

Oswegatchie Elementary School Newsletter

470 Boston Post Road, Waterford, CT 06385

Phone: 860-442-4331 Fax: 860-447-6261

osw.waterfordschools.org

School Hours 8:25 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.



Friday, September 1, 2023



Thank you all for one of the best opening weeks that we have experienced in quite some time. Open House was well attended, and I thank our families for finding the time to attend. It is a great way to quell any nerves before the big day.

This year, OSW is committed to offering more opportunities for families to be part of our mission. We will be advertising volunteer opportunities soon. In addition, we are planning information sessions to give families the opportunity to learn about the academic and social emotional approaches we employ here.

REMINDER: Adults dropping off students in the traffic circle should remain in their vehicle to avoid safety concerns and to keep the flow of traffic moving. Thank you.

SPOTLIGHT ON BEHAVIORS AND RESPONDING TO SOCIAL EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Everyone has been on their best behavior so far, but there will be times where we come across struggles. Here is how we approach behaviors at OSW:

Teachers will handle most behavioral interactions throughout the day. As principal, I get involved if there is physical aggression, anything of a sexual nature, and if there are reports of repeated mean behaviors. In these cases, I will call the families of all involved to explain what has occurred. The consequences will only be shared with the family of the child who acted inappropriately due to confidentiality.

When it comes to mending broken relationships, OSW uses restorative techniques to right the wrongs. We do not take recess away from students and we avoid suspensions at all costs unless the offense is egregious and defined as such in the Waterford Elementary Handbook. Instead of punitive measures, restorative practices focus on open communication, empathy, and understanding. When conflicts arise, students, teachers, and parents engage in structured conversations to address harm, find solutions, and restore relationships. By promoting accountability and cooperation, restorative practices empower children to learn from their mistakes, develop social skills, and create a safe and supportive learning environment.

Enjoy the long weekend as we celebrate Labor Day!

Joseph Macrino Principal

jmacrino@waterfordschools.org

Kathy Kerwin Secretary

kkerwin@waterfordschools.org

Wendy Doyon School Nurse

wdoyon@waterfordschools.org



Dates to remember.

Mon.Sept.4—No School (Labor Day)



FROM THE HEALTH ROOM AND OFFICE:

Welcome to a New School year from the health Room of Oswegatchie!

A few reminders for new and returning parents please:

Please provide a complete and seasonally appropriate change of clothing for your child AT ALL TIMES. The Health Room does not have ANY clothing to support your child in this regard. We will otherwise contact parents during the work day to provide, unless your child has clothing in school. Please send a supply in a bag with your child's name/and have them keep it in their cubbies here at school. DO NOT have them take it back and forth to school in their back pack each day as it invariably gets taken out, especially when it is needed.

Please communicate with the Health Room if your child is absent due to illness or injury. You may call the main office number and ask to be transferred to the nurse (860-442-4331). Or you may email wdoyon@waterfordschools.org to notify.

Please do not have your child transport medication of ANY kind to and from school. ALL medications must be provided by a parent direct to the Health Room and must have a completed medication authorization signed by physician and parent in order to be administered at school.

Thank you, Wendy Doyon RN

Helpful hints from the main office:

Please make sure any bus or dismissal changes are mailed to both myself kkerwin@waterfordschools.org AND the classroom teacher.

Please don't make any dismissal changes after 12:30pm unless it is an unavoidable emergency.

The newsletter will be emailed every Friday, and is chock full of helpful information from calendars, to lunch menus, to local events. Please take a few minutes each week to read through it. If you are not receiving emails and should be, please contact me so I can make the necessary changes.

If there are any changes to your phone number, email, address, permissions to pick up, etc please communicate those to the office as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!! Please feel free to call or email if there is anything I can help you with!

~~Kathy Kerwin Oswegatchie Office Secretary kkerwin@waterfordschools.org 860-442-4331



Pay for 2023-24 School Meals and WPS Device Protection with Our New Payment System!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We've teamed up with MySchoolBucks, an online service where you can easily and securely pay for school meals and WPS Device Protection using a credit/debit card or electronic check.

Using MySchoolBucks you can:

- Add funds to your student's meal account
- View meal balances & cafeteria purchases
- Receive low balance alerts
- Purchase WPS Device Protection for your child's school issued device for the 2023-24 school year

Easily pay online for school meals and WPS Device Protection for students in Grades 4-12! Create your free MySchoolBucks account to conveniently and securely pay online or download the mobile app to make payments from anywhere!

Get Started Today:

- Go to myschoolbucks.com or download the mobile app
- Create your free account and add your students using their school name / student ID
- Add funds to your student's meal account or add items from the School Store section
- Check out using your credit / debit card or electronic check (A program fee may apply)

Thank you,

WPS Food Services and WPS IT Department

FAMILY PROGRAM

Saturday, September 30, 2:30PM - 4:30PM IN PERSON A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month

Come and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with us today. Join us for food, dancing, crafts and fun! Co-sponsored by Mujeres Entre Cultura (" Women Between Cultures"), Esperanza Latina & Latinos Unidos de Waterford.





September is Library Card Sign-Up Month! Did you know Waterford residents of all ages, including infants, can get a Waterford Public Library card? If you live in a different town, you can add in your library card from your home town and use it to check out materials here as well. Stop by the library to find out everything you can access with your library card - all for free!

GRAB & GO CRAFTS





Pencil Craft Sept 2 to Sept 15

Scarecrow Sept 16 to Oct 6

Pick up supplies in the Children's Room to make Grab & Go crafts at home, while supplies last. Step-by-step video tutorial on our Facebook page (@waterfordpubliclibrary).

Storytime with Ms. Jenna in September.

No Family

Saturday, September 9, 10:30AM - 11:00AM Sign and Sing

Join Ms. Janine for our first session of Sign and Sing! This fun storytime will include basic signs that both children and their caregivers will benefit from knowing. For ages birth to 5, no registration required. Thank you to CT Humanities for providing funding for this program.



DROP IN CRAFTS

Monday, September 11, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Drop In Craft: Handprint Tree Craft
As we transition into the colorful world
of autumn, join us in the Children's
Room between 4:00 and 6:30 pm to
make a vibrant 3D Handprint Tree
Craft. Ages 6 to 12.



Creation

Station

Tuesday, September 12, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Drop In Creation Station

Stop by the Children's Room anytime between 4:00 and 6:00 pm for a fun craft and to get your creativity flowing! For this session we will be creating a piece to celebrate the beginning of the school year. R

celebrate the beginning of the school year. Recommended for ages 5 and up. No registration required.

Monday, September 25, 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Drop In STEM Adventure: Paper Helicopter
Calling all future aviators! Join us in
the Children's Room on anytime between 4:00 and 6:30 pm to create
Paper Helicopters that spin, twirl,
and take flight with a touch of your
creativity and your engineering
minds. Ages 6 to 12.



Tuesday, September 26, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM LEGO Club

Drop in anytime between 4:00 and 6:00 pm to build with some LEGO sets! No registration required, recommended for ages 5 and up.



Thursday, September 28, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM DIY Instruments

Ready to create, play, and dance? Join us for this DIY instrument program in which kids will learn how to make percussion instruments from recycled materials! Registration required. Recommended for children ages 6-12 years. All materials will be provided.



TEEN CORNER

Thursday, September 7, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Craft Night

Time to get crafty! During this session we will be making an adorable stuffed felt fox and an autumn acorn or leaf. Recommended for ages 11 and up, registration is required.



Thursday, September 21, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Teen Drop In Craft

Stop by the Teen Section of the library to make a Hobbit Hole card in honor of Hobbit day! Drop in anytime between 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. No registration required.



Toddler Apple Tree and Core Craft
Join us for a fun-filled crafting session where little
hands transform paper plates into
adorable apple and core masterpieces. Mrs. Sharma will start the

Friday, September 15, 11:00 AM - 12:00PM

pieces. Mrs. Sharma will start the session with a short story! For ages 3 to 5 years old, No registration is required.



Wednesday, September 20, 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM Toddler Art

Time to get creative (and maybe a little messy)! This hands on art session is for young ones to explore through process art with the help of their adult. Mrs. Marshall will start the session with a short story! For ages 3 to 5 years old, registration is required. This program will take place downstairs in the Meeting Room.

To keep up with all our activities follow us

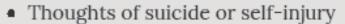




@waterfordpubliclibrary

@waterfordlibraryct

<u>Urgent</u> response for children's mental health crises.



- Feelings of depression, anxiety or hopelessness
- Out-of-control behaviors
- Substance misuse
- Any mental health crisis



No appointment needed

At the four walk-in Urgent Crisis Centers (UCC) for children and adolescents ages 18 and under, trained staff will:

- De-escalate the crisis
- - Complete an evaluation
- - Connect youth to services

Urgent Crisis Centers



1680 Albany Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105 (860) 297-0520 thevillage.org/UCC



141 East Main Street, Waterbury, CT 06702 (203) 580-4298 wellmore.org/urgent-crisis-center



255 Hempstead St, New London, CT 06320 (860) 437-4550 childandfamilyagency.org/urgent-crisis-center

YaleNewHaven**Heal**th

Yale New Haven Children's Hospital

20 York Street, New Haven, CT 06510 (203) 688-4707 ynhh.org/childrens-hospital/ services/emergency-services





UCFS Healthcare's School-Based Health Centers and Your School!

The UCFS school-based health centers (SBHC) are a doctor's office inside of your school. The services are provided by an APRN (advanced practice registered nurse)/PA (Physician Assistant) and licensed behavioral health clinician who are experts in adolescent health and are employed by UCFS. The intention of the UCFS SBHC is to supplement the care your child receives at their pediatrician's office.





Services Provided

- Yearly well-child examinations
- Vaccinations
- Sports physicals
- Acute care visits (e.g. sick visits, lacerations, injuries, etc.)
- Chronic care visits (e.g. asthma, ADHD, etc.)
- Mental Health Assessments
- Substance Abuse Screenings
- Counseling (individual, group, and family)

Top 5 Reasons to use the School-Based Health Center

- Convenient same day appointment.
- Removes barriers to care such as lack of transportation.
- Decreases time away from the classroom which improves academic success.
- Improves student's achievement by taking care of behavioral health needs that can make learning difficult.
- Connects students and their families with insurance coverage.



Referrals are easy...

- Behavioral Health Referrals can come from students, teachers, counselors, administrators as well as parents/gwardians of students.
- Medical visits can be coordinated through the school nurse or directly with our family engagement/medical assistant.
- Working collaboratively with school personnel, families, and local youth services has helped to maximize student support.

To learn More ...

School-Based Health Centers are located at Waterford High School and Clark Lane Middle School and are open to all Waterford Public School students.

Scan here to learn about the School-Based Health Center at your school! SBHC line - 860-822-2803



MONTHLY VIRTUAL TRAINING SESSIONS



PARENT TRAINING INSTITUTE Sept. 2023 - June 2024

PURPOSE: THE SCSU Parent Training Institute will offer monthly virtual training sessions, and helpful resources on a range of topics that can help parents support their child's academic, social, and emotional development.

- WHO: Open to parents of children of all ages.
- WHERE: All parent workshops will be held virtually.
- HOW: Our online workshops will be recorded for use by registered attendees, including those who
 are unable to attend live.
- WHEN: Starts September 26, 2023. Runs monthly on Tuesdays between 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm.
- · CERTIFICATE: Every registered attendee will receive a "certificate of completion."
- COST: \$100 including full access to 10 live and recorded workshop series.
- For more information, email Dr. Olcay Yavuz at yavuzo1@southernct.edu

REGISTER HERE: https://bit.ly/3MMxOzF

PROGRAM DATES/TOPICS:

2023:

September 26 @7pm Understanding the USA Education System: Parents' Rights and Responsibilities

October 24 @7pm Raising College-Ready Children

November 21 @7pm Understanding College Funding, FAFSA, Scholarship Opportunities and Loan Types

December 12 @7pm Helping Your Child Become Career & Job Ready (Resume, Career Branding, Interview)

2024:

January 30 @7pm Protecting Your Child from Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

February 27 @7pm Utilizing English Second Language Learner, Special Education, and Student Services

March 26 @7pm Supporting Your Children's Executive Functioning, 21. Century and Soft Skills

April 23 @7pm The Roles of Parents to Plan Effective Summer Programs for

Children and Youths

May 28 26 @7pm Raising Socially, Mentally and Emotionally Strong Children

June 11 @7pm Dealing with Drug Internet Addiction, and Cyberbullying







Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Members of the Waterford Police
Department will be pulling an Avelo Airlines
Boeing Next-Generation 737 Jetliner a
distance of 20 feet to fundraise for the
Connecticut Special Olympics.

If you are interested in donating, please go to the following link-https://give.soct.org/team/518879

Waterford Historical Society Presents:

HARVEST TO HEARTH

Autumn in 1850s Waterford

SEPT. 9th 10 am - 1 pm

The Jordan Green

Waterford, Conn.
Free Admission!

Demonsulthing

The Jordan Green

Waterford, Conn.

Free Admission!

Donations Gladly Accepted

FEATURING LIVING HISTORY ACTIVITIES BY

Dirty Blue Shirts:

Unending Bounty: Preserving the Harvest

Creature Comforts: Quilts, Flannels, & Knits

Pumpkin Sweet: The Heirloom Apples of Our Past

dirtyblueshirts.com www.waterfordcthistoricalsociety.org



2023 Connecticut Maritime Heritage Festival

Celebrating the Sea, Uniting Our Shores

Port of New London Waterfront Park

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

10a

Opening Ceremony – City Pier

Cadet singers, Bruce MacDonald award, Navy re-enlistment, Dignitary speakers

> 10a - 5p Free Ship Tours

USCGC Eagle, USCGC Ida Lewis, SSV Oliver Hazard Perry, T/V Kings Pointer, Leadership 44 and more

10a - 3p

Free Fun Children's Activities

Touch Tank with Project O, boat book giveaway, decorate a mermaid crown, build a boat, learn nautical knot tying, meet Sammy the Sea Otter, face painting and more!

10a - 5p

Salt the Whale at Parade Plaza

Stroll through Salt and learn about the inside of a whale and more! Free thanks to Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

10a - 5p Vendor Booths

10a – 9p

Food and Drink

Delicious food trucks and beer garden

11a Book Reading

Get excited for the parade with animated reading of "Julian is a Mermaid" Main Stage at City Pier, by the Golden Owl

> 12p Parade

Mermaid & Sea Monster Parade starts at top of State Street, turns right on Bank St, left onto Connector to Waterfront Park Join us on State and Bank Streets for the best views of the parade. Live commentary by Franco from 100.9 K-Hits at Parade Plaza.

1 - 8:15p

Main Stage Performances at City Pier

Steve Elci and Friends children's music 1p Bawdy Buccaneers 2p • Geoff Kaufman sea chanteys 3p Carleans 4p • Hoolios 5:30p • Andre Eddie and Friends 7p

7:30r

Flock Theatre's Burning of Benedict Arnold

Join us at the Shaw Mansion to march the traitor's effigy down Bank Street to City Pier where the burning of his effigy dating back to 1782 is re-enacted

New London Maritime Society Custom House Museum

Open Saturday & Sunday: 10a – 5p 150 Bank St **SUNDAY, SEPT. 10**

10a - 5p Free Ship Tours

USCGC Eagle, USCGC Ida Lewis, SSV Oliver Hazard Perry, T/V Kings Pointer, Leadership 44 and more

10a - 5p Vendor Booths

10a - 5p

Salt the Whale at Parade Plaza

Stroll through Salt and learn about the inside of a whale and more! Free thanks to Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

10a - 5p Food and Drink

Delicious food trucks and beer garden

11a – 3p

Dirty Blue Shirts

Living history reenactments

12 - 2p Maritime Skills Challenge

Come and cheer on Navy vs Coast Guard vs Merchant Marines in feats of strength and skill!

1 - 4p Free Fishing Clinic

Learn to fish with Dept of Energy and Enviro Protection – Free poles included to take home!

USCG Helicopter

Watch a live Search & Rescue demonstration at City Pier

2 - 5p

Main Stage Performances at City Pier

Orquesta Sensacional - Salsa 2p Soul Shot - Reggae 4p

3 - 4p

Rum Tasting and Food Pairing on Tall Ship Oliver Hazard Perry

Tickets available on website \$25/\$30

Thames River Heritage Park Boat Tours

For ticketing visit www.thamesriverheritagepark.org

No Admission Fee

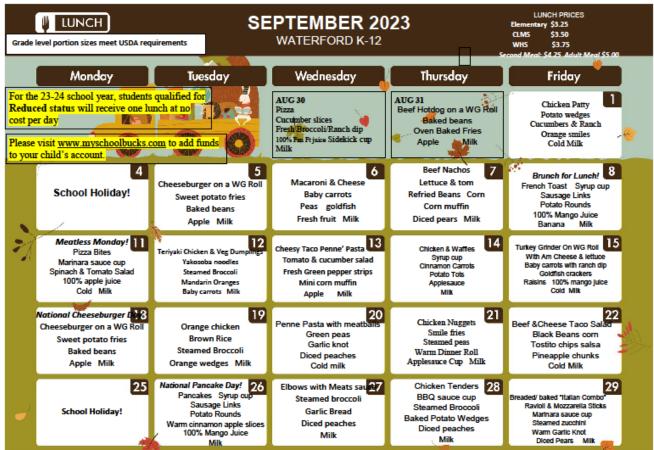
For more information, visit **ctmaritimefest.com**





ALL Grain-based items offered at breakfast are Whole Grain Rich which means that at least 50% of the grains in the items are whole grain and all other grains are enriched

Menu subject



^{*}Milk Choices: 1% white or Fat Free Flavored

A variety of breakfast options offered daily

All breakfast includes 1 cup of fruit

Waterford Public Schools

2023-2024

August 2023				
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri				
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28:	29°	FD	31	
	(2 day ~	2 cumui	lative)	

- 8/28 ± Staff Convocation
- 8/29 * PD No School PK-12
- 8/30 First Day of School

September 2023						
Mon	Tue	Tue Wed Thu				
				1		
SH	5	6	7	8		
11	12	13	14	15		
18	19	20	21	22		
SH	26	27	28	29		
a	(19 days ~ 21 cumulative)					

- 9/4 School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 9/25 School Holiday (Schools Closed

October 2023					
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri					
2	3	4	5	6	
SH	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30	31				
0	I days	~ 42 cu	mulativ	a)	

10/9 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

N	November 2023				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
		1	2	3	
6	PD	8	9	SH	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	School Holiday			
27	28	29	30		
- 0	(17 days ~ 50 cumulative)				

- 11/7 * PD No School for Students-PK-12
- 11/10 School Holiday (Schools Closed for Students), P/T Conferences
- 11/22 11/24 School Holiday (Schools Closed)

December 2023						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri		
				1		
4	5	6	7	8		
11	12	13	14	15		
18 19 20 21 22						
School Holiday						
(4	(16 days ~ 75 cumulative)					

12/22 - Early Dismissal PK-12

■ 12/25 – 12/29 – School Holiday (Schools Closed)

January 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
SH	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
SH	16	17	18	(19)	
22 23 24 25 26					
29 30 31					
(21 days ~ 96 cumulative)					

- 1/1 School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 1/15 School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 1/18-1/23 ** Midterm Exams: Early Dismissal 9-12

February 2024					
Mon	Tue Wed Thu Fri				
		1	2		
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
S	SH 21 22 23				
26 27 28 29					
(19 days ~ 115 cumulative)					

 2/19-2/20 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

March 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	PT	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	SH
(2	(20 days ~ 135 cumulative)			

- ** 3/7 P/T Conferences:
 Early Dismissal PK-12
- 3/29 School Holiday (Schools Closed)

April 2024						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri		
1	2	3	4	5		
	School Holiday					
15	16	17	18	19		
22	22 23 24 25 26					
29 PD						
a	(16 days ~ 151 cumulative)					

- 4/8 4/12 School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 4/30 * PD No School for Students –
 PK-12

May 2024				
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri				
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
SH	28	29	30	31
0	2 days -	173 cu	mulatiw	-)

5/27 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

June 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
3	4	5	(6)	7	
(10)	$\langle 1 \rangle$	LD	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	
- 0	(9 days - 191 completive)				

- 6/6 6/11 ** Final Exams: Early Dismissal 9-12
- 6/11 ** Early Dismissal PK-12
- 6/12 Last Day of School Early Dismissal PK-12



NOTE: Snow days will be added onto the school year as needed.

BOE Approved: December 8, 2022 Revised: June 22, 2023

- ± Staff Convocation is for all staff of the Waterford Public Schools
- Professional Development is for Administrators, Teachers, Paraprofessionals 8 AM-3 PM
- ** Full day for Paraprofessionals

2023-24 Elementary Letter Rotation Schedule

	August 2023				
Mo	п	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
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			30 A	31 B	

September 2023					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
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11	12	13	14	15	
D	A	В	C	٥	
18	19	20	21	22	
A	В	C	D	A	
	26	27	28	29	
	В	C	D	A	

	October 2023					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri		
2	3	4	5	6		
В	C	D	A	В		
	10	11	12	13		
	C	D	A	В		
16	17	18	19	20		
C	D	A	В	C		
23	24	25	26	27		
D	A	В	C	D		
30	31					
A	В					

l l	November 2023					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri		
		1	2	3		
		C	D	A		
6		8	9			
В		C	D			
13	14	15	16	17		
A	В	C	D	A		
20	21					
В	C					
27	28	29	30			
D	A	В	C			

December 2023					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
				1	
				D	
4	5	6	7	8	
A	В	C	D	A	
11	12	13	14	15	
В	C	D	A	В	
18	19	20	21	22	
C	D	A	В	C*	

	Janu	ary 2	2024		
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	2	3	4	5	
	٥	A	В	C	
8	9	10	11	12	
D	A	В	C	D	
	16	17	18	19	
	A	В	C	D	
22	23	24	25	26	
A	В	C	D	A	
29	30	31			
В	C	D			

February 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
			1	2	
			A	В	
5	6	7	8	9	
C	D	A	В	C	
12	13	14	15	16	
D	A	В	C	D	
		21	22	23	
		A	В	C	
26	27	28	29		
D	A	В	C		

March 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
				1	
				D	
4	5	6	7	8	
A	В	C	D*	A	
11	12	13	14	15	
В	C	D	A	В	
18	19	20	21	22	
C	D	A	В	C	
25	26	27	28		
D	A	В	C		

April 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
1	2	3	4	5	
D	A	В	C	D	
15	16	17	18	19	
A	В	C	D	A	
22	23	24	25	26	
В	C	D	A	В	
29					
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May 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
		1	2	3	
		D	A	В	
6	7	8	9	10	
C	D	A	В	C	
13	14	15	16	17	
D	A	В	C	D	
20	21	22	23	24	
A	В	C	D	A	
	28	29	30	31	
	В	C	D	A	

June 2024					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
3	4	5	6	7	
В	C	D	A	В	
10	11	12			
C	D*	A*			



■ No School

* Early Dismissal