
Kubis, Makayla
Zimmerman, Helena

Galvan, Daisy

Jessie, Mason
Zimmerman, Elijah
Perez, Oscar

Stringham, Richard
Heard, Damarion
Notier, Ashley

Robles, Michael

Fabian, Brody

Kielian, Sylvia

Marszalik, Gianna
Tyrala, Adrian



Dear Parents and Families of Willow Springs School,

As you read in Mr. Patrick's letter this week, Willow Springs School has selected a new principal! Her name is Ms. Alexandra Oreluk! She was chosen by our search committee from 40 candidates. The committee described her as energetic, intelligent, goal-driven, and positive! They are very confident in her educational experiences and she'll make a great leader for Willow!

Why a new principal? Well, I have decided to retire after 35 years in education. I began as a paraprofessional, taught 2nd grade for several years, moved to Willow as the Resource teacher, then to AP and finally, Principal. Whew, that time flew by! I am leaving with positive, lasting memories of my 20 years at Willow. As many of you know, I also live in Willow Springs, so I'm sure I'll be back volunteering for the PFC or subbing in some capacity.

This COVID year has lead me to make some new personal goals. My husband and I purchased an RV and we plan on traveling. Visiting our boys in Phoenix and Montreal are high on our goal list (can they live any farther apart?). This August, we'll be heading west to visit many of the US National Parks and learn about our beautiful country. And, this winter, I look forward to having the flexibility to chase the warm, southern weather.

I wish Ms. Alexandra Oreluk luck as she takes on a leadership position at Willow Springs School. I will fully assist her in the transition and be available if needed.

Thanks for all of the well wishes,

Lori Smuda

Mrs. Lori Smuda

WILLOW SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOL

DISTRICT 108 • COOK COUNTY

SUPERINTENDENT • FRANK C. PATRICK
PRINCIPAL • LORI SMUDA

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www.willowsschool.org

March 24, 2021

Dear Willow Families:

It is with great pleasure that the Willow Springs School District Board of Education announces that Miss Alexandra Oreluk has been named the next Principal of Willow Springs School! She starts here at Willow Springs School on July 1.

Miss Oreluk has been recognized at her 2 assistant principal positions as “a school leader who builds a positive school climate and culture that supports the educational growth and social/emotional well-being of the students. She is a teacher at heart and knows that each student learns differently. She develops positive relationships with students, parents, and teachers. She communicates well and is a driven change agent.”

Miss Oreluk comes to us after being an assistant principal at John Mills School (a K-6 building) in Elmwood Park. Prior to that she was an assistant principal at Hickory Creek Middle School in Frankfort. She has been a special education teacher and has an endorsement in English Language Learning. She'll be bringing her knowledge and K-8 experiences with her to serve our students and the community.

The staff committee that conducted the search found Miss Oreluk to be easy to talk with and extremely knowledgeable across the curriculum. And, we didn't make it an easy process! Final candidates answered essay questions and participated in 3 interviews. It was clear to us that Miss Oreluk is going to be a terrific principal here at Willow Springs School. We can't wait for you to meet her in the coming weeks, and I know she's excited to meet you as well.

Miss Oreluk takes over from Mrs. Smuda who is retiring in June. Mrs. Smuda has been principal for the past 6 years, and we're grateful for her 20 years of total service here at Willow! She has made a difference in so many children's lives here at Willow. Her energy and care for students has served her well throughout her career.

It's a time for transitions here at Willow. It's with gratitude to the many wonderful members of our school community, that I announce my retirement this coming June as well. I've had the pleasure of working with the students and families of our school for the past 34 years. I can hardly believe we've been part of each other's lives for 34 years of my 38 year professional career – and the last 14 of those as superintendent. I am grateful for your sharing and entrusting your children to me and the rest of the school team. You have all made me a better educator. While I don't know exactly what adventure will come next for me, I know I will continue to be a fierce advocate of “Children First” – which has always been my guiding



WILLOW SPRINGS SCHOOL, WHERE A LOVE OF LEARNING GROWS.

philosophy. I am looking forward to having an opportunity to spend some quality time with my family and preparing my kids for college during their senior year of high school next year.

Both Lori and I will work to ensure a smooth transition in the coming months. We're both excited to help prepare Miss Oreluk for her new role. I'm recommending to the Board that they appoint an interim superintendent and conduct a search for a permanent superintendent to start in 2022. I will do everything in my power to insure a smooth transition to the interim superintendent.

I'm excited for the future of our students – your children. Lori and I are proud of the work your children do every day. We're proud of the academic growth that they make. We've had the privilege of working with one of the finest staff team of teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff of any school. The Willow Staff works hard every day for your children. I know that the students' successes and the teachers' dedication will continue well into the future. I am confident that Alexandra Oreluk will be a terrific principal and leader for our students and staff. I know moving forward Willow Springs School is a place where the love of learning grows!

Sincerely yours,



Frank C. Patrick





ACTION FOR ALL AGES

Join us for a FREE Anti-Racism Conference with Virtual and In-Person Workshops for All Ages!

**PRESENTED BY: COMMUNITY DIVERSITY GROUP, LYONSVILLE
CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, AND THE LEADERSHOP**

Topics will inspire curiosity, action, collaboration, and self-reflection through conversation, experiential activities, intergenerational art projects, poetry (and more!) all facilitated in a safe environment for our community to learn and grow.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: WILLIE ADAMS



TO REGISTER AND LEARN MORE VISIT:

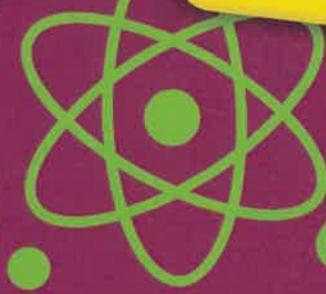
[ANTIRACISTTOGETHER.ORG](https://antiracisttogether.org)

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2021

9:00A - 1:00P



VIRTUAL!



COLLEGE OF DuPAGE

STEMCON

SCIENCE+TECHNOLOGY+ENGINEERING+MATH



Keynote Speaker: Justin Shaifer
Executive Director of Fascinate Inc.
and STEM advocate

“Why STEM is Dope”

Boring lectures and uninspiring teachers often ruin students’ perceptions of STEM. This adventurous talk informs students about real-life experiences of modern STEM professionals and the prospects of STEM careers.

Get Your Geek On —Virtually!


April 23 to 25, 2021
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Free

Join College of DuPage as we explore all that STEM has to offer—virtually! Some sessions require advanced registration. Come for the knowledge, stay for the fun!

Highlights:

- Virtual Tours
- Scheduled Workshops
- Exciting Demonstrations
- DIY STEM Activities

**For more information and
a schedule of events, visit:**
cod.edu/stemcon

 **College of DuPage**

For ADA accommodations, please email access@cod.edu with the event title in the subject line and your accommodation request. Please email two weeks in advance.



2021 Summer School Courses

www.argohs.net

Monday	Tuesday	Session 1 Wednesday	Thursday
June 7	June 8	June 9	June 10
June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17
June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24

Monday	Tuesday	Session 2 Wednesday	Thursday
June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1
July 5	July 6	July 7	July 8
July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15

Hours

8:00 - 11:00am
11:30 - 2:30 p.m.

INFORMATION:

Summer School Website:



REGISTRATION:

<https://argohs.revtrak.net/RW-Summer-School/>

Scan the QR Code Below to Register



FORMAT: Summer school will be in person. We will follow all Covid-Mitigation guidance. Students are expected to attend each day.

SUMMER SCHOOL – Incoming Freshmen:

Human Geography

DATES: June 7 – July 15 (*Full Summer*)

DAYS: M, T, W, TH

TIME: 8 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

CREDIT: Social Studies credit / GPA Weighted / 1.0 credit

COST: \$140

WHO: Designed for students in 9th grade in the fall who will have schedules that won't allow for Human Geography their freshmen year. Course includes reading and writing outside of class. There is an online component to this class.

Music students are especially encouraged to consider this course.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS

DATES: June 7 – June 24

DAYS: M, T, W, TH

TIME: 8 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

COST: \$70

CREDIT: Elective credit / Pass-Fail (NO GPA) / .5 credit

WHO: Anyone looking to get better at taking photos. This course is good chance to learn some basics with photo editing and composition. If you like this course, you can take our full Digital Photo Course during the year.

Pathways to Algebra

DATES: June 7 – June 24

DAYS: M, T, W, Th

TIME: 8 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

CREDIT: Elective credit / Pass-Fail (NO GPA) / .5 credit

COST: \$50

WHO: Incoming 9th graders in need of more practice in math before taking Algebra 1 at Argo. Students earning a **C or better** and with good **attendance** will receive a **\$50 rebate** on their PowerSchool accounts at the end of summer.

Pathways to English

DATES: June 28 – July 15

DAYS: M, T, W, TH

TIME: 8 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

CREDIT: Elective credit / Pass-Fail (NO GPA) / .5 credit

COST: \$50

WHO: Incoming 9th graders in need of more practice in ELA before taking English 1 at Argo. Students earning a **C or better** and with good **attendance** will receive a **\$50 rebate** on their PowerSchool accounts at the end of summer.

**When you register for Pathways, indicate what session and period you prefer. The session and times above are suggestions. We will run course based on preference, space, and teacher availability.