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Tiger Tales

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

September 7, 2018

FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS

What a wonderful start to the school year we have had! It was a joy to see so many families at our New Student Orientation and Open House last Friday. Our boys and girls are doing a tremendous job of settling into their daily routines and WFES expectations. Their smiles have brightened up our classrooms and hallways. Thank you for all that you did to prepare them for the new school year!

We have been so impressed with the outstanding effort of all of our staff members to get things in order for the school year. Our newest staff members jumped right in with the support of their colleagues to prepare their classrooms and plan for instruction. The lunch provided by the PTA last Wednesday was greatly enjoyed by all and meant so much. Thanks for taking such good care of us!

Back-to-Schools Nights are scheduled for the end of this month. Due to the increase in our student population, we have had to go from two nights to three nights. Below you will find the revised Back-to-School Night schedule. You can expect more information in the upcoming weeks.

Grades K and 1 present on Tuesday, September 25th

5:30 – 6:00 Related Arts Teachers will present in the Media Center

6:00 - 7:00 Grade Level Presentations

Kindergarten will meet in the Media Center

Grade 1 will meet in the Cafeteria

Grades 4 and 5 will present on Wednesday, September 26th

5:30 – 6:00 Gifted/Talented Teachers will present in the Media Center

6:00 - 7:00 Grade Level Presentations

Grade 4 will meet in the Media Center

Grade 5 will meet in the Cafeteria

Grades 2 and 3 will present on Thursday, September 27th

6:00 - 7:00 Grade Level Presentations

Grade 2 will meet in the Media Center

Grade 3 will meet in the Cafeteria

WFES PTA Representatives will be located throughout the building. Be sure to visit the PTA spirit wear table in the front hall. As you can see, while these evenings will be full, they will also be valuable to you as you prepare to support your child throughout the school year.

Please take the time to check out the upcoming dates so you are up-to-date on West Friendship happenings. We truly believe that a strong home-school partnership enriches the school experience for our students. We are available to assist you if you have concerns or questions.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, September 10	Schools & Offices Closed
Wednesday, September 12	PTA Meeting – 6:30pm (Meet & Greet at 6:00pm)
Wednesday, September 19	Schools & Offices Closed
Thursday, September 20	Individual School Portraits – more details to come!
Tuesday, September 25	Back to School Night for Kdgn & Grade 1 (see above schedule)
Wednesday, September 26	Back to School Night for Grades 4, 5 & G/T (see above schedule)
Thursday, September 27	Back to School Night for Grades 2 & 3 (see above schedule)
Friday, September 28	PTA Family Fun Back to School Dance – 6:30 to 8:30pm
Wednesday, October 3	Schools Close 3-Hours Early (12:45) – Professional Work Day

SCHOOL NEWS

Emergency Contact Information

If you have not already done so, **please take time to complete your child's emergency contact information via Family File.** Visit <http://www.hcpss.org/connect/> to login and for other helpful user information. You may contact the school office for additional assistance.

Absences and Late Arrivals

Parents are required to send a note to school explaining their child's absence when the student returns to school. The note must include the student's name, the date of the absence, and the reason for absence. In cases of three consecutive days of absence or frequent absence, a doctor's certificate is required.

When arriving to school late, **the student, accompanied by a parent/guardian, must report to the office for a late pass before he/she will be admitted to class.**

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.

Wanted

We are in the process of creating indoor recess cart with games and activities for primary and intermediate students. We are in search of elementary appropriate board games, playing cards, arts and

crafts, etc. that are in good shape. Please send in items that you are willing to part with. There will be a collection box in the front hall, near the office. Thank you.

Band Registration Information for the 2018-2019 School Year

Fourth and Fifth graders for the 2018-2019 school year interested in joining the WFES band program are invited to register on HCPSS GAFE at <https://goo.gl/forms/Z1Tz9hUsbXGGz1EG3> (or Google search "Join the West Friendship Elementary School Band"). Available instruments are: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, and Percussion. Parents are asked to register their son or daughter no later than September 14th. If you have any questions, please email Amy Bejm Syversen at Amy_Syversen@hcpss.org.

Home & School Connection

Please view the attachments to read the September issue of Home & School Connection. The publication is available in both, English and Spanish.

September – English

October – Spanish

Meet our Interns

Hello! My name is **Leslie Schnebly** and I am excited to be working with Mrs. Carlyle as her counseling intern at West Friendship ES. I am in the final year of my Master's degree program in school counseling at McDaniel College. Prior to being an intern, I worked as an elementary and middle school teacher in Howard County. I have two young daughters at home and love to practice my counseling skills on them in my free time. I look forward to working with and learning from the students, parents, and staff of West Friendship!

My name is **Sharon Green**, and I will be working closely with Mrs. LaRocco as her student teaching intern. This involves learning and experiencing all the roles of a teacher under Mrs. LaRocco's guidance and assistance. I am enrolled in the undergraduate education program at Notre Dame of Maryland University. I am very excited to work with your child. You and your child are helping me reach my goal of becoming a teacher in my own classroom.

Elyssa Atkins will be working with our Special Education teacher, Mrs. O'Connor. Ms. Atkins is a student teaching intern and is enrolled at the University of Maryland.

PTA NEWS

PTA Meeting

Our first PTA meeting of the year is this Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30pm in the Media Center. Please consider joining us before the meeting, at 6:00pm, for cookies with Ms. Breon. This will be a great chance to get to know some other families at WFES, chat with your principal, and also a fantastic excuse to eat cookies. Hope to see you there!

Family Fun Back to School Dance

SAVE THE DATE! The PTA Family Fun Back to School Dance is coming up. Mark your calendars now for September 28th from 6:30-8:30pm at WFES. Come out and enjoy a DJ, dancing, refreshments, and FREE ADMISSION! More information will come home in backpacks soon. We hope to see you there!

Drama Club

WFES PTA and The Drama Learning Center proudly present "Alice in Wonderland" On Stage Musical Theatre Class for Grades 2 - 5. This is a weekly after school drama class culminating in a production of "Alice in Wonderland Jr." on the stage at WFES! See attached flyer for more information and how to register.

Registration for WFES Girls on the Run is now open!

<https://www.raceplanner.com/register/index/GOTRFall2018Registration?sid=930545428ff3420ebbf6809c28614e1>

The program is for girls in grades 3-5. Practices are Mondays and Fridays from 3:45 - 5:00pm, starting September 17 and going for 10-weeks. We only have a few more openings.

If you sign your daughter up for the program we would like a parent to volunteer to be at practice at least 2-3 times. You can register here to be a volunteer:

<https://www.raceplanner.com/volunteer/signup/fa-2018>

If you have questions, please contact Ashley Royle at ashleyroyle@yahoo.com

Box Tops for Education

WFES will once again participate 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 and hold on to them. You will submit them at our upcoming Box Tops Race!

Board of Education Candidate Forum – Wednesday, October 3, 7:00pm

The 5 PTA's representing the Marriotts Ridge Cluster (WFES, MWES, WAVES, MVMS, and MRHS) are hosting a Board of Education Candidate Forum. The forum will be held at Mount View Middle School on Wednesday, October 3rd at 7:00pm. Community members will have the chance to talk with the candidates, ask questions, and share education-related concerns that impact you and your family in a relaxed, informal setting. ALL ARE INVITED! And by "all" we also mean your children! Feel free to bring your children to meet and pose questions to the candidates.