



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

November 2019 Newsletter

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

From Mrs. Pierce...

#fwesunlockslearning

Have you seen keys to unlocking learning at Farmington Woods? If not- do a search on Twitter for our hashtag above and scroll through the amazing and engaging learning that happens each day for our IB Learners. Our fantastic educators and support staff embrace the IB philosophy each day to engage and connect students to meaningful learning experiences. In addition these experiences support the development of 21st century skills in students. More commonly known as the 4Cs, students collaboration, communicate, think critically and are creative on a regular basis as learners. What an exciting learning environment to develop our students as learners!

In addition to academic learning strategies that engage students, the Positivity Project (P2) to support the social emo-

tional development of our students supports student growth with interpersonal skills and personal reflection on strengths. P2 is aligned with the IB mission and Learner Profile as the focus is on Other People Matter and consideration of how each of us can make a difference for someone else. Please take time each week to ask your child what they have learned about bravery, caring, how words and actions affect others, etc. We have been so excited to see our students seeking opportunities to think about others and to engage in actions that truly show their understanding that **#otherpeoplematter**.

Our IB Learner Profile and P2 for December is Caring. We encourage our school community to continue to show caring for each other and those around them each and every

day. In this season of giving and taking action in our community, please help us know how our students have taken action by submitting information on our website so that their action can be highlighted on the FWES News- [Action Speaks Louder Than Words](#)- IB Learners are encouraged to take action in many ways to make a difference for themselves, their community and the world.

Wishing you all the IB Mission- A Better and More Peaceful World!

With love
and peace,

Winston
Pierce



Go for the Gold!

Give and Earn Respect

Own your Actions

Lead by Example

Demonstrate Cooperation



A Walk in the Woods ...

- [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 unlock your child's learning this year!
- **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](#)
- **First Grade News:** First Grade is hard at work as we collaborate in learning teams to create a presentation about a topic relating to our Rocks and Earth Materials unit. We're excited to share our knowledge with parents at our Rock Show on one of two days:
 - **Thursday, December 12th:** Long, Morrisette, & Williams
 - **Friday, December 13th:** Byrd, DiOrio, & Edwards

The Rock Show will take place in the Cafeteria between 2:30 - 3:00pm. Please contact your

child's teacher with any questions. It'll be a ROCKin' good time - we can't wait to see you there!

- **Fifth Grade News** Fifth grade is hard at work on the BIG Exhibition project! This is a student-driven project in which the students brainstormed problems they were concerned about in the world. We created a central idea: *The decisions humans make affects the overall well-being of people and animals.* We've also come up with lines of inquiry related to this central idea. Students are investigating topics in small groups and using all of their skills they've acquired through the years at Farmington Woods from the IB learner profile. Our students are also using lots of 21st century skills! Students have been inquirers as they have met with their small groups to generate questions they have about their topic. They've used critical thinking to find reliable resources to answer their questions and communicators as they have shared their information with their group. They've been open-minded to working with others from different classes that have the same interest and by listening to others share their ideas. They have already become more knowledgeable about their topic and

December, 2019

Calendar Items to Note...

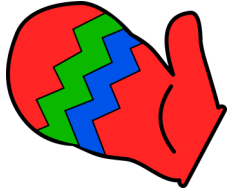
- Dec 9- Gift of Reading Log Home
- Dec 10- Kinder trip to Marbles
- Dec 12- 1st Grade Rock Show 2:30 (Long, Morrisette, Williams); 8:00 Planeteers, Chess; 6-8:30pm PTA Pajama Jam Family Event!
- Dec 13- 1st Grade Rock Show 2:30 (Byrd, DiOrio, Edwards) Last Day for Boxtops; 8:00 NewsCrew; 8:15 Ringers and Singers
- Dec 16-20 Gift of Reading
- Dec 16- Read Together Day- join us! Exercise your Brain and Read
- Dec 17- Tacky Sweater Tuesday; Magnet Tour 9:45am; FWES Neighborhood Visits 4:30-5:00pm
- Dec 18- Wild Animal Wednesday
- Dec 19- Turn Lights Out Thursday (bring flashlight); 7:45 PTA Board Mtg; 8:00 Coding, Cross Country, Planeteers; 4:15 Table Top
- Dec 20- Relax and Read in your Pajamas! Last School day of 2019!
- Dec 21-Jan 3- Winter Break!
- Jan 6- Students return- Happy New Year 2020! Wake Up and Read Book Collection Begins!
- Jan 9- Round 1 of Spelling Bee 1st-5th- Written Bee in Classrooms; 8:00 Chess, Green Thumb and Planeteers
- Jan 10- 8:30 Walk to School Day- Kildaire Plaza, PTA Coffee Chat 9:00-9:45am; Magnet Info Session and Tour 9:45am
- Jan 15- 1:20 2nd Grade Spelling Bee; 2:00 1st Grade Spelling Bee
- Jan 16- 8:00 Coding, Planeteers, Cross Country, Battle of Books; 4:15 Table Top; 9:30 3rd Grade Spelling Bee; 10:30 5th Grade Spelling Bee; 2:00 Magnet Info and Tour
- Jan 17- 8:00 NewsCrew; 8:15 Ringers and Singers; 1:30 4th Grade Spelling Bee
- Jan 20- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday - No School
- Jan 21- 9:45 Magnet Info Session and Tour
- Jan 22- 4th Grade to Symphony, 5th (Herrema/Ramos) to Science Museum
- Jan 23- 5th (Dellinger/Lemak) to Science Museum
- Jan 29- End of Quarter 2- Teacher Workday- No School for Students

are thinking about how to make the world a better place by taking action! The entire FWES community is invited to come and see our presentations on Thursday, February 27th at 6:30 pm. Mark your calendars, especially all 5th grade parents. :)



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.



Your counseling and student services team is here to support students and families in a variety of ways. We partner with community outreach organizations to provide necessities for our

families who may be in need of a little extra support this holiday season. On December 17, we will be visiting several Farmington Woods neighborhoods to provide hats, scarves and gloves to students who may not have those

things available to them this winter season. If your family is in need of clothing, food, or other items; please don't hesitate to reach out to our student support staff; it's one of the many ways we support our students and their families.

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

Sam Woodrum, 50% Counselor, swoodrum2@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext.

Leah Frahm, Social Worker, lfrahm@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

The Buzz on iStation Reading Benchmarking Tool and Read To Achieve



iStation Reading Benchmarking Tool: K-3 teachers at Farmington Woods have completed training with the new reading assessment and benchmarking tool that will be used in all public schools across the state starting in January 2020 with students' mid-year reading benchmark. While the tool and program components will look different, they still provide teachers and families with information on the foundational reading skills that all students need to be successful independent readers. Parents will also have access through this tool to see student information and to access resources to help with reading foundational skills at home. Additional information, including how to log in to the Parent Connection Portal will go home with All K-3 students when we return from Winter Break.

Read to Achieve: Read to Achieve is a NC State Law designed to ensure students are able to read on grade level by the end of 3rd Grade. Due to the changes in the reading assessment tools and the upcoming changes to the Reading End of Grade Test, the law is being updated. Families K-3 will receive information on the updates and an information session will be held at Farmington Woods Elementary as soon as the updates are finalized and there is information for families. In the meantime, please continue to have your child read 20-30 minutes a night which should include some read aloud time, too. Reading is a skill that requires practice to improve- much like soccer practice is required to learn how to kick a corner kick; piano practice is required to learn a new music piece; swimming practice is required to improve your speed to ribbon in the meet- the way to prepare for the finish line and be on grade level as a reader is to continue to practice reading regularly.

NC DPI- Read to Achieve Information has been updated for 3rd Grade Families and for K-2 families to review and consider as students are learning to be successful readers.

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 सेवाएँ 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

Healthy Active Kids at FWES!



• Our student teacher, Jaime Cooke had her last day on Friday December 6. Jamie completed her graduate degree in Physical Education from UNCW. We wish her the best in her future endeavors and appreciate her contribution to our students success this semester.

• 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. Next walks are: 12/6 and 1/10.



• Students completed their fall fitness assessment and have set realistic personal goals for the spring assessment. 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. Please help your child work to meet their goals. Push ups is our big push this year so whenever you can share some push up time with your student.

• Motor Skill Units after Winter Break are: jump rope, gymnastics, basketball and striking.. Students should have access to manipulative equipment at home for each skill using a variety of age appropriate equipment (jump rope & basketball).

• We will be taking action in PE this year participating in Jump Rope for Heart (now called Kids Heart Challenge) so students will be coming home with information after the break.

• Any parents interested in helping with student wellness activities/events at FWES? Contact Mr. Eller: del-ler@wcpss.net



THE IB PYP PARENT -
Sharing the Learner

Profile at home.

The Learner Profile attribute we will look at this month is **Caring**. We are fortunate to work in a school with so many caring students, adults and families. Below are some ways that you can share the learner profile trait of caring with your children at home.

Students who are CARING want people around them to be happy and are sensitive to their needs. They think about the world and work to take care of their community and the environment. They remember to treat others how they themselves would like to be treated.

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

- Role model the caring behavior you would like to see in your child all the time. Your child has big eyes and ears and notices everything you do. Using kind words, helping people without being asked, being an active listener all show your child that you care about people. Even a simple thing, like holding a door for someone, shows your child that you are aware of others around you and want to help them.

Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator

- Think about how your family can get involved with community organizations.
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Compost
- Smile.
- After reading a book, spend some time considering how the people in the book acted. Was someone in the book caring? All of the time or just some of the time? Were all of the characters in the book caring or just some of them? Some books to consider:
 - ◇ Lily's Purple Plastic Purse, Kevin Henkes
 - ◇ The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein
 - ◇ Yertle the Turtle, Dr. Seuss
 - ◇ The Grouchy Ladybug, Eric Carle



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 WCPSS Magnet Programs and Process:

Parent Information Sessions-

- January 8
- Location: Crossroads I, 5625 Dillard Drive, Cary, NC 27518
- Time: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Email: magnetcenter@wcpss.net

ALL Magnet Information Events and Sessions K-12:

<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/40214>

Magnet Application Process:

<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/189>

A Page from the Inquiry Center....

Read Around the World ... The first Read Around the World "travelers" are turning in their reading logs. So far, 125 **Europe** sheets have been returned and the students have chosen their first charm. Remember you can turn in your log whenever you are finished and get the next log. The second continent on our trip around the world is **Asia** and many travelers have completed Asia and are beginning the journey to **Australia**.



Gift of Reading ... It is almost time for our winter break and the Gift of Reading. A special snowflake charm will be available for each student who completes and turns in their Gift of Reading reading log. As with the summer charm, this is a one-time only charm and can only be earned for participation in the Gift of Reading. Students who turn in a completed log of 180 minutes will be entered into a drawing to win books! Logs are due Dec 18th!

READvolution Student Ticket Rewards !!! Students who achieved their reading goal of 800 minutes by December 6, 2019 are able to redeem for **two Hurricanes game tickets**. Log into your Hurricanes READvolution site. There will be a 7-letter "code" that you can use to redeem your tickets. Log into the READvolution site in WakeID and follow the directions to request your tickets or use this link <http://bit.ly/2OFWES2020>

Game Dates for students rewarded in reaching the reading goal of 800 minutes are : Dec 21st, Jan 5th, 7th, 10th, 17th, 19th, 21st, Feb 2nd; 14th; 16th; 25th. **Be sure to log in to claim your tickets before February 5th.**

NC Museum of Art ... The NC Museum of Art is once again offering families at FWES the opportunity to visit the fall exhibition: Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Geiman Collection. The museum has given the school two exhibition passes (each for up to 6 people). The passes need to be obtained from Mrs. Grice in the Inquiry Center. The passes are valid thru January 12th.



NEW THIS YEAR !March Book Madness - want to help decide the CHAMPION book for the year ??



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". **HOW MANY HAVE YOU READ ?** The books in our collection are marked with a "MBM" sticker on their spine.

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed Marcus Vega
Doesn't Speak Spanish by Pablo Cartaya

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed

Sal and Gabi Break the Universe by Carlos Hernandez

Front Desk by Kelly Yang

Lu by Jason Reynolds

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha 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

Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh

Wildfire: A Novel by Rodman Philbrick

Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya

WAKE Up and Read ... Farmington Woods will be participating for the sixth 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 6th - February 15th!! This year our goal at Farmington Woods is to collect 1,500 books to donate. This is approximately 2 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 15th - Feb 13th. 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 1,500 books!



EVA Perry Public Library ... **December Movies @ the Library** ... Join the library for several holiday movies : The Polar Express and the Grinch (check out your closet public library for dates and times)

Cookie Houses ... School age children and their families are invited to create a holiday cookie house using graham crackers, icing and treats. All materials will be provided. Space is limited. Registration requested.

Book Fair ... Thank you to Mrs. Liz Miller and Mr. Sarah Barrett (book fair chairs) along with ALL of the parent volunteers who helped during our week of the Bedford Falls Book Fair. We had a great week and the Inquiry Center earned over \$3000 to be used for books and supplies.



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- Thursday, December 19
7:45am FWES *Note Thursday Day**

A personal note from Stevie Martino, PTA President:

FWES Families and Friends,
As we are nearing the halfway mark of the school year and are all getting lost in the rush and craziness of this time of year, I wanted to pause to say Thank You. You have given your time, your support, your donations, and your encouragement and, for that, we are truly grateful. The saying "It takes a village" could not be more true than in a school community and we are all part of a pretty special village. A village that includes our fantastic administrative team, our awe-inspiring teaching staff, our incredible support staff, and you. And together we accomplish some pretty amazing things and I can't wait for next year! Have a great winter break!

PTA Memberships are still available:

<https://fwespta.memberhub.store>

Upcoming PTA Events

1/30/20 Ringers and Singers Performance and PTA Movie Night featuring "Abominable"
3/13/20 World Dance

⇒ **Join us for our first Pajama Jam!** December 12th 6-8:30pm in the cafeteria. Join us in your PJs for the movie Small Foot, hot cocoa, crafts and more! Bring your dinner, a blanket, and you



are welcome to bring home-made or store bought cookies to share. We will also be collecting canned food for the Dorcas Food Pantry. Hope to see you there!

⇒ **Global Fun Run- GAME ON!** Thank you again for everyone's support as we completed our Global Fun Run in November. PTA will be able to continue sponsoring Cultural Arts, Teacher Mini

Grants, School Projects, and so much more, because of everyone's generosity.

⇒ **Yearbooks:** Pictures, pictures, pictures!! We need your pictures!! Letterland Parade, field trips, lunch outside, or any school event, we want your pictures for the yearbook. 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. All pictures must be uploaded by March 1st. On the Web, go to www.replayit.com. Select Register and find our school. Then enter the password: fwes (all lowercase). Any questions or problems, just contact Lauri Van Oostrum-Reed, year-book@fwespta.org.

Don't forget that yearbooks are currently on sale. Prices are currently \$25, don't miss out on the chance to order one, before the price increases to \$30, on February 1st. Please visit Jostens.com or bring your envelope, with your name, grade, and teacher's name, with \$25 cash or check (made out to FWES PTA) to the Blue PTA Mailbox.

⇒ **Our Nominating Committee** is beginning the search for our next board members. Check out our website <https://sites.google.com/fwespta.org/home/home> for more information on each position and contact Ushma Shukla at nominating@fwespta.org if you're interested.

⇒ **PTA Volunteers Needed:** Volunteers are needed for the following areas: Outreach (emergency clothes closet, backpack buddies), Inquiry Center, Project Parents, Teacher Task Team, Spirit Wear, Book Fair, and Staff Appreciation. Please email Stevie Martino at President@FWESPTA.org for more information about these or any other volunteer opportunities. Please email Stevie Martino at President@FWESPTA.org for more information about these or any other volunteer opportunities.

got yearbook?

