



# What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School  
February 2017 Newsletter  
<http://fwes.wcpss.net> for any info updates



## From Mrs. Pierce...

We have reached the mid point of our academic year. Please carefully review your child's report card so you can support his/her continued growth and success this year.

What an honor to have toured over 200+ families since September due to their interest in our IB/PYP and school community for the 2017-18 school year. Each one of the many sessions we have hosted included so much positive feedback about our students, their respectful interactions with each other and adults and their understanding of what they are learning each day. It is very exciting for our teachers to be honored by the visitors wanting their children to have the same experiences that yours have each day. We look forward to finding out later this month the new magnet families who will be joining us next year to add to the beautiful diverse fabric that is FWES.

With a focus on love this month there is much to love about FWES:

- Students who enjoy learning and exploring new inquiries
- Fantastic teachers who dedicate time and energy into creating dynamic learning experiences for students
- Amazing families who value education and support students and teachers to make sure the focus is on educational success
- Active and energized PTA and PTA leaders who tirelessly volunteer time and make decisions that serve to support the entire school community.

Take time this month to share what you love through the [Staff Recognition 2016-17](#) link on the website and make the day of our staff!

*With love,*

*Winston Pierce*

#fwesigniteslearning



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

## A Walk in the Woods ...

### Kindergarten :

To culminate our unit on How We Organize Ourselves, kindergarten held a mini career fair. Mrs. Thakur invited community helpers to share their jobs and how each job meets needs in our community. Students learned from a grocer, restaurant owner, police officers, firefighter and doctor. Students used their communication skills of listening for information, and asking questions to gain information and clarify meaning.

### 4th Grade:

We are exploring the fascinating genre of Historical Fiction through a book study of Number the Stars! This unit of study aligns with our next IB unit on Historical Journeys, with the focus being on NC immigration and the impact these adventurers had on our state. Are you ready to explore *Where We are in Place and Time*?

### News from Physical Education:

- We are currently collecting donations through Jump Rope for Heart for the American Heart Association. This will continue until the end of the month (2/28).
- Walks to school are the first Friday of each month. Upcoming dates are: 2/3 & 3/3.

- Family Marathon & Fitness Day registration is due Monday February 27. This is the date that students may begin documenting their mileage, pushups and curl ups accumulation in preparation for the upcoming event (look for detailed information in earlier Monday Folder).

Please consider volunteering for our PBIS End of Semester & Field Day event on June 7. More information to come out soon.

### ART NEWS:

Gifts of Gold visual arts display is held annually in conjunction with Pieces of Gold, a performing arts extravaganza that will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2017. Gifts of Gold is co-sponsored by the office of Raleigh Arts and the City of Raleigh Arts Commission. Third Grader, Andrea Yun's artwork will be displayed on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium with a **recognition ceremony on 3/7 @ 4:30 pm.**

Our school is participating in a creative fundraiser with Art to Remember that allows you to purchase keepsake products customized with your child's art. Right now, children are busy creating colorful, fun artwork and soon you will receive a personalized order form.

## February, 2017

### Calendar Items to Note...

- Feb 6- Jump Rope for Heart and Wake Up and Read action projects begin! (Wake Up and Read book collection during AM Carpool each Wed and Thurs morning!)
- Feb 6-10- School Counselor Appreciation Week
- Feb 6- Quarter 2 Report Cards go home
- Feb 9- 6:00pm PTA Board of Directors Meeting
- Feb 10- 1:15pm Early Release
- Feb 12- 3:00pm World Dance Planning Mtg- see PTA section for more details
- Feb 13-17- Bus Driver Appreciation Week
- Feb 13- 1st Jump Rope for Heart distribution
- Feb 14- ID Mod I/II & Pre K Love our Family Day
- Feb 16- 1st and 2nd Grade Go for the Gold Celebrations; 5th Grade Exhibition 6:45-7:45pm; WCPSS Magnet Notification to Parents
- Feb 17- 4th Grade Field Trip to Downtown Raleigh
- Feb 20- 2nd Jump Rope for Heart distribution
- Feb 21- 3rd/5th/ID Mod/Pre K Go for the Gold Celebrations
- Feb 23- K/4th Go for the Gold Celebrations (Exhibition Winter Weather Make Up Date)
- Feb 24- Last Day for Jump Rope for Heart Donations and Books for Wake Up and Read
- Feb 27- Interim Q3 Reports Go Home
- Feb 28- Last Day for Box Tops and Labels
- March 2- Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!
- March 3- March Walk to School Day 8:30 Kildaire Plaza
- March 6- Spring Photos- Individual and Class Group; Identi-Kid Photos; District 9 Board Advisory Meeting 5:30pm Weatherstone Elementary
- March 10- 7:45am PTA Board of Director's Meeting; Capital Transit Band Cultural Arts Performance

### Musical Notes~

4th Graders are learning to play recorder using the Recorder Karate curriculum. Students will learn a song for each "belt." We will use the free, safe and secure app, Seesaw, the Learning Journal. Look for an email from your child's teacher soon with directions to log in and view your student's recorder progress from home. Students can participate successfully without having the app at home, but it will provide great communication and allow you to be involved in your student's progress. I also post videos with instructions for each song on Seesaw, and on my youtube channel so students can practice from home: [Recorder Videos on YouTube](#)



# 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

School counselor week will be celebrated February 6-10, 2017 across the country. The focus for this week is "Helping Students Realize Their Potential." School counselors contribute to academic, social, career and emotional growth for each of our students every day. From small groups to career fairs, from classroom guidance to individual student planning; we make an effort to support and challenge all of our students. This is also a great time for us as counselors to reflect on the work that we do each day in our building to help students realize their potential. When our students succeed, we succeed!

If you have not already, please complete our Parent Survey by February 10th. Thanks!

[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



- **Kindergarten Registration** for the 2017-18 school year continues during our regular registration hours, 10 AM - 12 Noon, Monday through Friday.
- Parents should provide
  - Their child's original certified birth certificate,
  - Parent/guardian picture ID and
  - Copy of a current proof of residence (one of the following: a light, gas or water bill, or recently signed lease or closing statement.)
- The child's North Carolina Health Assessment form and up-to-date immunization record is due by the first day of school. Parents must register their child at the base school for their address.
- [WCPSS Kindergarten Registration Information](#)

## Calendar and Early Transfer Applications for 2017-18

**Magnet Application Results** for the 2017/18 school year will be posted to the parent's online application account on February 16, 2017.

**Calendar Option School Application Period** is February 22-28, 2017.

**Early Transfer Application Period** is February 22-28, 2017

For more information regarding the application process, please visit [WCPSS Change Your School Information](#).

Applications should be submitted online at <http://www.wcpss.net/Page/276>

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

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## Tech Tips from Mrs. Quinn...

This month's internet safety message comes to you from 2nd graders.

Sometimes, people can be mean to each other online, and try to hurt someone's feelings. They might act different than they do in person. If you see something very mean and/or scary, especially if it happens over and over again, that can be caused by a cyberbully. 2nd graders can protect themselves and "screen out the mean" by using the STOP strategy:

S: Stop using the computer.

T: Tell an adult that you trust.

O: Off the computer until an adult says OK.

P: Play with people that are nice.



## Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator



It's almost the big night FWES Exhibition 2017! Across the globe all students in their last year of the PYP participate in Exhibition. Exhibition is student driven to address an issue of global significance. Students then spend several months researching and putting together their findings to share with an audience. The final product allows students to synthesize all they have learned as an IB Learner, including the attributes of the learner profile.

Our fifth graders' central idea to focus their work is: Natural Disasters impact communities and the environment. Students have been researching natural

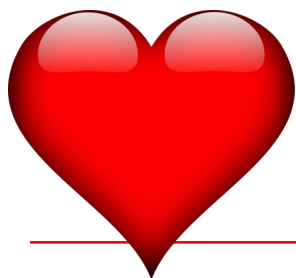
disasters around the globe and the impact they have made on communities and the environment. After months of generating questions, inquiry, researching and collaborating in a small group, students have created a presentation and are ready to share it with the community. Our fifth graders have demonstrated creativity, commitment, and critical thinking and are ready to communicate their learning.

Exhibition will take place on February 16th from 6:45-7:45pm. All K-5 families are invited to attend the various presentations avail-

able that evening. We encourage 4th graders and families to attend to get a sneak preview for next year. We hope to see you there!

### Just for 5th Graders:

Fifth graders will need to arrive at 6:30 pm to their assigned presentation room and will begin presenting to parents and guests at 6:45 pm. Exhibition will end at 7:45 pm. Fifth graders will need to be dressed professionally. Parents will watch their child's presentation and are then encouraged to visit other presentations around the school to ensure that each group has an audience.



Show LOVE to  
our  
Fantastic FWES  
Staff!

Please remember to show your love 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 ...

**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.. 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 Wednesdays and Thursdays mornings during our collection weeks. Books can always be dropped off in the Inquiry Center or in the front office. Look for those books to donate and bring them in.

- Books must be new or gently used and appropriate for children birth - 12.
- Gently used books should not be damaged by mold, water, or fire, and should not show signs of discoloration or age

**One School, One Book ...** On January 30th, every child at Farmington Woods will received a copy of Where the Mountain Meets the Moon a book by Grace Lin. As a school we are 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. Our weekly reading guide is listed below. Please read the assigned chapters each week - In school, your child will be invited to answer weekly trivia questions during the morning announcements and in class there may be various activities that discuss or explore the book. Enjoy your journey with Minli and her dragon!

Family reading schedule for Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

- Week 1 (Jan 30 - Feb 5) Chapters 1 - 6
- Week 2 (Feb 6 - Feb 12) Chapters 7 - 14
- Week 3 (Feb 13 - Feb 19) Chapters 15 - 18
- Week 4 (Feb 20 - Feb 26) Chapters 19 - 24
- Week 5 (Feb 27 - March 5) Chapters 25 - 33
- Week 6 (Mar 6 - Mar 12) Chapters 34 - 38
- Week 7 (Mar 13 - Mar 19) Chapters 39 - 43
- Week 8 (Mar 20 - Mar 24) Chapters 44 - 48



**Read Around the World ...** We continue to read around the world with some of our faster travelers moving on into **South America**. Remember you can turn in your log whenever you are finished and get the next one. Those students who complete their travels around the world will receive a special globe charm. Only two more continent logs to go ... Can you be a "world reader"?

## 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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- Thursday, February 9  
6:00pm FWES Inquiry Center

⇒ **Box Tops & Labels** for Education grade level competition is currently underway. Send in your box tops & labels now through February 24. The winning grade earns sports balls for recess.



⇒ The school's next cultural arts event will take place on March 10th with a visit from Capital Transit Band. The band will offer a music history show called "From Bach to Doo-Wop" with sample music from Bach's time, through Classical times, Spirituals, Blues, Jazz, Doo-Wop & Rock & Roll played on a variety of instruments. They should have the kids playing and dancing through the show with the goal that they learn all about the history of music and it's composers while having a great time. You can learn more about the group at <http://www.capitaltransit.net/>

⇒ **World Dance is coming!!!!** It's that time of year again...time to plan for our 3rd annual FWES World Dance! The PTA welcomes your input planning the 3d annual World Dance taking place March 24th! Please make plans to attend our next meeting Sunday February 12th from 3-5PM at 110 Cobalt Dr in Cary. Please RSVP to [bari.lawhorn@gmail.com](mailto:bari.lawhorn@gmail.com)



⇒ We would like to introduce Nakhesia Sheen, she is a nominee for our Member At Large position!

⇒ Thank you all who contributed to the basket raffle and attended the family evening concert. The event was a great success and the entertainment provided by the students and the local band were amazing!

⇒ **New spirit wear orders** will be accepted February 6 -17. Forms will be in the Feb. 6 Monday folders and online orders will be available on the PTA website. [Order Form](#)



⇒ The Farmington Woods PTA will have various positions opening up next year due to many parents "graduating" as their children move on to middle school! Please consider one of these roles if you are able to. If you are interested please visit the PTA website and reach out to a PTA member for more information! Remember, being a PTA Board member can be done in a variety of ways, by completing tasks at home, being present in the school, and attending 1 board meeting per month! The following positions will be available:

⇒ The PTA General meeting on Thursday February 16th will be rescheduled for a later date. We will post the date on the PTA website soon!

⇒ The PTA is excited to announce that we received a check from Kroger in the amount of \$174.68. There are 16 households who currently have their Kroger Rewards cards linked to Farmington. You can find out how to link your card on the [PTA website under the fundraisers tab!](#)

⇒ **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 [Josten's ReplayIt!](#) Site ([www.replayit.com](http://www.replayit.com)) so that we may use your pictures in the year-book. The password is fwbeats.



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- VP Services
- VP Ways & Means
- Advocacy/Technology Chair
- Secretary
- Audit Chair
- Yearbook
- Global Fun Run Chair
- Spirit Wear
- Tutoring

For More Information- Contact [FWES PTA Board Members](#) 2016-17

