



The Literacy Scoop

October Edition
Westlawn Middle School



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Lacey Lupo
Instructional Partner

Let's Talk About October's Literacy Event....

Principal for the Day

One lucky student will have the opportunity to be the Principal for the Day! As they shadow Mrs. Alexander, they will help her make daily decisions, sit in on meetings, visit classrooms, have a special lunch ordered-in, and participate in other daily principal tasks. This student will also create one rule for the day, within reason, that all teachers and students must follow. After all, they will be the PRINCIPAL!

Strategy for teachers to implement: Exit Slips

Remember, there are several ways to implement this after strategy. Questions about exit slips? Feel free to ask me or another teacher on your team. You can also refer to your strategy notebooks. If you're feeling really crafty and want to make your exit slips virtual, try the tech tool of the month, Wall Wisher. (See Below or click the link)

More details to follow on this literacy event. All ELA teachers will be given a PowerPoint to share with your classes to help spread the word about this reward. PLEASE look for students who are leaders in the classroom, embracing strategies, showing GROWTH on STAR and other assessments, and those who are reading recreationally. Remember, literacy is within every subject! If your student is a winner, you may be too!



Important Dates to Remember:

"Don't Wing It!"

Classroom Tours and Wings!

Wednesday, October 3
4:15 in Media Center

STAR Test

October 15-19

EXPLORE Test

8th Grade
October 17-18

SHOUT-OUT!

Thank you teachers for your help with the STAR celebration. Our next celebration will be in October and will focus on students who are showing growth! Stay tuned for details!

Help Wanted?

My job is to support your work. Please don't hesitate to contact me!
Email:

lacey.lupo@hsv-k12.org

Website:

[Lupo's Literacy Lounge](#)

Tech Tools to Try:



This cool tool has me SO excited!!

Wall Wisher

<http://wallwisher.com/>

Wall Wisher is a virtual tool for collaboration that allows users to create sticky notes and add them to a wall that you create. Perfect for brainstorming, affinity diagrams, feedback., and more! I'm thinking...virtual exit slips!

Click [HERE](#) to see some ways that you could use this in your classroom! I can't wait to see this cool tool used in action.

NEWSFLASH!

Warrior Literacy News--Small Groups

Small Group Instruction provides intensity as students are given more opportunities to respond and practice. Five types of grouping practices are outlined below:

Whole Group	Preview new concepts, review concepts, practice concepts not mastered by 2/3 of class	All students in the class
Small Group (same ability)	Instruction targeted to specific needs	3-6 students based on assessment data
Small Group (mixed ability)	Practice concepts already introduced	Based on students' abilities or interests
Pairs/Partners	Practice concepts already introduced	Based on assessment data
Intervention	Instruction targeted to specific students' needs	Based on assessment data

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STAR Accountability

Multiple teachers had a variety of ways to celebrate STAR successes. Mrs. Nevlous had "Congrats" balloons for students who showed growth on their STAR tests in addition to other little "happies" for her remaining students, Mrs. Smith and Ms. McDonald posted results of growth in the hallway, Ms. Castagnola and Ms. Weeks had an awesome growth chart, Mrs. Smalley had a "Stars are Rising" display, and other teachers had bulletin boards with student data and/or groupings. What great ideas and ways to hold students accountable! Keep it up!

Bright Idea Borrowed from Ms. Wells

Ms. Wells has a "Strategy of the Month" mini bulletin board in her room.. LOVE IT! What a great way to display student work related to the strategy of the month. It's also a nice advertisement and reminder to the kiddos about the monthly literacy event.



Remind 101

Remind 101 is a way for teachers to safely text message students with reminders. The students will NOT be given your number, nor will they be able to text back. You as the teacher will not visually see their phone number, but just the students' names. I encourage you to try it out yourself to see if it is something you want to utilize in your classroom. You may also want to send home a parent letter before using this cool tool in your classroom because standard messaging rates do apply.

<https://www.remind101.com/>

A Word Wall "Wrap-Up": Revisiting a Focus Point

We all know our students can memorize the most difficult song lyrics, but have trouble with day-to-day vocabulary memorization and application. Try this cool app: **Auto Rap**.

This tool takes your spoken words, adds music to the background, and makes it into a rap song. What a cool and fun way to practice those vocabulary words or other content in the form of a rap song!

Not for you? Check out the book **Yo Momma Vocabulary Builder**....it puts those troubling words into "Yo Momma" jokes. It's seriously hilarious!

"What the teacher is, is more important than what he teaches."

Karl A Menninger