



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

February 2019 Newsletter

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

From Mrs. Pierce...

#fwesactivateslearning @fwesibpyp

So proud to celebrate with the entire FWES School Community that our school has received the Magnet School of Excellence, the top merit award category from Magnet Schools of America for 2019! The award not only recognizes the innovative instructional strategies of our magnet program but also the school's efforts to celebrate diversity, data demonstrating academic growth that closes achievement gaps and family/community partnerships. Thank you for being part of our success by partnering with our school to support all of our efforts! We look forward to planning and celebrating with the entire school community after we receive the award at the National Magnet Conference in April.

We celebrate student achievement with our magnet recognition and ask that at this midpoint in the year you review your child's report card and partner with your child's teacher to insure that your child maximizes his/her potential through continual growth as a learner.

Also as part of our magnet recognition is the focus on innovative instructional strategies

A Walk in the Woods ...

- **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 pudd-



in place at FWES. Please join us to celebrate the PYP culminating experience for our IB Learners on Thursday, March 7th at 6:45pm for Exhibition! Our students will have been working, researching and determining how to take action related to globally significant issues. They will be sharing their research that evening- come and learn from our students!

Our P2 focus the middle of the month is LOVE. Please know how much our school loves our students, our families and the community we have created together to support learning and global mindedness.

With love for activating learning at FWES,

Winston Pierce



Go for the Gold!

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

dles 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)
- **Colorcycle Recycling Action Project!** The Colorcycle program is sponsored by Crayola and it recycles dead markers and turns them into clean energy. Ishani, a FWES 5th Grader, is leading our school's efforts with this program. Families along with classrooms, are invited to send in any worn out markers (except those with any metal) and put

February, 2019

Calendar Items to Note...

- Feb 4-8- School Counselor Appreciation Week!
- Feb 4- Q2 Report Cards Go Home; NCSU Fellows Visit FWES
- Feb 5- Happy Chinese New Year! GOLD Events 9:30 (K, Cerasi and ID Mod I); 10:45 (2nd Grade)
- Feb 7- 8:30am PTA Coffee Chat
- Feb 11-15- Love the Bus Week- Bus Driver Appreciation Week!
- Feb 12- Donna Washington Storyteller 9:30 K-2; 10:30 3-5
- Feb 15- Early Release 1:15pm
- Feb 18- Teacher Workday- no school for students
- Feb 19- Make up Day for 12/11/18; 9:30am Coffee with Counselor- Middle School registration info for 5th grade parents; 2:30 PTA Coffee Chat
- Feb 22- 9:45am New Magnet Family Welcome Event
- Feb 25- Q3 Interim Reports Home
- Feb 26- 7:35am SIP Quarterly Review
- Feb 27- 3:00pm Parent and Principal Chat
- Feb 28- FWES Hosts NC IB Schools Meeting; 4th Grade Trip to Greensboro Science Museum- 8:00am Departure
- March 1- 8:30 Walk to School Day; 8:30 PTA Coffee Chat
- March 5- Australian Didgeridoo Performances 9:30 and 10:30am
- March 6- 4th Graders NAEP Testing
- March 7- PYP Exhibition (5th Graders)- 6:45pm ALL Families Invited!
- March 8- Early Release 1:15pm



them in the Colorcycle bin near the PTA Mailbox in the school lobby. All brands with plastic markers are accepted (Expo, Sharpie, Highlighters, etc.). Don't throw it out- Colorcycle It!



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-

Snack Collection:

Mrs. Basham will be collecting individually packaged snacks to have available to our teachers to give our students who come to school without a snack. We want to ensure all of students' brains are fueled for learning all day. Please consider donating snacks (single-serving sized; individually wrapped) such as pretzels, Goldfish crackers, whole grain crackers, graham crackers, baked chips, popcorn, fruit squeezes, granola/cereal bars, and/or dried fruit.

Attendance Facts:

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work. (credit: Attendance Works)

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

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!



WCPSS School Enrollment for 2019-20

- **Magnet Application Results:** The online Magnet Application window ended on January 30, 2019. Application results will be emailed and posted to parent accounts on February 19, 2019.
- **School Transfer Applications:** The online Request for School Transfer Application window is from February 21 - March 6, 2019. Families seeking to make a school assignment change for the 2019/20 school year (including back to base school or hardship transfer requests), must submit a transfer request during this time frame. Parents will be notified of results as decisions are made, beginning March 7, 2019.

More information regarding the Magnet and/or Year Round schools application and Transfer Request processes can be found at:



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

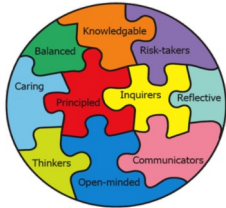
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Magnet Musings

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 15 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 chosen the central idea ***As global citizens, we have a responsibility to take care of each other.*** They have begun to re-search their selected topics and will be seeking ways they can take action in the form of increasing awareness of water scarcity, poverty, environmental concerns, equality in education and more. Thank you to all of the parents in the community that have offered to mentor the groups!

Students will devise ways to share their research and findings with the community through out annual Exhibition night. **Groups will present their projects on March 7th between 6:45 and 7:45pm.** We hope that the school community will join us for this night of information, inspiration, and celebration.



What's the Buzz on... Being an IB Learner while Playing

"Children are curious and naturally want to explore the world around them. They are always ready to learn" (Gilbert, Harte & Patrick, 2011). What a powerful statement and not only is it true of our students, but it is also connected to the IB philosophy and Learner Profile. As IB educators, we aim for students to be life-long learners, true inquirers and take action on what they've learned. As teachers and parents we strive to find genuine ways for students to practice these IB skills. Purposeful play is an excellent way to achieve this goal. For example, when you take your student to a park or while they practice a sport, you can use the IB Learner Profile to encourage and engage with them in play. Encourage students for being risk-takers when they try the monkey-bars for the first time, or attempt a new stroke in the pool, or a practice a turn in ballet. We can also note the IB traits of caring, communicator and being open-minded as we engage in purposeful play. Additionally, Gilbert, Harte & Patrick (2011) offer some strategies to promote your child's play:

- observe children to inform appropriate planning
- ask "What if...?" questions to encourage inquiry
- describe events and emotions to focus understanding
- introduce new words in meaningful context
- elaborate on children's conversations to expand vocabularies

Following these suggestions and connecting our student's play to the IB Learner Profile will increase learning opportunities and our opportunities as adults to engage in the learning process with our students.



Specialists Activate Learning at FWES...

Chinese New Year Events outside of school:

As Chinese traditional Spring Festival (Feb 5, 2019) is approaching, there are two meaningful upcoming local activities in February for your children to experience Chinese culture and have fun outside of campus! The activities are listed as follows. These activities are not required to participate. You go if you and your children are interested.

2019 CAFA Chinese New Year Gala

Held by: Chinese American Friendship Association

Time: 2:30pm-5:30pm

Date: Sunday February 17, 2019

Address: UNC Memorial Hall

114 E. Cameron Ave. Chapel Hill, NC 27599

Tickets Needed: \$15 per person for CAFA members, \$20 per person for non-CAFA members. When 20 persons or more, you may qualify a group discount for \$15 per person.

Tickets available for purchase at <http://www.cafanc.org/ticket/2019/default.aspx>



2019 Chapel Hill Lightup Festival

Held by: Town of Chapel Hill, Chinese School at Chapel Hill

Co-Organizer: Chinese American Friendship Association

Time: 11:00am- 5:00pm

Date: Sunday February 24, 2019

Address: 140 W Franklin St Plaza and Carolina Square, Chapel Hill, NC, 27516

FREE—NO tickets Needed- highly recommended!

Healthy Active Kids at FWES!



- Taking Action: Jump Rope for Heart through the American Heart Association. Thank you to all our families taking action. Our goal was to raise \$5,000 to fight cardiovascular disease and at the end of January we are at \$3,500. We will continue to take action until February 28, 2019.

- Students in Physical Education are working on Jump Rope and Gymnastics skills now through February and starting Basketball Skills in March.

- Walk to School: First Friday of each month from Kildare Plaza parking lot 8:30 a.m. Dates: February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3 and June 7.

- Bike to School: Students can bike to school on the May 3 walk to school day. It will be a walk/bike to school event

- Family Marathon: Event sign up starts Monday February 18 and runs until March 4:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ADAE2D6-2019>

- Running Logs can be found:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cqWE3oV3FUIKGDFI_ZeC9oIS2xY5qJeNi6a41dPNmOQ/edit?usp=sharing



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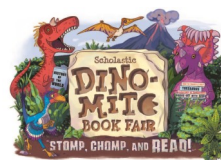
A Page from the Inquiry Center...



- **WAKE Up and Read ...** Our collection of books for WAKE Up and Read is going well. So far we have collected about 700 books toward our goal of 2000.. As a school we will be collecting books from January 5th - Feb 15th. 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 on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Jan 16th - - Feb 7th. Books can always be dropped off in the Inquiry Center or in the front office. Look for those books to donate and bring them in.
- Books must be new or gently used and appropriate for children birth - age 12.
- Gently used books should not be damaged by mold, water, or fire, and should not show signs of discoloration or age.

- **Did you know that our school has a collection of ebooks ? ...** Farmington Woods' library collection contains over 90 ebooks. To access the ebooks, log into the FWES website > from the top of the page choose "students" > choose "FWES Media and Technology website" > under NO LOG IN choose "FWES Inquiry Center Search" > on the blue banner choose "catalog" > on left hand side choose "Resource Lists" . The ebooks is the first list. Here the "view" button allows you to see all of the books available. When you are ready to read/listen to a book, simply click the "Open" button and you are good to begin. ENJOY !

- **Spring Book Fair - Scholastic ...** Our Spring Book Fair will begin on Thursday, March 28th and run thru Friday, April 5th. The theme this year is "Dino-Mite Book Fair : Stomp, Chomp and Read". Mrs. Liz Miller, PTA Book Fair Chair, will be recruiting parent volunteers to assist classes with filling out their wish lists and purchasing their chosen books. (We will need lots of volunteers Thursday-Tuesday). Family Night will be Thursday, April 4th in conjunction with the first night of student led conferences. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Book Fair.



- **Visiting Author is Coming** Bruce Hale, author of Chet Gecko and Clark the Shark books is visiting us on March 20th. Look for pre-sale order forms and more information to be coming soon.

- **Read Around the World ...** We continue to read around the world with some of our travelers moving on to **Africa**. Remember you can turn in your log whenever you are finished and get the next one. Those students who complete their travels around the world will receive a special globe charm. Only two more continent logs to go ... Can you be one of our "world readers"?



Special Events at Your Public Library ... (EVA Perry)

Veterinarian Show and Tell Friday, February 8 at 4:30 p.m. Meet a veterinarian from Triangle Veterinary Referral Hospital. Learn what it's like to be a vet, and meet and greet some furry patients! This program is for Kindergarten - 5th grade children. Registration requested.

Family Crafternoon Saturday, February 16 at 4:30 p.m. Join us for a creative, art-filled afternoon! We've got the materials - you bring your imagination! This program is for Kindergarten - 5th grade children. Registration requested.

Winter Weather Reminders

We are not out of the woods yet- so just the reminders if Winter Weather revisits....

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!

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/HSR12177I11004> (must also be approved by WCPSS)



Next PTA Board Meeting- Thursday, February 7
PM Meeting- Location TBA

⇒ FWES PTA World Dance!

The PTA is looking for volunteers to help plan the 2019 World Dance, March 15, 2019. Join us in celebrating different cultures and dance styles during our annual celebration at FWES. Volunteers are needed to secure food trucks, organize ticket sales, distribute snacks, and help performers. The time commitment is a few brief meetings, independently completing tasks, and helping at the event. If you are interested, please contact Liz Miller eachmillernc@gmail.com



⇒ PTA Coffee Chats

PTA Coffee Chats are an opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet with members of the PTA to learn more about programs and events as well as to give us feedback and ideas.

The Coffee Chats for February and March are: Thurs, Feb 7 8:30-9:30am, Tues, Feb 19 2:30-3:15pm, Friday, March 1 8:30-9:30am (to be able to give Walk to School Parents a little coffee to walk back with), and Wed, March 20 2:30-3:30pm



⇒ Yearbook Purchase:

We have already sold over 175 yearbooks! If you still haven't ordered a yearbook this year, please go ahead and order it now online at

www.jostensyearbooks.com - we will not be ordering a lot of extras and sold out last year. The current price is \$25.00, but it increases to \$30 if purchasing one of the extra copies after they are delivered to school. Can't remember if you already ordered a yearbook? Please contact Gigi Wainwright-Baker jeffandgigi@bellsouth.net



⇒ Purchase Ads in the Yearbook:

If you want to have your student or your business recognized in the yearbook- Big Bear, Little Bear or Patron Ads available. Ad orders are currently being accepted through February 21st.

⇒ 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: fwbeats (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.