

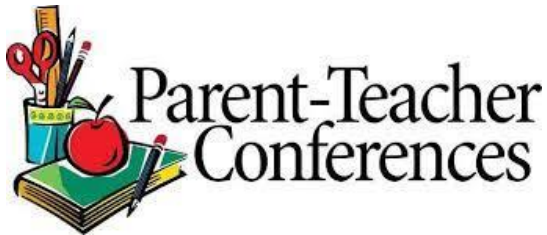
Kaye M. Breon Principal	<h1>Tiger Tales</h1> 	Brian Vanisko Assistant Principal
West Friendship E.S. 12500 Frederick Road West Friendship, MD 21794 P: (410) 313-5512		Web Site: <a href="http://wfes.hcpsz.org/">http://wfes.hcpsz.org/</a> School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**November 4, 2022**

## Upcoming Dates

<b>Monday, November 7</b>	<b>Conference Scheduling Opens (Available via Synergy) at 8:00am</b>
<b>Monday, November 7</b>	<b>Gr. 2 Students In-House Field Trip – Howard County Fire Safety House</b>
<b>Monday, November 7</b>	<b>WFES PTA Event at Crazy Mason Milkshake Bar – 4:00 to 7:00pm</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 8</b>	<b>Schools &amp; Office Closed – Election Day</b>
<b>Friday, November 11</b>	<b>School Spirit “Veterans Day” – Wear Red, White &amp; Blue</b>
<b>Friday, November 11</b>	<b>Report Cards Available via Synergy at 4:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday, November 17</b>	<b>Conference Scheduling Closes at 4:00pm</b>
<b>November 15 – 22</b>	<b>WFES Scholastic Book Fair – More Details to Come!</b>
<b>Monday, November 21</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences (in Person) – Schools Close 3 Hours Early</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 22</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences (Virtual) – Schools Close 3 Hours Early</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 23</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences (Virtual) – Schools Closed for Students</b>
<b>Thurs &amp; Fri., Nov. 24 &amp; 25</b>	<b>Schools &amp; Offices Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday</b>

## School News & Information



### Parent/Teacher Conferences are Coming!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Conferences with ELA teachers and 4<sup>th</sup> grade GT math teachers will take place during this window.

Parents have the option to conference either in-person or virtually. Please make note of the designated days below for in-person and virtual conferences below:

- **In-person** conferences will be held on **Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> only**
- **Virtual** conferences will be held on **Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and/or 23<sup>rd</sup> only**

**On Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am, scheduling will open to parents and continue through November 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.** Directions on how to schedule conferences can be found [HERE](#).

- You will schedule your Parent Teacher Conferences in [HCPSS Connect](#).
  - Click on the Conference tab in the left navigation panel and click Parent Conferences.
  - Select the conference time you want for each class listed.

Families wishing to conference with any of our related arts teachers may email the teacher(s) directly. Please visit our school website [staff page](#) for email addresses.

Parents, please remember that you will need to use your own login and password, not your child’s. Also, using a computer is the best way to access [HCPSS Connect](#).

## Time for the Book Fair... November 15 – 22, 2022

We are excited to announce that West Friendship Elementary will host the Scholastic Book Fair this fall! Reading for pleasure inside and outside of school has real and long-lasting benefits. It unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Please plan on visiting our Book Fair to help our children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading. What an awesome way to build your family library and find great gifts for the upcoming winter holidays! We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school. Specific dates and hours will be announced soon! Many volunteers will be required to make this event run smoothly. Watch for details!!!

## Inclement Weather & Asynchronous Days

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) now allows local school systems to repurpose inclement weather days as asynchronous school days. At the discretion of the superintendent, HCPSS will use up to three inclement weather asynchronous days during the 2022-2023 school year. One of two additional codes will be instituted to reflect the decision to transition to an asynchronous instruction day:

- Code Purple Asynchronous Student Day - School buildings and Office buildings open for staff only
- Code Pink Asynchronous Student Day - School buildings and Office buildings closed

On these Code Purple and Code Pink days, HCPSS curriculum resources for secondary students will be delivered within the Canvas learning management system. Resources will be available for all subjects and courses two hours after the start of the regular school day.

## Fall MAP Scores Available

Home report PDFs for the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) fall testing are now available in HCPSS Connect. The assessment was given to students in grades 1-8 in reading and mathematics. Reports can be viewed/downloaded by Parents/guardians by taking the following steps:

1. Log in to [HCPSS Connect Synergy](#)
2. Select More Options from the left panel
3. Select Report Cards from the menu
4. Near the top of the page, select MAP\_2022\_FALL

*Note: Students in Algebra I/II or Geometry, and English 8 G/T do not participate in MAP testing. If your child did not participate in the October administration, a report may still appear based on the previous administration.*

Additional detail on MAP testing and how to interpret the report can be found [online](#).

## School-Based Mental Health Services

Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is expanding its school-based mental health services. Previously available in 45 schools across the county, these services will be available at all HCPSS schools by the end of the first semester of the 2022-23 school year. The services, including therapy provided at school buildings during the instructional day, are provided by HCPSS' school-based student services teams in collaboration with community mental health agencies. For more information please click on the following link:

<https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2022/10/hcpss-to-expand-school-based-mental-health-services-for-students/>

## HCPSS Student & Parent Handbook

Click [HERE](#) for the county's 2022-23 handbook

## Howard County Family Resources

Please consider signing up to receive monthly newsletters from the Howard County Office of Children and Families. Attached you will find the [October issue of Parent Pages](#).

## When Your Child is Absent from School

### Attendance Procedures

Now that our year is well underway, we would like to remind our families about our attendance procedures. If your child is going to be absent from school, or if you need to provide a note to excuse your child's absence from a previous day, please use our school absence inbox by emailing [wfesabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:wfesabsence@hcpss.org). You may also send in a note the day your child returns to school. Your message must include your child's first and last name, the date of absence, and the reason for absence. Please do not email CANVAS or the teacher regarding absences. We are required to have a reason for the absence in order to code absences as excused in alignment with [HCPSS Policy 9010: Attendance](#).

### HCPSS School Messages

All parents/guardians are in our system to receive HCPSS and school emails. Please do not attempt to create a new account with your child's 2022-2023 school. Additionally, unsubscribing from any HCPSS or school messages will block you from receiving all messages from the district and your child's school. **Please do not unsubscribe. To opt in to receive text messages** from HCPSS you must text "YES" to 67587.

## Upcoming Holiday Events at WFES

### Coming Soon...WFES Season of Giving!

#### How you can help:

- Donate a gift card in increments of \$10, \$15, \$20 or \$25 dollars to any of the following locations: Giant, Safeway, Walmart, Target, or Amazon.
- Donate as much or as little as you're able. All donations will go directly to WFES families who need our support during the holidays.

Thank you for considering! We are so incredibly grateful for our WFES community and appreciate your support!



The 2022 holiday season marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program! The basic mission of the program is to collect **new, unwrapped toys**, and distribute those toys to less fortunate children (up to age 12) at Christmas. West Friendship ES will be a toy drop location this year! Please consider donating a **new, unwrapped toy** to our toy drop box beginning **November 14<sup>th</sup> through December 12<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your consideration.

## PTA News

### WFES PTA Restaurant Event

Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm - 7:00pm

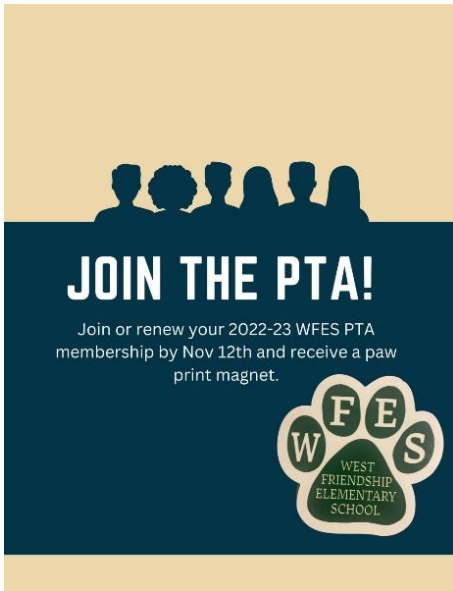
Crazy Mason Milkshake Bar

8225 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043

- First 60 people will receive a special mason jar with WFES logo!!



## Join the PTA



Becoming a member of the PTA supports the programs and events that enhance your child's experience at school. The PTA also supports the needs of our teachers and shows them our appreciation! Joining does not require any further commitment, although we always welcome volunteers to help with our various events. PTA membership must be renewed each year. Please consider joining today!

<https://mywfespta.weebly.com/supportus-992913.html>

## Community News and Events

### HCPSS Community News and Programs Site

The HCPSS [Community News and Programs](#) website makes it easy for families to find educational and recreational resources, events and after-school programs beyond the school day by non-profit organizations. Community organizations requesting their announcements be shared in school newsletters should visit [community-programs.hcpss.org](http://community-programs.hcpss.org) for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at [publicinfo@hcpss.org](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).

### Howard County Library System Supports Student Success!

- Books for all ages, levels, and interests
- Free online tutoring
- Fun classes and events
- Inviting branches
- No late fees

HCPSS students have automatic library accounts through <https://hcpss.me/>

We're here to help! [hclibrary.org](http://hclibrary.org)

### Know What's Happening in Howard County

Sign up for HC DrugFree's newsletter at <https://hcdrugfree.org/enews-signup/> to get updates on events as well as information to keep your family safe and informed.

### Marriotts Ridge Theatre Department Proudly Presents...MAMMA MIA!

*ABBA's hits tell the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. Don't miss the story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs, non-stop laughs, and explosive dance numbers! A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you will never forget!*

**Don't Miss it, one Weekend Only! Four Performances:**

**November 10, 11 & 12 at 7:00pm and November 12 at 2:00pm**

Discounted Tickets are now on sale live to Public at <https://hcpss.booktix.com/>

## Howard High School Craft Fair

**Howard Lions' Pride Second Annual Craft Fair:** Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Howard High School. Our 100+ vendors will be selling crafts, books, candles, kitchen goods, jewelry, home decor, clothing, accessories, and much more! General Info link: <https://tinyurl.com/3tzxuhme>. We are still accepting craft and food truck vendors, so please spread the word and this link: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfuta49>.

## Robinson's Rainbows at Robinson's Nature Center

**Saturday, November 5 \* 2:00 to 3:30pm \* \$10.00/Participant \*Ages 6-12 years \* RP4893101**

If you love the outdoors and making new friends in your community, Robinson's Rainbow outdoor group is for you. This drop-off program is for kids in the LGBTQ+ community to enjoy outdoor adventures and bonding time in a safe environment with their peers and LGBTQ+ staff. Activities may include guided hikes, habitat explorations, scavenger hunts, social games, or team building activities. Learn more by [clicking here!](#)

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RP4893.101 Nov 5 2-3:30pm Sa

**Howard County**  
Recreation & Parks  
Information: 410-313-0400  
Registration: 410-313-7275 (voice/relay), [www.howardcountymd.gov/rp](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/rp)

flickr  
Robinson NATURE CENTER

Scan to Register