



West De Pere Intermediate School Related Arts Team



Hello Parents, Guardians, and Students,

The Related Arts team welcomes you to the 2023-2024 school year! In these courses students will have hands-on experiences in music, art, STEM, world language, guidance, physical education as well as in the beautiful library. Art and STEM are 70 minutes long while the others are 35 minutes. Students rotate through a six-day schedule. Students will have one semester of STEM and one semester of ART each year.

<p>5th grade Related Arts classes and their instructors include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art- Mrs. Lowe • Band- Ms. Czachor • Choir- Mrs. Lisowe • Guidance- Mr. Johnson • Physical Education- Mrs. Lozar • Library- Mrs. Goodman • STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math)- Dr. Kohl 	<p>6th grade Related Arts classes and their instructors include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art- Mrs. Lowe • Band- Ms. Czachor • Choir- Mrs. Lisowe • French- Madame VDB (Van Den Busch) • Spanish- Mrs. Steingraber • Physical Education- Mrs. Lozar • STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math)- Dr. Kohl
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Some things to keep in mind regarding Related Arts:

Art: Students are required to bring a folder and their own coloring supplies (pencils, erasers, crayons/colored pencils, markers, sharpies). They will bring folders on the first day of Art class for me to store and they will keep their art supplies in their lockers to bring with them to each class. Art shirts/aprons are optional. Throughout the semester we will explore a wide variety of art media. Artwork will continue to be uploaded to *Artsonia*, which is our school fundraiser for the Art program. So be sure to keep checking your student’s account for updates and see the newsletter for directions on how to sign up if you haven’t yet. Student work will also be selected for the Intermediate school Art Show in the spring (we do not enter into the Brown County Fair).

Band: All band students are responsible for obtaining a good quality instrument. Local music stores like *Jim’s Music* and *Heid Music* are great resources. There will be two concerts during the school year-**December 12th and May 16th**-please mark your calendars NOW! Students will be expected to commit to regular practice time outside of the school day. Practice logs will be used to help track progress.

Choir: During choir, students will work on music literacy, work together to improve their voices, and learn some musical history along the way. Both the fifth and sixth grade choirs will be performing in two concerts this year. Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, December 14th and Thursday, May 21st**.

French: Sixth graders have French for two days in every six-day rotation for one semester of the year; they will have Spanish in place of French for the other semester. At the beginning of the semester, they will receive a French packet that will remain in the room. Sixth grade French students will finish their semesters by performing *Les Trois Ours* (Goldilocks and the Three Bears) in French.

Spanish: Sixth grade Spanish students meet twice every six day rotation all semester. At the beginning of the semester, I will give them a packet that will remain in the room. After the semester students will switch to French.

Guidance: Fifth graders will meet for guidance class one time every six days. The lessons/units covered will be similar to Guidance class topics from previous years such as peer relations, cooperation within groups, problem solving, etc. We will have one lesson a month on one of our school’s Phantom Fundamentals Character Traits.

Library: During their 35-minute class, 5th graders will learn about the different genres in our library, talk about books and authors, and work to build excitement for reading. 6th graders do not have library class, but will still have the opportunity to visit the library with a library pass and during regular visits with their ELA teachers.

Physical Education: Physical Education class builds a foundation for physical and social-emotional lifelong wellness. We work toward this goal by building confidence in our motor skills, advancing personal fitness, exhibiting respect, empathy, responsibility and cooperation while working with others, and recognizing the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expressions and social interaction.

STEM: During STEM class fifth and sixth grade students will attempt engineering tasks, coding challenges, and other math and science-related lessons that will allow them to deepen their critical-thinking skills and problem-solving abilities. They will utilize a STEM notebook which will stay in class. Sixth grade STEM ends with a culminating Genius Hour project of each student's choosing. We also focus on handling frustration, using self-reflection effectively, and working as part of a team. Most supplies will be provided, but it would be appreciated if students could bring their own Scotch tape (with their name) to leave in the STEM room for the duration of the semester.

We will be sending out a Related Arts News document in the *Tuesday Notes* at least once a month, but should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Contact information is listed on the Intermediate School's Staff Directory website:

<https://www.wdpsd.com/schools/intermediate/about/staff-directory.cfm>.

We look forward to a great year,

The Related Arts Team