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Tiger Tales

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

December 10, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

Happy Holidays, Everyone! Please join us at tonight's PTA meeting. Our Math Coach, Michele Glenn, will be sharing how we conduct our daily number routine "Number Talks" at WFES. This routine has increased our students' ability to do mental math and learn creative strategies from peers on how to solve problems.

Thank you for attending parent conferences. In the future, please consider having your child participate in the conference. It is very meaningful for students to be praised by their teachers in front of their parents. It also creates the perfect time for teacher, parent, and student to be on the same page with areas for growth.

MAP Goals: I would like to thank you for monitoring the plan students created with their teachers when they developed their Reading and Math MAP goals. Your support is appreciated!

I hope you've heard that our 90th Anniversary Celebration and dance were a big success! Thank you PTA for partnering with us and thank you students, staff, community members, and families for joining us to acknowledge this milestone. The Board of Education also acknowledged WFES during the November 19 meeting – Board Member Report Section. You can see video of this via the HCPSS BOE website.



Once again we are participating in "Hour of Code". The students are very engaged and I see many future coders in this facility. Thank you Mrs. McKnight for leading this effort.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, December 10	PTA Meeting & “Number Talks” Info – 6:30 p.m.
Monday, December 14	School Improvement Team Meeting – 8:15 a.m.
Tuesday, December 15	Flu Mist® Clinic – 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, December 23	School Spirit “Pajama Day”
December 24 – January 1	Schools & Office Closed – Winter Holiday
Thursday, January 7	PTA Meeting in Media Center – 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, January 13	Double Tuffy Ticket Day
Wednesday, January 13	Band & Strings Concert – 2:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 14	Yearbook Special Group & Candid Photos
Sunday, January 17	Family Fun Rollerskating Party at Wheels Skating Center in Odenton – 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Monday, January 18	Schools & Offices Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Wednesday, January 20	Vision & Hearing Screening
Wednesday, January 20	WFES Spelling Bee – 2:30 p.m.
Friday, January 22	3-Hour Early Dismissal – End of Marking Period

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



PBIS News: What is PBIS? When we catch students following the three R’s we always try to be specific as to why they are earning a Tuffy Ticket. For example, “I like the way (student) has their paper and pencil out and is ready to listen for directions. Thank you for asking your seat neighbor to be quiet is a respectful way.” Now that the WFES staff

continues to learn more about a growth mindset in the classroom, we are using specific feedback statements like, “I see the way you’ve approached this task, and your effort is outstanding. That took a long time but you did it. You are taking on harder tasks and that must make you feel confident.” When a student gets stuck we may prompt with, “Let’s look at the strategies you’ve tried... or let’s figure out what we should try next.” If you want to learn more about the growth mindset in the classroom check out the book [Growth Mindsets in the Classroom](#) by Mary Cay Ricci.



Math at Home!: Thanks to all the students who brought in their work to share last week!!

Remember, if your child brings in their math work, they will be featured on the morning news at WFES. Laura Numeroff’s famous circular stories have been longtime favorites for children of all ages. This month we will focus on ***If You Give a Moose a Muffin*** (1991) and serve up a few fraction-based math activities. Please continue to submit your work!

K- Grade 2- After you cut a muffin in half, share it with a partner. Talk about how many parts of a whole each of you has. Then solve this problem: If Eric and Chloe have 1 muffin to share, how can they both get an equal part? Examine your half of the muffin and compare it to a whole muffin at your table. How is your half of a muffin different from the whole muffin? How is it similar?

Grades 3-4- Who ate more? Nate ate $\frac{2}{4}$ of a muffin. John ate $\frac{1}{2}$ of a muffin. Draw a diagram and write an explanation of how you solved the problem. Now use fractions to write your own problem.

Grades 5-6- Using the exact same type of muffin mix, Jim and Sara both made muffins for their respective class. Jim made 21 muffins and had $\frac{1}{4}$ of his mix left. Sara made 24 muffins and had $\frac{1}{8}$ of her mix left. How much of the mixture remained?

From the Guidance Counselor

Attached you will find a copy of the December issue of *Home & School Connection*.

PTA News

PTA Meeting – TONIGHT!

The next PTA Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. Want to learn more about the daily number routines being implemented at WFES? Please attend this meeting. Mrs. Michele Glenn, our Math Coach, will inform you about "Number Talks".

Community Outreach Committee

The Homewood Center is in need of gently used or new items for their annual Recycled Treasure Sale. This is an event where their students can shop for holiday gifts using "money" they have earned based on their grades. They need items like toys, stuffed animals, DVDs, video games, sporting goods, fashion jewelry, purses, gloves, hats, gift bags and tissue paper. The students will be shopping for their parents, friends, siblings, and maybe even themselves, so a variety of goods will be accepted. Please consider donating items you no longer use or need since the Homewood Center has no PTA.

A box will be outside the office for you to place your donations until December 16th. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Baur at kdbaur@gmail.com or Hina Naseem at hnaseem@mac.com.

Family Fun – Save the Date!

When: Sunday, January 17, 2016 (no school the following day!)

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Wheels Skating Center in Odenton

Skate Rental - \$3.00 for quad skates - \$4.00 for in-line skates

ADMISSION IS FREE!

Look for a flier to come home in early January.

Questions? Contact Alicyn Hodges, asampsonhodges@gmail.com or Jessica Schwendeman, jlschwendeman@gmail.com.

BOX TOPS NEWS:

A NEW COLLECTION PROCEDURE & BIG PRIZES AWAIT!

Through the start of Winter Break, WFES will run a different type of Box Tops Race. As opposed to rewarding a grade level for the most submissions, we will conduct a raffle to determine individual race

winners. **One student winner and one staff winner will be declared. The winner of the student raffle will win a \$25 Toys 'R Us gift card; the winner of the staff raffle, a \$25 Kohl's gift card!**

This is how it works. For every ten (10) Box Tops submitted, you will earn one (1) raffle entry. After all entries have been collected, drawings will be held "live" during the Morning Announcements on Wednesday, December 23rd.

Effective immediately, please begin submitting all Box Tops in an envelope or plastic bag labeled with a first and last name and the number of Box Tops inside. Collection boxes can be found in all classrooms as well as in the PTA Room. As the submissions are processed, entries into the raffle will be made. The more Box Tops you submit, the more entries you earn and the better your chances of winning! Thank you and good luck to everyone who supports our school with the Box Tops for Education Program. Questions? Please contact Lisa Cumberland via lisa@vikingcustomhomes.com.

Save the Date: March 19, 2016

Mark your calendars now for Tiger Madness & Silent Auction to be held at Players Bar & Grill. We already have fantastic donations and ideas underway. We hope to see you there! Be sure to "like" West Friendship Elementary School Tiger Madness & Silent Auction on Facebook for all the latest Tiger Madness updates!

How can you get involved?

We need volunteers to help during the silent auction event and be a part of the planning committee. If you have experience (i) planning a silent auction, (ii) designing flyers and invitations, (iii) social media marketing, (iv) event marketing, (v) running a March Madness bracket, or (vi) just want to lend some time, we need you!

Please email me your contact information. This event will be fun, will help your kids, and will make money for our school!!!

We also have sponsorship and donation opportunities for the event. If you or your business would like more information on becoming a Tiger Madness & Silent Auction sponsor, please contact me for more information. I also invite you to join us in supporting the West Friendship Elementary School PTA by providing an in-kind contribution to be included in the silent auction that will take place during the event. We are looking for items such as sports memorabilia, sporting event tickets, vacation home rentals, airline tickets, spa packages and the like. If you or someone you know has access to these items, we would appreciate the donation. For your contribution, you will receive recognition at the Tiger Madness & Silent Auction Fundraiser, in our marketing materials, and publicity on our social media outlets (Facebook: www.facebook.com/wfestigermadness). We will also provide you with a receipt for your donation, which you may use for tax purposes. WFES PTA is a charitable, tax exempt, non-profit entity under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code and the entire amount of your contribution is tax-deductible.

Tiger Madness & Silent Auction contact info:

Kara Williams

443-756-3067

karamichellewilliams@yahoo.com

PTA Staff Appreciation Volunteers Needed

The Staff Appreciation committee is a great way to get involved and help with the PTA if you have limited time to offer, or lots! We usually provide one meal per month for the staff for things like back-to-school night and parent-teacher conference night. A Google doc goes out with items we need donated and you can sign up to provide something if you are able. Items usually include simple purchases like paper products, drinks, and ingredients needed to make a certain dish. We also like to see your culinary skills by providing homemade items like side dishes and desserts. There is no obligation to help with every staff appreciation event, just help when you can!

For questions or to join our committee, please contact Kathy Baur kdbaur@gmail.com or Jessica Fitter jessicafitter@yahoo.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](tel:443-396-3707). Someone from the membership committee will contact you.

Community News

Howard County Antique Farm Machinery Club

You are invited to the 2nd annual lighting of the museum Christmas tree on Saturday, December 19. Join us at the Living Farm Heritage Museum at 12985 Frederick Road in West Friendship, MD. Lighting of the exterior Christmas tree will take place at 5:15 p.m. There will be carolers, Santa, and Mrs. Claus!

Howard County Public Library – Glenwood Branch

The following presentations require registration (which begins one week prior to class). Please register by calling 410-313-5579 or on-line, www.hclibrary.org.

A NUTCRACKER SWEET

The story, dances, and a craft to inspire "suite" dreams.

Ages 3-7; 60 minutes

Saturday, December 12 at 11:00 a.m. **OR** Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 p.m.

OLAF'S WINTER CELEBRATION

Celebrate the arrival of winter with snowy stories, songs and a craft. Refreshments.

Ages 2-5 with adult; 30 minutes

Monday, December 14 at 7 p.m. **OR** Tuesday, December 15, 10:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

HEDGEHOG TALES

Jennifer Smith of The Hedgehog Welfare Society discusses African Pygmy Hedgehogs. Meet her two adopted hedgehogs, and then make a craft.

All ages; 60 minutes

Saturday, December 19 at 11:00 a.m.

BOOK BINGO

Ages 5-10; 45-60 minutes (Howard County Schools closed or close early)

Tuesday, December 29 **OR** Friday, February 5 at 2:00 p.m.

NOON YEAR'S EVE PENGUIN BALL

Dress up in black and white and ring in the New Year Penguin style.

Ages 3-7; 45 minutes

Thursday, December 31 at 11:30 a.m.

SLOPPY SATURDAYS

Ages 5-10; 20 minutes.

Saturdays - January 16, February 13 at 3:00 p.m.