

Dr. Debra L. O'Byrne  
Principal



Mrs. Sara Cox  
Assistant Principal

West Friendship Elementary  
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Website <https://wfes.hcpss.org/>

School Hours: 9:25 am – 3:55 pm

**October 27, 2023**

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Joe Corbi's & Claire's Gourmet Fundraiser was a huge success! As a school, we collectively met all the goals we set.

The following prizes are as follows:

- Top Selling Student & Principal for Half Day: Lana Villani
- Top Selling Class & Extra Recess Time: Mrs. Peterman's Class
- Top Selling Grade & Ice Cream Party: Grade 2
- WFES 300 Items Sold: The entire school earned a Pajama Day with Movie Time
- WFES 500 Items Sold: The entire school earned Dr. O'Byrne will be duct taped to the wall.

WFES sold exactly 500 items! We appreciate the entire community's support. The award days will be announced soon. The students have offered to bring duct tape from home, but I assured the students that it is not necessary. The excitement in the building is refreshing to see and hear! I cannot wait to see all the smiles and hear all the laughter on "Duct Tape" day.

Please support the [WFES PTA Trunk or Treat](#) event tomorrow evening. We thank the PTA for hosting this activity for our students, as Halloween activities will not take place during school time. This is a reminder that schools will close 3-hours early on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Always for children,

Dr. Debra L. O'Byrne  
Principal

## Dates to Remember

Saturday, October 28	<a href="#">WFES PTA Trunk or Treat</a> – 4:00 to 6:00pm
Tuesday, October 31	Schools Close 3-Hours Early (12:55pm) – End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Marking Period
Wednesday, November 1	School Spirit Day – Wear School Spirit Wear or School Colors, Green & White
Friday, November 3	<a href="#">Yearbook Cover Contest</a> Deadline
Friday, November 3	Gr. 2 Fire Safety House Activity
Friday, November 3	PTA Sponsored Fitness Friday! (Weather Permitting)
Wednesday, November 8	Report Cards Issued
Thursday, November 9	School Photo Makeup/Retake Day! More Details to Come
Thursday, November 9	Gr. 5 SCH Kick-Off (Students Only) – 2:45 to 3:45pm
Friday, November 10	School Spirit Day – Wear Red, White & Blue in Honor of Veterans Day

Friday, November 10

PTA Sponsored Fitness Friday! (Weather Permitting)

Monday, November 13

PTA Meeting in the Media Center – 7:00pm

## School Information

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conference slots will open on **November 6, 2023, at 8:00 AM** and vary by teacher, with some offering conferences in the evening. The online conference sign-up will run through **November 16, 2023, at 4:00 PM**.

On **Monday, November 20, conferences will be in person only**. Teachers will hold all conferences in person at their schools, and parents may only attend their scheduled conferences in person.

All conferences will be held **virtually on Tuesday, November 21, and Wednesday, November 22**. Teachers may opt to hold their virtual conferences from their schools or remotely.

First-grade parents will schedule conferences with the quarter-one homeroom teacher, Ms. Braswell, or Ms. Donaldson.

Related Arts Teachers will hold office hours. Conferences with related arts teachers are optional. If you would like a conference with related arts, please contact the teacher directly to meet during their office hours. Below are the emails of the related arts teachers:

Mrs. McCoy, General Music & Chorus	<a href="mailto:Christen_McCoy@hcpss.org">Christen_McCoy@hcpss.org</a>
Mrs. Petrilla, Media	<a href="mailto:Amy_Petrilla@hcpss.org">Amy_Petrilla@hcpss.org</a>
Mrs. Schroder, Art	<a href="mailto:Michele_Schroeder@hcpss.org">Michele_Schroeder@hcpss.org</a>
Mrs. Bennett, Physical Education	<a href="mailto:Meghan_Bennett@hcpss.org">Meghan_Bennett@hcpss.org</a>
Mrs. McDonald, Technology	<a href="mailto:Tracey_McDonald@hcpss.org">Tracey_McDonald@hcpss.org</a>
Mr. Marini, Band	<a href="mailto:Nicholas_Marini@hcpss.org">Nicholas_Marini@hcpss.org</a>
Ms. Hagee, Orchestra	<a href="mailto:Rachel_Hagee@hcpss.org">Rachel_Hagee@hcpss.org</a>

Parents, please note how your conferences will be held. We encourage you to use the resource below on how to schedule your conferences.

[QR Code for parent teacher conferences.](#)

### WFES Absences

Please be reminded that when your child is absent, we ask that you send an email to [WFESabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:WFESabsence@hcpss.org) stating your child's name, date of absence, the reason for the absence, and a doctor's note, if applicable. This allows us to monitor attendance and excuse the absences as applicable.

Per HCPSS Attendance Policy 9010, the school must receive notification from the parent/guardian or physician explaining the absence/tardiness of a student within five school days of the student's return, or the student's absence/tardiness will be unlawful/unexcused.

Could this be me in a few weeks???

### [Candy for the Courageous](#)

Donate your extra wrapped Halloween candy to our Military Troops worldwide! Please separate the meltable candy from the non-meltable, put the separated candy in plastic zipper closed bags, and place the bags in the marked bins in the front lobby between November 1-7, 2023. We also encourage students to write letters or cards to the troops, which will be included in the shipment.

## MAP Reports Available

Parents can access their students' MAP results following [these directions](#). In addition, detailed home reports will be available to view at the same time as report cards November 8<sup>th</sup>.

## WFES Celebrates Veterans

Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11<sup>th</sup>, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

WFES would like to honor the amazing veterans in our very own WFES family and community. During the month of November, we would like to display information about our veterans throughout the halls of our school.

If your child is sharing information about the Veterans in their family, please help them create a mini-poster (8 ½" x 11"), see [Mrs. Penny Smith's sample](#). The students can do this electronically or they may hand-draw and add scanned photos. Please note that these will be on display and may not be returned, so please do not use original photos. If you do not have access to a color printer, and your child creates an electronic submission, please email to [penny\\_smith@hcpss.org](mailto:penny_smith@hcpss.org). Include your child's name and homeroom teacher and **email by Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**, to ensure printing time.

If you have questions or need to submit this information in a different format, please contact our Principal's Secretary, Mrs. Penny Smith via [Penny\\_Smith@hcpss.org](mailto:Penny_Smith@hcpss.org).



## School Pictures - Make-Up & Retakes - November 9<sup>th</sup>

School pictures were sent home with students today. Our school photographer will be at WFES on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> to take photos of students who were absent on our original picture day. Our goal is to have a school picture of EVERY student for the yearbook.

The photographer will also do retakes for any student that is dissatisfied with the portrait that was taken in September. **Students requesting a retake must bring the original portrait package with them to school and return it to the photographer.** Next week, students who were absent on our original "picture day" will be given a flyer with school photo ordering information.

Please [click here](#) if you wish to view the photo packages that are available for purchase. You may also visit [www.strawbridge.net](http://www.strawbridge.net) and **enter code FM429461** if you wish to pay online. Purchasing school pictures benefits our school financially, as it is a fundraiser. Please consider school photos for your upcoming holiday gift giving needs.

## Yearbook Cover Contest!

A yellow poster for the WFES Yearbook Cover Contest. The title "WFES YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST" is written in large, pink, bubbly letters at the top. Below the title, the text "Submit your design for the cover of the 2023-2024 WFES yearbook" is written in black. A list of three bullet points follows: "All designs should be created on an 8 1/2\" data-bbox="344 686 643 958"/>

**WFES YEARBOOK  
COVER CONTEST**

Submit your design for the cover  
of the 2023-2024 WFES yearbook

- All designs should be created on an 8 1/2" by 11" piece of paper.
- The images used in your design should be outlined with thicker, dark lines.
- Show your creativity and celebrate WFES!

ALL CONTEST ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023.**

CONTACT MR HASKINS WITH ANY QUESTIONS

