



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School
February 2018 Newsletter

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



From Mrs. Pierce...

As we continue into the 3rd quarter of the year, it is critical that families review report cards and partner with the teacher to inspire students as learners at home, especially in those areas that are challenging for your student. Report cards are coming home with students today for your review.

IB Learners are equipped with skills that support them in navigating and understanding the world around them. Our initiatives related to the 4Cs in 21st century skills have provided fantastic opportunities for students at all grade levels to utilized their skills to complete challenging and extremely engaging learning. Through the use of our Maker Space, VR Technology and the integration of the many digital tools available to teachers and students- we see our students learning as 21st century IB learners each day.

Thank you to our families for sharing your experiences at FWES with other families. We have hosted over 200 families for magnet recruiting events this year and many of those families indicate they have heard from a friend about their child's learning experiences at FWES. We appreciate your feedback and are so happy to have you as part of our school community and look forward to welcoming new families soon!

In this month of celebrating love for each other, please let me share how much I love the opportunity to get to know your children and your family and to get to work with these amazing educators. I LOVE FWES!!!!

With love and gratitude,

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 Inspiring FWES Staff!** Show your **Valentine LOVE** for our staff by using the link above to recognize staff members who inspire learning for your child at FWES! All information entered at the link is shared at monthly staff meeting.
- **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!
- As IB Learners we have learned the importance of taking action with regards to learning. We spend time in our learning process reviewing and using the Action Cycle of Reflect-Choose and Act. Our learning experiences have prepared our students to be reflective and consider ways in which they could take action to support their learning. We are aware that our students engage in action routinely in their homes and communities. Farmington Woods

would like to recognize students for taking action and celebrate with each student. Please take a



moment to let us know about recent action taken by our students. You can complete the form linked below for each action event completed by one of our students. [ACTION FORM](#)

- **Taking Some Time to Spruce Up Our Look!** We are excited to freshen up our campus with several painting projects in the next several weeks. We will be having our front awning, bike racks and hand rails painted and we will have a new look in all of our four major hallways and front lobby area. Work will be completed during the school day, therefore, some areas of the campus may be marked off and re-routed. The paint we will be using is a low VOC or zero VOC type paint and the project should have little effect on our day to day operations.
- **Fourth Grade:** We have just finished up with our Animal Adapta-

Calendar Items to Note...

- Feb 5- Report Cards Home; Box Tops Competition Begins; School Counselor Week; Last day to submit Magnet Applications (by 5pm)
- Feb 9- 7:45am PTA Board Meeting; 1:15pm Early Release for students
- Feb 15- 5th Grade Exhibition- Students 6:15pm; Parent Session on Middle School Registration 6:15-6:45pm- Cafeteria; Presentations begin at 6:45pm
- Feb 16- Happy Chinese New Year- The Year of the Dog!
- Feb 19- Make up day for 1/5/18; Magnet Notification Day
- Feb 20-Mar 6- WCPSS School Transfer Form Open for Families to request school transfers for 2018-19
- Feb 21- Last day to submit [Black History Video](#)
- Feb 23- FWES Family Swim- Goldfish Swim School; Last day to send in Box Tops!
- Feb 26- 1st Grade Field Trip; New Magnet Student Welcome Event 9:45am
- Feb 28- Cultural Arts Performance- Storycrafters
- Mar 1- 4th Grade to Greensboro Science Center- students arrive on campus 7:30am- buses leave 8:00am!!!!
- Mar 2- 8:30 Walk to School Day; 1:15pm Early Release for Students
- Mar 5- Interim Reports for Q3 go home

tions science unit. We were inquirers as we researched an animal, its habitat and adaptations. Through the study of food webs we explored consumers, producers and decomposers and their dependence on one another to survive. We used our existing knowledge of symmetry and showcased our creative talents to create symmetrical artwork of animals in their natural habitats. We showed curiosity as we observed fiddler crabs, African dwarf frogs and millipedes within the classroom and were reflective as we explained how these adaptations help them survive.

- **Silver Award for Disability Awareness Month-** We are proud that WCPSS has recognized FWES with the Silver Award for our work to support Disability Awareness Month- Thank you to Brandy Smith for her endless creativity and leadership in showcasing ALL students abilities!



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:

FWES Power Pantry:

*The FWES Power Food Pantry is open and available for our families. Please contact the School Social Worker if your family is in need of food. There is no limit on the number of times you can receive from the pantry.

Regular hours (appointments for other days and times can also be made): **Tuesdays - 8:45-10:00 am**

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

*La Dispensa de Comida de FWES está abierta y disponible para nuestras familias. Comuníquese con la Trabajadora Social de la Escuela si su familia necesita alimentos. No hay límite en la cantidad de veces que puede recibir de la dispensa.

*Contact Mrs. Basham (English/Espanol): 919-238-9445 (call/llamada o text/texto); cbasham@wcpss.net (Email/correo electrónico)



Attendance Matters!

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 early 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. (Info from www.attendanceworks.org)

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!!!!



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
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

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](#)

School Transfer

Applications for 2018-19 Feb 20-Mar 6

Families will have the opportunity to request to attend any school on any calendar during this request period. Requests must be completed online by March 6. Late requests will not be accepted. Families will be notified of results starting on March 6.

[Learn more about general school transfer requests.](#)

[Learn more about school transfer requests for re-assigned families \(grandfathering\).](#)

Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (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!



- Jump Rope for Heart continues until the end of the month of February. If you have any questions or concerns please email Mr. Eller: deller@wcpss.net Thank you to all our school community for your generous donations.
- Registration for the Family Marathon and Fitness Day starts on February 19 (look for information in the Electronic Monday Folder 2/19). Students and family members accumulate mileage up to 25 before Friday April 27 when we will walk/jog/run the final 1.2 miles at school. Contact Mr. Eller if you have any questions.
- The end of year Go for the GOLD celebration & Field Day will be on Wednesday June 6, 2018. We need parent volunteers. Please register with WCPSS if you have not already done so and look for upcoming volunteer sign up information for our event. The more the merrier!

Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator



PYP Exhibition-FWES is Invited!

Where: FWES Elementary School
When: Thursday, February 15th
6:15 to 6:45 Fifth grade parents and students arrive. Students go to their presentation room to prepare and 5th Grade parents will go to the cafe' to hear a presentation from Ms. Thakur about middle school.
6:45-7:45 Exhibition Presentations to parents and school community. All FWES families are invited!

THROUGH SMALL
ACTIONS, EVERYONE
CAN MAKE AN
IMPACT.

Several groups are asking for donations for the SPCA of Wake County. They are collecting items off their wish list that are commonly needed. Please consider sending in:

- Paper towels

giving you ideas of how YOU can take action to make the world a better place on Exhibition night.

- Hand sanitizer
- Peanut butter
- Glass cleaner

There will be a large box in the foyer near the Pencil Box to place the donations. We will collect from February 5-February 15. Thanks for your help!

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

Taking Action! Our fifth graders will be

Meet our New School Nurse- Liz Fernandez efernandez@wcpss.net "yo hablo español"

Please take a look at Ms. Fernandez' introduction video to learn more about how she serves our families and our school:

<https://youtu.be/keYYVGaZWGk>

Flu Prevention tips from Ms. Fernandez: Wake County recently experienced its second and third deaths of the 2017-2018 flu season. Flu is a serious, contagious disease. Each year in the U.S., [flu leads to](#) 12,000-56,000 hospitalizations and 140,000-710,000 deaths.

Several different types of flu move through communities across the country each flu season. This year's flu shots protect against three or four types of flu, depending on which vaccine you get. Whether or not you've had the flu this season, getting a flu shot can still help protect you from common types of flu.

get the flu, but you can help protect yourself and your family by following these simple tips.

Prevent the Flu

- Get vaccinated. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone 6 months of age and older get a yearly flu vaccine. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, complications and deaths from flu. Get your shot now, because it may take up to two weeks for it to start protecting you.
- Stay away from people who are sick as much as possible.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Change your habits. Try not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth unless you have just washed your hands.
- Maintain other healthy habits such as getting plenty of sleep, being physically active, managing stress, drinking plenty of fluids and eating nutritious foods.

Any-one can

Don't Spread the Flu

- If you get sick, stay away from others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.
- Stay home until you are better. The CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. Your fever should be gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine.

Know When to See a Doctor

- If you have symptoms of flu and are in a [high-risk group](#), or are very sick or worried about your illness, contact your health care provider.
- If you have the [emergency warning signs](#) of flu sickness, you should go to the emergency room.

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



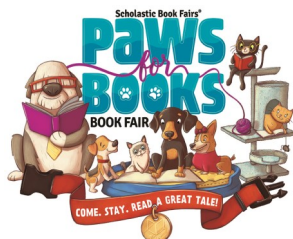
WAKE Up and Read ... This year Farmington Woods will be participating for our fourth year supporting this wonderful book donation program. **WAKE Up and Read** conducts a book drive each year to help build home libraries and make books readily available to children who need them. Through the book drive, every child at 10 high-need elementary schools and 20 childcare centers can choose 10 books and keep them for their home libraries.. 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 - 8th. 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 - 12.
- Gently used books should not be damaged by mold, water, or fire, and should not show signs of discoloration or age.

Read Around the World ... We continue to read around the world with some of our travelers moving on into **North America**. Up next is Europe and a new blue carabiner! 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"?



Spring Book Fair - Scholastic ... Our Spring Book Fair will begin on Monday, April 16th and run thru Friday, April 20th. "Paws for Books" will be this year's theme. 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 M-W). Family Night will be Thursday, April 19th where we are planning to have several "guest" readers. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Book Fair.



Visiting Author is Coming Brian Pinkney, Caldecott and Coretta Scott King award winning illustrator, will be joining visiting us on April 11th. More information coming

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 February will be full of opportunities for students to utilize the 4Cs as they begin on various projects!

2nd Grade- Second graders are currently participating in an introduction to creating Stop Motion Videos. Students are working in teams to creatively design a video surrounding a weather topic tied to their IB Unit of "How the World Works". It has been no surprise that melting snowmen, blizzards, and winter weather patterns have been popular Stop Motion video themes so far!

Kindergarten- Mrs. Grice and Mrs. Moody will be collaborating to introduce Breakout EDU boxes and the Makey Makey to Kinders during their specialist rotation this month! The Specialists are also looking forward to their collaboration rotation with Kindergarten on the early release date. The focus will be on weather as students play weather games, make rain sticks, and create a sculpture for the courtyard.

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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



⇒ **PTA Coffee**-Wondering about what PTA does or how it works? Have ideas you would like to share? Questions for board members? We will be hosting a PTA coffee every week in February. Stop by to see us in the lobby between 8:45-10:00 AM on Friday Feb 9, Monday Feb 12, or Thursday Feb 22, or from 2:00-3:30 PM on Tuesday Feb 27. (Contact president@farmingtonwoodspta.org for more information.)

⇒ **FWES Family Swim Night at Goldfish Swim School** - Please plan to attend our first family swim night. February 23rd from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Information will be coming home in Monday folders for tickets and to sign up for your swim session.



⇒ **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 **LAST DATE TO ORDER IS FEBRUARY 23rd!**
- 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

If you have not already shared your pictures, please do so by March 1st. Please upload to Replayit.com, or email Lauri Van Oostrum-Reed, lvomsw@nc.rr.com. We would love for all activities that our students have participated in be represented in the yearbook, and your pictures will help make that happen.

⇒ **Box Tops** - Spring Box Top Competition has begun! February 5th - February 23rd. The winning grade will receive a popsicle party on March 26. Please bring in your trimmed box tops in a plastic bag and leave them in your grade's colored tube in the lobby. Please check the back of the Box Tops Contest flyer for a list of the participating products.

Don't Forget to Collect
BOX TOPS!



⇒ **Scholastic Book Fair 2018 runs April 16-20.** Get ready to "Paws for Books." The Scholastic book fair returns to the Inquiry Center for another fun filled week. Parents please mark your calendars to volunteer during the week to help our students find and purchase books. The greatest need is Monday - Wednesday, helping younger students fill out their wish lists. Sign up information will be coming soon.



⇒ **2017-2018 PTA Reflections Art Contest** Results of the completion are in! We are so proud of every child that participated and put their heart into the arts!

A special congratulations to the Farmington Woods Elementary artists that placed in this year's Wake County competition:
FIRST PLACE PRIMARY - Gwyneth Overton, Visual Art: "Goodnight World"
SECOND PLACE PRIMARY - Never Shah, Visual Art: "The Loving World"
SECOND PLACE INTERMEDIATE - Naomi Song, Musical Composition: "The Ghostly Surprise"

All of the 1st place award winners and special artist entries have now been submitted to the North Carolina PTA for the state competition. The 2nd and 3rd place winning projects are retained by the Council until the Reflections Awards Ceremony, where they will be on display.

⇒ **World Dance 2018 on March 9th** Mark your calendars - Friday, March 9th, 2018 for World Dance 2018!! This is an evening to celebrate FWES Spirit with music and dance. Look for Monday folders/MemberHub/emails for program schedule, information on food trucks and tickets for the event.



Upcoming PTA sponsored events....
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