

Whitefield Wildcat Weekly



Issue 29

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Principal's Message

Fond Farewells & Wonderful Welcomes!

As we enter the final week of this strange school year it is fitting that we bid both a fond farewell and a wonderful welcome to appropriate staff and students. Not having the typical level of contact, or the traditional sendoffs, at our disposal has created certain hardships but the sentiments expressed are completely sincere and held by the entire WHES community.

*First, to the **WHES Class of 2020**, we send you our respect and best wishes as you embark on your journey to secondary school. As a class you formed such a positive and lasting legacy, one that reflected kindness, commitment and dedication. You exceeded the leadership standard, demonstrating your citizenship and good nature throughout all venues of the school. The Class of 2020 will also, perhaps most importantly, be remembered as a group of caring individuals who knew when to be serious and directed as well as a group who knew how to have fun and enjoy the life of an 8th grader. While our direct time with you was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic, our memories of you shine brightly and you will not be soon forgotten. You are now a member of the high school Class of 2024!*

*It is so unfortunate that we could not gather as a community to celebrate the career of **Gail Beck**. Gail is retiring this year after spending 38 years at Whitefield Elementary School, most as a beloved Kindergarten teacher. Generations of Whitefield children (Gail joked that maybe she should consider retiring when she began to have the grandchildren of students she had taught!) got their beginning in public education in the welcoming and responsive classroom Gail presented. A conservative estimate would indicate that Gail nurtured nearly 700 WHES students during her career and what a fortunate beginning for those young learners had. Gail was never the loudest voice in a staff meeting, a team meeting or when any group or committee was formed but Gail's experience and judgment was always sought and strongly considered when any new program was brought forth. Her quiet dedication and unflagging sense of balance, even in the face of turmoil or adversity, was a beacon for other staff members. We will be sad to see Gail depart the halls of WHES and wish her a happy, safe and healthy retirement.*

*Finally, as is the case in public schools, as one staff member departs, another stands ready to pick up the torch. Such is the case here as we welcome our new Kindergarten teacher **Kailina Mills**. Kailina comes to us from the Waterboro school system in southern Maine where she also taught Kindergarten. Our Selection / Interview Team was genuinely impressed with her depth of knowledge of young learners, the structure of 21st century Early Childhood classrooms and her passion for the art of teaching. Kailina was the unanimous first choice of the team and we are delighted to have her joining our community. Kailina will be reaching out to our next year's Kindergarten class over the summer to introduce herself to both her students and parents. Welcome Kailina!*

Office: The school office is now open Monday through Friday 8am-11am. Parents who have not yet picked up their child's belongings may do so during these times. If these times do not work for you then please call the school or email aperkins@svrsu.org to set up a time. We ask that all student belongings be picked up before Friday, June 12th. Lost in found will be set up outside of the front entrance during the hours of 8am-11am, through the end of next week. Any unclaimed lost and found items will be donated to Goodwill on June 12th.

Grades Pre K- 2

Pre K: Finishing up the year with home visits and some special gifts for the students. Can't wait to see you all from afar!

Beck: Congrats to all the parents who have helped their children in their learning both academically and socially this year! My hat is off to you!! You have made this year extra special for your children and that means so much to them..and me!! The Kindergarten year is a big transition for children. So many changes from PRE K and Nursery School. From the first day, I felt many of you understood how important school was and you worked diligently to make sure that the transition was manageable. When March hit and our lives changed overnight, you hit the ground running to make sure your child continued to thrive! Many of you worked with your child daily on their packet work. Others made sure their child got lots of physical activity and sunshine. ALL of you put your child first and I am so proud of them and YOU! Thank you for transitioning your child so easily through a very confusing time! We will do one more Zoom meeting (if the internet is working well!) next week. Watch for a date/time. Have a happy weekend!

Lamothe: It really is beginning to feel like summer. From the photos many of you have sent me, it looks like many families have been outside enjoying this nice stretch of weather. I have seen kiddo's hiking, swimming, camping, and fishing! All these outside activities are so important. Keep reading everyday! To all our first grade families, thank you for your continued support and communication! Get outside and enjoy the sunshine this weekend!

Grades 3-5

Northrup: Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."-Dr. Seuss

I loved seeing so many of you at our zoom meeting on Thursday. The scavenger hunt was so much fun. Thank you to Mrs. Simpson for playing 4 corners with us. Next week will be our last Zoom meeting. Don't forget to check your mail next week!! :) Keep working hard, you're in the home stretch!!! I am so very proud of all of you for the hard work that you and your families have been doing daily!

M. Brewer: We will be having our LAST zoom meeting on Wednesday at 11:00! I hope to see as many students as possible join. Students will need 3 objects for the activity we will be participating in! Have a great weekend!!

PBIS News- It's been an awesome tropical week for food deliveries!!! We hope you all enjoyed this themed week! Have a wonderful weekend - practice some social distancing and stay safe!



Middle School News

Keep Working Hard!

Resource News

Brann: I'm pleased with the progress students have made while learning through Zoom lessons!
Thank you parents/grandparents/caregivers for helping on your side of the screen. We could not have done this without your help.

Art - Learning Commons - Music - PE

Howard: An unbelievable year - let's hope that the Fall brings us all back together! I know students will want to relax and enjoy the summer but if the weather does not cooperate and they are inside, I would like to suggest some computer programming practice at Code.org - most students enjoyed doing short lessons with favorite characters.

I will be posting information about the Summer Reading Program - we are participating again in the Maine Read to Ride Challenge (Reading Log Passports will be posted online on our website and Google Classroom for grades 3-8) - this is the Challenge where two students will win a bike! If Students want they can use the Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Challenge as well and use those log sheets for the Read to Ride (another opportunity to win various prizes). If you have any questions, please contact me at choward@svrsu.org. I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall - Be safe!

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

Morgan: I have had a blast zooming with band students over the last few months. I will try to email another youtube playlist for them to practice with over the summer. Any band instruments not picked up will be placed in the music room for the summer. Feel free to contact me or the school if you would like to pick them up.

Have a great weekend!