

Whitefield Wildcat Weekly



Issue 28

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Principal's Message Learning Through Failure

*Karen McCormick, middle school science and social studies teacher here at WHES, put together a thoughtful and insightful bulletin board outside the Teachers' Room that highlights how many significant individuals have learned from their failures. There is a learning theory that states one cannot truly learn without experiencing challenge and, yes, failure. The "Growth Mindset" theory suggests that genuine learning occurs as we attempt a task, recognize that our success in said task is relative, retool, recalibrate and make more attempts at the task. Individuals can become stymied if they so fear failure that they never make a sincere attempt at the designated task. Think about it...how many people conquered long division the first time it was presented to them? Trial and **error** was necessary in mastering the intricacies of that process. If we had stopped at our first failure, it is doubtful that anyone would have become proficient. Taking educational risks, even when those risks may not result in immediate success, is the cornerstone to genuine learning and the stories that Karen has shared through this bulletin board clearly illustrates this. I encourage all parents, if you are in the building, to take a few minutes and read through this display. It is a great reminder that we all fail at tasks and that, with real perseverance, we can realize significant accomplishments.*

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.

Please remember that K-8 Parent / Teacher Conferences and the Buy One Get One Free Book Fair are next Wednesday and Thursday (April 10th & 11th) - PreK Conferences are April 9th & 10th - Conferences begin at 2:45 PM and run until 6:45 PM. Check with your child's classroom teacher for a time to come in and meet.

Food Pantry: The pantry could use snacks!! Granola bars, canned fruits, crackers, etc. THANK YOU!

Flocking for Food: Looks like the the birds will be leaving the warmth of the school this week!!!! Be on the lookout..they may be coming to your house!!

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>

PBIS News- Thank you to all the parents and family members that came last Friday to support the outstanding accomplishments of all the students that received awards and recognition. Next week we will be having the Lincoln County 9-1-1 Communications team come in to present and teach the concepts associated with making a 9-1-1 call to students in grades Pre-K through 2nd grade. A reminder to all 8th grade students and parents that registration forms/medical forms should be mailed to the High School of your child's choice for attendance in the Fall. If you have questions regarding registration to any of the area high schools feel free to contact me. We are almost to April vacation!!!

Grades Pre K- 1

Grades 2-4

Pre K: We will be starting a new unit next week, Shadows and Reflections. Please remember your conferences are next week on Tuesday and Wednesday- thank you for signing up. The children are working on first letter sounds challenge. Help your child to come up with words that start with the same sound. Please keep sending in boots, hats and mittens. It's still chilly and wet out on the playground. Enjoy the weekend. It looks like nice weather.

Beck: Please pack an extra set of clothes for your child in case they get wet on the playground. We still have many puddles. In Math we have been working on addition. We are adding with die and dominos. We are starting to work on writing our names with lowercase letters. We are also practicing our last names. Have a great weekend!

Lamothe: First grade has had a great deal of sickness this past week. We have talked at length about the importance of staying home if you are not feeling well, handwashing and covering our coughs and sneezes. The children are working hard on editing marks. We continue to focus on capitalization and punctuation. In Math we have been reviewing the use of tally marks along with addition of 3 numbers. We are doing a great job reading our first grade sight word list. If you have not already done so, please return your sign up sheet for parent conferences. I will be sending out confirmation notices on Monday. Star Student was Ava.
ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR CLASSROOM: tissues, sanitizing wipes and snacks.

Brewer: We finished our Alliteration Name Poetry. They are on display in the classroom. Stop by and check them out. Second graders are trying to become more fluent in fact recognition in math. Please help your child by practicing at home. This week we began our study of the incredible world of plants! In our first Mystery, we explored the surprising idea that plants can actually move around. The primary way they do this is by dispersing their seeds. The students chose one of three seed models to build, and practiced dropping the seeds from a height, in order to avoid the dreaded "zone of darkness" (i.e. the shade!) Students learned how seeds must get away from their parent plant in order to survive. Thank you to the parents that sent in items for our diorama projects.

Northrup: Conference sign-up times went home today. Please check your child's Take home Folder. I am anxious to meet with all of you again to tell you about the amazing progress we are making in third grade!!! Please check the Whitefield Facebook page to see your child's Water Cycle in a Bag that we made on Thursday. Wish List- wipes and snacks

Trask: We have finished the MEA testing. Next week we will resume our regular schedule. Conference sign-ups were sent home on Monday. There is also a packet about a Maine animal project. Please read and discuss it with your child. The projects are due May 1, 2019.

Middle School News

Norris: Carole Cifrino and David Wright, Whitefield residents who work for the Maine DEP, came to our classroom this week to share information on their responsibilities in helping to keep the environment safe. We learned about the negative impact of cigarette butts, also about the serious contamination issues our school well experienced in the past. Carole shared information on pending legislation in Maine that addresses a ban on styrofoam and also a proposed law that ban plastic bags statewide. Our class learned DEP has a section that focuses on preventing pollution and misuse of the environment, section that is tasked with cleaning up/repairing damage done. David urged our to be the generation that helps to keep our environment clean and healthy.



McCormick: In 7th grade we are excited to start working on more planting and are getting ready to work on a project with the PTA and the 4H extension. There are exciting things coming our way soon.

Mathews: Kieve week was a great success! I am tremendously proud of the

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Howard: 8th and 7th did a great job focusing during their Math MEA assessments. 8th grade completed working with systems of equations and will be moving into more Geometry. 7th grade is now using all operations in solving algebraic equations. 6th grade was at Camp Kieve and I was able to participate on Wed. - they are enjoying themselves. Parent Teacher conferences are next week. Please call or email to set up a time to meet.

Resource News

Brann: I will join parents and teachers at P/T conferences next week. There is no need to schedule a separate meeting with me. I look forward to seeing parents next Wed. & Thurs.

Grady/Richards: Please check your child's homework bag for books. If

6th graders for their ability to try new things, take risks, and grow. If you would like to set up a conference please contact me. Moving forward, 6th and 7th grade will study compare/contrast literary essays and 8th grade will begin an informational writing unit.

they have one in there, they have already pre-read it with us, and would love to share the story with you! Have a great weekend!



Art - Library - Music - PE

Martin: What's Happening in the Art Room?

- 2nd- We just finished learning about bees. Check out their hives in the hallway by the art room!
- 3rd and 4th are learning about perspective
- 5th- We will be starting our dog portrait next week. I'm asking that all 5th graders bring in a close up picture of their furry friend.

Abbott: The BOGO book fair will be open next week! Please stop in and support your library. If making out checks to send with your child - please know, there is no tax and checks should be made out to Whitefield School. Thanks for your support!

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

Simpson: I had a great time this week with the 6th graders at Camp Kieve! It was so great to see all the kids tackling challenges that were outside of many of their comfort zones. Parents of 6th graders: Please remember their Track and Field day permission slips are due on April 11th!

Have a great weekend!