

Kaye M. Breon
Principal

Tiger Tales

Brian Vanisko
Assistant Principal

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

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School News

School Picture Make-Up & Retakes – TOMORROW!!!

School pictures were recently sent home with students. Our school photographer will be at WFES on Thursday, October 25th to take photos of students who were absent on our original picture day. They will also do retakes for any student that is dissatisfied with the portrait that was taken in September. **Students requesting a retake will need to return the original portrait package so the photographer will know which package to reproduce.** Any student that was absent on our original "Picture Day" can bring in a picture order envelope to have a package produced or may just have the portrait taken for the yearbook. If you wish to purchase pictures, the completed order forms/envelopes must be returned to school on or before Thursday, October 25th. Please contact Penny.Jones@hcpss.org before 3:15pm today if you wish to receive a photo order form/envelope. You may also visit www.strawbridge.net and enter code 101821 if you wish to pay online. Purchasing school pictures benefits our school financially, as it is a fundraiser. Please consider school photos for your upcoming holiday gift giving needs.

Elementary Safety Protocol - After School

Parents with children in the HCRP aftercare program and any after school activity, please take note: For the safety of our staff and students in after school programs, the doors at West Friendship Elementary will remain locked after school. If your child is in an after school activity, you must wait for your child outside. The program activity staff will walk the children to the front doors and dismiss them to their parents/guardians at the end of their activity. If your child is in our regular after care program, you will ring the bell at the cafeteria door to pick-up your child. This is the same as the before school procedure.

Also, please understand that teachers lock their classroom doors when they leave for the evening. Parents and students will not have access to the school or classrooms to retrieve forgotten items such as homework or instruments. It is important that you help your child to learn ways to remember to bring home all needed items.

All Visitors Must Have a Driver's License or State Issued Identification

All visitors to West Friendship Elementary, who are not employees of HCPSS, must bring their driver's license to sign into the LobbyGuard system. LobbyGuard uses visitors' driver's licenses or state issued identification to complete background checks. In the event of an emergency, it is crucial that we account for every visitor in the building. This is for student, staff, and visitor safety. Staff at Central Office are able to access our LobbyGuard visitor list should we have to evacuate the building. Thank you for ensuring that you bring your license with you when you visit WFES!

All Volunteers/Chaperones Must Complete Training

Thank you for your interest in volunteering and/or chaperoning field trips within the Howard County School System! We value our volunteers and the contributions they make to our students and schools.

According to HCPSS Board Policy, all parent volunteers must complete a Confidentiality Training Course and a Child Abuse & Neglect Training Course. Please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/> to complete both of these informative trainings. The course takes about 5 minutes to complete. Please complete the training, print the certification form, and return it to school. Thank you!

Dismissal Arrangements

Please be advised that notes are needed if you want your child to follow a different dismissal arrangement. Telling a student of a dismissal change is not satisfactory. **Notes must be sent to school if you wish for your child to be dismissed to Circle Drive or attend an afterschool activity.** Please **do not email** this information. If our Internet is not working or if a teacher has a substitute, your message will not be received in a timely manner. Arrangements via telephone will only be honored in the event of an emergency. Please remember that students are not permitted to ride any bus other than their assigned bus. Thank you for helping us keep our students safe.

Walking Wednesday

Walking Wednesday began this week and our students loved it!!! It is an integral part of our school's commitment to promote Wellness for Every Student! It is a walking program that will be held during recess in the fall and the spring! We welcome volunteers to help distribute mileage markers and log laps. Participating in Walking Wednesday is a lot of fun and your presence will certainly be an encouragement to your child!

Please sign in at the front office and join us on the blacktop during recess times to help make Walking Wednesday a success! If you have any questions please contact Kendra Albert at jalbert2276@yahoo.com or 443-838-8672.

Important Dates

Friday, October 19	No School for Students – Professional Work Day
Wednesday, October 24	Math Night – 6:00 to 8:00pm
Thursday, October 25	Absentee/Retake Photos
Friday, October 26	Gr. 1 Field Trip – 9:30am to 2:30pm
Thursday, November 1	Gr. 3 Tiger Celebration – 3:00pm
Thursday, November 1	Gr. 4 Tiger Celebration – 3:00pm
Friday, November 2	Kindergarten Tiger Celebration – 2:35pm
Monday, November 5	End of Marking Period
Tuesday, November 6	Schools & Offices Closed – Election Day
Wednesday, November 7	No School for Students – Professional Work Day
Thursday, November	Gr. 4 Art Field Trip – 8:30am to 3:00pm

PTA News

Box Tops for Education

WFES is once again participating in the Box Tops for Education program. For anyone unfamiliar with this initiative, Box Tops can be found on hundreds of products such as General Mills cereals, Betty Crocker baked goods, Kleenex, Ziploc food storage products, and many more. Our school earns \$.10 for each Box Top submitted. Simply clip the Box Top from each package, affix them to the collection form that was recently sent home, and submit them by October 22nd to be entered in the next raffle! Additional collection forms are available in the school office, or visit <https://www.wfespta.com/box-tops/> to download a copy.

Community News

Marriotts Ridge Music Foundation Fundraiser

Dessert Days Pies just in time for fall and winter holidays! Dessert Days offers 16 different pies from which to choose and all come frozen and ready to thaw and eat or bake and serve! Help the Music Foundation reach their goal of 700 pies! Online Orders are accepted October 1 thru October 18 at <https://tinyurl.com/mrhsmusic-dessertdays> Delivery is scheduled for November 12, 2:30-6:00 in the Marriotts Ridge cafeteria. Questions: mf.fundraiser@gmail.com