

Whitefield Wildcat Weekly



Issue 10

December 6, 2019



Principal's Message

Whitefield Elementary School Food / Clothing Pantry and the Christmas Giving Tree

Supporting students in their growth (physical, social, emotional and intellectual) is a prime goal at Whitefield Elementary School (WHES). While many of the aspects of the school's support would be obvious, other areas of support that hold genuine significance may be more subtle. An example of this has been the expansion of our Food/Clothing Pantry. Many of our families experience food insecurity and the supplemental food we offer families, often once or twice each week, helps to alleviate many of the fears and distress some of our families experience. During the summer we are part of a collective that offers five-six weeks of free breakfasts and lunches to WHES students and young adults. There is a tremendous need and we are part of a network of providers who attempt to meet the need. Over the past couple of years we have also expanded our Clothing Pantry to meet the needs of our students with supplemental clothing. As we head into the holiday season, we also have a "Giving Tree" program in which staff and individuals from outside of the school can come into school and select an ornament from our tree. On that ornament will be the age, gender, size and likes/desires of an individual student here at school whose family has a definitive need. Those who pick up an ornament then make choices of Christmas gifts to try to help provide the child with a joyful holiday. These gifts are provided anonymously and we can attest to the fact that it really does help to make for a wonderful holiday experience. If anyone in the community would like to support our efforts in any of these beneficial projects here at WHES there is a list below that can offer suggestions as to how you can make a genuine difference in a child's life.

Food Pantry

Items that would be greatly appreciated (foods that children can either quickly access or prepare themselves):

- Prepared microwavable foods
- Packaged fruit/applesauce
- Boxed taco/pasta meals
- Snacks: cheese and peanut butter crackers, granola bars, bagged or microwavable popcorn
- Breakfast cereals/poptarts/packaged pastries
- Soups/Chef Boyardee items
- Cash Donations - the school has created a fund to support the Food/Clothing Pantry, through which we can purchase specific items that are in great demand.

Clothing Pantry

Specific items that provide very useful in a Pre K - 8 school (varying sizes in most useful):

- Sweatshirts, sweatpants, leggings
- Packages of girls and boys underwear and socks
- Hats, mittens, gloves
- Winter wear (boots, snow pants, jackets, etc.)

Giving Tree

Come in to the office at the school and one of the staff will help you select an ornament (as many as you want!). These will be available by December 4th and we would ask that the gifts be back to school by December 16th.

Please know that any support you provide these supportive efforts at WHES will have genuine positive impact on students and will be greatly appreciated. Should you have questions, please contact the school at 549-7691. We thank you for your consideration.

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.

Flocking for Food: The flock has flown south for the winter. The ground is frozen and it is very hard to put them in, quite literally. We have our next two locations determined by their last stops. We are excited to welcome our flock back from their winter vacation.

Health: As it is getting colder I would just like to remind everyone that the students go outside for recess daily. Please make sure you are packing the appropriate outdoor clothing. Little fingers and toes get cold very quickly!

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 some very excited friends here in Pre-K with the freshly fallen snow! Just a reminder to send students in with all their winter gear to wear outside as well as slippers or sneakers to wear while in the classroom. Mark your calendars, the Winter Concert was moved to next Tuesday, December 10th at 5:30!

Beck: The K Krew is decorating stockings this week and Christmas trees! We are planning our party for December 20th. Please put your child's name in their clothing as we have many pairs of black ski pants!

Lamothe: Please be sure your child has the appropriate clothing for outside play. With the arrival of snow, boots and snow pants are needed. Also, they need to have footwear other than boots to wear in the classroom. Our focus this week in Math has been ordinal numbers, 1-10. We have tied the snowflake theme into our writing. The children have written some cute stories about building a snowman. We have talked about how snowflakes are formed, their shape and symmetry. We made our own snowflakes to hang on our classroom windows. Star Student was Chloe. Happy Birthday to Kayleb!

S. Brewer: We have begun our study of Christmas Around the World. We have been to Germany and Italy so far. Be sure to ask a second grader to tell you about some facts from each country. Please remember to check to see if your child has boots, hats and mittens, a change of shoes and snow pants packed.

Grades 3-5

Northrup: Christmas Party/gift swap information was sent home today. Please be sure to check your child's folder for this information. Third grade is in great need of paper-towels, tissues, and baby wipes. Thank you in advance!! Student of the Week- Max

Trask: The class is going to HVNC next week. Please make sure your child is dressed warm enough for the weather that day.

Students have been reading, "Little House on the Prairie". They have been improving their vocabulary skills as they read this book. Next week they will be assessed on chapter sixteen through chapter twenty-one vocabulary words.

Please have your child review the basic multiplication facts nightly.

M. Brewer: Students have been learning about the Westward Expansion, in preparation to write informational texts on this topic. We have also been reading non-fiction texts, and reviewing non-fiction text features and the information provided by them. We have completed Chapter 2 in Math and are multiplication masters! Our next Chapter is on dividing by a one-digit divisor. Welcome to our new classmate, Emily!



PBIS News- December continues to be a very busy month here at Whitefield School. We have been able to do activities with students that focus on "emotions" and regulating those emotions when difficult situations arrive and how we support each other through the tough times. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are revisiting the school-wide expectations in all areas, (hall-way, lunchroom, classroom..) just as a refresher before the winter break. BJ Grady and Jeanne Grady created the KINDNESS Wall. The KINDNESS wall allows students to be the "I" in KIND, acknowledging when they are being kind to others... Great JOB!!! Reminder- any 8th grade student interested in touring Lincoln Academy on December 11th from 8:15-12:00, please hand in your permission slip. Our next PBIS assembly is schedule for December 19th @1:30.

Middle School News

McCormick: 7th grade science students are still working hard in the greenhouse and in our classroom. Inside we are working on learning about cell organelles. In our cell journey, we are focusing on the nucleus this week. Students have been investigating DNA and a bunch of different ways. Our next organelle that we will be investigating is the mitochondria. 6th graders are on a trip through the ages in their study of geologic time. They are working in teams to do this. Ask your sixth grade student about their work. In social studies, we are on a push to finish our Civil War unit. We will be planning an Archives project showcase sometime soon.

Capen: Middle schoolers are reading social issue books. In class we are focusing on relationships between characters and realizing how complicated relationships can be! Reminder that students should be reading for 30 minutes each night.

In writing, 7th graders are working on their fiction writing and 8th graders are still in their journalism units.

Crowell: 6th graders completed a design challenge today. They were given the task to create a pyramid with toothpicks and marshmallows. Ask them about Ancient Egypt - Super fun!

6th graders are working on double number lines and ratios. 7th graders are getting closer to finishing the unit on proportions. 8th graders will be taking a test next week, because they are just finishing their work with slope.

Resource News

Brann: Please remind your child to read each night. K-5 students have assigned books or chapters to read. Grade 6-8 students are to complete the required reading (30 min/night) from Ms. Capen.

Grady/Richards: It's getting colder outside, so stay inside and enjoy a good book! Have a wonderful weekend!

Art - Learning Commons - Music - PE

Howard: Thank you to everyone who stopped at the Book Fair - we reached our goal of \$1500. Profits will go towards purchasing new titles for the Library as well as some STEM material for the Maker Space. Congratulations to Hollie Hilton for guessing 62 Starbursts - all proceeds go to the WHES Giving Tree.

This week in the Learning Commons the Middle School is working on completing their EverFi Unit on Digital Safety - we will begin a financial unit next. Lower grades are working on becoming aware of their on-line use and if it does not feel right to speak with an adult.

In the Maker Space, students were able to create 3D items to practice using the TinkerCad program and printing process. K-2 students were able to use their imagination and create something of their choice. If anyone has anything around their homes that they no longer need and think it can be used in the Maker Space, please have your child bring it in - donations are always welcomed.

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

Simpson: We have been selected as one of two schools in Lincoln County to be a WinterKids school! This is an exciting opportunity for our students. Please be on the lookout for more information as this will be taking place during the month of January!

Morgan: Hello! Due to the recent snow day the Winter Concert for for **grades Pre-K-5**, 3-8 Chorus and 5-8 band will be rescheduled to **Tuesday, December, 10th at 5:30**. Students should arrive no earlier than 5:10pm.

Have a great weekend!