

Wizard Words Newsletter - February 18th, 2019

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

K-5 students have started their 3rd quarter electives and 3-5 students have the opportunity for further choice and personalized learning to explore their gifts and talents as they begin their 3rd Quarter Friday Focus Specials next Friday. Our *creative and skilled* specialist team designed these new offerings which provide diverse opportunities for meaningful exploration and application of the visual and performing arts, kinesiology, and languages. Washington is the only GT magnet in Wake County to offer such classes. My only regret is that I can't experience all of these myself! A highlight of these amazing offerings is below...

Steel Band--Mr. Sagolla Slamp

Students will study steel pan performance techniques along with Trinidadian culture. The ensemble will perform at the NCTIES Conference.

Frisbee/Disc Golf--Ms. Kichefski

Students will learn about the sports of Ultimate Frisbee and Disc Golf. They will learn the rules, regulations, scoring and strategies for these activities. Students will practice the foundational skills in order to transition into small game play situations. This disc golf course by our outer track area was built by a boy scout and former Washington Wizard!

Broadway Bound--Ms. Smith

Students explore the elements of Musical Theater and learn and create choreography from popular Broadway musicals.

Fashion Design/Dying and Fabric Modification--Ms. Drum

Students learn how to design and create wearable art inspired by Mehndi and other Indian design motifs. In addition students will have the opportunity to view the work of local Indian artists and discuss their creative process. Students create bleach mehndi design black t-shirts and Rangoli radial tie dye/stamp t-shirts. Other projects available if time permits.

Telling a Story Through Video--Mr. Metz

Students will review the elements of a short story and study main ideas, characters, and story development through viewing simple video stories. In the class, students brainstorm, outline, write, and edit a story of their own creation. Students will then develop a storyboard of appropriate scenes that best tells their story through video. Students will learn to use a digital video camera and tape simple scenes created from their storyboards.

Music in Art--Co taught by Ms. Smith and Ms. Drum

Students create art based on musical compositions and create music based on visual art masterpieces. In addition, students explore the history and style of significant composers and visual artists. As a culminating activity students devise a collaborative art/music happening.

Games of the Spanish Speaking world--Ms. Reynolds

Students learn about countries that speak Spanish and what games are popular in each country! They experience what being a kid might be like outside of the U.S.!

Old Time Ensemble--Mr. Mitchell

Students will explore small chamber music of duets, trios, quartets, and quintets.

~Mr. Grant

SCHOOL SPIRIT NIGHTS ARE BACK THIS SATURDAY!!!



JELLYBEANS
SUPER SKATE CENTER of CARY

Private Event for Washington Magnet.
Come show your school Spirit!
Located at 1120 Buck Jones Rd. Raleigh NC

Welcomes
Washington Magnet Elementary
Private
School Spirit Skate!

Washington Magnet Elementary
Saturday, Feb. 23rd
5:15PM-7:00PM
\$6 Admission \ \$1 skate rental
Admission charge applies to all except non-skating

Everyone is welcome to stay during our public session from 7-10PM at no additional charge.
Must arrive before 6:30PM.

Private Family Skate! Parental supervision is required for this event.

READ ACROSS THE RAINBOS

The Read Across the Rainbow reading incentive program is back for second semester! Students can read and fill in books on their colored "bingo" cards to earn a charm of their choice. Complete all the colors of the rainbow by the end of the school year to earn a special rainbow charm. Red (pink) sheets went home in Monday folders, and the first day to return completed sheets to the Media Center is February 19th. Questions? Contact our Media Specialist, Mrs. Hash, in the Media Center or at rhash@wcpss.net.

TEACHER / STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

Mark your calendars, our Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week at Washington will be March 4-8. Thank you to parent Kim Olds for chairing this committee and our many K-3 Room Parents who are planning an amazing week for our teachers. We will be sending out a sign up to vounteer and / or send in items to support our efforts soon.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION NEEDED

A few of our amazing teachers are working to build a functional database of community partners that teachers can use when they are looking for resources. If you (or anyone you know) has an area of expertise that might be useful in one of our events, electives or classrooms, please fill out this google form so they can reach out! Authors, Artists, Scientists, Programmers...calling anyone and everyone who is interested in giving back to Washington! Please fill out the Google Form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/1OkVJrzHnt7NWein1>

SCHOOL SUPPORT - GRANTS AND ADVOCACY

Our PTA is happy to be offering a spring round of teacher grants, thanks to our generous donations this year. We will report back to you about what projects we are able to support.

In Advocacy, there is a bill being presented to restore Masters salary to teachers who hold a Masters degree in the field they are teaching. Co Sponsor of the bill, Sen. Jim Perry (R-Lenoir) feels it is important to reward teachers who have expertise in their field. He is quoted as stating, "This is something good and right to be able to do and a wise way to spend the peoples' money." Link to the full bill is here if you are interested in reading more:

<https://webservices.ncleg.net/ViewBillDocument/2019/121/0/DRS35020-MT-28>

SCHOOL RATING WEBSITES

Now that Magnet Tour season is upon us, we've realized that many of our online ratings are very out-dated. Please take a minute to provide feedback online so other families touring can see how great our school is.

If for some reason, you feel that you can't give us a glowing review, please reach out to Mr. Grant at bgrant@wcpss.net and let him know what's going on.

We would really appreciate if everyone reading this would take a minute to do a Great Schools review here, plus one other site from the list below:

<https://www.greatschools.org/north-carolina/raleigh/1954-Washington-Elementary/>

If you have time to do a few more, please click through these links and leave your feedback for families that are researching their school options.

<https://www.niche.com/k12/survey/start/?t=k&e=washington-elementary-school-raleigh-nc>

<https://www.schooldigger.com/go/NC/schools/0472001903/school.aspx>

[google.com](https://www.google.com)

Search for Washington Elementary Raleigh

The panel on the right comes up with Google Reviews - click "Write a Review"

UPCOMING EVENTS

-) Weather Make-Up Day (School in Session) - Tuesday, February 19th
-) PTA Board Meeting (Conf Room at School) all are welcome - Friday, February 22nd
9:30am
-) Jellybeans Spirit Night - Saturday, February 23rd 5:15 - 7:00pm
-) Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week - March 4-8
-) Spring Picture Day - Friday, March 15th
-) Junie B. Jones (4th & 5th Grade Musical) Evening Performance - Wednesday, March 20th
-) PTA Board Meeting (Conf Room at School) all are welcome - Friday, March 22nd
9:30am
-) Teacher Work Day (No School) - Friday, March 29th

Stay in Touch with the PTA

Email: wesgtpa@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.wizardpta.org/>

Facebook: Washington GT Elementary PTA @WizardPTA

Twitter: Washington PTA @WizardPTA