Kaye M. Breon Principal



Ann Steger Assistant Principal

West Friendship E.S. 12500 Frederick Road West Friendship, MD 21794 P: (410) 313-5512

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

November 23, 2016

FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS

We are excited about how well the **Salvation Army Angel Tree Program** was received by our community. We have adopted 25 "Angels" for this season. At this time we only have a few "Angels" still available for adoption. The program is an adoption of individual "Angel" children. When adopting a child(ren), they ask that you supply at least one (1) new toy and (1) new outfit that is listed on the "Angel" and preferably all three (3) toys and clothing items, if possible. PLEASE **DO NOT WRAP** your gifts, but provide the "Angel's" number/name on the outside of the gift or shopping bag. Please return your bag of unwrapped "Angel" gifts to the Front Office no later than **Thursday, December 8th by 3:00pm.** You can choose your "Angel" by stopping by the Front Office where they are displayed on the windows. Have Mrs. Green or Ms. Jones check off the "Angel" you have chosen.

American Education Week was observed last week, November 14th - 18th. We had more than 260 visitors in our building! Thank you for supporting our students and staff in celebrating public education and honoring individuals who make a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education.

Our annual Scholastic Book Fair was once again a success and we cannot thank Ms. Hina Naseem enough for organizing and managing this huge event. Thank you to the many volunteers who worked the book fair. This is a tremendous undertaking and would not be possible without all of our wonderful volunteers. Also, thank you to all of our parents, grandparents, and friends who purchased items. Your support of the Scholastic Book Fair is very much appreciated.

We hope all our families have a wonderful holiday time with family and friends. It is a time for gratitude! We are thankful for all our parents who attended conferences this week. The partnership between parent and teacher is one of the most powerful relationships that indicate success in school. We appreciate the time you spent at school over the last two weeks for American Education Week and Parent/Teacher Conferences. We are also grateful to you for the success of the book fair. We are grateful to you for sending your children to school every day ready to learn. We are grateful for the fabulous staff at West Friendship Elementary. Thank you,

Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Kaye M. Breon, Principal Ann Steger, Assistant Principal



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, November 23 Schools Closed for Students

Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 24 & 25 Schools & Offices Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 28 Absentee/Retake Photos – 9:30 a.m. Monday, December 5 In-School Chorus Concert – 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 6 Chorus Concert – 7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 8 PTA Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 9 Gr. 5 Trip to Robinson Nature Center – 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 13 WFES Night at E.W. Beck's in Sykesville

Friday, December 16 School Spirit "Inside Out Day"

Tuesday, December 20 Kindergarten Trip to Toby's Theatre – 9:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 21 Interim Reports Issued

Mon., Dec. 26 – Fri., Dec. 30 Winter Break Monday, January 2 Schools Reopen

SCHOOL NEWS

Federal Impact Aid Forms

Federal Impact Aid Forms are due. If you have not already done so, please complete them and return to your student's homeroom teacher as soon as possible.

School Photos - Make-Up & Retakes - November 28th



On Monday, November 28th our school photographer will be at WFES to take photos of students who were absent on our original picture day on September 29th. They will also do retakes for any student that was dissatisfied with the portrait that was taken in September. **Students requesting a retake will need to return the original portrait package to the photographer** (so they will know which package to produce

with the image taken). Any student that was absent on our original "picture day" can bring in a picture order envelope to have a package produced or can 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 Monday, November 28th. Purchasing school pictures financially benefits our school, as it is a fundraiser. Please consider school photos for your upcoming holiday gift giving needs.

Thank You!

Our Annual 5th Grade Career Day was a success thanks to the following presenters:

- Terri Fenlon, Musician
- Sara Kallay, Salesperson with Atlas Carpet Mills
- Sangita Doshi, Pediatric Dentist
- Peter Donegan, Mechanical Engineer
- Jen Allen, Photographer and Marketing Director and Lindsey Anger, Fulfillment Director with Clockwork Synergy
- Christopher Vee, Risk Management Specialist
- Chris Carlyle, General Contractor
- Dana Keiner, Physical Therapist with Union Memorial Hospital

Our 5th grade students had fun and learned a lot about a variety of careers.

Dismissal Arrangements

This is a reminder that notes are needed if you want your child to follow a different dismissal arrangement. Advising a student of a dismissal change is not satisfactory. **Notes <u>must</u> be sent to school if you wish for your child to be dismissed to Circle Drive or attend an afterschool activity.** The office is receiving too many last minute telephone calls. Arrangements via telephone will only be honored in the event of an emergency.

Parent Volunteer Information

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at West Friendship Elementary! We value our volunteers and the contributions they make to our students and staff.

According to HCPSS Board Policy, all parent volunteers must complete a Confidentiality Training Course about protecting the privacy of our students, staff, and schools, as well as a Child Abuse and Neglect Training. Please complete these courses before volunteering or chaperoning field trips. The courses take a few minutes to complete. To complete your training courses please visit http://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/.

PTA NEWS

Drama Club

Thanks to the help of many, many individuals, the WFES Drama Club put on two splendid performances of *Cinderella's Glass Slipper* this past weekend. A big thank you goes out to:

- WFES School Administration
- WFES Custodial Staff
- The Right Theater Company
- WFES PTA Executive Board, Members, and Volunteers
- WFES Parents, Students, Teachers and the Community that came out to support the performers
- A Special "Shout Out" to Mr. Umla who at the drop of a hat came and spent his Friday night helping with the audio
- And last, but not least, all the performers for putting on two spectacular shows

Without the support of the above groups and many others, the show would not have gone on. We look forward to the fall of 2017 for the next show.



Gift of Thanks Program - Deadline is Monday, November 28th at 6:00 p.m.

As the holiday season approaches, we are continuing with our traditional Gift of Thanks program online for staff gift giving. This program provides a convenient way for you to express your gratitude to the dedicated staff that teaches our children. Your contributions are pooled and converted into gift cards selected by the staff. Participation is not mandatory, and families are welcome to give individual gifts if they prefer. The intent is to simplify holiday gift giving for families and allow the staff some flexibility. The WFES PTA then receives a percentage of every gift card purchased.

Here is how the program works:

- Choose how much you would like to give the staff members. Any amount in \$1 increments is appropriate.
- Follow the payment instructions. You can pay with credit card or check.
- If you choose to pay with check, make payable to WFES PTA and deliver the printed copy of your confirmation form with your check to your child's teacher in an envelope marked "Gift of Thanks".
- Staff members will receive a certificate with the total amount of gift card dollars they can redeem from an extensive list of retailers. Each contributing family is recognized on the certificate by **name only**, *not* amount given. The Gift of Thanks coordinator will be the only person who sees the individual contribution amounts and will ensure that each staff member who receives donations will not receive less than \$10.

If you would like to contribute to the staff holiday gift card program, please use this link: http://www.wfespta.com/online-forms/gift-of-thanks/gift-of-thanks-collection-form/

Restaurant Night Fundraiser

Come join us on Tuesday, December 13th at E.W. Beck's in Sykesville to support the PTA of West Friendship Elementary. A portion of all proceeds will be donated to the school. Dine in or carry out and take advantage of this special fundraiser! Prior to the event a flyer will be sent home for you to present at the restaurant that evening.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Slayton House Theatre Camp of the Arts

Slayton House Theatre is offering a **FREE** Summer Sampler on Monday, January 16 from 9AM to 12PM!!! Drop your camper off and let the staff provide a morning of musical theatre fun! This opportunity is available for students in Grade 1 and up. Learn a song, do some dancing, and take part in some theatre exercises to get a sneak peak of the camp day. Please RSVP by January 9, 2017. Registration is FREE!!! For more information visit www.campofthearts.com, call 410-730-3987, or email camp@wildelake.org.

Other Community News and Programs

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