February 28, 2020

School News

"Protect the Ocean, Save the Planet" T-Shirt Sale

Our 2nd grade GT seminar group, Planet Protectors, needs your help! They are selling t-shirts to raise funds to purchase a drinking fountain with a water bottle attachment to reduce our use of single-use plastics. Let’s show our commitment to the environment by helping the Planet Protectors meet their fundraising goal. The t-shirts are personalized with our school's name on the sleeve. T-shirts are premium quality 100% pre-shrunk cotton.

Price: $13.00
Payment: Cash, Check payable to WFES, or Online at: http://osp.osmsinc.com/HowardMD/

If you pay online, please complete the bottom section and return for sizing information.

** Due date: Monday, March 2, 2020 **
Colors: Jade Green for Youth and Galapagos Blue for Adult
Logo on Front: Sea Turtle with "Protect the Ocean, Save the Planet"

Please complete and return to Mrs. Mitchell

Student Name: ____________________________ Teacher: _________________

Payment type: Cash _____ Check _____ Online Payment _____

Youth S (sizes 6-8): _____ Adult S: _____ Adult 2X: _____
Youth M (sizes 10-12): _____ Adult M: _____ Adult 3X: _____
Youth L (sizes 14-16): _____ Adult L: _____ Adult 4X: _____
Adult 1X: _____ Adult 5X: _____

Not Too Late to Order Class Group Pictures

Our school photographer, Strawbridge Studios, was at West Friendship this week. Homeroom classes posed for group pictures. The cost of a classroom group picture is $10. You may still place an order for a class picture. Please note that you may pay online by visiting www.strawbridge.net and entering code #FM315750. You may also print the attached form and send it in with cash or check in the amount of $10. Please make checks payable to Strawbridge Studios, Inc. Payments must be received by Monday, March 2nd.

2020-2021 Kindergarten and New Family Registration (Not Current Students)

Please make certain you are on the screen for 2020-2021 if registering for the next school year. Please read this message in its entirety.

Registration for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2020 will begin on Monday, March 9th and runs through Friday, March 13th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at West Friendship Elementary. Kindergarten is
mandatory in the state of Maryland. If your child turns 5 by September 1, 2020, you must register your child for the 2020-21 school year. Parents/Guardians are to register students at the school serving the address where the child resides. Information on neighborhood schools can be found through School Locator, http://hcpssgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=06528401636a448b1ef681c66a61a07 or by calling the Public Information Office at 410-313-6682.

Step 1: Register Online Here: https://sisparents.hcpss.org/PXP2_OEN_Login.aspx

Online registration MUST be followed by registering parent presenting photo ID at the school office.

Step 2: Complete registration in person by providing the documents listed below. The following documents are needed for registration:

- Child’s evidence of birth
- An authorized record of immunizations
- Proof of residency in the form of a signed lease or deed including signature pages
- Current utility bill
- Proof of custody (if applicable)
- Photo ID of registering parent/guardian MUST be presented at the school office in order to complete registration.

Please visit https://www.hcpss.org/enroll/kindergarten/ to view important information about registering your student. You can also find a complete list of documents required for registration. If you have any questions about Kindergarten Registration, please call Mrs. Colleen Green at 410-313-5512. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors! Having accurate enrollment numbers early on helps us when planning for the upcoming school year.

**If you have a child currently attending an HCPSS Pre-K program, there is no need to re-register your student for Kindergarten. Also, if your child is a current HCPSS student at WFES or any other HCPSS school, please DO NOT re-register your student.**

Health Room News

As we enter into flu season, this is a reminder that frequent handwashing with soap and water or hand sanitizer is the best way to prevent the spread of disease. Many people catch the flu from infected people who are coughing and sneezing. Please teach your child to use a tissue or a sleeve when they have these symptoms.

- **Fever policy:** Keep your child home if she/he has a fever over 100.0. If your child has a fever at school, they must be picked up. **Students may not return to school until their temperature is less than 100.0 for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.** A fever indicates that your child has a contagious infection.
- Please notify your child’s teacher and/or the school nurse if your child is absent with a contagious illness such as strep throat or the flu.
- If the doctor prescribes medication for your child, please make sure he/she takes it as directed—which means the right amount at the right time and without missing doses.
- Make sure your child is getting enough sleep. 9-11 hours of sleep is recommended for school age children.
- We encourage you to send in a refillable water bottle labeled with your child’s name every day. Please remind your child not to share.
- You may send in cough drops with a parent note. They will be kept in the health room.
- Students may keep lip balm in their backpacks for use during the school day. Please remind your child not to share.

Please contact the Health Room with any questions or concerns. Phone: 410-313-5515 or Email: elizabeth_collora@hcpss.org

Health Room Donations Needed
Our Health Room is in need of gently used or new boys’ long pants and shorts with an elastic waist, in sizes 4-8. Donations can be sent to the health room. Thank you so much!

**Homework Guidelines Reminder**

The amount of homework given at each grade level, reflects HCPSS guidelines which can be found here: [HCPSS Policy 8010: Grading and Reporting: Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5](#). Please reference this policy or your child’s teacher should you have any other questions regarding homework.

- Grades Pre-K and Kindergarten: No more than 20 minutes of homework per night will be assigned in total.
- Grades 1-2: No more than 20 minutes of homework per night will be assigned.
- Grades 3-5: No more than 30 minutes required per night in grade 3; 40 minutes in grade 4; and 50 minutes in grade 5.

**Outdoor Recess**

As we head into our winter months, now is the perfect time to share our school system’s policy regarding outdoor recess. As you are aware, we take students outside each day for recess. This is a great opportunity for students to get some exercise and a much needed break from their academics. With that being said, we want to make sure that we keep students healthy so that they can be in school each day. If the wind chill (AKA "Feels Like") temperature is 20ºF or above and no falling precipitation (no more than a sprinkle or mist) we will go outside for recess.

As the temperatures drop, please make sure students are dressed appropriately for the bus stop, as well as for recess. Please make sure students have winter coats with them for recess. We want to keep students safe and healthy. Please be sure all clothing (coats, sweaters, hats, gloves) are labeled with your child’s name.

**“A Story Called Kindness” Poster Contest - Entries Due April 1, 2020**

All HCPSS students in grades K–12 are encouraged to enter the countywide poster contest, A Story Called Kindness. Students may enter as individuals or as part of a group.

Design a poster illustrating acts of kindness. Use your imagination, creativity, and artistic talent to illustrate a scene from your life story where you’ve shown someone kindness or offered a helping hand. Students are encouraged to limit the use of text, and instead tell their story with images and artwork.

All entries are due by Wednesday, April 1 in person or by mail to: Columbia Association Art Center, 6100 Foreland Garth, Columbia, MD 21045, Attn: Monica Herber.

**Entry criteria:**

- **Size:** 10” x 17” (horizontal or vertical). Include partner logos, student’s name, grade and school across the bottom; finished size 11” x 17”
- **Do not sign or initial your entry.** Each poster submission should include the student’s name, address, email, phone number, school, and grade level on the reverse side of the artwork
- **Media:** Marker, colored pencil, paint, computer, photography, or mixed media
- **Avoid fluorescent or neon markers.** For crayons and colored pencils, make sure the colors are filled in and solid
- **Do not use metallic colors, glitter, or mediums or materials that create a raised surface of more than ¼ inch**

Entries will be on exhibit May 4-17 at the Columbia Art Center. There will be a reception and awards ceremony May 6.

- **Grand Prize:** $50 gift card and poster reproduced for countywide distribution
- **Category Prizes:** $25 gift card to winner in each category of K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12

Questions may be directed to Monica Herber at monica.herber@columbiaassociation.org or 410-730-0075.

*Presented in partnership with HCPSS, the Columbia Association Art Center and the Howard County Library System.*
Save the Date!

Saturday, February 29
Unheard Perspectives Showcase at Hammond Middle School – 9am to noon

Wednesday, March 4
Cultural Arts Assembly “African Drum & Dance” Sponsored by WFES PTA
   Grades K, 1, & 2 – 9:30 to 10:15a.m.   Grades 3, 4, & 5 – 10:30 to 11:15a.m.

Friday, March 6
Kindergarten Tiger Celebration

Friday, March 6
Interim Reports Issued

Friday, March 13
School Spirit Day – WFES Spirit Wear

Friday, March 13
Kindergarten Field Trip – 9:20 a.m. to Noon

Friday, March 13
Gr. 2 Tiger Celebration

Wednesday, March 18
WFES Career Day

Wednesday, March 18
PTA Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

Monday, March 30
Kids Heart Challenge

Monday, March 30
Gr. 5 SCH Kickoff – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 31
Gr. 2 Field Trip – 9:20 to 10:20 a.m.

Tuesday, March 31
Gr. 1 & Gr. 2 Tiger Celebrations

Wednesday, April 1
Gr. 3 Field Trip – 9:20 to 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 2
Gr. 4 Field Trip – 9:30 to 1:00 p.m.

Friday, April 3
Schools Close 3-Hours Early – Professional Work Day – End of 3rd Marking Period

PTA News

WFES PTA is having our Second Annual Read-A-Thon!

From March 2nd to March 13th, the WFES PTA will be holding a Read-A-Thon to raise money for the PTA’s support of our school, and to celebrate and encourage our students' love of reading. Earlier this week, your child brought home a sheet that details how you can create their online page to track their reading progress, and to collect donations to support this important fundraiser. One important change from last year is that this year we are asking that only adults record minutes read by their student(s). In addition, this year only minutes read outside of the school day will count towards a student’s reading time. (Teachers will not be entering in minutes read at school.)

Kids who read for 200 minutes during our Read-a-thon will earn a ticket in a prize raffle, and they can earn an additional ticket for every extra 50 minutes read! (Reading includes all time spent with a book or magazine, whether your child is being read to, or is reading independently.)

Every child who raises $25 during our Read-A-Thon will also earn a raffle ticket, with an additional ticket being earned for each additional $25 dollars raised. Our prizes so far include:

- Amazon Kindle Fire 8 for Kids
- Kid’s Fitbit Ace 2
- Barnes & Noble gift card
- Firehouse Creamery gift card
- Shadowland passes
- Regal Cinema gift card
- Adventure Park USA passes
- Pottery Stop gift card
- Liberty Roller Skating passes

The grade that reads the most minutes will earn extra recess at the end of our Read-A-Thon, and the top readers and fundraisers in each class will earn a pizza party! One student from each grade will win a gift card to A Likely Story Bookstore in Sykesville!
We hope you'll help support this event; sharing your child's unique link with family and friends will help our PTA raise the money it needs to continue hosting the events our kids love, and to continue supporting our wonderful teachers and staff.

This event begins next Monday, March 2nd, but you can create your child's page today so they are ready to start recording reading and fundraising on Monday.

Thank you for helping your child participate in this event. If you have any questions about the event, or need your child's code, just email melissabonier@gmail.com.

**Community News**

Visit the Community News and Programs web-page for all announcements of events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations. [https://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/](https://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/)

**Free Eye Exams and Glasses**

The Beyond 20/20 Maryland Optometric Association (MOA) outreach program will provide FREE Eye Exams and Glasses to participating Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) students in February and March. Click here for full details!

**Mustang Flea Market**

Saturday, February 29th 8am – 1pm
Donations are needed and accepted on Sunday, February 23rd, 2pm -4pm
See flyer for complete details!

**Softball Clinic at Marriotts Ridge High School**

Click here to view informational flyer.

**Marriotts Ridge HS Booster Summer Camp 2020 registration is now open!**

We have a camp for everyone -- sports, music and arts! Complete information, including camp schedule, is available on the booster’s website. Take advantage of early bird pricing on or before May 17, 2020!


**HC DrugFree Updates**

1. **Free Parenting Classes** - HC DrugFree and the State's Attorney's Office are offering another series of evidence-based, interactive parenting classes. Provides the parents of children age 9-14 with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. Classes will be held on Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Oakland Mills Middle School in Columbia. Parents are expected to attend all 4 classes. For more information, contact HC DrugFree's Executive Director, Joan Webb Scornaienchi at Admin@hcdrugfree.org or 443-325-0040. To register, visit [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/March2020oms](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/March2020oms)

2. **Drive-Thru Medication and Sharps (Needles, Syringes & EpiPens) Collection** - HC DrugFree's next drive-thru medication and sharps (needles, syringes and EpiPens) collection will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot. Bring all unwanted and expired over-the-counter and prescription medication. Free. Open to the public. No need to get out of your vehicle. Student and adult volunteers welcome. Community service hours available. Medication guarded and transported by the Howard County Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration.
Address
12500 Frederick Road
West Friendship, MD 21794

Phone
410-313-5512

Website
wfes.hcpss.org

Twitter
@hcpss.wfes