

Kaye M. Breon
Principal

Tiger Tales

Brian Vanisko
Assistant Principal

West Friendship E.S.
12500 Frederick Road
West Friendship, MD 21794
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Web Site: <http://wfes.hcpss.org/>
School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

November 22, 2019

School News

Time for the Book Fair

Next Monday and Tuesday will be the last days of the WFES Scholastic Book Fair. 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 start your holiday shopping!

Book Fair dates: November 25 and 26, 2019

Book Fair location: Conference Room (Main Office)

Extended hours: Monday, November 25 & Tuesday, November 26, 8:45am to 7:00pm

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair!

Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

Salvation Army Angel Program

We are excited about how well the **Salvation Army Angel Tree Program** was received by our community. We have adopted 25 "Angels" for this season. We still have **eleven "Angels" available for adoption**. The program is an adoption of individual "Angel" children. When adopting a child, they ask that you supply at least one (1) new toy and (1) new outfit that is listed on the "Angel" and preferably all three (3) toys and clothing items, if possible. PLEASE **DO NOT WRAP** your gifts, but provide the "Angel's" number/name on the outside of the gift or shopping bag. **Please return your bag of unwrapped "Angel" gifts to the Front Office no later than Thursday, December 12th by 12:00 noon.** You can choose your "Angel" by stopping by the Front Office where they are displayed on the windows. Have Mrs. Green check off the "Angel" you have chosen.

Food Drive Update

Thank you to all those who've donated to our food drive to benefit the Howard County Food Bank & local families in need. We'll continue to collect non-perishable food items through next Tuesday, November 26th.

Here are the current donations by grade level:

<u>Grade</u>	<u># of items</u>
Kindergarten	36
1 st Grade	58
2 nd Grade	79
3 rd Grade	112
4 th Grade	94
5 th Grade	164

Look for an update in early December about our total food donation. *Thank you for your kindness and generosity.*

Visitation/Lunch

Parents are invited to visit our school; however, the instruction of the students is the primary purpose of the school and no other activity should interfere with this basic purpose. We ask that **parents/guests not join students for lunch on early dismissal and/or late arrival days**. We work by a revised schedules on these days and most lunch shifts are doubled up. In addition, please understand **that younger siblings are not permitted during visits/lunch/recess/volunteer time**. For the protection of the children and staff, **all visitors must report to the school office before going to any other area of the building, including outside recess**. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

This year, the Howard County Public School System will be administering the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) to all students in grades 3 and 5. The CogAT is a group-administered abilities test that measures students' reasoning abilities, which they develop through in-school and out-of-school experiences. It is not designed to test a student's academic achievement, but their potential.

The test is made of three batteries – Verbal, Quantitative, and Nonverbal. Each battery takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. The CogAT helps educators understand a student's cognitive strengths and weaknesses, and assists with adapting instruction to meet the needs and abilities of each student.

All students in Grades 3 and 5 will participate in the testing. The CogAT will be administered on Tuesday, December 3rd and Wednesday, December 4th. No special preparation is required. Just send your child to school ready to learn as you do daily.

The Gifted and Talented Education Program will use the data from the CogAT as one criterion for placement into fourth grade Gifted/Talented mathematics classes and middle school Gifted/Talented content classes. Students' individual scores will be reported to parents in late February/early March.

Please contact Brian Vanisko, Assistant Principal, if you have any questions about your child's involvement with the CogAT assessment. Brian_Vanisko@hcpss.org

Young Authors' Contest

Students in Grades 1-5 are encouraged to participate in the Young Authors' Contest, which is sponsored by the State of Maryland Literacy Association. Poems or short stories may be entered into the contest. The deadline for entries is December 4, 2019. Attached you will find complete contest guidelines and an entry cover sheet.

[Contest Guidelines](#)

[Entry Cover Sheet](#)

Save the Date!

Mon. & Tues., Nov. 25 & 26	Schools Close 3-Hrs. Early (12:45 p.m.) – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Mon. & Tues., Nov. 25 & 26	WFES Book Fair – 8:45 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
November 27-29	Schools Closed – Happy Thanksgiving
Monday, December 2	Gr. 3 Field Trip – 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tues., & Wed., Dec. 3 & 4	CogAT Administered to Grades 3 and 5
Wednesday, December 4	Mini Choral Concert for WFES Students ONLY – 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 4	Chorus Concert featuring 3 rd Gr. Chorus & 4 th Gr. Percussion – 6:15 p.m.
Wednesday, December 4	Chorus Concert featuring 5 th Gr. Chorus & 5 th Gr. Percussion – 7:15 p.m.
Friday, December 6	Unheard Perspectives Meeting – 8:30 a.m.
Friday, December 6	Kindergarten Tiger Celebration – 2:30 p.m.
Friday, December 13	WFES School Spirit "Pajama" Day

Friday, December 13	2 nd Quarter Interim Progress Reports Issued
Wednesday, December 18	PTA Meeting in the Media Center – 6:30 p.m.
Friday, December 20	Unheard Perspectives Meeting – 8:30 a.m.
Friday, December 20	PTA Sponsored Assembly “Justin Berk” in the Cafeteria Grades K, 1 & 2 – 9:30 a.m. / Grades 3, 4 & 5 – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, December 20	Student Holiday Assembly Grades 1, 3 & 5 – 1:35 p.m. / Grades K, 2 & 4 – 2:35 p.m.
Friday, December 20	Grade 5 Tiger Celebration – 3:15 p.m.
December 23 – January 1	Schools Closed – Winter Break
Thursday, January 2	Schools Reopen

From the PTA

West Friendship Elementary School PTA News

The overall purpose of PTA is to be a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

Be informed about the goings on with WFES PTA:

PTA Website: www.wfespta.com

PTA Facebook page: **West Friendship Elementary School PTA**

Gift of Thanks Deadline is Monday, November 25th at 6:00 p.m.

If you would like to contribute to the staff Gift of Thanks program for holiday gift giving, or to get more information, go to <https://www.wfespta.com/gift-of-thanks/>. If you are paying by check, it must be delivered to the school by noon on Monday!

Square 1-- LAST CHANCE for Paper Orders: Online Deadline Extended!

Our online ordering deadline has been extended to November 30th at midnight. Many items (like mugs) can be personalized for free with special messages for gift giving. Lost your kids code? We have it. Just email melissabonier@gmail.com, and I'll look it up for you!

<https://shop.square1art.com/shop/>

Thank you so much to the many families who have already supported this important PTA fundraiser!

WFES PTA Cultural Night

WFES PTA is proud to present our FIRST Cultural Night celebrating each other with our different and unique backgrounds. This will be a fun filled night of crafts, performances, food and displays. If you are interested in participating in the event, please complete the Google form located here:

<https://forms.gle/S94oCNcwC8ugbdLy8>

Cultural Night will take place on Wednesday February 26th from 6:30 PM - 9 PM.

For additional questions, please contact Puluna Thakkar at tpuluna@hotmail.com or Phuong Dam at pdam721@yahoo.com.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our winning class for this past box top race -- Ms. Mathis' class! They have won extra recess!!! Thanks to your continued support of the box top program, our school has earned \$577.80 so far this year! Box tops have gone digital. Please download the app to scan your receipts and keep earning cool things for our school.

School Directory Access

The school directory is now available. Please log onto the directory with the following directions. The directory can be sorted by grade or other various search options.

Go to www.hcpss.org

Click on [HCPSS Connect](#)

Click on HCPSS Connect Log In

Select **Family File/School Directory** from the menu on the left of the screen in the navigation bar.

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/>



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