



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

January 2017 Newsletter

<http://fwes.wcpss.net> for any info updates



From Mrs. Pierce...

Happy New Year FWES Families!

We are finishing up the 1st semester of the year academically and with our Go for the Gold program. At this mid-point students are participating in a variety of assessments and we are beginning to count gold tickets. As IB Learners this mid-point is a great place to review and reflect and consider any actions that might be needed.

We are planning for several upcoming winter events- so be on the look out for more information. Family Evening Concert

is in January while 5th Grade Exhibition and our Go for the Gold Bowling field trips are in February. We will also be taking action with our Jump Rope for Heart and Wake Up and Read community outreach.

As winter weather has already visited, please be sure to read about how the school schedule is impacted with weather decisions.

I hope to see you at FWES soon!

Winston Pierce

#fwesigniteslearning



Go for the Gold!
Give and Earn Respect
Own your Actions
Lead by Example
Demonstrate Cooperation

A Walk in the

Chinese Updates:

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival will be celebrated on January 28, 2017. According to the Chinese zodiac, 2017 is the Year of the Rooster. Click the link to know more information about it:

<http://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/festivals/spring-festival/chinese-zodiac-years-of-2011-to-2020.htm>



2nd Grade:

Rain, sleet, hail, or snow doesn't stop our second grade students from being weather watchers and weather researchers. Our students have kept their eyes on the sky daily while recording their weather observations in their classroom. Classrooms have also been using the National Weather Service website to see today's weather and the upcoming weather predictions. Mr. Liang taught our students Mandarin weather vocabulary and compared our local weather to China's weather. In the upcoming weeks second graders will be visiting the inquiry center to learn additional research skills from Mrs. Grice and use their text feature/non-fiction knowledge to create a personal non-fiction text about a type of weather.

Music Updates:

This December we experienced music through the Nutcracker. Kinders followed the listening map for the Waltz of the Snowflakes, kept steady beat to the Overture with their rhythm sticks, and danced to Trepak, the Russian Dance. Students in 1st grade played quarter and eighth note rhythms with the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy, while 3rd graders experienced $\frac{3}{4}$ time in the Waltz of the Flowers. Students in 2nd grade made global connections playing triangles and woodblocks with the Chinese Dance. Some groups also labeled a map with countries represented by the different dances (Spanish dance- chocolate, Chinese dance- tea, Arabian dance- coffee.) 4th grade worked together to play many instruments for the Dance of the Reed Flutes, and 5th graders learned to drum to Trepak with our beautiful new tubano drums.



Looking forward to seeing you at the Family Evening Concert!

January, 2017

Calendar Items to Note...

- Jan 10- 1:30 5th Grade Spelling Bee- round 2; Magnet Mini Fair for Pre-K families at Green Elementary 9:30-11:00am- ~~Will be rescheduled due to snow day~~
- Jan 12- WCPSS Magnet Application Window Opens
- Jan 12- 7:45am PTA Board of Director's Mtg; 9:45am FWES Info and Tour; 1:30 4th Grade Spelling Bee-round 2
- Jan 16- Holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr- No School
- Jan 17- 8:30-9:30am Meet and Greet Ms. Antoon 3rd Grade; 9:30 2nd Grade Spelling Bee Round 2; 10:30 3rd Grade Spelling Bee Round 2
- Jan 18- Elementary Magnet School Theme Showcase at FWES 9:45am and 2:00pm
- Jan 19- 6:15pm PTA Meeting; 6:30pm Ringers and Singers Showcase; 6:45pm Basket Raffle and 7:00pm Transit Vocal Band Family Evening Concert (tickets required- \$4 ahead; \$5 at door)
- Jan 20- Early Release 1:15pm
- Jan 24- FWES Spelling Bee for grade level finalists 10:00am
- Jan 26 9:45 Magnet Tour and Info Session; 2:15 Geography Bee (4th/5th grades)
- Jan 27- Snow Make Up Day #1 - regular school
- Jan 30- One Book, One School Kick Off; 5:30pm Board Advisory Council Mtg at Crossroads Flex HS
- Feb 3- February Walk to School Day
- Feb 6- Jump Rope for Heart and Wake Up and Read action projects begin!
- Feb 20- Snow Make Up Day #2- regular school

Tech Tips from Tech Class:

This month's internet safety message comes to you from 5th graders. They have been hard at work preparing for Exhibition, beginning with important research. Information is easy to find, but you **MUST** be a detective to find out if it is real or fake, fact or opinion, credible or not credible. Consider the 5w's:

- Who created the site, and what makes them an expert? Contact info?
 - What is the URL? .gov, .com, .edu, .mil, .org
 - When was it last updated? Do the links still work? Pictures still load?
 - Where else can you find the same information? Accurate information is usually repeated.
 - Why was the site made? Sell? Persuade? Inform? And for what audience?
- Remember: If you're going to jump in the internet pool, you've got to learn how to swim!



FWES Student Services

Attendance Matters

Keep your child healthy; keep your child in school!

As the cold weather sets in and students are confined to indoor spaces, please be sure to follow these simple steps to help keep your children healthy in the winter months.

1. Dress them warmly for the cold weather.
2. Stress the importance of eating a good breakfast every morning.
3. Stress hand washing, particularly in the winter months. Send your child to school with a small bottle of hand sanitizer. Research shows that something as simple as hand washing can improve attendance.

4. Talk to your doctor or school nurse about when a sick child should come to school. A child can attend school with a cold as long as there is no fever, vomiting, or diarrhea. Please keep your child home if the following conditions exist: fever of 100 degrees F or higher, nausea or vomiting, severe headache, diarrhea, red, watery eyes with yellow drainage, or an undiagnosed rash.

Joette Basham, Social Worker (919-460-2742)
cbasham@wcpss.net

Counseling Corner

Welcome back to all of our families! We are excited to begin 2017 with some new and upcoming resources! The counseling department at Farmington Woods is creating an online video library for parents to access at home! We are very excited about this new resource and want your help in making it as valuable and user friendly as possible. Attached, you will find a survey. This survey will take less than 2 minutes but will help us be aware of your needs! We understand that the needs of kindergarten parents and the needs of 5th grade parents are different; so please submit one form per grade level if you have multiple students in our school. Videos will be created based on need. We are excited to get started offering you new and valuable resources!

[Parent survey](#)

Jennifer Thakur, Counselor (919-460-3474)
jthakur@wcpss.net
Kelly Wiener, Counselor (M, T & F 919-460-2742)
kwiener@wcpss.net

Kindergarten Registration

- **2017/18 Kindergarten Registration** began on January 5, 2017. Registrations are accepted daily between 10am-12noon.
- Incoming kindergarten students must be 5 years old by August 31, 2017.
- Parents should register their incoming kindergarten student at their **base school** and will need to provide their picture ID, their child's original birth certificate, and a current proof of residence (one of the following: light, water or gas bill, or a lease agreement signed within the past 60 days).
- A North Carolina Health Assessment form and up-to-date immunization record is also required and must be presented by the first day of school.
- [WCPSS Kindergarten Registration Information](#)

Magnet Applications

- **On-line Magnet School Application Window** will be available January 12-31, 2017. Applications for magnet schools should be submitted through the Wake County Public School System website at [Magnet Application Process](#)
- anytime during the application window.
- Incoming K students must be registered at their base school and have a student ID # to submit a magnet application. Rising K students who have magnet siblings **MUST** complete this process to attend FWES.
- Notification of application results will be available on February 16, 2017.
- More information regarding WCPSS magnet programs can be found at [Magnet Programs](#)

Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (919) 852-3303

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학교/교육 과정에 관한 무료 번역 서비스가 필요하시면 다음 번호로 연락하여 주십시오 (919)852-3303

Nếu quý vị cần sự thông dịch miễn phí để hiểu phương pháp trường học, xin vui lòng gọi số điện thoại, 919-852-3303

如果您需要免费翻译服务来了解学校流程，请致电 (919) 852-3303

Dismissal Safety Reminders...



Safety and security are our highest priorities. Please help us maintain attention to safety by following our afternoon dismissal processes and guidelines.

- It is important that all vehicles using carpool follow the guidance from the adults on duty and stay in lane during carpool. For those students released as walkers, please be reminded to stay on walkways and if need to cross Hampton Valley Road that you cross with the crossing guard at the designated crosswalks.
- For those families that pick-up students as walkers please note that cars must park in a designated parking space and that students must be picked up in front of school and walked by an adult to vehicles parked in the busy parking lot. We also ask that drivers using the parking lot at the end of the day maintain safe speed limits.
- Lastly, we ask that our families be good neighbors by not parking on sidewalks, blocking traffic, in yards of neighboring homes or creating crowded street parking during afternoon dismissal.

For the safety of your student and all other pedestrian traffic, if you need to drive and park to pick up a walker, the school has permission from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Seabrook Avenue for parents to park and walk from that parking lot to pick up students from 3:30-4:15pm.



Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator



FWES students take lots of action! We see it in daily routines, parents share it with staff and students are empowered to make a difference.

During a study of "Sharing the Planet" FWES 2nd graders learned of conservation and human impact on the world. They studied the water cycle, explored the ways water is cleaned and found ways to take action at home through recycling and other projects. This unit of study coincided with the recent floods to the eastern region of North Carolina due to Hurricane Matthew. Students were amazed at what flooding can do to man made structures and compassionate about how they could help others. There was a need for just about everything.

Many wondered how could we as a school help?

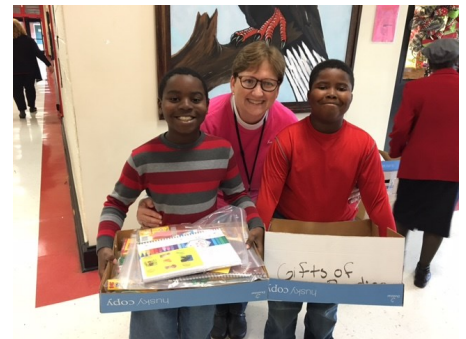
Through a mutual friend, I was able to contact the principal of W. H. Knuckles Elementary in Lumberton, North Carolina. Eric Sanders shared that

many of his students were greatly affected by the floods and could use take home school kits to help with homework, creative writing and drawing. Thanks to donations from the entire school community the 2nd Graders were able to create 150 school kits as well as some faux "stained glass paintings" to brighten the school.

Enola Grice and I took the donations to the school in Lumberton right before the winter break. We were welcomed by the school and given a tour of the building. We passed out the kits to the 2nd graders and their smiles and thank you's made our hearts sing. The principal and many of the teachers shared stories of students that attended the school, many still without permanent homes. During the heart of the storm some of the families had to escape to their roofs, spending days waiting for rescue. So often we see these type of disasters on the news and never meet the individuals affected. It was a humbling experience, and one I will remember for

years to come.

I am so proud of the work of our second graders and school community. This small action made a big difference to many children in NC. Thank you.



Warm up our
Fantastic FWES
Staff!

Please remember to show your appreciation for our FWES staff by using the link on our website for recognizing a staff member who has helped to ignite your child's learning this year! [Staff Recognition 2016-17](#)

A Page from the Inquiry Center ...

Read Around the World ... We continue to read around the world with some of faster travelers moving on into North America. Students began their travels in tober with a reading log for Africa. Since then there have been logs for Asia, Eu- and now **North America**. Remember you can turn in your log whenever you are finished and get the next log. Those students who complete their travels around the world will receive a special globe charm. Can you be a "world reader"?



One School, One Book ... On January 30th, every child at Farmington Woods will receive a copy of Where the Mountain Meets the Moon a book by Grace Lin. As a school we will be participating in this program that promotes reading aloud as a family. The benefits of reading aloud are remarkable. Studies have shown that reading to children helps them to listen better and longer, to build bigger vocabularies, to understand concepts better, to feel positive about both books and learning. More information, including a weekly reading guide will be coming home soon. Get ready to go on a remarkable journey with Minli, a magical goldfish and a dragon that cannot fly as they journey to find the Old Man of the Moon.

WAKE Up and Read ... This year Farmington Woods will be participating for our third year supporting this wonderful book donation program. **WAKE Up and Read** conducts a book drive each year to help build home libraries and make books readily available to children who need them. Through the book drive, every child at 10 high-need elementary schools and 20 childcare centers can choose 10 books and keep them for their home libraries. Last year WAKE Up and Read collected over 114,000 books with several of our teachers working to sort and box the books at the Cary Towne Center collection site. As a school we will be collecting books from February 6th - February 24th. This year our goal at Farmington Woods is to collect 2,000 books to donate. This is approximately 3 books from each student. To help make this easy, Mrs. Grice or Mrs. Wilson will stand at the front of the school to collect books in the carpool lane on Wednesday and Thursday mornings during our collection weeks. Books can always be dropped off in the Inquiry Center or in the front office. Start looking for those books that you are ready to donate Let's see if we can collect 2,000 books to donate.

What's the Buzz on... The 4C's for 21st Century Learning



Welcome back!

As WCPSS is emphasizing the dynamic learning experience as part of the Strategic Plan, it will be helpful to know more about one element of Dynamic Learning- The 4C's. These C's are Creativity, Collaboration, Communication and Critical Thinking.

The National Education Association has outlined these four skills as key components of 21st Century Learning Skills. Wake County has included these as one part of the dynamic learning experience. While the 4C's are not expressly outlined in the

standards, they are an important element of the learning experience that takes place at school. To prepare students to be career and college ready, they must practice sharing ideas, solving problems, working together and thinking outside the box. As teachers plan and implement lessons, they use these concepts to guide student interactions and activities. Increasing opportunities for student dialogue, questioning and teamwork will all be part of your student's day at Farmington Woods.

The 4C's are not directly outlined in the IB program either, but they

are a strong complement to the program's focus on inquiry, global mindedness and action. The IB attitudes also support and teach traits necessary to be strong collaborators, communicators, critical thinkers and creative learners. Today's students are tomorrow's innovators, designers and leaders. Focus on the 4C's now will help our students be more prepared and successful as they become career and college ready.

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Farmington Woods IB/PYP Magnet Elementary PTA

<http://farmingtonwoodspta.org>



Next PTA Board Meeting- Friday, January 13th
7:45am FWES Inquiry Center
Next General PTA Meeting- Thursday, January 19
6:15pm Cafeteria Prior to Family Evening Concert



⇒ **General Membership PTA Meeting- January 19th at 6:15:** The PTA will have a general meeting before the Winter Family Evening Concert. The meeting will be held at 6:15 and will last approximately 15 minutes. We will provide PTA updates and will vote on a new Member at Large.

⇒ **World Dance is coming!!!!** It's that time of year again...time to plan for our 3rd annual FWES World Dance! The planning committee will begin meeting in January and we would LOVE your help! Please join us if you would like to help. Please contact Bari Lawhorn at barilawhorn@gmail.com or Anita Richburg at anitarichburg@gmail.com

⇒ **Family Evening Concert- 7:00pm January 19th with "Transit Vocal" (starting with PTA Mtg 6:15pm; Ringers and Singers 6:30pm and Basket Raffle 6:45pm)-** The Family Evening Concert promises to be a fun and music filled evening! The 5th grader Ringers and Singers are excited to perform on the 19th of January before the PTA's cultural arts committee welcomes Transit Vocal Band. The fun will not stop until there is a PTA meeting and a basket raffle! Will your family be the one to win tickets to a Carolina Hurricanes game, or to Go Ape Zip Line & Treetop Adventure? Come to our concert for your chance to enjoy wonderful music and be entered into raffles for some fabulous prizes!

⇒ **Donations for Family Concert Basket Raffle:** The Family Evening Concert committee could use your help creating more exciting baskets. You can sign up here, and access a donation request form for use with any local businesses with whom you have close ties:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054ba9aa2ea46-family>

⇒ **Yearbook** The yearbook is currently available to order Online at- [Josten's Yearbook- Farmington Woods Elementary School](#). Yearbooks are \$25 each.

* If you take pictures of your students' class room activities, field trips, or school events; please upload them to [Jostens' Re playIt! Site \(www.replayit.com\)](#) so that we may use your pictures in the yearbook. The password is fwbeats.



⇒ **Thanks for the Food Drive!** The Holiday Food Drive wrapped up on Friday December 12th. The PTA would like to thank all FWES families who provided food donations, your donations were able to assist several families through the Power Packs program associated with the Greenwood Forest Baptist church. Bags of food were sent home to FWES families over the winter break. A special thank you to Erica Allen for coordinating the Food Drive and a special thanks to all volunteers who helped to organize the food bags!

⇒ **Calling ALL Parents!!!** The PTA needs you to join our growing PTA family!! The school year has kicked off to an amazing start with several successful PTA events and in preparation for the 2nd half of the school year we are hoping to increase our membership!!! Please go to the FWES website and click on the PTA link to learn more about our upcoming events, meetings and fundraisers. You can also join the PTA from the website! You do not want to miss out on supporting Farmington Woods PTA and joining in the fun of ensuring our school is full of family fun events! Thank you~