



November Newsletter from Principal Pauls....

November 30, 2023

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that tomorrow is the first day of December and we are rounding the corner into 2024.

December tends to be a whirlwind at the elementary school. I'll be emphasizing the importance of Panther Pride to the students—urging them to be attentive and make responsible choices. Your assistance in echoing the message of "Panther Pride" with your child(ren) in the upcoming weeks would be greatly appreciated.

Happy Holidays to you and your family!

Anne Pauls
Principal, Mills Park Elementary

Upcoming Events for December 2023

- Dec. 1: Battle of the Books Practice, 8:00AM
- Dec. 1: 2nd Grade Field Trip, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
- Dec. 7: Make-ups for Fall Pictures
- Dec. 9: 2nd Quarter Interim Reports go home with all students
- Dec. 10: PTA - December's Donuts and Dance, 9:00AM-11:00AM
- Dec. 11: 3rd Grade ITBS Test
- Dec. 12: 3rd Grade ITBS Test
- Dec. 12: PTA – Reflections Celebration, 7:00PM
- Dec. 14: 2nd Grade Art and Music Showcase, 6:30PM
- Dec. 15: PTA – Staff Holiday Cookie Exchange
- Dec. 21 – Jan. 2: Holiday Break, No School
- Jan. 3: First Day of School after Holiday Break

[2023-2024 WCPSS Traditional Calendar](#)



2nd Grade Art and Music Showcase

Please join us on December 14th, 2023 to celebrate our 2nd Grade Art and Music students. The evening will begin at 6:30 pm by listening to several seasonally and culturally inspired musical selections. You will then have the opportunity to view and share in our MPE Artists' Visual Arts Show!

MPE Warms the Heart Program (from Nancy Stavrakakis, School Counselor)

The "Warms the Heart" program is getting underway once again. Please click on [THIS LINK](#) or open the attachment for more information. We know that some families are finding themselves in need this holiday season and others are wanting to find ways to assist others. This is a program for both!

AIG Spring Nominations

The AIG spring nomination window for fourth and fifth grade students will be open from December 11 through January 8. You may nominate your child to be considered for an AIG (Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted) referral. You do not need to nominate your child if he or she is already identified, but you may nominate your child if you would like your child considered for a second area of identification (ELA or Math). Please complete the [Google form](#) linked here, which will also be forwarded by classroom teachers and linked via the AIG website. If you have further questions, please visit the [AIG website](#) or contact our AIG teachers (mblewett@wcpss.net or kamurray@wcpss.net).

*****Reminders*****

Kindergarten Enrollment for 2024-2025

If you have a child who will turn 5 years old by August 31, 2019, enrollment for Kindergarten has begun! Please click on the following link for enrollment details. [24-25 Enrollment Information](#)

Spelling Bee 2024

- Class Spelling Bees (grades 1-5) will be held the week of Jan. 8th. Your child's teacher will communicate the exact date as we get closer to January.
- The School Spelling Bee is scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2023. Only class spelling bee winners from grades 3, 4, 5 will participate in the School Spelling Bee.
- [Word Club App](#) - this year, the Bee's premier study tool is completely free for students. Download the app and allow your student(s) to learn their study words through spelling games and quizzes.
- By now, you should have received the Classroom and School Spelling Bee Lists from your child's teacher.



Process to Follow When Students Check-in Late or When Students Check-out Early

Just a reminder that if a student is arriving at school after 9:15 AM, parents/guardians must come to the office to check the student in through our WCPSS Visitor Management System. A driver's license is required.