



Principal's Message

Become Aware of the "Momo Challenge"

If your child uses any kind of internet or social media platform it may behoove you to check out something called the "Momo Challenge." We have had students here at WHES encountering this frightening image and then, if allowances are provided, texted messages that can contain very dangerous "challenges." A simple Google search can provide you with plenty of examples of what is happening around the world. We have even had Kindergarten children who are aware of Momo. If you have any reason to believe that your child has been involved with interacting with this challenge, experts are recommending the following practices be considered:

- *Discuss the Momo Challenge with your children so they can understand the dangers associated with the challenge and that there is nothing cool or funny about the suggestions that will often get proposed.*
- *Check your child's phone / iPod / iPad / computer or device regularly. Momo is not the first challenge to encourage kids to engage in dangerous activities and it will, sadly, not be the last. If kids are engaged in this challenge they will often not tell parents of their activity. You are your child's greatest protector and you have every right to know what apps your child is using and to check every electronic device they use.*
- *Take social media seriously and never underestimate the power it can hold over your child's life. For some children social media can be a source of friendship and connection but it is also a place where many are bullied, lose confidence, feel isolated and are exposed to materials well beyond their level of understanding. Make them aware that they may come upon Momo or other negative "challenges" and that they need to stay away from engaging in entities that can lead them astray.*
- *Keep your relationship with your child strong and the lines of communication open. Talk to your children about their interests, their fears and their hopes. Make sure that your parental influence is stronger than some false negative influence coming through an app, social media or some gaming site.*
- *If your child is on social media they will need guidance and accountability. Knowing what is appropriate to share, what photos to post and how to respond to other individuals' postings takes practice and, with parental guidance and input, the more likely it is that a child will develop strategies and understandings that will assist them in accessing the positive side of social media while avoiding the negative traps that are out there. Check out the free downloadable ebook: **Social Media and Teens: The Ultimate Guide to Keeping Kids Safe Online** at <http://bit.ly/2kPS59>. It includes a social media contract at the end.*

It is a genuine challenge trying to keep up with the changes and new developments, both positive and negative, that flow through the world of social media, computer apps and gaming platforms. With that being said, it is a necessity for parents whose children are actively engaged with those digital entities to know what their child is doing online as the dangers can be substantial and we all want to protect kids as much as we possibly can.

Office: Please remember to send your child to school with a note if they are going to a different destination on the bus after school. It helps to avoid last minute phone calls to the school, which can make dismissal very chaotic. We appreciate the advance notice and thank you for not calling with these changes after 2:00 p.m.

Food Pantry: Lunch items needed...canned (easy pop tops) spaghetti o's, beefaroni, etc. Easy mac, Ramen noodles, canned soups, etc. Thank you!

Health: If your child is planning on participating in Spring sports please remember to make sure their physicals are up to date (within the last 2 years). You can call to check if I have a copy of the most recent and up to date physical or you can call the physician's office and have them fax a copy over to me at 549-4566.

Kitchen: There is now an easier way to pay your students lunch bill online! Please go to our school website, under parents is "My School Bucks" and sign up there! Just as a reminder when sending money in for lunch accounts, please be sure to label it with the name of your student(s) and the amount(s) to be deposited into their account. We also encourage everyone to fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch form. It is open to everyone! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Kara Waller or Amanda Lincoln in the kitchen.

Click below to check out the Whitefield School Collaborative Problem-Solving Project!

<http://www.svrsu.org/o/whes/page/whitefield-collaborative-problem-solving-project>

Grades Pre K- 1

Pre K: This week has been very busy as usual. March 7th from 1:15 - 2:00 will be the next Read With Me. The story for this month is Snowman at Night. This week we have incorporated books written by Dr. Seuss. We did some fish counting, played with green playdough associated with *Green Eggs and Ham* and created Dr. Seuss hats exploring patterns. As you are filling out your Activity Calendars please remember to write the time in 15 minutes increments. We are beginning a new unit next week: The World of Colors.

Beck: Vacation is over and we are back at it! We have reviewed our classroom and school rules. We made a chart on what a good friend looks like. Mrs. Soule and Mrs. Miller came in this week to talk to us about "Zones of Regulation". Zones has to do with identifying feelings and finding ways to cope with them. We also have been working on counting to 100 by 5s and 10s.

Lamothe: We are getting back into our routine after our winter break. Many of our activities this week have been associated with, "Dr. Seuss." The children voted on their favorite book written by Dr. Seuss. "Green Eggs and Ham" came in on top! In my literacy group the children worked on identifying the main topic and recalling key details in a story. The students can write an opinion piece about a topic or book with their opinion, supporting reasons and closure. We continue to work on addition and subtraction facts through 20 along with subtraction story problems.

I'm proud of the following students who were recognized at our February Community Meeting!
Noah, Chloey and Elizabeth. Star Student was Grace.

Grades 2-4

Brewer: This week in science we explored how different materials can conduct and insulate heat. Students imagined that they were on a remote island. They cooked an egg using a piece of metal as a pan and then had to figure out what materials they could use to pick up the hot pan and not burn their hands. We solved the mystery, "Can you really fry an egg on a hot sidewalk?" Ask a second grader the difference between a conducting material and an insulating material. In math we worked on greater than and less than and place value. We enjoyed our PK-2 Dr. Seuss day on Friday. We rotated through different Dr. Seuss activities in each classroom. Thank you to the community members who came in to read to us! We are in need of paper towels.

Northrup: Welcome Back!!! Third graders are busy working on Informational writing, learning about matter, answering comprehension questions, and studying area and perimeter. Student of the Week-Issac Congrats to the following kiddos for recognition at our February Assembly- Lilianah, Tucker, and Issac.

Trask: This week the kids have been assigned a small project to work on at home. The project ties in with the book they are reading in class. The Cornorama,(Very similar to a Diorama.) is due March 13, 2019. Along with the scene each student is expected to have a short report.

Middle School News

Norris: I hope everyone had a nice February Break. I was out this week, but will return next week!

McCormick: Join the NJHS on Friday, March 8th, for an exciting afternoon/evening of Dodgeball. Our 3rd Annual Dodgeball Tournament will benefit the Whitefield Public Library and Community Center.

Mathews: 8th graders have completely finished the literary essay unit covering argument writing. I am very proud of the hard work they are putting in. We enjoyed a fun class of speech and debate as a well deserved break. Students debated questions such as: Who is stronger- Harry Potter or Katniss Everdeen? Is a hotdog a sandwich? At what age do people know right from wrong? The hotdog debate was heated! 6th and 7th graders are working on writing thematic essays. This has been a challenging and rewarding experience.

Howard: 8th grade students are continuing their work on Slope - learning a new formula to use to calculate slope. They are also doing a unit on Finances called EverFi - this is an on-line unit that should take a week. This program asks students to help others solve financial decisions on spending, saving and investing - they will receive a certificate for this program. 7th grade is now doing algebraic equations - solving for the variable (unknown) - this can become overwhelming, but they are working together to help understand this standard. 6th grade has begun working with integers (negative and positive) and learning about Absolute Value (how far a number is from Zero) - with our current weather we are able to use temperature to help understand absolute value. Have a great weekend.

Resource News

Brann: It has been nice to have an uninterrupted week of instruction! Students in grades 5-8 are working to keep pace in their classes. I'm pleased with the level of participation students are displaying in their classes. K-4 students are working to improve their reading comprehension skills, word attack skills, use of proper writing mechanics, and a variety of math skills.

Grady/Richards : I hope everyone had a wonderful vacation! We will be working hard to improve our DRA levels and prepare for our final DRA test of the year. We have seen great gains, and hope that they will continue as the days go by. Please email us with any questions about your child's reading level and/or book selections, so that they can continue to grow as readers at home as well. Thank you for supporting our reading log assignments! Have a great weekend.



Art - Library - Music - PE

Abbott: Please check your child's bag for the Schoolstore fundraiser packet that was sent home this week! It provides a great opportunity to support our school and classroom teachers. **THE BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE BOOK FAIR WILL BE HERE APRIL 8TH-12TH!** Make sure to stop by the library during conferences to stock up and save.

Please click the following link to go to the Whitefield Town Library's homepage! <https://whitefieldlibrary.org/>

Simpson: Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate for our cross country skiing adventure. I look forward to having Jess and Miranda back in the spring for more outdoor fun!

Have a great weekend!