

Whitefield Wildcat Weekly



Issue 1

September 6, 2019



Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year

There is an old maple tree at the end of my road that has begun its turn of colors...a sure sign of the beginning of a new season and directly attached to the start of a new school year. Since we started school on August 28th we've had two fire drills, two Early Release Days, one holiday and everyone is working through a newly revised daily schedule. It has been a busy but very productive and positive beginning to our 2019-2020 school year, a great portent for our time together.

This year we are welcoming three new teachers to WHES. Molly Brewer has taken over the reigns of our grade 5 program. Molly comes to WHES from Chelsea where she taught 3rd grade. Crystal Crowell joins our middle school staff after teaching experiences in Fort Kent, Auburn and Sumner. Crystal will be teaching grade 6 math, social studies and ELA as well as grades 7 & 8 math. Our final new professional staff member is Kelley Capen. Kelley has a longstanding relationship with WHES as her father, Barry King, taught at this school for many years. Kelley comes to us from the Augusta School System and will be teaching grades 6, 7 & 8 reading and grades 7 & 8 ELA. WHES also has two new staff members in our School Nutrition Department, both with considerable experience working in school kitchens. Vicki Dill has come onboard as our new WHES Kitchen Manager with Janetta Jennings joining her as an Assistant Cook / Baker. We want to welcome all our new staff members to WHES.

*All parents received a packet filled with important notices and information to complete and send back to the school. One of the two pieces that I'd like to call special attention to is the **Application for Free or Reduced Lunch**. I encourage all families to consider completing this application to determine if you qualify for this beneficial program. Even if you are not sure if you qualify or you might not want to use it if you did qualify, the school receives certain types of federal funds based on the number of applicants and the number of families who qualify. So, no matter what the outcome might be, you are assisting the school. Please remember that the information provided on those applications is held in the strictest of confidentiality. The other form I'd like to highlight is a brief survey from a newly formed group here in town called **Whitefield Cares**. This group is looking to find out about community services that families use or would desire to have available. The survey is on orange paper and is completely anonymous. Your feedback will assist this group in achieving their very worthy goal. Also, Whitefield Cares will hold two public meetings to discuss these topics. Both will be held here at WHES beginning at 6:00 pm. The first will be on September 26th and the second meeting will be on October 8th. All parents are invited to participate and more information will be forthcoming.*

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. Also, please remember that early drop off is at 7:30 am. Students should not be arriving at school before then. There is no after school care at this time. If students are not riding the bus or staying after for sports or other school-sponsored activities, they need to be picked up at dismissal times. Dismissal is at 2:20 pm every day except for Wednesday, when dismissal is at 1:30 pm.

Food Pantry: Donations of any kind are welcome! Easiest things for children to prepare themselves include, Easy Mac, individual Chef Boyardee, sandwich items, canned goods (pop top lids), microwaveable foods.

Flocking for Food: The Flock is ready to take flight and enjoy some fall weather. They've been cooped up in storage and would love to travel throughout Whitefield and get some fresh air. We have added some new birds to the flock this year and they are eager to travel as well. Flocking for Food has been a successful way for our school to connect with the community and serves as a dual role to support the schools growing food pantry. We also accept donations of any kind if you'd like to donate directly to the school. Thank you for all of your support...If you see the Flock on your lawn it will be accompanied by the appropriate paperwork and contact information.

Health: Please remember if your child is in grades 5-8 and is participating in school sports a copy of their physical needs to be faxed to the school before they can participate at all. Physicals need to have been within the last 2 years.

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 and helps our school get the funds that we need for the lunch program. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Vicki Dill 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- 2

Pre K: We have had a great start to the school year! We have been busy learning the rules and routines in class and how to make friends feel welcome. We began using 2nd Step, our Social/Emotional Curriculum. Look for some information about it in your child's folder. Have a great weekend!

Beck: The K Krew had a terrific first week of school! We learned about rules and routines. We learned a couple of new songs and practiced cutting and gluing too. We read: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *The Very Grouchy Caterpillar* and *Mr. Seahorse* all by Eric Carle. Have a great weekend!

Lamothe: The first two weeks have gone by quickly. We have spent a great deal of time going over classroom expectations. Practice, practice, practice! The children enjoyed sharing their All About Me bags with their classmates. Look for their RED - Read Everyday Bag, to come home today. Many thanks to all the families who have donated classroom supplies. NWEA reading test will be given to first grade on Monday and NWEA Math will be on Thursday of next week. We are off to a positive start to our school year! Star Student: Connor.

Brewer: We are off to a wonderful start in grade 2. We are practicing rules and procedures. I am very impressed with how quickly the students are learning what it's like to be in second grade. Keep up the good work, kiddos. This week we began our science unit about how water shapes the earth's surface. Our first lesson was called, "If you floated down a river, where would you end up?" We learned how water flows from high to low, and how many rivers start up in mountains or hilly areas, and ultimately flow out towards the sea. I have introduced Addition Station this week. Please check your child's folder for detailed information. It's a "work at your own pace" program to ensure the mastery of basic addition facts. Student of the Week was Charlotte Mathews.

Grades 3-5

Northrup: Third grade has made it through the first two weeks with flying colors!!! What an amazing group of kiddos!!! We have been working diligently on rules, procedures, and expectations. Please be sure to send the TAKE HOME FOLDER to school every day with your child. Also, READING LOGS will be due every Friday. A Spelling list will be sent home on Fridays. Please go over this with your child. We will be doing spelling activities throughout the week and finish with a test on Friday. WISH LIST-baby wipes Student of the Week- Emelia

Trask: The 4th grade class has started receiving homework. We review the directions, give examples, and practice in class before any homework is sent home. Please check the homework log on line if there are any questions.

Brewer: We have been spending these first few days in 5th grade getting to know each other, building our classroom community, and learning procedures and expectations. I am looking forward to a wonderful year ahead!

PBIS News- Welcome Back!!! As we begin the new school year we will review school-wide expectations including bus, lunch, playground, hallway, classroom, fire drill, arrival and dismissal. We will continue to review expectations throughout the year. This year we will continue to reward students for being respectful, responsible, and safe. We have also added to the 5 P's model to our learning guide. This model represents the following: Being Positive, Being Polite, Be Prompt, Be Prepared, and Be Productive. PBIS assemblies will be held the last Thursday of the month. We will have our first recognition assembly on September 26th, at 1:15. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer as we welcome Fall.

Middle School News

McCormick: What a busy start to the school year! Everyone is finding a groove and things seem to be going well. Please encourage your child to use their assignment notebook (It is a graded expectation). 8th grade is currently studying matter. 7th grade is splitting time working on aquaponics and the cell. 6th grade has been learning about the layers of earth during their intro to geology. In social studies, 7th and 8th grades are doing a simulation activity to learn about the Civil War. We have been learning about drill and different contingents. Ask your child to share what they are learning in this area.

Capen: We are off to a great start in Middle School reading and writing! Right now we are focused on routine, establishing procedures and being reflective as readers and authors. With these things in place we will have an exciting and productive year!

Crowell: We are excited to report that math is off to a super start. Students are getting settled into the routine and have been working with geometry for most classes. We are working hard to establish the belief that everyone has a math brain and by working hard and making mistakes, we can all learn.

Resource News

Brann: Students are settling in well! They have set individual learning goals to focus on during RTI at the end of each school day.

Grady/Richards: Welcome back! We have begun DRA testing and we will start sending letters home next week. Please return them as soon as you can so that we can begin services. Thank you!

Art - Learning Commons - Music - PE

Martin: It was nice seeing all the students smiling faces after summer break! Stay tuned for what we will be working on in the art room!

Howard: Wow - what a great start to the new year. Many classes were able to sign out books for reading (for those that participated in the **Summer Reading Challenge** - please return your paperwork ASAP). The MakerSpace Room has brought a new dimension to learning - where students' are encouraged to create, practice, design and explore new things. I have asked students to look for items at home that can be donated to the Makerspace: Paper and Toilet paper rolls, cotton balls, ribbons, duck/masking/scotch tape, stencils, yarn, straws, etc. Thank you in advance for helping and I look forward to this new learning opportunity with students. If you have questions, please email me at choward@svrsu.org.

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

Simpson: Welcome back! Please help your child remember to wear or bring their sneakers on their scheduled PE days!

Morgan: It was wonderful seeing all the students after summer break!

Have a great weekend!