



## **DISCOVERY RIDGE ELEMENTARY** **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2025**

### **SPECIAL AREA SCHEDULE**



Monday - Day 5

Tuesday - Day 1

Wednesday - Day 2

Thursday - Day 3

Friday - Day 4

### **LUNCH TIMES BY GRADE LEVEL**

Kindergarten- 11:15 am

1st Grade- 11:25 am

2nd Grade- 10:50 am

3rd Grade- 12:40 pm

4th Grade- 12:15 pm

5th Grade- 11:50 am

## Breakfast & Lunch Menu

### IMPORTANT DATES

1/31

Kids Heart Challenge Kick Off Day

2/2

Nothing Bunt PTO Fundraiser orders due

2/3

National School Counseling Week Begins

2/5

Field Trip: Grades 1-2

2/8

DRE PTO Ties & Tiaras Family Dance, 6-8 pm

2/10

Late Start at 10:35 am, parents may start dropping students off at 10:20 am

DRE Celebrating 100th Day of School (In Person)

2/12

DRE PTO 3rd Quarter Meeting, Library 6-7 pm

2/14

K-2 Valentine's Day Parties (please see your teachers newsletter for times and details)

2/16

DRE PTO Family Night at The Magic House, 6-8 pm

2/17

No School- Presidents Day

2/18

No School- PD Day

2/20

WSD BOE Meeting, 6:30 pm

2/25

Field Trip: 3rd Grade

## Academic Calendars (2024-2025, 2025-2026)

### KIDS HEART CHALLENGE

The Kids Heart Challenge for the American Heart Association starts Friday Jan. 31 and goes through the end of February. Information has been sent home with your child(ren). It is also being presented in PE class. Please contact Mrs. Janel Mathison - [janelmathison@wsdr4.org](mailto:janelmathison@wsdr4.org) if you have any questions.



### DRE Heart Challenge Dashboard

### 2025 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION & SCREENING

Does your child start kindergarten next fall? If your answered, yes, you may register them for a Kindergarten screening by scanning the QR Code or selecting the button below!

All children who will turn five before August 1, 2025, are eligible to attend kindergarten. To register your child for kindergarten, follow the steps below:

- Complete a kindergarten screening. If your child has not been screened at their preschool, daycare, or at the Parents as Teachers office you may sign up for a screening [here](#). Children who have not been screened yet will complete their screening at the registration event. Appointment required for screening.
- Attend registration event between 8:30 am-12:30 pm and 3:15-7:30 pm at Berrey-Place Center, One Campus Drive, Wentzville, MO 63385. Come prepared with the [required items](#) including proof of residency, immunization record, birth certificate, parent/guardian photo ID, and documentation regarding legal guardianship (if applicable). No appointment necessary.
- Check your address with our [boundary locator](#) to see which elementary school your child will attend.
- Create an account (or login) on [Focus School Software](#), complete the online application process, and submit the required items within Focus School Software.
- Get excited and stay tuned for updates from your child's school as we gear up for the upcoming school year!



## Schedule Your Child's Kindergarten Screening

### 2025-2026 PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Pre-K Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year begins in February:

- February 10-21: Currently enrolled and returning Pre-K families and WSD employees
- February 24: All Wentzville School District residents

To enroll in the WSD tuition-based preschool program, students must be 3 years old by July 31 of the year they are starting preschool.



For more information or to register, please visit the [District Website](#).

## WSD Early Childhood Programming

### 2025 ELEMENTARY SUMMER SCHOOL

This year, WSD's summer school intervention will be held June 3-26 and will be invitation only. Families of students who qualify will be sent an invitation on February 21, and enrollment will be open February 24-March 14. Keep an eye out for program invitations later this month and learn more here.



### FOLLOW WSD ON INSTAGRAM!

Be the first to know about the latest WSD happenings by connecting with our school district on social media! Follow Wentzville School District on Instagram @wsdschools for fun and relevant content. You might just stumble upon a spotlight of your student.  
[instagram.com/wsdschools](https://www.instagram.com/wsdschools)



## COUNSELORS CORNER

### How to Cope with the Loss of a Pet

Losing a pet is a significant loss for a child, and every child grieves differently. It's important to be patient, understanding, and supportive of your child's unique needs during this time.

[Healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org)'s article, "When a Pet Dies: How to Help Your Child Cope" gives practical advice and age appropriate books to help children during this difficult time.



[When a Pet Dies: How to Help Your Child Cope, healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org)

### DRE Counselor Contact Information

Mrs. Stacy Browning, K-2 Guidance Counselor  
[stacybrowning@wsdr4.org](mailto:stacybrowning@wsdr4.org)

Mrs. Jane Douglas, 3-5 Guidance Counselor  
[janedouglas@wsdr4.org](mailto:janedouglas@wsdr4.org)

Mrs. Sarah Holcomb, MSW, LCSW, RPT  
Educational Support Counselor  
[sarahholcomb@wsdr4.org](mailto:sarahholcomb@wsdr4.org)

## WSD WOW FACTOR AWARD

Nominate a teacher or staff member who has made a significant impact on you or your students' education and life for a Wentzville Wow Factor Award. Your nomination can brighten someone's day!

**WSD WOW Factor**

## PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION 'PTO' NEWS

**Join PTO**

## DRE Spirit Wear Store

### DRE PTO BOARD ELECTION 2025-26

We are seeking new members to serve on our amazing PTO Board. It is such a fun way to become involved in your child's school and gives you a voice in future events while building your relationship with the DRE community. You will serve on the PTO Board for three years. The current board will still be active around school and events to support you! Please fill out the form linked below if you are interested in being on the PTO board!

[Click to Apply for the DRE PTO Board](#)

### DRE PTO FUNDRAISER

Help us support DRE and the PTO by ordering Nothing Bundt Cakes, Mini Bundt cakes. You can place your order by selecting the button below. Ordering closes at 10 pm on Sunday, Feb. 2.

Pick up will be available at DRE out front, on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 8:30 am-4 pm or we can send them home! We can even deliver them straight to your teacher if you would like.

If you have any questions, please contact the DRE PTO at [discoveryridgepto@gmail.com](mailto:discoveryridgepto@gmail.com)



Help us support DRE and the PTO by ordering some delicious, mini bundt cakes!! Orders can be placed on the attached [Google form](#).

Orders are due Sunday, February 2nd at 10pm.

All mini bundtlets are \$7. These make perfect Valentine treats!

Pick up will be available out front at DRE on Wednesday, February 12th 8:30-4:00pm or we can send them home! We can even deliver them straight to your teacher if you would like!

Questions? Contact DRE PTO [discoveryridgepto@gmail.com](mailto:discoveryridgepto@gmail.com)

### Mini Bundt Cake Orders

### DRE PTO FAMILY DANCE NIGHT

Join us Feb. 8, from 6-8 pm for a Family Dance Night at DRE. This event is at no cost and will include dancing, face painting, a photo booth, and fun for all! Cash only concessions available. *This is a family event and children must be accompanied by an adult.* Click the picture to sign up, registration closes, Feb. 5, 2025.





## DRE PTO FAMILY NIGHT AT THE MAGIC HOUSE

Family night at The Magic House! Bring the whole family to The Magic House on Feb. 16, 6-8 pm, and enjoy all of the fun things it has to offer. Cost is \$20 per family! Select the button below to sign up so you don't miss out. You can pay via Venmo @DRE-PTO or Check payable to DRE PTO. Make sure to include on the memo line Magic House and last name.



## Magic House Registration

## SAVE THE DATE DRE PTO TRIVIA NIGHT

Save the date March 7 for our DRE PTO Trivia Night, 6-10 pm at Trigg Banquet Center. Cost is \$30 per person or \$240 per table of 8. Snacks and table decor are welcome! More information is available on the DRE PTO Facebook page!



## COMMUNITY AGENCY PRESENTATIONS

Dear Discovery Ridge Elementary Family,

Throughout the duration of the academic year, the Wentzville School District partners with community agencies that specialize in providing students, families, and educators with preventative education. Agency presenters are credentialed, coordinated through the District, and under the supervision of building administrators. Presentation topics are targeted toward specific grade levels. All students will participate in each program unless you choose to opt your child out of the lesson(s). If you are interested in opting your student(s) out of the presentation(s), please click the appropriate link(s) below.

[Kindergarten Opt-Out Form](#)

[First Grade Opt-Out Form](#)

[Second Grade Opt-Out Form](#)

[Third Grade Opt-Out Form](#)

[Fourth Grade Opt-Out Form](#)

[Fifth Grade Opt-Out Form](#)

If you have additional questions, please reach out directly to your student's guidance counselor.

Thank you,

Mrs. Kelly Stratman, Principal

Dr. Lindsay Burkemper, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Stacy Browning, K-2 Counselor

Mrs. Jane Douglas, 3-5 Counselor

Mrs. Sarah Holcomb, Education Support Counselor

**LeaderinMe**

# Welcome to *Leader in Me*

Each new school year brings opportunities for academic growth and growth in all areas of development. Although children must be knowledgeable when they graduate, they must also be healthy, engaged, responsible, and caring people.

We're grateful you're here at our school and we're excited to partner with you and your child. As a *Leader in Me* School, we believe that every member of your family has greatness and we can't wait to learn and grow from you! *Leader in Me* (LiM) is an evidence-based, comprehensive school-



improvement model—developed in partnership with educators and FranklinCovey—that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in a global community.

Our school has chosen to operate through a uniquely different lens. *Leader in Me* is about empowering your child to reach their full potential while ultimately finding their voice. As a school, the staff in this building have made five core commitments to your child. We call these our Core Paradigms. In these paradigms you will find the belief and way we view all students. At this school we see that:

- Everyone is a leader.
- Everyone has genius.
- Change starts with me.
- We empower students to lead their own learning.
- Educators and families partner to develop the whole person.

Not only do these paradigms apply to your student, they apply to all of us!

*Leader in Me* provides our school with the vision and language to lead the school in a way that addresses all areas of development. As each child discovers and develops their unique gifts and talents, they are given opportunities to lead.

As leaders, they become active, engaged partners in their own education, and their self-confidence, responsibility, and initiative grows. The children quickly understand the benefits of different gifts and talents; they learn to listen to new ideas, work together to achieve results, and motivate one another to be the best.

We hope your school enjoys sharing these new opportunities. Together, we will see each child grow throughout the year.

Mrs. Kelly J. Stratman, Principal

Dr. Lindsay Burkemper, Assistant Principal

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A NATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHARACTER

DISCOVERY RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

welcome to

# DISCOVERY RIDGE ELEMENTARY

RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | CARING



Discovery Ridge Elementary



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