



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

March 2020 Newsletter

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

From Mrs. Pierce...

#fwesunlockslearning

After a brief burst of Winter Weather, we are back to what we hope will be a regular schedule for the month of March!

Exhibition Night was such an exciting event at FWES! Our 5th grade students were impressive in their research, understanding and presentation of their learning to our entire school community. All IB Learners conclude their PYP experience with an Exhibition to share their collective growth as an IB Learner over their time in a PYP school. It is clear that our students are committed to being life long learners who will fulfill the

IB Mission of making the world a better place!

We were very excited to welcome new magnet families to Farmington Woods recently. In reviewing the magnet applicant survey, many families chose school diversity as a factor in their magnet school choice. We are so fortunate at FWES to have a diverse school community. This month we highlight the richness of our school with the PTA World Dance on Friday, March 15th. We look forward to celebrating our school through music and dance and hope you will plan to join us!

Please be sure to check out the calendar items in March and April as there are many exciting opportunities for families to be involved and for student learning.

Thank you for being a part of our wonderful school family!

With enthusiasm for unlocking learning at FWES,

Winston
Pierce



Go for the Gold!

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



A Walk in the Woods ...

- **Welcome New Faces to FWES!**
 - **Velda Bell**- 3rd Grade Substitute for Mrs. Thompson
 - **Kaitlyn Surles**- New 3rd Grade Teacher
- **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](#)
- **Student Request for Transfer window is open from Friday, February 21 through Friday, March 6, 2020.** Families interested in seeking to change their 2020/21

school assignment due to a recent move or other compelling reason can go on-line to submit a transfer request by the March 6th deadline. More information regarding the transfer request process can be found at: <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/33766>.

- **FWES Spring Photos** will be taken during the school day on Tuesday, March 3rd. Information about pictures will be sent home with students this week. Each student will have proof photo taken and a class photo taken. In addition, students who participate in school clubs will have club photos taken in the morning of the 3rd.



PICTURE DAY

March, 2020

Calendar Items to Note...

- Mar 2-6- Social Worker Appreciation and Severe Weather Awareness Week
- Mar 2- Q3 Interims Go Home
- Mar 3- Spring Individual/Class/Club Photos; Election Day in Café (no visitors for lunch)
- Mar 4- Severe Weather Drill
- Mar 6- 8:30 Walk to School Day; 9:00 PTA Coffee Chat; Raleigh International Festival begins
- Mar 9- Teacher Workday (no school for students)
- Mar 12- 2nd Grade to Life and Science Museum; 4th Grade to NC History Museum
- Mar 13- FWES PTA World Dance!!!
- Mar 16- BAC District 9 5:30pm Adams Elementary
- Mar 22- 5th Grade Career Fair- AM
- Mar 23-27- SSA Nomination Forms Accepted; 3/27 at 3:45pm last date
- Mar 30-Apr 3- Principal and Assistant Principal Appreciation Week
- Mar 30- Cultural Arts- The Beast; 4th Grade Collaboration Rotation
- Mar 31- Compost Data Collection in Cafeteria
- April 6-13 Spring Break Vacation
- April 13- Teacher Workday (No School for Students)
- April 14- 18- Media Specialist Appreciation Week
- April 14- PTA Welcome Back Staff Breakfast
- April 15- 2nd Grade to Marbles Museum
- April 16- Scholastic Book Fair Begins; 5th Grade In House Science Trip
- April 17- Cultural Arts Black Box Theater; Kinder Collaboration Rotation
- April 18- Earth Day Garden Work Day at FWES-AM
- April 20-24- Administrative Assistants Appreciation Week
- April 20- Q3 Report Cards Home
- April 21- 4th to Tryon Palace; Election Day in FWES Café
- April 22- 1st Grade to NC Zoo
- April 23- Student Led Conferences 4:30-7:30pm; Family Night Book Fair



World Language and Global Updates

Chinese/Mandarin

A friendly reminder of the 11th Annual North Carolina Chinese Essay Contest: Writing in English about Chinese culture. The deadline for submission is March 1st, 2020. The essay contest in English is open to all ages/grade levels. English essays should not exceed 1500 words. If you are interested, you are welcome to write your personal experience/perspectives/reflections about the 4 topics on Chinese culture:

- 1) On Chinese geography and culture
- 2) A special Chinese person in your life
- 3) My experience and perspective on Chinese culture
- 4) Conversation with a famous Chinese person.

You can register and submit your work on the Confucius Institute website <https://confucius.uncc.edu/>

Celebrating Chinese New Year- Dragon Parade 2020!



34TH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF RALEIGH

Jim Graham Building and Expo Center
NC State Fairgrounds

Friday, March 6: 10am to 10pm
Saturday, March 7: 10am to 10pm
Sunday, March 8: 11am to 6pm



International Festival of Raleigh
March 6-8, 2020
NC Fairgrounds

Learn more and purchase tickets
here:

<https://internationalfocus.org/festival/>

FWES Visual Arts Updates

The IB philosophy is very supportive of the arts as it encourages students to think creatively, ask questions, and make connections. The four components of the art program: **art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetics**; complement the IB philosophy.

- **Kindergartners** used paint to capture themselves on paper as they developed self-portraits inspired by the artist, Frida Khalo.
- **First graders** worked with the theme, "Cultures and Customs". Students became familiar with paper techniques as well as form while creating a 3-D paper mask.
- **Second graders** looked at the artist, Faith Ringgold and her book, "Tar Beach" for inspiration in a class quilt design. The students created a quilt design using shape, line, and pattern.
- **Third graders** will be looking closely at the artist, Pablo Picasso and creating Cubist style self-portraits.
- **Fourth graders** Students created a Clay fossils to connect with their transdisciplinary theme: How the World Works. You will see this amazing work in the showcase very soon !
- **Fifth graders** responded to Andy Warhol's style of Pop art. Students created self-portraits using the elements of line and color and the principles of variety and repetition.
- Students who participated in creating original compositions for the PTA Reflections program will receive their artwork back this month. The following students who placed at the County level will be announced on the morning news. Stay tuned!

Gifts of Gold Art Show: 5th Grader, Abigail Miller will represent Farmington Woods For the Gifts of Gold Art Show. Gifts of Gold visual arts display is held annually in conjunction with Pieces of Gold, a performing arts extravaganza that will be held on March 4, 2020. Gifts of Gold is co-sponsored by the office of Raleigh Arts and the City of Raleigh Arts Commission. Artwork will be displayed on March 3rd and 4th in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium with a recognition ceremony on March 3rd @ 4:30 pm.

FWES Student Services

Attention All Parents/Families:



On March 20, 2020 the FWES Student Services Team will be hosting a Career Fair for our 5th graders. Career Fair is a fun opportunity for parents to share and present information about their careers with interested students. We often have a wide variety of career opportunities for students to choose from and would love for any interested parent to participate.

Any parents or family members who are interested in participating in Career Day should reach out to Ms. Thakur

(jthakur@wcpss.net) or Mr. Woodrum (swoodrum2@wcpss.net) for more information.

**Career Fair: Friday, March 20, 2020
9:30am-11:00am
FWES Cafe**

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, lcfracm@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

The Buzz on Inquiry Units



IB/PYP structures curriculum based learning into units of Inquiry throughout the year. Each Unit is planned to create opportunities for students to explore and personalize their learning of the curriculum content. Student questions are integrated into the learning to make important connections and relevance for the students. Each unit has a summative assessment developed to support student learning and often includes an opportunity for students to share their newfound understanding and research of their personal questions related to the content.

2nd Grade Inquiry into How the World Works-Weather Watchers

Second grade students just completed a six week unit focusing on the Central Idea: Systems and patterns of the Earth are used to make predictions and draw conclusions. We ended our unit with creating an Extreme Weather stop motion movie...using the same technique from the "Lego Movie" and also a Green Screen Weather Report...using the same technique as meteorologists on TV.



This technology filled end of unit project was an exciting and engaging experience for our 2nd grade students. Students were interested in various extreme weather topics ie. tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, drought, and floods. Once they had their topic then they worked in teams to build a movie plan which is a screen by screen sketch. The goal of the stop motion movie was to show how that weather moves and changes. On production day students used ipads and a mixture of independently created materials and pre made printed clip art to create their stop motion movie.

Lights, Camera, Action! Some students also completed a Green Screen Weather Report. Students worked in groups and independently to write a weather report. This would then later be read in front of a Green Screen and recorded via an ipad. The completed video shows the students reporting live from their weather scene and sharing information about an extreme weather topic and includes current weather conditions, weather tools used to determine weather conditions, and how to stay safe in their extreme weather.

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 Brains, Healthy Bodies Updates

Physical Education

- **Taking Action:** Jump Rope for Heart through the American Heart Association. Thank you to all our families taking action. We raised just under \$3,000 this year.
- Students in Physical Education are working on Jump Rope and Gymnastics skills now into March and starting Basketball Skills in March.
- **Walk to School:** First Friday of each month from Kildare Plaza parking lot 8:30 a.m. Dates: March 6, April 3.
- **Bike to School:** Students can bike to school on the May 8 walk to school day. It will be a walk/bike to school event.
- **Family Marathon and Fitness Day Friday April 24, 2020.** All students at FWES will be taking a fitness assessment in May. This is a great way for students to train for that event. Students are encouraged to use a running log to work towards the goal of completing a 26.2 mile marathon. Students track their mileage up to 25 miles and we run the final 1.2 on Friday April 24. Email Mr. Eller if you have any questions: deller@wcpss.net



Running Logs can be found:

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



Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator

THE IB PYP PARENT - Sharing the Learner Profile at home

The Learner Profile attribute we will look at this month in the newsletter is **Open-Minded**. We are fortunate to work in a school with families from many backgrounds and cultures. We can celebrate the diversity within our school through a variety of learning experiences. Please consider sharing your expertise and knowledge with classrooms and the school. Contact your child's teacher if you would like to share your culture with the classroom. We also hope you will join us at the World Dance, as we collect Sounds of Culture to add to our future sound garden! More information about how you can be involved will be coming

home in Monday folders soon!

An OPEN-MINDED student knows that all people are different. They listen to the points of view of others and consider many possibilities before making a decision. They celebrate the differences that make people unique.

How can parents help to develop this Open-Minded trait at home?

- Encourage your child to try new things - new foods, new games and new activities.
- Expose your child to different festivals, celebrations and traditions

- Encourage your child to really listen to others when they speak.
- Introduce literature about many different cultures into your home library. Be sure that it is appropriate and reflects the culture in an appropriate way.

SEE 
THINGS 
DIFFERENTLY



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

A Page from the Inquiry Center....

Visiting Author is Coming ... Kevin O' Malley , award winning author and illustrator , will be visiting us on MAY 7th. Kevin O' Malley has always loved storytelling, especially since his college days when he began recording and sharing his tales. He is an avid reader of fantasy and historical novels. Kevin lives in Wilmington, Massachusetts, with his wife Kate, daughter, Lily.



Pre-ordered books will be provided by Quail Ridge Books and offered at a discount to our students. **More information will be coming soon about pre-orders**, For more information about Mr. O'Malley, please go to <http://www.booksbyomalley.com>.



WAKE Up and Read ... Collection has ended for this school year. Thank you to all the families who donated books to this year's drive. We collected just over 1500 books during our 4 weeks of collection. These books will be added to the other books collected and distributed to families in Wake County. Thank you for your support.

Read Around the World ... We will begin giving out the last continent reading log (North America) in a few days. 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 charm and attend an event near the end of the school year ... Can you be a "world reader"?



Spring Book Fair - Scholastic ... Our Spring Book Fair will begin on Friday, April 17th and run thru Friday, April 24th. The theme this year is "It's a Jungle Out there: Elephants, tigers and Books, OH MY!" . Mrs. Liz Miller, and Mrs. Sarah Barrett ,PTA Book Fair Chairs, 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 Friday-Tuesday). Family Night will be Thursday, April 23th in conjunction with student led conferences. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Book Fair.



March Book Madness - want to help decide the CHAMPION book for the year ??

VOTING BEGINS March 10th

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 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

Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh

Wildfire: A Novel by Rodman Philbrick

Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya

Brackets will be sent home on MARCH 2nd and must be returned to the Inquiry Center by 3:00 on Friday, March 6th .

Voting will take place weekly in the Inquiry Center.

Can you create a perfect bracket ? Stop by the Inquiry Center to see the bracket as it gets filled in.

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, February 28th
7:45am FWES Inquiry Center**

PTA Memberships are still available:

<https://fwespta.memberhub.store>



Upcoming PTA Events

- ⇒ **Advocacy-** Reminder March 3rd is election day. You can go to this website: <https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/> to find your sample ballot along with your polling location
- ⇒ **Yearbooks:** Don't miss your chance to pre-order a yearbook!! Deadline is April 1st to order online at Jostens.com, or send in \$30 cash or check (Made out to FWES PTA) and put in the blue PTA Mailbox. Last year we ran out, and had sad students who had not pre-ordered their yearbook, and were not guaranteed a book for May delivery. Once books are sold out, we cannot order more, so please pre-order before April 1st. Please contact Lauri Van OostrumReed with any questions, year-book@fwespta.org
- ⇒ **World Dance is coming! "Superstitions Around The World"** March 13th 6p-8p
Come Dance the Night Away at our annual party showcasing the cultural diversity of FWES! Food Trucks will begin service at 5:30 PM Ticket Sales will take place through Memberhub. Please look for details in Monday Folders. Since the dance is taking place on Friday the 13th, we will be sharing superstitions from around the world as part of our cultural showcase.
Still looking for volunteers, contact Ushma Shukla worlddance@fwespta.org
- ⇒ **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.



**Next PTA Parent Coffee Chat! Friday, March 6
9:00-9:45am- FWES Lobby
Meet PTA members, learn more about FWES, PTA work and enjoy a 2nd cup of Coffee, too!**

Looking for PTA Leaders for 2020-2021

Interested in doing more? We are currently looking for Board Members and Committee Chairs for next year. Please contact Stevie Martino, President@fwespta.org, for more information.

- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ **PTA Reflections Winners**
Congratulations to all our young artists that participated in the National PTA Reflections Arts Contest! We have three winners at the County Level this year: Wyatt Watkins received 3rd place for his 3D Visual Arts piece "The Color SCULpTure," Zoe Kappler received 2nd place for her Dance Choreography piece "I Look Within Myself," and Zoe Watters was recognized in the Special Artists Division for her work "Lighthouse." These winners will be recognized at the Wake County Reflections Banquet on March 28, 2020 at Green Level High School. Please contact FineArts@fwespta.org for more details.
- ⇒ **Every Tray Counts-** A composting program is in the works at FWES to begin in 2020-21. On March 31st a team will be in the FWES Café to gather initial data in order to help us plan for how to create an effective composting program next year!
- ⇒ **FWES Spring Campus Cleanup** tentatively scheduled for April 18th. Come join FWES families in sprucing up our school gardens and campus.
- ⇒ **Spring Book Fair:** The Scholastic Book Fair is coming in April...more details coming soon!

