



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

January 2019 Newsletter

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

From Mrs. Pierce...



#fwesactivateslearning @fwesibpyp

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. We will begin our Wake Up and Read Community book collection action project in January. Our Go for the GOLD celebration is on the calendar and we will also be taking action with our Jump Rope for Heart program with Mr. Eller.

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

Our IB focus for January are the attribute of being Open Minded. We are always interested in how our IB students apply what they are learning outside of the school building. Please use the Action link (see information

below) to share examples of your child taking Action or Showing examples of the attributes and attitudes of IB Learners!

Many thanks to our families for your recognition in the Cary Magazine Maggy Awards for 2018. I am honored to be recognized by you all for a job and school I adore! It is an amazing privilege to get to work at FWES with our students, families and teachers and I LOVE coming to school every day. Thank you so much for being an active part of our school community!

With enthusiasm for activating learning at FWES,

Winston



Go for the Gold!

Give and Earn Respect

Own your Actions

Lead by Example

Demonstrate Cooperation

A Walk in the Woods ...

- **Spelling Bee Preparation Materials:** FWES Scripps Spelling Bee- More information regarding our upcoming Spelling Bee for grades 1-5 can be accessed through this [link](#). Spelling Bee rounds begin January 4, 2019.

- **Taking Action? Tell us About it!** Please use the link here and on our website to share about action your child takes when away from school to be an IB Learner who makes a difference in the world. We invite students who have taken action to share it on the FWES News on Wednesday mornings and would love to share your child's action!
- **Recognize the way FWES Staff activate learning!** Please remember to use the link on our website for recognizing a staff member who has helped to ignite your child's learning this year!
- **Clothes Needed in Office for Emergencies:** Students often need to change clothes during the school day due to mud puddles and other accidents. As you find your students

growing, please consider donating needed outgrown items to FWES:

- Boy's Underwear (New only)
- Boys Long Pants (all sizes)
- Girls Long Pants (all sizes)

5th Grade News:

- **Exhibition:** We are getting into our research on human rights around the world such as: poverty, access to water, education, health care, and safety. Students are focused on developing questions, researching and paraphrasing their findings and collaborating within their group to organize their information.
- **Exhibition Mentors Needed- We NEED YOU!** We are greatly in need of parent volunteers to mentor groups of students with their research and the creation of their presentations. Would you be able to help? We meet on Thursdays at 3 pm. Sign up here! [Sign up for Mentoring!](#) Dates and times are included in the sign up. As we near

January, 2019

Calendar Items to Note...

- Jan 7-11- Grade Level Spelling Bees
- Jan 7- 10:30 Magnet Info and Tour; Winter/Spring Spiritwear Order Form; Wake Up and Read Book Drive Begins
- Jan 11- 7:45am PTA Board Mtg; 9:30 2nd Grade Spelling Bee; 10:30 5th Grade Spelling Bee
- Jan 14- 2:00 3rd and 1st Grade Spelling Bees; 5:30 BAC District 9 Mtg at FWES
- Jan 15- 9:30 4th Grade Spelling Bee
- Jan 17- Spiritwear Orders Due; Magnet Info and Tour 10:30 and 2:00; 5:30pm PTA Family Movie Picnic and General Membership Mtg
- Jan 18-8:30-9:30am PTA Coffee in Lobby; Make up day for 12/10
- Jan 21- Holiday- Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 22- PTA Coffee Chat 2:30-3:15 Lobby
- Jan 25- 10:00 FWES Spelling Bee
- Jan 28- Magnet Info and Tours 10:30 and 2:00; Box Top Collection Begins
- Jan 29- GOLD Bowling 9:25 4th/ Feeney; 10:45 1st
- Jan 31- GOLD Bowling 9:25 3rd; 10:45 5th
- Feb 1- 8:30am Walk to School Day (guest walkers Kollauf and Burke)
- Feb 4- Q2 Report Cards Go Home
- Feb 5- GOLD Bowling 9:25 Cerasi, Mitchell and K; 10:45 2nd
- Feb 7- K to Natural Science Museum
- Feb 8- 7:45am PTA Board Meeting

the Exhibition presentation night we will increase our meeting times to 2 or more times per week.

- **Summative Project:** Students are now working in class on their biome research project and creating a poster showing overlapping food chains and creating a food web to show the producers, consumers, and decomposers within their biome. They will soon be displayed in the hallways and we look forward to the finished products! This connects to the work students did on early release in December. Students created a mural that can be seen in our lobby near the showcase.



FWES Student Services Team

Coffee with the Counseling Team

Thank you to those parents who have attended our **Coffee with the Counselor** sessions during the first semester. We had wonderful conversations and lots of positive parent feedback!

Our next **Coffee with the Counselor** session will focus on **middle school registration** and is one that our 4th and 5th grade parents should plan on attending! **Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 9:30am** in the Farmington Woods Cafe we will be discussing middle school registration, elective course selection as well as math and ELA placement. Lots of information will be shared. Please come with questions! We are excited to have you!!!

From Mrs. Basham, Social Worker-

Student Absences - Please remember to provide a note within two days of your child's return to school or the absences will be recorded as unexcused. Your child's teacher and the School Social Worker will work with you and your child if there is a concern that absences are becoming excessive.

Excused absences include:

- illness or injury
- a death in the family
- health care appointments
- court appearances
- religious observance
- natural disasters
- outside educational opportunities (you'll need to complete the *Request For Excused Absence For Educational Reasons Form* in advance)

WHITE FLAG - Important Information for Winter 2018-2019

If you see a White Flag, it means:

- Tonight it will be very cold and you should stay inside and seek shelter to protect yourself.
- These are the places in Raleigh where you can stay inside, even if they are usually full.
- White Flag is called when the temperature will be 32 degrees or below or 38 degrees and there is expected precipitation.

On White Flag nights, families/women with children can go to the following shelters:

The Salvation Army
1863 Capital Boulevard
(919) 834-6733
(919) 390-6494 after
5 Check-in: After
4:30pm

Raleigh Rescue Mission
314 E. Hargett Street
(919) 828-9014 extensions 134
or 119 Line up at 3:30pm
(Check-in: 4:00pm)

Jennifer Thakur, Counselor, jthakur@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26517

Taylor Hartley, 50% Counselor- contact info TBA
Joette Basham, Social Worker (T & F), cbasham@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

Dr. Megan Trapasso, Psychologist (T, W & F) mtrapasso@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26519

Kindergarten Registration for 2019-20 Starts NOW!

Parents needing to pre-register their incoming kindergarten student for the 2019/20 school year should complete the online registration packet on the Wake County Public School System website. Information about the enrollment process and required documentation can be found by visiting: <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/33753>. Once your online registration is complete, your base school will contact you to set-up an appointment to finalize the registration process at school; please allow up to 3 business days to be contacted by your school to set-up an appointment to complete your child's registration. **Please tell friends and neighbors with 5 year olds!**



2019/20 School Assignment Notices

The official 2019/20 school assignment notices will be sent home will all students on Monday, January 7, 2019. The notice contains important information regarding your child's school assignment and transportation type for the upcoming school year.

- Please verify that your address is correct. If you have moved, please provide the school office with a current proof of residence for your new address (one of the following: a light, gas or water bill).
- If your address is correct and you are satisfied with your child's 2019/20 assignment, no action is required on your part.
- If you would like to request a different school assignment for your child for the 2019/20 school year, you must submit an application online during the appropriate window:
- The application window for Magnet and/or Year-Round schools is Jan. 4-30, 2019. (Results will post to parent accounts starting February 19th.)
- The application window for requesting a Transfer Request is Feb. 21 - Mar. 6, 2019. (Results will post to parent accounts as processed starting Mar. 7th.)

More information regarding the Magnet and/or Year Round schools application and Transfer Request processes can be found at: <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/33754>.

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

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات الترجمة المجانية للتعرف على سير العمليات بالمدرسة، اتصل بالرقم (919) 852-3303

Si vous avez besoin de services de traduction gratuits pour comprendre les procédures scolaires, appelez le (919) 852-3303

यदि आपको विद्यालय की प्रक्रियाओं को समझने के लिए निःशुल्क अनुवाद सेवाएं चाहिए, तो (919) 852-3303 पर कॉल करें

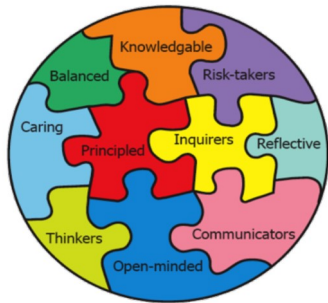
학교/교육 과정에 관한 무료 번역 서비스가 필요하시면 다음 번호로 연락하여 주십시오 (919) 852-3303

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

Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator



Have you noticed the blank spot in the lobby? A new mural is in the works! Specialist collaboration days are a highlight here at FWES. The morning of learning is composed of our dynamic specialists and classroom teachers collaboratively planning engagements focused on creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication. As part of the 5th grade collaboration day in December, students focused on their work in the IB unit "Sharing the Planet." Students wrote haiku poems and enhanced them as they chose instruments to create a soundscape to go along with the poem. They worked together in team building activities to embrace the idea that it takes all of us to support and sustain the planet we live on. Finally, each student, worked to create tiles for a

new mural in the lobby.. They brainstormed words in English, Spanish and Mandarin related to "Sharing the Planet" and wove them into black and white geometric patterns. Students also created collage tiles representative of the variety of Biomes around the world. These tiles will be placed carefully together to create a new masterpiece to hang in our lobby. Stay tuned for the



Winter Weather Reminders

December 21st was the 1st day of Winter- and at some point we may experience additional winter weather.

School Winter Weather Reminders for FWES Families:



- * Students will continue to have daily recess and/or PE with Mr. Eller outside unless the temperature is below 32 degrees. Please make sure your child is dressed to play outside each day.
- * [WCPSS Winter Weather Clothing Guidelines](#)
- * Winter Weather Announcements will come from Wake County Public Schools- not directly from the school. School messenger contact information will be used for sending the information to families via email, phone and/or text. Families should update all contact information if needed at the FWES Front Office. **More info here:** <https://www.wcpss.net/domain/12201>
- * School Winter Weather closings and delays will impact the daily schedules.
- * If schools close early, the After School Program does not operate
- * If there is a delayed opening- Before School Care opens on the same delay.
- * If there is a delayed opening, no breakfast is served
- * **Read More Here:** [FWES Winter Weather Info for Families](#)

Please let us know if you have winter weather clothing needs for your child so we can assist!

Specialists Activate Learning at FWES...

Music Updates

- 5th grade Ringers and Singers will start back up on Thursday, January 10 at 8am to begin preparing for our next concert on February 28th.
- 1st graders are beginning to learn music for our mini-musical in the spring, The Little Engine That Could Sing.
- 4th graders are waiting for recorders to arrive, but are learning to read music on the xylophones in the meantime!
- Follow me on Twitter, @svitullomusic for other updates!

Chinese Updates



- Chinese New Year is February 5th- Celebrating the Year of the Pig!

Raleigh Chinese New Year Festival is Saturday, January 26th from 10am-5pm in Dorton Arena- Learn more about the Festival and purchase advance tickets here: <http://nctacas.org/>

Healthy Active Kids at FWES!



- Family Marathon Friday April 12, 2019. Students work from home to accumulate up to 25 miles from late January to early April. The entire school will participate in 15 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity on Friday April 12 and participating students can use that time to complete the final 1.2 miles of their marathon. Be thinking if you want your family to participate this year. This is a great way for families to spend physical activity time together walking or jogging. This event helps students prepare to meet their personal fitness goals for the end of year fitness assessment. Participating family members are encouraged to come on April 12 to walk or jog the final 1.2 miles.



- Action Project in PE... Jump Rope for Heart. Information from the American Heart Association will be going home with your child the second week in January. We will be studying the heart and what it means to take action. This is our chance to make a positive change in our community. Consider donating.



- January in PE: Due to weather we will attempt to wrap up soccer after Winter Break and then begin simultaneous Units of Inquiry on jump rope (individual, partner and small group) and gymnastics (weight transfer, jumps and landing & balance/strength). We will also continue to work towards our personal fitness goals.



- Upcoming walks to school:
- January 4 with guest walkers Ms. Morrisette and Ms. Brown
- February 1 with guest walkers Ms. Burke and Ms. Kollauf

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A Page from the Inquiry Center...

WAKE Up and Read ... Farmington Woods will be participating for the fifth year in a 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 13 high-need elementary schools and childcare centers can choose 10 books and keep them for their home libraries.. **As a school we will be collecting books from January 5th - February 15th!!** This year our goal is to collect 2,000 books to donate. This is approximately 3 books from each student. To help make this easier, Mrs. Grice or Mrs. Wilson will stand at the front of the school to collect books in the carpool lane on Wednesdays and Thursdays from January 16th - Feb 7th. 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!



Read Around the World ... We continue to read around the world with some of our faster travelers moving on to Australia and the Polar Regions . Students began their travels in October with a reading log for North America. Since then there have been logs for Europe and Asia. Those students who complete their travels around the world will receive a special globe charm at a celebration near the end of the school year. Will your child be a "world reader"?



Little Bear ... Follow **Little Bear @FWESLittleBear** to catch his newest recommendations and Inquiry Center updates.

Looking ahead in 2019 ...

- Visiting Author Bruce Hale > March 20
- March Book Madness > ENDING April 8th
- Voting for NCCBA (North Carolina Children's' Book Award) > March 22nd
- Spring Book Fair > March 28th - April 5th

From the Public Library : be sure to check out these special activities

- Valentines for Veterans > Tuesday, January 29 at 4:30 p.m. Roses are red, violets are blue. Make a card for a veteran and take some home too! Registration requested.
- Earth Science > Thursday, January 17 at 4:30 p.m. Experience our planet in a whole new way - from the inside out! Registration requested.
- Whales! > Thursday, January 24 at 4:30 p.m. Learn about Earth's largest mammals through stories, trivia, experiments, and more! Registration requested.
- Lego Lab > Friday, January 25 at 4:30 p.m. Calling all LEGO fans! Bring your creativity and have a blast creating with your favorite little bricks. This program is for Kindergarten - 5th grade children. Registration requested.
- Dare to Discover - Catapult Craze! > Tuesday, January 15 at 4:30 p.m. Construct two types of catapults and test their launching capabilities with marshmallows Registration is required.
- Outdoor Recess > Tuesday, January 22 at 4:30 p.m. Let's bring outdoor fun indoors with group games and relays! Registration requested.

For a complete listing of events or to register for a program, please visit our events page at:

www.wakegov.com/libraries/event



What's the Buzz on... The Power of Play

Last year, the Buzz had several segments on the 4C's and how each characteristic plays out in the classroom. The 4Cs are creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking. Teachers design instruction to provide students with opportunities to build their own understanding of these skills and practice them in an academic setting. As parents, knowing these terms and using them with our students reinforces the skills that are being fostered in the classroom; however, knowing the terms isn't enough to sustain the 4Cs in our global learners. Students need to be engaged in their environment and play is a powerful step in that process. "When we treat children's play as seriously as it deserves, we are helping them feel the joy that's to be found in the creative spirit. It's the things we play with and the people who help us play that make a great difference in our lives." Fred Rogers. To start your journey into more play opportunities, check out The Genius of Play - <https://www.thegeniusofplay.org>. Explore this interaction forum to learn about 6 benefits of play, tips and ideas about engaging in play and expert advice about play. In the coming months we will content the benefits of play with the 4Cs and the IB learner profile - Stay tuned!

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Magnet Elementary PTA

<http://farmingtonwoodspta.org>



Keep abreast of PTA and school events and volunteer opportunities in Memberhub!
Join the 615 FWES families that are already on the Memberhub communication platform by creating a login at <http://app.memberhub.com/login>. Be sure to add your children's names in your profile under "Your Family" (drop down menu on the top right). There is no cost to join Memberhub, and you can translate the site into over 100 languages!

Join the PTA: <https://fwespta.memberhub.store>

PTA Volunteer Opportunities: <http://memberhub.com/HSR1217711004> (must also be approved by WCPSS)



**Next PTA Board Meeting- Friday, January 11
7:45am FWES Inquiry Center**

⇒ PTA Movie Night

Please join us on **Thursday, January 17th from 5:30-7:30pm in the FWES Cafeteria**. We will be screening **Cars 3**. Families are invited to bring a blanket and a picnic dinner, we will provide the popcorn. During this event we encourage parents to attend our brief **PTA General Body Meeting from 6:15-6:45pm**. (The movie will run during the meeting and we will all remain in the cafeteria.) The meeting is being held because we need our FWES PTA community to vote to approve new proposals for spending the additional funds raised from the Fun Run. If you have questions about the PTA and the programs we support, PTA members will also be available throughout the event to speak with you. If you would like to join the PTA, we can also sign you and your family up.

⇒ PTA Coffee Chats

We will be hosting our PTA Coffee chats once or twice a month for the rest of the school year. This is an opportunity to meet with members of the PTA board to ask questions and share new ideas. **Are you a new family or would like to learn more about PTA programs? The January PTA Coffees will be Friday, 1/18 from 8:30-9:30am and Tuesday, 1/22 from 2:30-3:15pm in the front lobby. Coffee will be provided, please join us!**



⇒ Board Advisory Committee Meeting

The BAC9 (Board Advisory Committee) meeting with School Board member Bill Fletcher will be hosted at **Farmington Woods Monday, Jan 14th from 5:30-7pm** for anyone interested in listening to local current events related to public schools in our District/County. This event is open to the public, but food is provided only for the official representatives.

How Can You Help:

⇒ Calling all Shutterbugs! Photographs Needed!

Parents, I can really use your help! Yearbook Photos are needed from you!! Did you enjoy the beach trip with your 5th grader, or maybe The Rock Quarry with your 1st grader? Did you come see the cultural lunch presentation for your 3rd grade student? If so, we need your pictures!!! **Please upload the photos to Jostens' ReplayIt! site to be used in the yearbook. www.replayit.com.** You can also upload photos from your mobile device through the ReplayIt! App. Please remember to only include pictures of school events. On the Web, go to www.replayit.com. Select Register and find our school. Then enter the password: **fwbears** (all lowercase). **Any questions or problems, just contact Lauri Van Oostrum-Reed, lvomsw@nc.rr.com.** If you prefer to send them to me directly, please feel free to email the pictures, or a link to where you are housing the pictures!



⇒ Sign up for RCITYROCKS and earn \$\$\$ for the PTA

Thank you to everyone that has joined RCityRocks. Since Farmington Woods PTA joined in September, we have raised \$797.44, just for eating and shopping at businesses we already visited!! If you haven't joined, it's not too late. Please text JOIN to FWESPTA@rcityrocks.com. Once you join, every time you purchase anything at any of the participating businesses, just text a picture of your receipt to the FWESPTA@rcityrocks.com address, and they will donate up to 30% to FWES PTA. A complete list of supporting businesses is on our Farmington Woods PTA Facebook page, as well as on RCityRocks.com.

⇒ Thank you to those that came out in November to enjoy dinner at Tijuana Flats. Our Family Spirit Night helped raise \$140 for FWES PTA.

Look what your PTA has done for Farmington Woods Elementary School! Direct school support:

- Scholastic News subscription for entire school at cost of \$4,387, RAZ Kids subscription for all K-2nd students at cost of \$3,519, Pebble Go reading software renewal for \$905
- Sponsored the Family Evening Concert performance of Gregg Gelb and La Fiesta Latin Jazz Ensemble which raised \$1,247 for the music program
- Sponsoring the following upcoming artists daytime performances for students: Donna Washington on February 12th and Didgeridoo Down Under on March 5th, and a writing residency for 4th grade students with Diane Jarrett the last week of April
- Supported School Clubs - budgeted \$1000

Supporting our teachers and staff:

- \$100 classroom start up funds for all certified staff that are current PTA members (40 submitted paperwork for a total of \$3,791)
- Mini Grants - budgeted \$3500 for teachers for items such as: yoga mats for counseling groups; online newspaper software and pre-writing tools for ID Mod classes; professional development for digital learning for several staff members; Sphero Robots, PenPal, and book sets in Arabic/Spanish/Chinese; Dash Coding Robot; and sensory items for resource teachers.

- Provided coffee bar and other snacks for teachers on early release day, staff dinners, custodians lunch.

Supporting our school families and growing our FWES community:

- Assisted School Social Worker with backpack buddy delivery
- Sponsored the following family spirit events:
- Kona Ice at Meet the Teacher
- Jellybeans skate night
- Family night at Tijuana Flats
- Box Top Contest - Popcorn Party for 5th grade (raised \$426)

Our volunteers put in countless hours helping around the school: Gardening, putting together our Yearbook, organizing Hook A Book and the Reflections Arts Contest, helped deliver backpack buddy food, maintained lost and found, working in the Library, Tutoring, helping in classrooms, beautifying our campus, helping teachers prepare classroom materials... the list goes on and on!

All of this made possible due to parents and our fundraising efforts: Fun Run-\$29,686, Fall Book Fair-\$3,295 for the media center, Go Play Save coupon book sales-\$6,748, Online school supply purchase-\$830, Employer donations of \$750, Amazon Smile and grocery store reward programs of \$309, R City Rocks rewards of \$797