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School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

April 28, 2016

From the Principal's Desk

Thank you to all the families who attended our Reading Night at Barnes and Nobles that supported our partner school, Mary Ann Winterling Elementary. Special thanks to **Ms. Hina Naseem, Mrs. Patricia Mack-Preston, and Mrs. Petrilla** for organizing the event. Thank you **Mrs. Steger, Mrs. Schleicher, Ms. Watts, and Mrs. Yingling** for being guest readers!

We are in full swing with PARCC testing! Grades 3 and 5 will complete PARCC testing next week. Grade 4 began PARCC testing yesterday and will finish PARCC ELA on May 5th and Math the week of May 9. Please make sure your child is getting a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast. I expect for all students to try their best! Testing begins at 9:20. Please be on time.

WFES Beautification Day is right around the corner! The PTA has purchased many flowers for us to plant on school grounds. On May 7th from 8:30 - 10:30, the morning after our Spring Festival, please bring the family and come on up to help pick up trash, pull weeds, plant flowers, and have fun! Bring your own shovels, rakes, and gloves. Coffee, water, fruit, and doughnuts will be available. *Middle and High School students who need volunteer hours are welcome!*

3rd Marking Period PBIS Celebration was a great success! We had loads of fun activities for all students to choose from yesterday. Furthermore, all students were challenged to make a new friend and or learn the names of other WFES students during those activities. See a few pictures in the PBIS section below!

Don't forget! Wacky Tacky school spirit day is tomorrow! Wear your best-mismatched and or tacky clothing!

The WFES Night of Excellence is coming up on May 25th. It will take place from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. In order to ensure each enrichment unit and seminar has student presenters, Mrs. Walker and Mr. Crivelli are asking all students who participated in an activity with them this year, to complete the presentation sign-up form. Additionally, they are looking for volunteers to help with setup, assistance during the event, and break down. Volunteers can sign up using the same online form. Help us ensure this night shows the excellence that has occurred all year!

Click here: <http://goo.gl/forms/w6vNp83fsC>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, April 29	School Spirit "Wacky Tacky" Day
Tuesday, May 3	PTA Meeting in Media Center – 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, May 3	Gr. 5 Puberty Education Meeting (Room 123) – 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 6	Gr. 1 Maryland Zoo Trip
Friday, May 6	PTA Spring Festival
Saturday, May 7	WFES Beautification Day – 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Monday, May 9	Choral Concert Performed for WFES Students – 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 10	Choral Concert Evening Performance – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 11	Gr. 5 SCH
Thursday, May 12	Gr. 4 Peer Leadership Conference Trip
Tuesday, May 17	Family Math Night – 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

What's for Lunch?

For the latest menus, and information regarding food services, please go to: <http://www.hcpss.org/food-services> or download the HCPSS App for free.

School News

West Friendship

Tuffy Ticket

Respectful

Responsible

Ready to Learn



PBIS News: Fun at the PBIS Celebration!





Math at Home!

Family Math Night

Please join us on Tuesday, May 17th at 6:30 p.m. for Family Math Night! Come out and learn about fun ways to engage in math this summer. Please see the attachment.

PARCC Testing

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be taking the PARCC assessment in English/Language Arts (4 sessions) and Mathematics (4 sessions) on the dates listed below. Each testing session is 60-90 minutes in length. All testing will take place in the mornings. While makeup testing will be possible, we would greatly appreciate if you are able to avoid scheduling appointments on any of these dates. Students do not need to do anything extra to prepare - a good night's sleep and a good breakfast will help set them up for success!

Grade 3 Dates: April 21, 22, 25, 29, May 2, 3, and 4

Grade 4 Dates: April 27, 28, May 5, 9, 10, 11, and 13

Grade 5 Dates: April 21, 22, 25, 29, May 2, 3, and 4

Walking Wednesdays

We are in need of volunteers to assist the Wellness Committee. **Walking Wednesdays** was scheduled to begin today, but due to insufficient number of volunteers we could not start. Please help us make next Wednesday, **May 4, 2016** our first Walking Wednesday for this spring. You can sign up during your child's recess. You will mark laps, help the kids stay on the track, and hand out small awards for laps completed. Only 40-minutes of your time is needed. Sign up for as many as you'd like. We welcome any family members that want to participate. Here is the link for sign up: <http://vols.pt/d3wWgB>

Please consider being the lead volunteer for your time slot. More details included in the link above.

Please contact Cathy Rayburn at 410-489-5928 or crayburn001@yahoo.com if you have any questions regarding volunteering for Walking Wednesdays or any other Wellness Committee opportunities.

2016 Screen-Free Week Challenge

The Maryland General Assembly, Delegate Bob Flanagan, Delegate Trent Kittleman, Delegate Warren Miller, and Senator Gail Bates invite elementary school students in District 9 to participate in the "Screen-Free Week Challenge." Younger siblings are also encouraged to participate. We hope interested students will accept the challenge by giving up television (and other electronic devices with screens, unless it is school-related) for seven consecutive days and engaging themselves in more productive, creative, and educational ways to spend their time. A perfect time to do this is in conjunction with National Screen-Free Week 2016 from May 2nd thru May 8th. Students who successfully complete the "challenge" will receive a personalized certificate. Click here to access the challenge form. **Please complete it and return it to Penny Jones in the school office by Friday, May 13th.**

Color Cycle Program

Mrs. Curran's third grade class is doing a program called Color Cycle from Crayola. The Color Cycle program is a program that takes dried out markers, highlighters and dry erase markers and turns them into energy. Instead of throwing the markers in the trash, we can donate them to Crayola to make them into something new. A box marked Color Cycle is located in the school office. Please drop off your dried out or old markers, highlighters, and dry erase markers. Thank you!

From the PE Dept: Jump Rope Day/Jump Rope for Heart

Way to Go WFES!!!! We raised \$12,374.00 for the American Heart Association. Our highest total ever! The weather was perfect, the sun was shining and the temperature a bit cool, still the kid's hearts were warmed by the thought of helping others, getting some exercise and having a fun time with their friends. 51% of WFES students participated in the fund raising aspect of Jump Rope Day, incredible!!!!

Thanks again for being such a caring and giving community!! The American Heart Association wanted me to pass on their sincere "Thank You", also.

Join the WFES Band!

If you are a current third or fourth grader, it's time to start thinking about joining the band for the 2016-2017 school year! WFES is in need of current third graders to play flute, clarinet, trumpet, saxophone, trombone, tuba, french horn, euphonium, and percussion next school year. Please know that no musical experience is necessary and everyone in third grade is invited and encouraged to try an instrument next year. We learn everything together, even how to open the case! If your child is interested in joining the band next year and you have questions you can contact Band Director Amy Syversen at amy_syversen@hcpss.org. Please visit the WFES band website at www.amybejm.com to learn more about the program. Joining is very easy! All you need to do is click on the join the band button and fill out the online application. Band is free to join and anyone currently in third grade is welcome to join. September 2nd is the band application deadline, but students may start joining today. Any student who was in beginning band this year as a fourth grader must apply online as well, but no auditions are required. Any child who is a current fourth grader and was not in band this year in fourth grade, and would like to join band next year in fifth grade, should contact band director Amy Syversen at amy_syversen@hcpss.org to discuss your options. Your fourth grader can join as a beginner next year, or I can help you find a private teacher to catch up over the summer so they can join their fifth grade peers in band next year. I hope to have your child join our program and make friends and memories to last a lifetime!

Kindergarten Registration Continues

Do you have a child who will be 5-years old by September 1, 2016? **[Please take time now to register them for next school year's Kindergarten Program. You may come in any school day between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.](#)** 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, baptismal certificate, hospital certificate, passport or military ID).
- 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.

No appointment is necessary during the Kindergarten Registration Kickoff week. If you are unable to register your child during this time, please contact Mrs. Colleen Green at 410-313-5512 or colleen_green@hcpss.org to make a registration appointment.

PTA NEWS

Spring Festival Tickets On Sale Now!!!

The annual WFES PTA Spring Festival will be held on Friday, May 6th from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. You can purchase tickets in advance and pay online for ticket packages of 50 or more. For smaller quantities, please use the ticket form and return it with payment through backpack mail. Either way you can pickup your tickets the day of the Festival at the ticket booth. Please visit www.wfespta.com/online-forms/spring-festival-tickets/ to purchase your tickets now. Advanced ticket sales will end May 5th.



Volunteers Needed for Spring Festival

Our students really look forward to Spring Festival! Many middle school students return to WFES for this fun-filled evening because they have such wonderful memories. This event is a huge undertaking and is only possible with the assistance of many volunteers. We need people to manage the games, donate baked goods, and 2-liter bottles of soda. Please visit <http://vols.pt/u1o7ZN> and sign up for a volunteer spot. Please get involved and sign-up to help create this fun time for our children. High school students needing service hours are more than welcome to sign-up, too!

From the PTA Nominating Committee

WFES is looking for a few GREAT volunteers! Your help and support is needed for several upcoming activities for the remainder of this school year and next year too! If you have even one hour to lend a hand – either from home or at West Friendship - we would love to have you participate. What are your interests and talents? We probably have a committee that could use your expertise. Here are several PTA committees looking for some assistance:

- Spring Festival
- Walking Wednesday
- Field Day
- Community Outreach
- Box Tops
- 5th Grade Memories – for parents of upcoming 5th graders

The following executive board positions will be open: 1st Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in chairing a PTA committee or taking on a PTA Executive Committee position for the 2016-2017 school year, please contact a member of the nominating committee and get involved. ~ Valerie Eshleman at veshleman@healthlawyers.org, Kathy Baur at kdbaur@gmail.com or Penny Jones at penny.jones@hcpss.org.

“Dining for Dollars” at Glory Days Grill

Upcoming “dining for dollars” WFES spring fundraising event at Glory Days Grill. When you dine at a Glory Days between March 11th & May 30th, the restaurant will contribute 10% of your total food and beverage purchases to West Friendship Elementary School PTA. Bring your neighbors, friends, and relatives, because the 10% applies to the total food and beverage bill. Simply ask your server for a copy of your guest check (not credit card receipt). Please put the guest check in an envelope marked “Glory Days – PTA” and send it to school with your student or have any other friends/family who participate mail it directly to WFES, 12500 Frederick Road, West Friendship, MD 21794. Questions – Email Jen at jlowther4@gmail.com.

MVMS PTA

It looks like spring is coming (finally!) and the MVMS PTA is getting ready for next year. WE NEED YOU! Many of our parents are "graduating" to high school, which leaves us with multiple committees and committee chair positions to fill for the 2016-2017 year. We will also have several openings on our Executive Board. Please join us! It's a great way to learn more about the school and PTA, and meet new people in your community. If you would like to learn more about any of the committees or board positions, please contact Shelley Tolle at shelleytolle@verizon.net or (410) 428-1229 or Kathy Baur at kdbaur@gmail.com.

West Friendship Elementary School PTA Membership

By becoming a member of the WFES PTA, you will be helping your child and the entire school community. The WFES PTA sponsors many wonderful programs and activities, such as the Back to School Dance, Cultural Arts Assemblies, Science Fair, Staff Appreciation, Spring Festival, and much more! In addition, recent policy changes prevent teachers from using their class mailing lists for non-school activities. However, members of the PTA will receive a membership book and classroom mailing list, which is about the only way to obtain these items.

We are moving to an online registration process this year (you can pay by credit card or check):

<http://www.wfespta.com/join/>

While you're on our website, feel free to follow us via Twitter, Facebook or E-mail to stay informed.

If you would prefer to complete your registration via paper, please leave a message at 443-396-3707. Someone from the membership committee will contact you.

Community News

Glenelg Boosters Sports Camp 2016

Students will improve their technical and tactical skills in an encouraging, educational, and positive environment. **REGISTER NOW!!** Go to: www.glenelgboosters.com

This year's camps include: **Football, Boy's Lacrosse, Boy's Basketball I & II, Soccer I & II, Girl's Lacrosse, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Softball, Baseball, Cheerleading, and Speed & Agility**

Camps open to current year 5th-8th graders (2016-2017 6th-9th graders)

For questions, www.sportscamp16@gmail.com

Howard County Conservancy

Full-day nature camps, **June 27-August 19**, camps are located in Woodstock on our 232-acre nature center and at the Belmont in Elkridge www.hcconservancy.org/camp.html

Join us in the Pool!

The Wilde Lake Watercats, of the Columbia Association Neighborhood Swim League, invite you to become a member of our summer swim team. Preseason practices begin on May 31st at Faulkner Ridge Pool. CA members and non-members are welcome to join. More information can be found at

www.columbiaassociation.org/facilities/pools/summer-swim-team-cnsl/ or at www.wlwatercats.org.

Contact us at wlwatercats@gmail.com for additional information.