



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

January 2018 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. We will begin our Wake Up and Read Community book collection action project in January. Our Go for the GOLD celebration and 5th Grade PYP Exhibition are both in February. We will also be taking action in February 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 a communicator and attitude

A Walk in the Woods ...

- [Recognize the Inspiring FWES Staff!](#)
Please remember to use the link on our website for recognizing any staff member on our campus who has helped to inspire your child's learning this year! During this month of giving thanks, we are so thankful for our hardworking and committed staff!
- **Welcome FWES New Staff:**
 - **Porter Bell:** Instructional Assistant support in 3rd Grade
 - **Beth Ware:** 50% Intervention Teacher
 - **Liz Fernandez:** School Nurse at FWES on Mondays and Thursdays.
 - **Gabrielle Rodgers:** Instructional Assistant in ID Mod II
 - Welcome back to **Elizabeth Plotkin** as she returns from maternity leave this fall!
- **Carpool Tag Reminders:** Carpool tags are for use in the carpool lane in the afternoon for safe pick up of students. To maintain smooth and safe dismissal of students, individuals will not be allowed to check out students by taking carpool tags to the office or to the cafeteria door. If your

of enthusiasm. 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 inspiring learning at FWES,

Winston Pierce



Go for the Gold!

Give and Earn Respect
Own your Actions
Lead by Example
Demonstrate Cooperation



child is going to be picked up a different way, please write a note to the teacher to make a transportation change. If you do not have your carpool tag, you will need to move to the pull over area and take a photo ID to the front office to verify your identity to sign out your student. Thank you for helping us insure that all students are dismissed safely each afternoon.

- **Bus Tag Reminder:** WCPSS has a new safety procedure for 17-18 requiring every student who gets on a bus to have a bus tag attached to their bookbag. If you child needs or is getting a new bookbag- please let the teacher know so we can make a new bus tag for your student. If you need to change your child's transportation to be a bus rider- it is also required that he/she have a bus tag and be on the rider list- please contact the office at 919-460-3469 to make sure your child is approved for bus transportation and so that a bus tag can be created for their bookbag.
- **Go for the GOLD Celebration- February 2nd!** We continue to be proud of our Positive Behavior program and its focus on teaching positive behavior choices so maximum time can be spent

January, 2018

Calendar Items to Note...

- Jan 8- BAC District 9 Meeting 5:30pm
East Cary Middle School
- Jan 9- Make Up Written Bees in 3rd- 9:20; 4th: 1pm and 5th: 10:15
- Jan 12- 8:30am Walk to School Day- Kildaire Plaza
- Jan 15- No School Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday
- Jan 18- Magnet Showcase 9:30am and 2:00pm
- Jan 19- FWES Spelling Bee 10:00am
- Jan 20- Wake Up & Read Book Collection begins
- Jan 22- Snow Make Up day for 1/4/18
- Jan 25- School Improvement Team Mtg 7:35am
- Jan 29- 9:30 Magnet Info and Tour
- Jan 31- 3rd to NC Science Museum (McLeod, Packer, Thompson)
- Feb 1- 23rd to NC Science Museum (Dula, Lindsey, Musumeci)
- Feb 2- 8:30am Walk to School Day- Kildaire Plaza; Go for the GOLD Celebration Carnival
- Feb 5- Report Cards Home; Box Tops Competition Begins
- Feb 9- 7:45am PTA Board Meeting; 1:15pm Early Release for students

on learning the classroom. We celebrate our students' success twice a year with Go for the GOLD Celebrations. We are winding down our 1st semester and our PBIS team has planned the celebration for Friday, February 2nd. This year our mid-year celebration will be the Go for the GOLD Carnival with games and activities to celebrate success! All students will participate in this event by grade level and students will get to use the # of gold tickets they have earned this semester at the various carnival activities. It will be a fun day for Everyone! Thank you for supporting your child in Going for the GOLD each day at Farmington Woods!

- **Share Your Child Taking Action:** Please share with us any action your child takes outside of the school day based on what they have learned as IB Learners. [Action Speaks Louder Than Words](#). We look forward to sharing items reported to the school on our FWES News in the mornings!



FWES Student Services

Student Services at FWES provide support to students and families through our School Counselors and our School Social Worker. If you have questions or concerns about your child's transition to school this year; please don't hesitate to reach out to one of our student service staff: Jennifer Thakur and Kelly Wiener, counselors or Joette Basham, social worker.

Counselors and Social Worker News:

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Does your family live in a shelter, motel, campground, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, or some other inadequate accommodation, or is doubled-up with other people due to a **loss of housing or economic hardship**?

If so, your school-aged children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

If you and your child(ren) are in transition, please contact the School Social Worker, Mrs. Basham, to discuss available supports and resources for your family. Mrs. Basham can be reached via email at cbasham@wcpss.net or by phone/text at 919-238-9445.

For additional information on the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, please visit the website:

<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/165>



FWES Outreach and Family Support

As the cold weather has hit the Carolinas, please be aware that our counselors and social worker can help provide warm weather clothing to families in need. If your family is in need of gloves, hats and/or coats please see one of us to arrange pick-up. Additionally, if your child has grown out of the above items and you'd like to donate them to others in need; we would be happy to help you with that as well! Stay warm!!!!



FWES POWER FOOD PANTRY is OPEN

The FWES Power Food Pantry is now open for our families to access food. A parent/guardian can come to the school to receive food on these days/times:

Tuesdays - 8:45-10:00 am

Fridays - 8:45-10:00 am; 3:15-4:15 pm.

If your family is in need of additional food in the home, please contact the School Social Worker for assistance. Si su familia necesita comida adicional en el hogar, comuníquese con el trabajador social de la escuela para obtener ayuda. Joette Basham - 919-238-9445 (call/llamada; text/texto); cbasham@wcpss.net

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

Kelly Wiener, Counselor (M, T & F), kwienner@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

Joette Basham, Social Worker (T & F), cba-sham@wcpss.net

Kindergarten Registration for 2018-19

- **2018/19 Kindergarten Registration** begins on January 9, 2018 from 9:30am-3:00pm. Registrations are accepted daily between 10am-12noon.
- Incoming kindergarten students must be 5 years old by August 31, 2018.
- 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 and Year Round School Applications for 2018-19

On-line Magnet and Year Round School Application Window will be available January 10-31, 2018 Applications should be submitted through the Wake County Public School System website at [Magnet/Year Round Application Process](#)

- Apply 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 14, 2018.
- More information regarding WCPSS magnet programs can be found at [Magnet Programs](#)
- [Open House](#) information for Year Round Schools on January 10th.

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

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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

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Healthy Active Kids at FWES!



Walk to School: Walk to school date for January is Friday, January 12th and jumping ahead to February we will walk to school on Friday the 2nd. Remember if school is closed or delayed for weather there will be no walk to school.



Physical Education Action Project: Jump Rope for Heart will begin in January and run into mid February. Students are looking at this project as a way to take action and make a difference for people in our community.

Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator

The 5th grade students have already begun work on a final collaborative inquiry project, **The Exhibition**. FWES has held exhibitions for 14 years now, and each one leaves a lasting impression on the students, parents and staff involved. The Exhibition works to synthesize the essential elements of the PYP programme. This culminating experience allows students to exhibit the attributes of the Learner Profile they develop in

their years as PYP students as well as demonstrate their learning since Kindergarten.

This year the 5th grade classrooms have narrowed their focus to the Central Idea of **"People, animals, and the environment are interconnected."** In the coming weeks they will continue to inquire and research to learn more about selected topics. A large component of the exhibition is Action. Students will be seeking ways they can take action in the form of increasing awareness of animal and environmental concern, learning about organizations that promote conservation and animal protection, and devising ways to share their research and findings with the

community. Groups will present their projects on February 15th to the entire school community. We hope that you will join us for this night of information, inspiration, and celebration.



5th Grade Exhibition 2018

Thursday, February 15th

6:45-7:45pm

Throughout the FWES Campus

All K-5 Families Invited to Celebrate our IB Learners!

through small actions, everyone can make an impact.

Winter Weather Reminders

- * **Dress to Play Outside:** Students need to come to school dressed for outside recess in the winter. We will participate in outdoor play unless the temperature is below 32 degrees.
- * **Put Names in Coats!** Lost and Found is FULL of winter weather gear- all are items without names on them! Please make sure you mark your child's belongings- especially winter coats- with their name so it can be quickly returned if left somewhere. If you are missing items, please check the lost and found and claim them.
- * **After School Not Open if Early Dismissal:** If school is dismissed early due to the expectation of winter weather, the FWES After School Program does not operate. Parents of after schoolers provided information

to the school about how the student should be dismissed. Please review that information this winter. Please also note that if school ends at its regular time, but after school and evening activities are cancelled, the after school program will not operate.

- * **Get Closing Info Through School Messenger!** Announcements about school schedule changes will be delivered through local media outlets and through the Wake County Public School System messaging service. If you are not getting these messages from WCPSS or the weekly messages from FWES- please call 919-460-3469 to make sure we have your correct email and cell phone information in the system so you can receive emails and texts about school related information.

- * **Need Coats or Food For your Family?** If your family needs support this winter with food or winter clothing- please contact Joette Basham our school social worker so she can assist you! You can call, text or email. *Si su familia necesita comida adicional en el hogar, comuníquese con el trabajador social de la escuela para obtener ayuda.* Joette Basham - 919-238-9445 (call/llamada; text/texto); cbasham@wcpss.net



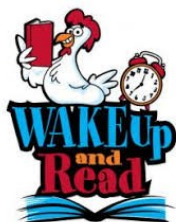
A Page from the Inquiry Center ... Mrs. Grice

Read Around the World ... We continue to read around the world with some of our faster travelers moving on into North America. Students began their travel in October with a reading log for Africa. Since then there have been logs for Australia and the Polar Regions, and South America. Those students who complete their travels around the world will receive a special globe charm. Can you be a "world reader"?



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WAKE Up and Read ... Farmington Woods will be participating for the fourth year in a 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. As a school we will be collecting books from January 20th - March 3rd!! This year our goal at Farmington Woods is to collect 2,500 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 the week of February 5th - Feb 8th. 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 2,500 books!

READvolution continues through January 12th. At this point we have 54 students who have read and recorded an average of over 20 minutes per day since the reading challenge began. As a school we have exceeded the district goal of 2020 books read - let's see how many more we can read before January 12th!



21st Century- 4Cs Learning at FWES... Mrs. Moody

Students have been engaged in exploring communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking with their grade levels. The month of December showed numerous opportunities for students to dig deeper into 4Cs activities!

Hour of Code: 1st-5th grade classrooms participated in the Hour of Code, which is a global initiative to promote the basics of coding! Students were able to collaborate with a team member to create code for various games and celebrate computer science. Two resources available for coding at home are www.code.org (grades 2-5) and www.kodable.com (grades k-2)

3rd Grade: The half day on 12/21 presented opportunities for 3rd Graders to utilize the 4Cs as they created a Stop Motion video in groups. This video showcased various ways the body can move and allowed students to think critically as they planned and executed their videos using the Stop Motion application on the iPads.

5th Grade: Each 5th grader participated in an Oregon Trail themed BreakOut Box that required students to communicate with team members, utilize technology, and think critically in order to unlock 5 locks. Once inside the box directions for another activity were found, students later in the month created wagons that their team felt would benefit travelers as they were expanding west. These wagons showcased creativity as students used recycled materials from the Maker Space.

2nd Grade: GoogleSlides have been introduced to all 2nd graders to promote collaboration through technology. The 2nd grade team is excited to use this tool for several upcoming projects!

2018 will be kicking off with 2nd graders creating Stop Motion videos using magazine clippings and artwork to showcase their knowledge surrounding the IB unit "How the World Works"!

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Farmington Woods IB/PYP Magnet Elementary PTA

<http://farmingtonwoodspta.org>



Next PTA Board Meeting-
Friday, February 9
7:45am FWES Inquiry Center



Happy 2018, FWES families!

The PTA has lots of fun events planned for this Spring! Mark these dates on your calendar:

Feb 5-23 Box tops collection competition
Feb 23 Family Swim Night at Goldfish swim school
Feb 28 The Storycrafters Cultural Arts Presentation
March 9 Our 4th annual World Dance!
March 28 Irish Wonders Cultural Arts Performance
April 9 PTA Hospitality Welcome Back for Staff
April 11 Visiting Author Brian Pickney
April 16-20 Spring Book Fair
May 8-12 Teacher Appreciation Week

More information will be sent out as we get closer to these events. If you would like to get involved with any of these events please email president@farmingtonwoodspta.org.

Keep an eye out for information about legislative action on Memberhub, Facebook and Twitter.

Also, please continue to upload your candid pictures to Jostens replay it. The Yearbook committee will keep the site open until mid March.

We are looking forward to a great semester!

Sincerely,

Ushma Shukla, PTA President on behalf of your PTA Board of Directors

⇒ Yearbook:

The PTA is responsible for creating our school yearbook each year. We have been creating our yearbooks digitally via Jostens for many years.

- ◆ Order your 17-18 yearbook now online at www.jostensyearbooks.com
- ◆ Share school related photos (field trips, Letterland parade, classroom pictures, PTA events, etc.) for the yearbook at www.replayit.com or use the ReplayIt! App for phone pics



⇒ **Lost and Found-** Missing something? As the recent daily weather changed from cool in the mornings to warmer afternoons, many coats and other pieces of clothing were left on the playgrounds. Claim those and other lost things like water bottles, lunch boxes, hats and umbrellas in the Lost & Found closet in the cafeteria.

⇒ **Wear Red for Ed:** The PTA is resurrecting the "wear red for education" Wednesdays started by the NCAE (NC Association of Educators) to show our community support for public schools. We are wearing red on Wednesday's and taking pictures to upload to Facebook, Instagram or Twitter with the hash tag #wearred4ed to show our support. Please join us by wearing red, dressing your children in red, and taking pictures.



⇒ **Memberhub:** 569 families are on Memberhub, Hooray! This is the primary mode of communication for room parents. If you have not signed up please go online and create an account/ add your children's names under add family members. Be sure to join your classroom and club hubs so that you can get updates! <https://fwespta.memberhub.com/> If you need help please contact president@farmingtonwoodspta.org