



The Wrangler Express

Shauntte Butcher

Principal

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Bringing school news to students, families, and community members.

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November 2016

From the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's hard to believe fall is upon us! We have had a successful school year thus far, and look forward to working with all of you as we head towards the Thanksgiving break.

Report cards were given to students October 24th, and nearly 350 students were recognized for High Five academic achievement or Good Effort improvement. If you have any questions regarding your child's education, please contact your child's teacher.

This second grading quarter brings many opportunities for the WES community to put forth its best effort. We ask students to continue the hard work of improving their skills, especially in the areas of reading, writing, and math. Parents we ask that ensure your student arrives to school on time daily and that he/she reads every night for at least 30 minutes. We invite our community to support our upcoming November events: The Veteran's Day Honor Ceremony, the Great American Teach-In, the STEM Parent Connect Night, and our annual Turkey Trot.

As a connected school, Woodland Elementary School will create a school climate that fosters high academic success for every Woodland student.

Sincerely,
Shauntte Butcher
Principal

November School Calendar

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| November 9 | Picture Retake Day |
| November 11 | Veteran's Day Honor Ceremony |
| November 14 | SAC Meeting @ 8:35 in Media Center |
| November 14 – 17 | Great American Teach-In |
| November 18 | iMom @ 8:30 in Cafeteria |
| November 18 | Turkey Trot |
| November 21 - 25 | Thanksgiving Break – No School for Students or Teachers |
| November 29 | STEM Parent Connect Night |

Picture Retake Day November 9th



Students who were absent September 14th can be photographed for school pictures on Wednesday, November 9th. Any student who did not purchase their school photo can retake their picture and buy photographs as well. Make checks payable to Strawbridge Photography.

Thank you to our WES Business Partners!



Absolute Air Systems, INC
Danny Burgess State Representative
Custom Decal US
Elks Lodge #2731
Pin Chasers
Walmart
Peggy's Dance Place
City of Zephyrhills
Artistic Florist of Tampa
Circle K at Eiland Blvd.

Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Woodland's Teacher of the Year Deborah Chancey. Mrs. Chancey teaches fifth grade science and math on the Black Stallions Team.



Mrs. Chancey



Mrs. Graham

SRP of the Year

Congratulations to Woodland's SRP of the year Jennifer Graham. Mrs. Graham works as an Instructional Assistant with Wranglers of all grades.

***WES appreciates the hard work and dedication
you both demonstrate everyday!***

Great American Teach-In!

Parents and community members are invited to take part in the annual "Great American Teach-in" November 14th – November 17th. We invite you to come to school to talk with our students about your career. We believe this helps our students learn about a variety of careers, and the relationship between school and work. If you have any interest in participating, please notify Shannon Desrosiers at 813- 794-6400.



**STEM Parent Connect Night
November 29th – RSVP Soon!**

STEM Night is a fantastic celebration of the higher-order skills our students use in science, technology, engineering, math and communication. It is also jam-packed with student-centered learning and leadership, all rolled into one event.

Several engineering "instant challenges" will take place. The goal of the instant challenges is to have fun and think logically and reasonably on the fly. Students know they have the skills. This is their chance to apply them in a setting that involves just a little risk-taking. The challenges will be timed and student are able to work in teams. Example: Create a structure that would hold fifty pennies three inches off the table using pipe cleaners and a cup.

Reading Round-up



Most of our kids just aren't reading as much outside of school as we would like. There are so many other activities that they are involved in; sports, social activities, time online and video games, just to name a few. So, it is no surprise that when it comes to reading, our students are often resistant. Yet daily reading is instrumental in improving comprehension and vocabulary skills. What is a parent to do? Well, here are some ideas that may turn your reluctant readers onto books again.

*Read with your children - if they don't want to be read to, find a book that you both can read and then find time to discuss it.

*Have a family reading ritual. Agree on a few times each week when the whole family stops all of their other activities and just reads. It can be a good book, newspapers, magazines, or even letters. Try listening to books on tape. Listening in the car is also a great way to enjoy a good book.

*Subscribe to magazines that your children will find enjoyable. A good portion of the FSA deals with non-fiction. Encouraging your kids to find articles on topics that they are interested in may be just the jump-start they need to get reading again.

*Help them find news sites and appropriate web pages that interest them. There are many quality sites and today children are reading and learning online. You may want to bookmark the ones you find suitable.

*Don't forget the public library! It is a great community resource. Besides books and reading materials they also offer programs they may interest your child.

Amy Drury – Literacy Lead Teacher

Work at Woodland!

Our school is looking for interested individuals to work as substitute teachers. Contact Dianna Huffstutler for information about becoming a substitute teacher at 813-794-6400.

Parents CONNECT with Woodland!

Parents, please make sure you check the WES website <http://wes.pasco.k12.fl.us> on a regularly basis. The website is updated weekly with useful information for you. There is also an activities calendar that is useful for planning purposes

Counselors' Connection



During the month of November, Woodland will be learning about mediation in times of conflict. Your child will be learning what conflict is and how to resolve conflict with peers. Outlined below, you will see our topics for each week:

- **Week 1: Making Good Choices When Angry**
- **Week 2: How to Solve a Problem**
- **Week 3: Preventing Problems**
- **Week 4: Apologizing**

Please talk with your child at home about what he or she has learned. Additionally, in order to further solidify some of the skills your child is learning, please see some activities that you can do at home.

Suggested Activities:

- a. We will be learning about steps to take when conflicts arise. These include talking calmly (i.e., telling, not yelling), listening, and finding out all the important information, then thinking about different possible solutions and the likely consequences. When disagreements occur at home, encourage your child to use these problem-solving strategies to settle the disagreements without using harsh words or actions.
- b. When your child tells you about disagreements and confrontations he or she has had with others, thank your child for sharing the experience with you and talk about different things he or she could do. Try not to become upset with what your child tells you, since such a reaction could result in your child refusing to share these incidents with you in the future. Keep the lines of communication open.
- c. Your child will also be learning about things to do when he or she is feeling angry, such as stating that he or she is angry, breathing deeply, getting away from the situation, engaging in physical activity, or something he or she enjoys doing. When encouraging your child to engage in calming activity, it is often helpful to clearly define the activity and duration, such as taking five deep breaths, running two laps, or swinging on the swing for five minutes.
- d. When watching TV or videos, talk with your child about how characters handled their anger and solved their problems.
- e. Tell your child about problems you have faced as a child or adult, and how you have dealt with them.

Being able to resolve differences peacefully is a critical, lifelong skill. Please talk with your child at home about what he or she is learning. Thank you for the opportunity to work with your child.

Sincerely,
Shannon Kromer, WES School Counselor



Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Edwards have been busy assisting your students in registering for Quaver Music online.

This is the new Music Curriculum for Pasco County. Your students, whether kindergarten or 5th grade, will have access to the site from home and are free to investigate the site. The first step is to go to www.pasco.k12.fl.us. Once there, click on "Student". Scroll down until you see a place to log into MyPascoConnect. Once there, you will see an icon marked Quaver Music. Click on the icon. They should see an avatar for them to personalize, if they haven't already done so at school. They are now logged on. They need to log on the same way every time, through MyPascoConnect.

Kindergarten parents, be ready to be amazed! Your sons and daughters have been working away in their classes to prepare for the Fall Concert, which will be held on November 15, 2016. Due to the lack of a stage and seating, the concert will be held at a venue off campus. The performance will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Zephyrhills, 5510 19th Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542. If you have a kindergarten student, you should have already received a letter in your child's Wednesday folder.

Other grade performances are scheduled throughout the year. 1st and 2nd grades are scheduled at the same venue for February 13. 3rd and 5th grades will have a performance in May. 4th grade will be some time in the spring. Look in future newsletters for more information.

The Woodland Dulcimer Club has started up again this year. Thank you Jeff Felmlee for being so generous with your time, talents and instruments. This group consists of select 5th grade students. We meet on Thursdays at 3:45 and learn and play until 4:45. Parents are expected no later than 5:00 unless previously worked out with the music teachers. If your 5th grader is interested, another group will begin after Winter Break. A 10-week commitment is expected, to be a part of this club.

If you have any questions regarding your student and the music program, don't hesitate to contact your son or daughter's music teacher at pwrobert@pasco.k12.fl.us or doedward@pasco.k12.fl.us.

Mrs. Edwards & Mr. Roberts