



# What's News in the Woods...

## Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

### October 2019 Newsletter

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

From Mrs. Pierce...

#fwesunlockslearning

We are well into the swing of the 19-20 school year and learning for our students is being unlocked around every corner! Students are becoming more engaged through the use of 21st Century skills of collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking throughout their learning. As an IB/PYP school our focus is on not only teaching content but making sure our students enjoy learning in order to be life-long learners. Please check out our #fwesunlockslearning on twitter to see all of the awesome learning experiences happening throughout our building each day!

It is exciting to see on our NC Report Card that FWES Exceeded the Growth Expectation for students in the 2018-19 school year. This metric

developed by SAS is designed to measure the growth of students at all performance levels. Exceeding growth means that our struggling learners grew more than expected while so did our strongest learners. Our goal is to make sure that we are reaching every student each day and seeking these results indicates our amazing teachers are making a difference for ALL!

We will be finishing out the 1st Quarter of the year this month and inviting all families to school to attend a conference with your child's teacher between November 1-14th. Please be on the look out for conference sign up information so you can partner with your child's teacher to support your child's continued growth



throughout the year in all areas.

October means things are getting busier at FWES with Field Trips, Cultural Arts, Special Events, Clubs, PTA events, etc. Please use our calendar on the FWES website to stay current and to plan for upcoming events because we'd love to see you at school!

Respectfully,

Winston Pierce



#### Go for the Gold!

Give and Earn Respect

Own your Actions

Lead by Example

Demonstrate Cooperation

## A Walk in the Woods ...

- **Fall School Pictures:** Get your smile and outfit ready! School pictures are scheduled for Tuesday, October 8th. Pre-order information was sent home on Oct. 1st and links for on line orders are on the FWES website.
- **Here Comes the Bus!** Transportation releases new Here Comes the Bus App to help families see the location of their child's school bus on a smartphone, tablet, or personal computer. This is to help families know when the bus is near the assigned stop. For more information, including how to download and access the App click this link- [Here Comes the Bus App](#)
- **Recognize the way FWES Staff Unlocks 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!
- **Volunteer Re-Activation/Registration:** Please reactivate or register as a volunteer in the FWES Front Office by Thursday, October 31st. Current volunteers can reactivate easily prior to 11/1 after 10/31 previous volunteers will have to complete the entire process and wait 2-3 weeks on results.

- **Positivity Project (P2):** FWES is in our 2nd year of P2 learning to support students' understanding of #otherpeoplematter. Please follow our Google calendar for information on the weekly learning themes that help students grow in demonstrating effective social emotional skills.
- **First Grade:** First Grade is heading on our Walking Field Trip to discover how our community has changed over time! Classes will walk in pairs later in the month and learn about the history of Kildaire Farm.
- **Third Grade:** Third Graders will have a special event on October 14th. Once over the course of the year, the entire Specialist Team designed a day of inquiry related to an Inquiry Unit in each grade level. On October 14th, our 3rd graders will have an afternoon full of inquiry- can't wait to share photos and learning on Twitter:)
- **Kindergarten Letterland Parade!** As a celebration of learning about all of the letterland characters- letters and sounds- our Kindergartners choose their favorite and share their learning through the Letterland Parade. The parade is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29th at 9:30am. Be on the look

October, 2019

### Calendar Items to Note...

- Oct 7; 9:45 Magnet Tour and Info
- Oct 8; Election in Café (no visitors for lunch); Fall Individual Photos; TEK Clubs begin after school for registered students
- Oct 9; Teacher Workday- No School for Students
- Oct 10; 8:00 Chess and Planeteers
- Oct 12; 8:30-12:30 Campus Clean Up
- Oct 14-21- Sound Residency with 2nd Grade, Beverly Botsford
- Oct 17- 8:00 Coding, Planeteers, Battle of the Books, Cross Country Cubs 4:15 Table Top Games
- Oct 18- 8:15 Ringers and Singers
- Oct 21- 2nd Grade Residency Sharing with families
- Oct 22- 1st Grade Walking Trip (DiOrio/Long); Kinder to Duke Performing Center; 4th Grade RTA Test
- Oct 23- 1st Grade Walking Trip (Byrd/Edwards); Unity Day- wear Orange
- Oct 24- 1st Grade Walking Trip (Williams/Morrisette); 8:00 Chess and Planeteers
- Oct 25- 7:45 PTA Board Mtg; 8:15 Ringers and Singers
- Oct 26- WCPSS Magnet Fair- 9-12 Panther Creek High
- Oct 29- Kinder Letterland Parade
- Oct 31- Weather Make Up Day
- Nov 1- Teacher Workday
- Nov 1-14- FWES Fall Conference Window
- Nov 4- 2:00 Magnet Info and Tour
- Nov 5- Election Day in FWES Café (no visitors for lunch); 5th Grade Trip to Charlotte Speedway; 1st Grade to Quarry (Morrisette, DiOrio, Long)
- Nov 7 8:00 Coding, Green Thumb, Planeteers, Cross Country Cubs; 4:15 Table Top Games
- Nov 8 8:15 Ringers and Singers; 8:30 Walk to School day; 9:00 PTA Coffee Chat

out for Clever Cat, Bouncy Ben, Talking Tess and you might even see Kicking King and Quarrelsome Queen!



# 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 Sam Woodrum, counselors or Leah Frahm, social worker.

Student Services is excited to welcome two new staff members to Farmington Woods! We asked them some questions to get to know them better:

## **Sam Woodrum, 50% counselor:**

Hobbies: Mountain biking, board games, music.

Coming From: I've been a counselor at AB Combs Elementary for the past three years. I attended UNC (M. Ed in School Counseling) and Gardner-Webb (BA), and I grew up in Angier, NC.

Favorite part of the job: I love getting to focus on building caring relationships with kids.

What inspires you? I'm inspired by the many people that influenced me as a kid and grown-up through their caring relationships.

## **Leah Frahm, Social Worker**

Hobbies: Painting, running after a very fast toddler.

Coming from: I am coming from Fuquay-Varina Middle School. I attended UNC (BA and MSW) and University of Florida (JD). I am from Charleston, South Carolina.

Favorite part of the job: Working with students and their families

What inspires you? The continuous curiosity, learning, and creativity occurring among individuals of all ages.

**Counselors:** Every October, schools and organizations across the country participate in observing National Bullying Prevention Month. The goal: encourage communities to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on all children of all ages. At Farmington Woods, we work to create a community of support and encouragement through our PBIS program and in particular, our Bucket Filling initiative. Bucket filling is a school-wide program that encourages students and teachers to see the good in the behavior of others and to recognize it through compliments and positive actions. Please ask your child about bucket filling; and if you would like to begin this wonderful initiative at home...the book "Have You Filled A Bucket Today" by Carol McCloud is a great book to get you started!

Wednesday October 23, 2019 is Unity Day and a chance to show support and commitment to a bully free school. On October 23rd; please wear **ORANGE** to show unity for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org)

Jennifer Thakur, Counselor, [jthakur@wcpss.net](mailto:jthakur@wcpss.net)  
919-460-3469 ext. 26517

Sam Woodrum, 50% Counselor, [swoodrum2@wcpss.net](mailto:swoodrum2@wcpss.net)  
919-460-3469 ext.

Leah Frahm, Social Worker, [lfrahm@wcpss.net](mailto:lfrahm@wcpss.net)  
919-460-3469 ext. 26516



## The Buzz on Academic Vocabulary... Elizabeth Plotkin, Instructional Facilitator

Welcome back! While the weather still feels like summer, we have moved into Fall at school and are half-way through the 1st quarter already! Interim reports came home with your student(s) on October 1st and Fall conferences are one month away. As you learn more about the curriculum your student is learning this year, a great way to support him/her is to practice vocabulary words he/she often hears in school.

For example, at home we often call anything we read a book, a story, or maybe an article. More often than not, in the classroom we refer to something a student reads as "the text" or "a passage." Academic language can also be found in the way directions are given or the learning standards for different subjects. The same word can also have different meanings depending on the context. For example, the word table in science or math could refer to the chart which organizes information and our learners may only think of a table as something gather around to eat. Making connections between words students use at home and the language of the classroom will increase meaning for learns and in turn increase their confidence. The more intentional adults are about helping students make these connections and checking for their understanding of vocabulary, the more independent and successful the learner will become. Here are a few tips on where to find school vocabulary for your student:

- Look for vocabulary lists from the teacher on their website, in the newsletter, or their DoJo story
- Look for bolded or highlighted words in homework assignments
- Ask students how directions are given at school
- Look at the I can statements and standards the teacher adds to work that comes home

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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

如果您需要免费翻译服务来了解学校流程，请致电 (919) 852-3303

## HEALTHY STUDENTS



- FWES Walks to School are the first Friday of each month. We meet in the Kildare Plaza parking lot (in front of Torero's Mexican Restaurant) and leave by 8:30 a.m. October's walk to school is International Walk to School Day.
- Students are participating in their beginning of the year personal fitness assessment (One mile walk/jog/run, 60 second Push-ups & Curl ups, and sit and reach). Parents can access their students data on: <https://www.focusedfitness.org/> The username is the student's ID # (lunch number) and the password is the last name. Please email Mr. Eller if you are having any trouble accessing your student's data. Students are assigned to set realistic personal fitness goals for each component assessed.
- Motor Skill Units up to Winter Break are: throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling with feet, punting, trapping and passing. Students should have access to manipulative equipment at home for each skill using a variety of age appropriate equipment.
- Any parents interested in helping with student wellness activities/events at FWES? Contact Mr. Eller: [del-ler@wcpss.net](mailto:del-ler@wcpss.net)

## Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator



### THE IB PYP PARENT

The PYP is a strong curriculum framework, building knowledge, skills, attitudes and conceptual understanding, as well as encouraging students to take action and become lifelong learners. This learning and personal development does not stop once the school day ends. As IB PYP parents, the reinforcement and consolidation of student learning and development away from the classroom is critical and powerful. Through the Learner Profile, the PYP aims to develop the whole child, fostering positive attitudes and skill development.

The Learner Profile strives to build global citizens and lifelong learners, challenging us all to be the best that we can be in the home and school. As parents, using this language and terminology in the home can be a powerful way of reinforcing these ten personal attributes.

Each newsletter I will share some ways you can encourage your child to continue their personal development of the learner profile.

#### Inquirer:

Students who are INQUIRERS are curious about the world. They can conduct research independently. They love learning and discovering new things and will carry this love of learning with them throughout life.

How can parents help to develop students who are Inquirers at home?

- Encourage areas of your child's interest by visiting the library to borrow books that explore these topics.
- Model being an inquirer. Admit when you don't know the answer to a

problem or a question and seek out answers in front of your child.

#### Thinker:

Students who are THINKERS work to solve problems independently. They can imagine many solutions to a question or challenge. Thinkers make good decisions and can predict the outcomes of their actions. They think creatively and critically.

How can parents help to develop students who are Thinkers at home?

- Encourage your child to try to think of solutions to problems independently.
- Pose different real-life problems and questions to your child:
- "I'm not sure how to arrange the glasses so they can all fit in the cupboard."
- "I wonder how much the groceries in the cart will cost... how can we make an estimate?"
- Ask your children questions when they are working on a problem:
- "Do you have any ideas about how we might begin?"
- "How can we do this differently?"
- "I had never thought of that. Tell me more about it."
- "What other ways can we show that?"
- "Why do you think that?"
- "How did you figure that out?"
- Give your child an opportunity to think; reflection time is crucial for developing thinking skills.

SEE  
THINGS  
DIFFERENTLY



WAKE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

## WCPSS Magnet Programs

Application Period Opens October 26th.

Rising K's may begin registration at BASE school on October 28th

Note: Rising K Siblings MUST still register at BASE school and complete Magnet Applications

Rising 6th Graders should complete application no later than Jan. 30, 2020

## Learn about ALL Magnet Programs:

WCPSS Magnet Fair  
Saturday, October 26,  
2019

9am-12pm

Panther Creek High School



# Specialists Unlock Learning at FWES...

**Spanish:** Hola Farmington Woods community! From September 15 to October 15 we are celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month. 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are now working on projects related to Hispanic culture, geography, and learning about famous Hispanic people who have stood out in their communities. Please make sure they bring their completed assignments as soon as possible. Students will be sharing some facts from their projects and presentations during our morning news.



## Music Notes from Mr. Pestana:

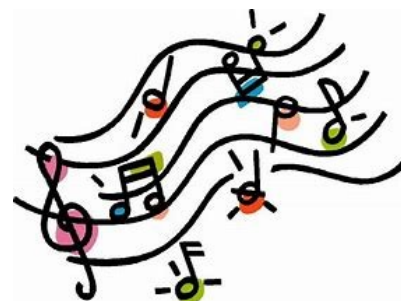
As we are getting into the year, students have been working hard in the music room to develop their elemental music skills in steady beat and rhythm through singing, saying, dancing, and playing.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents/guardians: Ringers and Singers WILL be happening this school year. We will be meeting on Fridays 8:15-9:10 am. More information will be coming your way soon! Our first day is October 18<sup>th</sup>

I encourage families to attend musical concerts/events in the community to support your child's musical education. A few concerts coming up in October include:

Disney's Aladdin Broadway Musical  
Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Several performing times  
Durham Performing Arts Center, Durham  
<https://www.dpacnc.com/events>

Video Games Live, North Carolina Symphony  
Saturday, October 5, 2019 | 8:00 pm  
Meymandi Concert Hall, Raleigh  
<https://www.ncsymphony.org/concerts-events/>



## Visual Arts from Mrs. Smith

\* Be sure to visit the North Carolina State Fair in October to view the selected students who will have artwork featured in the Kerr Scott Building.



\* Disability History and Awareness Month (DHAM) is during the month of October for Wake County Public Schools. Our special artists will be participating in activities to support awareness.

\* The Superintendent Winter Holiday Card Contest is Due on October 15, 2019.

\* Students are encouraged to create an original composition for the PTA Reflections program. The theme this year is "Look Within!" Submissions from home are due to Mrs. Smith by Oct.30, 2019 with an accompanying entry form. See the PTA website for more details:  
<http://ncpta.org/index.php/programs/reflections-arts-program/>

\* Create artwork for the 2020-21 North Carolina Farm to School Calendar  
Artwork should feature North Carolina Agriculture. Due: November 30, 2019  
See the contest rules for more information: <http://www.ncfarmtoschool.com/htm/downloads/artcalrules.htm>

\*\*\*\*\*5th GRADE ONLY!!!!

Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest

Learn about the need for Wetlands. Illustrate and describe how we can protect water the Wetlands.

Convey why it's important to protect Wetlands and why people should care.

Be creative! Enter to win ribbons, banquet invitations and ca\$h prizes! I will provide the poster board.

Posters Due October 30, 2019 to Mrs. Smith

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# A Page from the Inquiry Center....

## Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge Update

Congratulations to Gavin V (Pusateri) and Suhani T (Quinn) who were the winners of the Kindle Fire e-readers from our summer reading challenge. About 52 students read and recorded over 2000 minutes during the summer. An additional 20 students read and recorded 1500 minutes. All of these students earned a special summer bear charm.

## Announcing the Reading programs that have been planned ... (and there are more to come)

**Global Read Aloud** - Sep 30 - Nov 8th

### Whole School (during school day)

We will be participating again in the Global Read Aloud Program: One Book to Connect the World. During class time, teachers will read aloud from selected texts during the six weeks from Sept 30 - Nov 8th. Kindergarten and first grades will read numerous texts from the author Yuyi Morales. Second and third grades will read *Stella Diaz has Something to Say* by Angela Dominguez. Fourth and Fifth grades will read *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang.



### Read Around the World - began Oct 1

This program will be geared for **Kindergarten - 2nd grade**, although all grades are welcome to participate. Students will be given a reading log and will receive charms as they complete each log. Logs are returned to the Inquiry Center when they are completed and students will be given the next log. Logs must be kept for a minimum of one month. Each log is based on a continent, beginning in Europe, and we will read our way around the world. Students who complete reading all six logs (Europe, Asia, Australia/Antarctica, Africa, South America, North America) will complete their travels around the world and will receive a special world charm. Additionally, these students will be invited to attend a Read Around the World event near the end of the school year.



## NEW THIS YEAR !



### March Book Madness - beginning now

For **Grades 3-5**: March Book Madness is a bracket-style tournament that matches books in one-on-one "games." Every week, students will vote to decide which book will move to the next round. After each round of voting the bracket will be updated and the next round of voting will begin. The tournament will start with the sweet 16, elite 8, final 4 and then the final round to choose our winner. The brackets will be announced in February, but we have selected the books and students can begin reading now until voting begins in March! The theme of the books is "Brave and Bold".

### March Book Madness contenders:

- *Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed
- *Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish* by Pablo Cartaya
- *Nowhere Boy* by Katherine Marsh
- *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang
- *Lu* by Jason Reynolds
- *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thannha Lai
- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell
- *Great Treehouse War* by Lisa Graff
- *Stella Diaz Has Something to Say* by Angela Dominguez
- *Breakout* by Kate Messner
- *Insignificant Event in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft
- *Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga
- *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe* by Carlos Hernandez
- *Wildfire: A Novel* by Rodman Philbrick
- *Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya

The Inquiry Center will only have one copy of each book, so feel free to borrow copies from the public libraries as well. More information coming soon!

## Carolina Hurricanes - Readvolution - Sept 30 - Nov 22

### Whole School participation

All WCPSS elementary students will be given the challenge of **20 minutes of reading outside of the school day!** Students who achieve the goal of reading 800 minutes throughout the September 30th - November 22nd. will receive two (2) complimentary ticket vouchers to a Hurricanes home game.

For every finished book, see your teacher for a paper hockey puck to add to the READvolution Banner displayed in the hall outside the Inquiry Center.

For the school-wide component, schools that collectively read **2,020 books** between Sept. 30 and Nov. 22 will be entered into a drawing by region to participate in this year's Cool School Field Trip to the PNC Arena in Spring 2020. If your school is selected from the drawing to attend the Cool School Field Trip, students will have the opportunity to see a Hurricanes practice, participate in fun activities, and hear from the players. **MORE INFORMATION TO COME** as soon as it is available from WCPSS.



# Farmington Woods IB/PYP Magnet Elementary PTA

<https://sites.google.com/fwespta.org/home>



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/HSR12177I11004> (must also be approved by WCPSS)



**Next PTA Board Meeting- Friday, October 25**

**7:45am FWES Inquiry Center**

## ⇒ RCITYROCKS:

Do you enjoy Papa John's, Mellow Mushroom, The Butcher's Market, Buffalo Brothers, City BBQ, Totopos? Any time you eat at these restaurants, and so many others in the area, you can be giving back to FWES PTA. Please text JOIN to [FWESPTA@rcityrocks.com](mailto:FWESPTA@rcityrocks.com). Once you join, every time you purchase from a participating business, just text a picture of your receipt to [FWESPTA@rcityrocks.com](mailto:FWESPTA@rcityrocks.com), and they will give back 20% of your receipt to FWES PTA. Please check the FWES PTA website to see a complete list of participating businesses.

## ⇒ Yearbook:

Don't forget that yearbooks are currently on sale. Prices have gone up to \$25, but don't miss out on the chance to order one, before the price increases to \$30. Please visit [Jostens.com](http://Jostens.com) or bring your order form with \$25 to the Blue PTA Mailbox.



Calling all parents that love to snap some photos!!! The PTA needs your photos for the yearbook. If you take pictures of your child's classroom activities, field trips, or school events, please upload them to Josten's ReplayIt website, [www.replayit.com](http://www.replayit.com). Select register and find Farmington Woods Elementary School. Then enter the password: fwbeats (all lowercase). You can also upload photos from your mobile device through the ReplayIt app. Any questions or problems regarding yearbook or replayit, please contact  
Lauri Van Oostrum-Reed at [Yearbook@fwespta.org](mailto:Yearbook@fwespta.org).

## ⇒ PTA Advocacy:

Reminder: 2019 is an Election Year! Election Day: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 (Vote at your designated polling location)

Municipal Elections for Angier, Apex, Durham, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Holly Springs, Knightdale, Morrisville, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Wendell, and Zebulon

Early Voting: October 16 — November 1

The two Locations for early voting are Apex Community Center and Avery Street Rec Center in Garner.

Election Day: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 {Vote at your designated polling location.}

## ⇒ Campus Clean-up October 12th 8:30-10:30am

## ⇒ Cafeteria Angel Fund:

Cafeteria Angel Fund is up and running! Donations can be made directly to the cafeteria or put in the PTA Blue Mailbox with checks payable to FWES Cafeteria Angel Fund. You can also donate through memberhub.

## ⇒ Global Fun Run is Coming Soon!

We are so lucky to partner, again this year, with Apex Leadership Company, with our theme being GAME ON. We will have a school Pep Rally and Kick Off on October 25th. With our Global Fun Run being held on November 7th. Please watch for more details to come home later this month.



## ⇒ Calling all Chili Masters!

On November 14th, FWES PTA will be sponsoring a chili cook off for the school staff to enjoy during conference night. Votes will be cast and prizes given away. More details coming soon!

## ⇒ Volunteers Needed For:

Outreach (emergency clothes closet, backpack buddies)  
Inquiry Center  
Project Parents  
Teacher Task Team  
Spirit Wear  
Book Fair  
Staff Appreciation



Please email Stevie Martino at [President@FWESPTA.org](mailto:President@FWESPTA.org) for more information about these or any other volunteer opportunities