

Kaye M. Breon
Principal



Ann Steger
Assistant Principal

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

March 9, 2018

School News

Grade 1-5 MAP Scores

Map scores are going home with students today. Please check your child's take home folder.

Updated School Calendar 2017-2018

Due to inclement weather days HCPSS has updated the school calendar. Schools will now be in open for students on April 4, 5, and 6. Schools will also be open for students on May 18, with a 3-hour early dismissal. For updated calendar pages, please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/f/news/calendars/calendar201718.pdf?2-8-18>.

Vision & Hearing Screening

The Howard County Health Department will be at West Friendship Elementary School on Wednesday, March 14th for our annual Hearing and Vision Screening. All Kindergarten, First grade, and students new to the state of Maryland will be screened. If your child is absent or does not pass, the rescreen date will be March 22nd. If your child wears glasses, please make sure they have them. If you have questions, please contact the School Nurse at 410-313-5515 or the Hearing and Vision Program Supervisor at 410-313- 7210.

Dismissal Arrangements

This is a reminder 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.

Student Use of Cell Phones

This is a reminder that students are not permitted to use cell phones during the school day or while on the school bus. If a student needs to contact a parent, they may come to the school office and get permission to use a school telephone. Students, who carry cell phones, must keep them turned off and inside of their backpacks while at school and during the bus rides to and from school. In addition, please be advised that neither West Friendship Elementary, nor the Howard County Public School System is responsible for the loss or damage of student property. Parents are asked to remind their children of these guidelines and support the school in enforcing the rules.

Kindergarten Registration Continues

Do you have a child who will be 5-years old by September 1, 2018? Every child who is 5 years old by September 1 must be enrolled in kindergarten this fall or have an approved waiver. Students must be registered by their custodial parent (biological, adoptive, legal guardian), and the parent must live within the school attendance area. Please be prepared to spend about 30-minutes completing paperwork. The following documents are required at time of registration:

- Parent picture ID: original driver's license, military ID, or passport.
- Signed original, current lease or deed with your address, valid dates, signatures.
- Current utility bill with name and address (non-cellular telephone, gas and electric, cable bill).
- Student's proof of birth (original birth certificate, passport/visa, physician's certificate, baptismal or church certificate, parent's affidavit or birth registration).
- Proof of parental relationship, custody, or guardianship. If applicable, bring legal proof of custody (court order).
- Student's current proof of immunizations signed by a doctor, health care provider, day care provider or school official.
- Documentation of Special Education (IEP), 504, Psychological Report, or related services.
- Any additional paperwork that may be necessary due to special living arrangements or circumstances.

Please contact Mrs. Colleen Green at 410-313-5512 or colleen_green@hcpss.org to schedule an appointment. Please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/enroll/> for additional information.

All Visitors Must Sign In

Thank you to all our visitors for signing in at the office and obtaining a visitor badge. Please be advised that **you must have your driver's license with you** in order to sign in on the LobbyGuard visitor management system. In addition, all visitors are required to sign out of the LobbyGuard kiosk at the end of their visit. Staff is expected to question any person without a visitor's badge and escort that person to the office to complete the check in process. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we all work together to keep our school safe

Bushy Park Regional Early Childhood Center Learning Together Program – Prekindergarten

The Bushy Park Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) preschool programs are making preparations for classes for the 2018-2019 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-years old by September 1st may contact Katie Hereth at Bushy Park Elementary in the school office for an application package beginning February 15, 2018. There are no available 4-year old learning together peer spots for the 2018-2019 school year.

The Howard County Public School System continues to offer a prekindergarten program for income eligible children who will be four years old by September 1. Please contact Katie Hereth at 410-313-5500 for additional information.

All applications must be returned by the last Friday in March. A limited number of openings are available for children without disabilities. Children are selected based upon screening information given on the application form, the "Ages and Stages Questionnaire," as well as observations of the child's participation in a playgroup on April 13, 2018 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.

TREX Recycling Challenge

WFES is competing in the TREX Recycling Challenge. TREX is a company that uses recycled plastic bags to make decking products. WFES will be competing against other elementary schools of similar size in the mid-Atlantic region to see who can recycle the most **plastic bags**. The winning school will win a bench made out of TREX material. The Trex Recycling Challenge will run until Earth Day on April 22, 2018. There will be recycling containers in front of the office, cafeteria, and media center. Please continue to bring in plastic bags. WFES wants to help the Earth and win the challenge!

Dates to Remember

Monday, March 12	Gr. 5 Parent Information Meeting in Room 123 – 4:30pm
Wednesday, March 14	Family Writing Night – 6:30pm
Friday, March 16	Spirit Day – Wear Green
Tuesday, March 20	Info Meeting for Parents Redistricting from MWES – 6:30pm
Friday, March 23	Kindergarten Field Trip – 9:30am
Fri., Mar. 30–Tues., Apr 3	Schools Closed - Spring Break
Wed., April 4 – Fri., April 6	Schools Open – Regular Full Days of School
Thursday, April 12	Jump Rope for Heart
Thursday, April 12	PTA Meeting in Media Center – 6:00pm
Friday, April 13	3-Hour Early Dismissal (12:45) – End of Marking Period
Friday, April 13	Spirit Day – Wacky, Tacky Day
Monday, April 23	Report Cards Issued
Friday, April 27	Gr. 2 Field Trip – 9:30am

Community News

Jump In & Support Mount View Middle School Band

Join Mount View Middle School Band in celebrating their 25th anniversary by joining them at Stratosphere Trampoline Park on Friday, March 9th, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please mention or show the attached flyer before check in and the band will receive 30% of jump sales!

Community News and Programs

Please visit the Community News and Programs page at <http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/> for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

Please contact the HCPSS Public Information Office with any questions, at 410-313-6682 or publicinfo@hcpss.org