

Kaye M. Breon  
Principal

# Tiger Tales

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Assistant Principal

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**Web Site:** <http://wfes.hcpss.org/>  
School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**February 15, 2019**

## School News

### MAP Assessments (Revised Schedule Due to School Closings)

MAP Assessments will continue as students in grades 1-5 participate in the winter administration of the MAP assessment. MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) is an un-timed, computer-adaptive assessment that provides our teachers with detailed, specific information about where your child is performing in Reading and Mathematics. Our grade level teams collaborate with our Math Support Teacher and Reading Support Teacher to analyze the data from the MAP assessment and plan instruction that builds on your child's strengths and supports areas where there is room for improvement.

Though the assessment is un-timed, students typically finish each session in approximately one hour. There are two sessions scheduled for each grade level: one for reading and one for math. Make-up sessions will be scheduled for students who are absent on specified testing dates.

You do not need to do anything special to prepare your child for the MAP assessment other than ensure he or she has a good breakfast and a good night's rest. We do ask that you try and avoid scheduling appointments on the day when your child will be assessed. Students who are absent on the day their grade takes the assessment will be afforded the opportunity for a make-up session on another date.

Parents will receive a report on their child's performance on the MAP assessment in the coming weeks. More information about MAP, how it is scored, and how you can interpret your child's performance is available at <https://www.nwea.org/map-growth/>

Tuesday	February 19	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Reading
Tuesday	February 19	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Math
Tuesday	February 19	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math
Wednesday	February 20	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math
Wednesday	February 20	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading
Friday	February 22	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math
Friday	February 22	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading
Monday	February 25	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading

## School Spirit Days

Our next School Spirit Day will be on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. Please join your classmates in the fun and participate in **Crazy Hat Day!** This is the one day of the year that you can you're your hat throughout the school day. Another School Spirit Day, **Dr. Seuss Day/Book Character Day** will be on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. We can't wait to see the characters that may show up on that day!

## WFES Reading Night

Please reserve February 26<sup>th</sup> for WFES Reading Night! Please join us at 5:45 for an evening of reading and learning! The evening will include an information session for parents on the importance of asking questions while reading, and an introduction to different types of comprehension questions. Students will make "Comprehension Kits" and learn how to use the kit at home when reading with their family. The evening will end with time to relax together, enjoy some hot chocolate, and practice your new strategies. Share the joy of reading by donating a gently used book. Books will be donated to students in Baltimore City Schools. The deadline to RSVP has been extended to February 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Drawing Contest

Since 2011, it has been our mission to reduce the use of plastic bags in our stores. Through more efficient bagging, as well as programs like our reusable tote bags, we've successfully removed over 1 billion plastic bags from the waste stream. Now, we're asking for your help to design our Spring 2020 reusable tote bag!

We are encouraging students to draw a Spring themed coloring page. Idea Starters: What's your favorite thing about spring? What makes you happy about springtime? All participating schools will earn A+ School Rewards points. The winning student(s) will have their artwork featured on our Spring 2020 reusable tote bags.

### ENTRY GUIDELINES:

Contest entry deadline: Friday, March 1, 2019

Art work must be submitted to Ms. Penny Jones in the Front Office.

Who can enter: Students in **Kindergarten - 5th grades**

How to enter: Create an entry on an 8.5 x 11-inch sheet of unlined, white paper.

Participants can use any standard drawing medium (i.e., coloring pencils, crayons, watercolors, or markers). Digital tools to create the artwork are not allowed. Students must write their name on the back of their artwork.

Registered schools can submit a **maximum of three (3) entries per school. Our art teacher, Mrs. Schroder will select the three best pieces of artwork for submission to Martin's. The artists of selected artwork will be asked to complete an entry form and return it to the office.**

Submissions will not be returned by Martin's. However, West Friendship Elementary will acknowledge all artists with a certificate of participation. The prizes are as follows:

- All registered schools that participate will receive a total of 5,000 A+ School Rewards.
- Winner(s) will be randomly selected.
- **Winner(s) will have artwork featured on our spring 2020 reusable bag, sold at your local MARTIN'S.**

## Chess Club with Mrs. Carlyle

Mrs. Carlyle, our school counselor will be offering **Chess Club for 5th grade** students on **Mondays** during lunch and recess. This is a good opportunity for students to learn how to play chess or challenge friends who already know how to play. If your child is interested in being a part of Chess Club, please tell him/her to join us on Mondays. An announcement will be made at school to remind students.

### **Girls on the Run**

Registration for the spring season of WFES Girls on the Run opened on Sunday, February 10 at noon. <https://www.raceplanner.com/register/index/GOTRSpring2019reg>  
The program is for girls in grades 3-5. Practices are Mondays and Fridays from 3:45 - 5:00pm, starting March 18 and going for 10 weeks. The program culminates with a 5k. We only have 20 openings for the program. If you have questions, please contact [ashleyroyle@yahoo.com](mailto:ashleyroyle@yahoo.com)

### **Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey**

Parents of students receiving special education services are encouraged to complete the MSDE survey, which will help guide efforts to improve special education and related services. Complete the hard copy recently mailed to parents, or complete the survey online at [www.mdparentsurvey.com](http://www.mdparentsurvey.com)

### **Update on the Academic Calendar**

In order to allow HCPSS families and staff to plan ahead, we wanted to provide this update regarding the last day of school for students. As of Monday, February 11, Howard County public schools have been closed due to inclement weather on four days this school year: November 15, January 14 and 30, and February 11. As a result, all four of the inclement weather make-up days reserved on the school calendar will be used. The last day of school is now scheduled to be Friday, June 21. The final three school days, June 19, 20 and 21, will dismiss 3 hours early. The updated HCPSS calendar is available online at <https://www.hcpss.org/calendar/>.

The opportunity for winter weather still lies ahead and additional inclement weather closing days may be required. However, there are no additional make-up days built into the Board of Education approved school calendar for the current school year. Maryland state law requires schools to be in session for a minimum of 180 days each year and waivers to this requirement must be approved by the Maryland State Board; these are not automatically granted even when a State of Emergency is in effect.

As winter progresses and should additional inclement weather days occur, the Board of Education will have discussions on how to proceed to account for those days. HCPSS will continue to update parents, staff and students on any further calendar adjustments.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Monday, February 18	Schools & Offices Closed – Presidents’ Day
Thursday, February 21	School Spirit “Crazy Hat” Day
February 25 – March 8	PTA Read-a-thon (Information coming home next week!)
Tuesday, February 26	Reading Night – 5:45pm
Thursday, February 28	Class Group Photos & Individual Spring Photos
Friday, March 1	Dr. Seuss Day and School Spirit “Book Character Day”
Wednesday, March 6	Interim Reports Issued

## PTA News

### **The WFES School Spirit Store is Live!! Enjoy 20% discount for a limited time!!**

The West Friendship Elementary School on-line spirit store is in full operation! Enjoy up to 20% off items for the whole family, including the expanded ladies and youth sections. Don't miss out on polos, gym bags, sweatshirts, t-shirts, shorts, hats, and more. Use **discount code FEB219WF**, valid from February 15 through midnight February 21<sup>st</sup>! Please visit [www.wfesgear.com](http://www.wfesgear.com)  
A portion of each sale goes directly back to West Friendship Elementary School and is sold by O-Line Sports only with the express permission of WFES.

### **WFES PTA Restaurant Fundraisers**

Another fundraiser will be held at **Chipotle on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 9:00pm**. Come out for dinner to support West Friendship Elementary PTA as they will earn a percentage of all sales. Be sure to mention West Friendship when purchasing. **Not** eligible for online orders or call ahead orders. Hope to see you there! Tell your friends! Chipotle is located at 9120 Baltimore National Pike in Ellicott City, MD.

### **Amazon Smile**

Help support West Friendship Elementary Schools PTA by shopping on Amazon through Amazon Smile. You get the same great deals and benefits offered by Amazon while supporting our school! Just go [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), and login to Amazon using your regular username and password. Search for and select West Friendship Elementary School PTA under charitable organizations, and you are ready to shop!

### **Please Join the PTA**

If you have not already, please join the WFES PTA! Membership supports all the amazing programs at WFES such as cultural arts, the school dance, skate night, movie night, Spring Festival, and in-school field trips. The cost is \$15 per family for the year. For that price you get access to the PTA directory, and satisfaction of knowing you are supporting all of the great events your kids love. Please take a second and join by visiting <https://www.wfespta.com/join/pta-member-registration/>

## Community News

### **Aftercare Program at MVMS**

**Parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders please note!** Howard County Recreation and Parks can bring the "Can-Teen Club" Middle School After-School program to a middle school with as few as ten (10) registered students. This licensed program offers homework time, snack, and various activities to keep students active and engaged while they are in a safe and supportive environment. Parents can choose between a 3-day or 5-day enrollment option. In order to start the program at Mount View Middle School, Howard County Recs and Parks will need to have a definitive number by the end of May so they can work through the details with the school during summer. If you are interested in having the program started at MVMS please contact Yvonne Cotto, who is coordinating this effort, at [yhucotto@hotmail.com](mailto:yhucotto@hotmail.com) or 240-418-2501. She will track of the number of interested families and keep everyone updated.

For additional information on the program, contact coordinator Lakishia Major at 410-313-4717 or [lmajor@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:lmajor@howardcountymd.gov) or visit the webpage: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/CanTeenClub>

## **Bushy Park Regional Early Childhood Center, Learning Together Program – Prekindergarten**

The Bushy Park Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) preschool and pre-kindergarten programs are making preparations for classes for the 2019-2020 school year. These classes include children with and without disabilities. The program's focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving, motor, and social skills. **Parents of children who will be 3 by September 1<sup>st</sup> may contact Katie Hereth at Bushy Park Elementary for an application package beginning February 15, 2019.**

There are no available 4-year-old learning together peer spots for the 2019-2020 school year at this time.

The Howard County Public School System continues to offer a Pre-Kindergarten program for income eligible children who will be four years old by September 1. This program is also at Bushy Park RECC in the afternoon 5 days a week. Please contact Katie Hereth at 410-313-5500 for additional information and an application.

All Learning Together Peer applications must be returned by the last Friday in March 2019. A limited number of openings are available for children without disabilities. Children are selected based upon screening information given on the application form and the "Ages and Stages Questionnaire," as well as observations of the child's participation in a playgroup on April 5, 2019 from 10am-10:45am at Bushy Park RECC. If necessary, a lottery process is conducted. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Hereth at (410) 313-5500.

## **MVMS Cultural Showcase**

Mount View MS PTA is hosting their first annual Cultural Showcase! Food, entertainment, activities. It'll be awesome! February 26 from 6-8pm.

## **Camp Improv - Summer Comedy Camp for Kids and Teens!**

Session 1: July 8-12, Session 2: July 15-19

Director: Kathryn Carlsen, Centennial HS Theatre

This camp is all about the joy of jumping in and finding the funny. Listening, saying "yes, and," collaboration and flexibility are key. Though there is a focus on the basics, students with prior improv experience will find an opportunity to strengthen their basic comedy muscles.

### Grades 2-5: 9am-12pm

Students will work on creativity and teamwork through improv, storytelling, and clowning exercises. They will perform a show at the end of the week featuring the skills they learned.

### Grades 6-8: 9am-12pm

Students will work on teamwork, trust, support and artistic collaboration through improv exercises and short form games, like the ones played on Whose Line Is It Anyways? Students will perform a show at the end of the week featuring the games that they learned. (*Level 1 and 2 available. If you have been at one year of Camp Improv, you can be in level 2*).

Location: Centennial High School on the stage and in theatre room.

Cost: \$195 includes a Camp Improv shirt

Performance: Students will perform on the Friday of the camp week at 7pm. All tickets to the show are complimentary!

Registration Due: June 1<sup>st</sup>. Please visit [www.campimprov.org](http://www.campimprov.org) for information and registration.

Questions? Email Kathryn Carlsen at [kcarlsen@hcpss.org](mailto:kcarlsen@hcpss.org)

*Camp Improv is supported by the Centennial High School Boosters.*