

Kaye M. Breon
Principal



Ann Steger
Assistant Principal

West Friendship E.S.
12500 Frederick Road
West Friendship, MD 21794
P: (410) 313-5512

Web Site: <http://wfes.hcpss.org/>
School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

November 20, 2017

From the Administrators

Happy Thanksgiving! We hope all our families have a wonderful holiday time with family and friends. It is a time for gratitude! We are thankful for all our parents who will conference today and tomorrow. The partnership between parent and teacher is one of the most powerful relationships that indicate success in school. We appreciate the time you spent at school over the past week. Thank you for visiting our school during American Education Week and supporting our students and staff. We are appreciative of your generosity and support of the Tiger Trot Fun Run. Our school has an amazing PTA that always demonstrates incredible dedication and support. We are also grateful to you for the success of the book fair. The children were so excited with the books and we had many volunteers that helped them with selections. This continued success of our students is due to your support.

Thank you!

Kaye Breon, Principal

Ann Steger, Assistant Principal

School News

The Book Fair is Open!!!

We are down to the final days of our Book Fair. Please stop by Room #189 today and tomorrow and get a jump on your holiday shopping and help our school!

Book Fair dates: November 20 & 21

Book Fair location: Room #189 (Mrs. Walker & Mrs. Farrar's Classroom)

Shopping hours: 8:45am to 7:45pm

Please visit <http://onlinebookfairs.scholastic.com/entrance.aspx?FID=3733649&direct=Y> to visit our online Book Fair. Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

Upcoming Spirit Days

Our Student Leadership Team consulted with their peers to come up with many ideas for spirit days. Student leaders shared the ideas at our last meeting. Our spirit days are as follows:

November 21 – Dress like a book character to celebrate our Book Fair

December 22 – Holiday clothing

January 26 – Wear a college shirt

February 2 – Wear a sports jersey/shirt

March 16 – Wear green

April 13 – Wacky Tacky day – wear crazy socks, hats, hair, etc.

May 4 – Hat Day – wear your favorite team hat/cap

June 1 – WFES spirit wear or school colors (green and white)

Ben Carson Scholarship Nominee

Each year, our 5th grade team nominates an outstanding student for the Ben Carson Scholarship. The Ben Carson Scholarship is a statewide competition for a college scholarship. Requirements for nomination include a strong GPA and community service experience. Congratulations to 5th grader, Kelly Liu, our Ben Carson Scholarship nominee for the 2017 – 2018 school year. Congratulations to Kelly, on your nomination!

The Salvation Army Angel Tree Program

West Friendship Elementary has adopted 25 “Angels” for this season. The program is an adoption of individual “Angel” children. When adopting a child(ren), they ask that you supply at least one (1) new toy and (1) new outfit that is listed on the “Angel” and preferably all three (3) toys and clothing items, if possible. PLEASE DO NOT WRAP your gifts, but provide the “Angel’s” number/name on the outside of the gift or shopping bag. You can choose your “Angel” by stopping by the Front Office where they will be displayed on the windows. Mrs. Green or Ms. Jones will check off the “Angel” you choose. Please return your “Angel” gifts to the Front Office no later than **Thursday, December 7th by 3:00 p.m.** As always, we appreciate all you do to support our students, staff, families, and community.

Help Us Reduce Lunch Waste by Buying snackTAXIs

WFES is going through the Green School Certification process this school year. To reduce our use of plastic bags in the cafeteria, we are selling snackTAXIs, which are reusable cloth sandwich and snack bags. These bags wash easily and help reduce plastic waste. The proceeds from the sale will help us purchase a new water fountain that has an attachment for filling water bottles. See steps below for purchasing snackTAXIs and help **WFES GO GREEN!**

Your Fundraiser...

Name: West Friendship Elementary School

Dates: November 15 – December 8



How it works...

1. Go to www.snacktaxi.com
2. At the bottom of the page, click “fundraising” and then type in the name of your school.
3. Click the link to your school’s fundraising page, and take a look around!
4. Orders placed will be shipped directly to you, and your school receives 30% of the cost of the items you purchase!

Food for thought...

The average student generates 67 pounds of lunch waste each year!

The United States alone adds 20 million plastic baggies to landfills every single day.

Every reusable bag has the potential to eliminate 1000’s of plastic bags from the waste stream over its life span.

snackTAXIs are machine washable, and free of lead, BPA and phthalates.

Questions? Contact snackTAXI... info@snacktaxi.com or 413-336-0123

TREX Recycling Challenge

WFES is competing in the TREX Recycling Challenge. TREX is a company that uses recycled plastic bags to make decking products. WFES will be competing against other elementary schools of similar size in the mid-Atlantic region to see who can recycle the most **plastic bags**. The winning school will win a bench made out of TREX material. Below are categories of plastic bags we will be collecting:

From the Grocery Store	From Your Pantry	From Your Front Door
Produce & bread bags	Ziploc & other reclosable bags	Newspaper sleeves
Grocery bags	Case overwrap	Dry cleaning bags
Cereal bags		Plastic shopping bags
Ice bags		Bubble wrap

The Trex Recycling Challenge will run until Earth Day on April 22, 2018. There will be recycling containers in front of the office, cafeteria, and media center. Please start bringing in those plastic bags. WFES wants to help the Earth and win the challenge!

All Visitors Must Sign In

Thank you to all our visitors for signing in at the office and obtaining a visitor badge. Please be advised that **you must have your driver's license with you** in order to sign in on the LobbyGuard visitor management system. In addition, all visitors are required to sign out of the LobbyGuard kiosk at the end of their visit. Staff is expected to question any person without a visitor's badge and escort that person to the office to complete the check in process. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we all work together to keep our school safe.

Dates to Remember

Mon., Nov. 20 & Tues., Nov. 21	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 3 Hr. Early Dismissal
Mon., Nov. 20 & Tues., Nov. 21	Book Fair in Room 189 – 8:45am to 7:45pm
November 22-24	Schools Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, December 1	Grade 2 Field Trip to Toby's Dinner Theater
Friday, December 1	WFES Day at Tony's Pizzeria – 11am to 9pm
Wednesday, December 6	Math Night – More Details to Come
Monday, December 11	Chorus Concert – 2:30pm and 6:30pm
Wednesday, December 13	Grade 3 Field Trip to Baltimore Museum of Industry
Thursday, December 14	PTA Meeting in Media Center – 6:30pm
Wednesday, December 20	Interim Progress Reports Issued
Friday, December 22	School Spirit Day – Holiday Clothing
Mon., Dec. 25 - Mon., Jan. 1	Schools Closed – Winter Break
Tuesday, January 2	Schools Reopen

From the WFES PTA...

Square 1 Art Fundraiser

It's not too late to place orders. Please take a moment to review your child's artwork and see how it can be replicated on a variety of keepsakes. These creations are great gift ideas for the upcoming holidays. Orders can be placed online via www.square1art.com/shop through tomorrow, November 21st. Thank you for supporting our students, staff, and the WFES PTA.

Gift of Thanks Online For Holiday Giving

As the holiday season approaches, we are continuing with our traditional **Gift of Thanks** program online for staff gift giving. This program provides a convenient way for you to express

your gratitude to the dedicated staff that teaches our children. Your contributions are pooled and converted into gift cards selected by the staff. Participation is not mandatory, and families are welcome to give individual gifts if they prefer. The intent is to simplify holiday gift giving for families and allow the staff some flexibility.

Here is how the program works:

- Choose how much you would like to give the staff members. Any amount in \$1 increments is appropriate.
- Follow the payment instructions. You can pay with credit card or check.
- If you choose to pay with check, make payable to WFES PTA and deliver the printed copy of your confirmation form with your check to your child's teacher in an envelope marked "Gift of Thanks".
- Staff members will receive a certificate with the total amount of gift card dollars they can redeem from an extensive list of retailers.

Each contributing family is recognized on the certificate by name only, not amount given. The Gift of Thanks coordinator will be the only person who sees the individual contribution amounts and will ensure that each staff member who receives donations will not receive less than \$20. If you would like to contribute to the staff holiday gift card program, please use this link:

<https://www.wfespta.com/gift-of-thanks/>

The deadline is Monday, **November 27 at 6:00 p.m.!** In order for the staff to receive their gift cards before the winter break, this will be a firm deadline. If you are choosing to pay by check instead of credit card, please make payable to WFES PTA and deliver the printed copy of your confirmation form with your check to your child's teacher in an envelope marked "Gift of Thanks" by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28 (your order must still be placed online by 6:00 p.m. on November 27). If we do not receive your check by this time your order will be deleted. The staff loves this program! If you have any questions please contact the committee at giftofthanks@wfespta.com

Tiger Trot Fun Run

The Tiger Trot was a huge success!!! We have raised over \$14,000 so far and the kids had a great time running the course in perfect November weather. Thank you to all of the volunteers, especially Ashley Royle and Kendra Albert, for coordinating this amazing event. Stay tuned on the date when Mrs. Breon will kiss the pig!!!

Community News

Racine Kringle Danish Fundraiser

Marriotts Ridge High School Music Foundation is sponsoring a new fundraiser!

We will be selling Racine Danish Kringles, just in time for the holidays and winter break!

Racine Danish Kringles are handmade flaky, buttery Danish Kringle pastry filled with the highest quality fruit, nut or gourmet fillings and baked to perfection! They will come ready to eat OR they can be kept frozen for up to 6 months! They make wonderful gifts to bring to family and friends when visiting, not to mention are a tasty breakfast to wake up to on a cold, winter morning or as an afternoon treat.

Orders can be placed online at <http://mrhsfruit.com>. NOW through December 1st. A color PDF of the product flyer showing all 12 flavors is also available for viewing at <http://mrhsfruit.wixsite.com/fruitsales/order-kringles>.

Payment is by Paypal or credit card ONLY!

Orders come in Wednesday, December 20th, just in time for Winter Break! You can pick up your orders at St. James Methodist Church, 12470 Old Frederick Road, Marriottsville, MD between 4:00 – 6:00pm*.

*Time subject to change.

If you have any questions, please contact mf.fundraiser@gmail.com.

Community News and Programs

Please visit the Community News and Programs page at

<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/> for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

Please contact the HCPSS Public Information Office with any questions, at 410-313-6682 or publicinfo@hcpss.org