

1001 Lakeland Dr SE
Willmar, MN 56201

School Phone Numbers

- Main Line:
(320)263-5020
- Attendance:
(320)263-5021
- Nurse:
(320)263-5014
- Fax:
(320)263-5030
- Cardinal Place:
(320)263-5025
- Palmer Bus:
(320)382-6421
- Willmar Bus:
(320)235-2110
- Woodlands
Mobile Crisis
Hotline:
(800)432-8781

Stay Connected!

- Lakeland Twitter
@WillmarLake
- Lakeland Remind
@willlake
- WPS Facebook

Lakeland Elementary

September 2023

Here We Go....

As we launch into our 2023-2024 school year, we are looking forward to the great adventures that await us all.

Our focus at Lakeland has always been to provide students with a well rounded, whole child approach to learning. Students will be learning academics and social emotional skills throughout the year. We believe these two areas go hand in hand with one not outweighing the other.

This year, we will follow that same mission. Your child will be learning many things in the areas of read-

ing, writing, math, social studies, art, physical education, science, music, and health as well as learning



Mrs. Baumgarn and Mrs. Wilson are excited to welcome you back!

social/emotional skills to support him/her in his/her developmental journey.

In order to give your child the best possible educational experience, we look to partner with you throughout this journey.

Administration and teachers are available to visit about your child's needs through in person visits, phone calls, emails, and messaging in the Remind app. We are here to help and want the best for you and your child.

Let's work together to make this a great year for the kids at Lakeland!

Staff Highlight...Front Office



Our front office staff is ready and willing to help with all your school needs.

The office is staffed on school days from 8:00-4:00.

Gretchen Baumgarn:
Head Principal

Melissa Wilson:
Assistant Principal

Alissa Norsten:
Head Admin Assistant

Lexi Wubben:
Admin Assistant

Amanda Bajari:
Nurse

Sary "Miny" Miley:
Spanish Liaison

Ifrah Sabri:
Somali Liaison

Leah Thorpe:
Child Guide

Character Word: RESPECT

Each month, students learn about one character word. During the month of September, that word is RESPECT. Respecting ourselves, others around us, and the school property are all important.

Throughout the month, ask your child what he or she is learning about respect and how he or she is demonstrating it at school.

As a parent/guardian, here are some ways you can help practice respect at home:

- ◇ Help your child learn to take care of his/her body and keep it clean.
- ◇ Demonstrate respectful behavior to your child
- ◇ Teach polite manners
- ◇ Avoid overreacting during disagreements
- ◇ Set limits and work with your child to learn them
- ◇ Praise your child, especially when you catch him/her being respectful
- ◇ Help your child take care of the home with age appropriate tasks



Mrs. Baumgarn:
"THE PEO-

*We asked our principals...
"What do you love most about Lakeland?"*

Mrs. Wilson:
"The way we all support each other."



September is Hispanic Heritage Month

During Hispanic Heritage Month, we pay tribute to the generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society.

Our Willmar Public Schools is proud to have a strong Hispanic presence. 42% of students/

families identify as having a Hispanic or Latino background.

At Lakeland, we are fortunate to have staff members with a Hispanic background to work with students, parents, and staff. Two of these staff members, Sary "Miny" Miley and Maria

"Fernanda" Letelier, are here to support our Hispanic/Latino students and parents as well as all students. We are thankful for their insight and all the positivity they bring to Lakeland every day.

Come work at WPS!

WPS Openings:
Full and part time available

Substitute Teacher: Four year degree required (any area)

Substitute Paraprofessional: High school diploma or GED required



Our School/Family Partnership

Thank you for sharing your child with us! We value the trust you have in us to do right by you and your child.

Throughout the year, we have many opportunities to welcome you into the school and help strengthen the partnership it takes to give children a positive elementary experience.

Watch the newsletters and Remind messages for more

information on events/opportunities.

- Attend parent/teacher conferences in October and February
- Volunteer in your child's classroom or chaperone a field trip. (A background check must be completed through the district office website.)

- Come to our family nights and school day events (field day, song-fests, ect)
- Attend our "We are Lakeland" School/Parent Advisory Council meetings. These meetings are held four times a year. All meetings begin at 4:00 and last one hour. The dates are: September 25, January 22, April 15, and June 3.

"If you have an opportunity to make things better and don't, then you are wasting your time on earth."

--Roberto Clemente

Book Talk—Primary

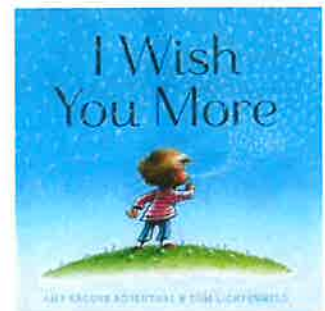
At the start of each school year, Mrs. Baumgarn reads a book to all teachers. This year's book was [I Wish You More](#) by Amy Krouse Rosenthal and Tom Lichtenheld.

The idea of sending positive thoughts/wishes to others is a great message for kids and families to discuss together

after reading. As a school staff, we wish all of you (parents and students) more smiles than frowns. We are on this journey together—let's make it a great one!

This short, quick, easy to read book is great for kids and adults of all ages.

If you are unable to find this book at a library, stop by Mrs. Baumgarn's office and ask to borrow her copy.



Book Talk—Intermediate



Stella Diaz Has Something to Say, by Angela Dominguez, is the story of a third grade girl in Chicago who is learning to find her voice in the classroom.

As a student who speaks both Spanish and English at school and home, she some-

times gets nervous to speak in front of others.

With an upcoming spelling bee and a speaking project looming, Stella will need all the help she can get to gain her confidence. Will she do it? Read it and find out!

September 2023

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4	5	6	7	8
No School-Labor Day	No School-Family/Teacher Meetings	No School-Family/Teacher Meetings	First Day K-5th Grade	
11	12	13	14	15
First Day Pre-K				
18	19	20	21	22
WHS Homecoming Week				
Comfy-Cozy Day (Pajama Day)	Sports Day (Favorite Sport or Team)	Wacky Wednesday (Mismatch Day)	Hat and Crazy Hair	Cardinal Pride (Red and White Day)
25	26	27	28	29
Vision and Hearing Screening	Fall Picture Day			
"We are Lakeland" School/Parent Advisory Meeting, 4:00				

Upcoming Events...October 2023

October 9: Vision and Hearing Re-screening

October 12: Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3:30-7:30

October 17: Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3:30-8:00

October 18: Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences, 8:00am-12:00pm

October 18-20: No School for PreK-8th grade students

