



January Newsletter from Principal Pauls....

January 17, 2025

Dear Parents,

The second semester is here already! This school year is moving along so quickly.

A heartfelt thank you to the Mills Park Elementary School community for uniting to support our Warm's the Heart families. Thanks to your kindness, the program was a tremendous success. We've received numerous messages of gratitude from families who were grateful for the help in purchasing clothing, shoes, socks, toys, and food during the holiday season. Your generosity means so much!

Anne Pauls
Principal, Mills Park Elementary

Upcoming Events for February 2024

- Jan. 13-17: Classroom Spelling Bee (Grades 1-5)
- Jan. 16: Second Grade Arts Night
- Jan. 20: No School for Students
- Jan. 21: Teacher Workday: No School for Students
- Jan. 23: School Spelling Bee (Grades 3-5)
- Jan. 28: PTA General Meeting & Reflections Awards – 6:00PM
- Jan. 31: 2nd Quarter Report Card go home for all students (K-5)
- Feb. 3-7: Valentine's Day Candygram Sales (8:45 am)
- Feb. 17: Teacher Workday: No School for Students
- Feb. 20: Third Grade Field Trip, North Carolina Museum of Art
- Feb. 24-28: Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week
- Feb. 25: ECS In-house Field Trip, Mad Science
- Feb. 26: Fourth Grade Field Trip, North Carolina Symphony
- Feb. 28: Third Grade Field Trip, North Carolina Museum of Art
- Feb. 28: 3rd Quarter Interims go home for all students (K-5)

[2024-2025 WCPSS Traditional Calendar](#)



WCPSS Student Health

Help protect your children -- and their classmates -- when they're under the weather, so that they can return to the classroom healthy and ready to learn.

When your child is sick

The best thing you can do is to keep your children home when sick. This will help stop the spread of illness to other children and teachers. Keep them home when they show any symptom of illness.

Symptoms

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Severe headache
- Red, watery eyes with yellow discharge
- Undiagnosed rash
- Inability to attend learning activities
- Change in student's typical medical status

Honor A Teacher Nominations – due February 3rd

We are excited to be kicking off our 2025 Honor A Teacher season!

Excellence in teaching – We know it when we see it. It can be the teacher who spends extra time with the students who need it most, or the teacher who is creative enough to inspire a real love of learning in a student. Perhaps it's a teacher who cares enough to be involved with their students beyond the classroom. Whatever their methods, certain teachers make a real impact on students and their learning abilities.

We would like to recognize one such teacher and we need your help. The Cary Chamber of Commerce has been a leader in supporting education in our community through numerous programs and activities. One of the most critical needs of Wake County schools is that of attracting and retaining the best classroom teachers. With the Cary Chamber of Commerce's Honor a Teacher Program we hope to help our school system in meeting that challenge.

Building on the success of the Discovery Award first sponsored by the Ashworth family in 1991, followed by the Clara Knoll Award in 2000 by Barry and DJ Mitsch, the Cary Chamber has secured sponsors to develop a teaching awards program for all schools in the Cary Area.

We are asking our community to nominate teachers for this award. Included with your nomination, please describe why you feel this particular teacher deserves this award. Nominations must be submitted no later than Monday, February 3rd at 5:00 pm. These nominations will then be narrowed down to finalists that will complete an application process, will be judged by a designated



committee, and announced at a ceremony on Tuesday, May 13th.

The nomination window will close on **February 3, 2025 at 5:00 pm**. Once the finalists are selected, the link to the application will be shared with the nominees, and due back two weeks later. No late applications will be accepted.

Nominate a teacher here: <https://forms.gle/q8enkVFfGwANqUu8>

If you have any questions, please email Kelcey Ashworth, Vice President of Education & Member Business Services, at kashworth@carychamber.com.

End-of-Grade (EOG) Test Schedule

EOGs must be administered during the last ten days of school. Below is our tentative EOG test schedule. This could change based on updated guidance from the district or state.

- June 2, 2025: 3rd, 4th, & 5th Math EOG
- June 4, 2025: 5th Science EOG
- June 6, 2025: 3rd, 4th, & 5th Reading EOG

Wake Pre-K online application now available

Families of children who will be 4 years old by Aug. 31, 2025 are eligible to apply. Families can submit one application to determine their eligibility for one of three different services: WCPSS Title I Pre-K, NC Pre-K or Telamon Head Start.

*****Reminders*****

Kindergarten Enrollment for 2025-2026

If you have a child who will turn 5 years old by August 31, 2020, enrollment for Kindergarten has begun! Please click on the following link for enrollment details. [25-26 Enrollment Information](#)