

December 15, 2023

Wildcat Families,

We sure had a festive week at Wilson! Students and staff had a blast showing off their holiday spirit with our themed dress-up days! The festivities started Monday as a Jolly little Trolley visited every classroom to provide a candy cane for the kids and cookies for the teachers. On Tuesday we were treated to a wonderful holiday performance from the Turpin Choir. We loved seeing some of our former Wildcats! Thank you to our Sixth Grade leaders for organizing the Spirit Week for the whole school. Today we're looking forward to the holiday parties taking place throughout the school!

As we head into the break, we want to extend warm wishes to each and every one of you for the happiest of holidays, a peaceful and relaxing winter break, and a joyous holiday season spent with family and friends. May your holidays be filled with laughter and love.

We will not be sending a weekly parent update while we are out on break. We look forward to seeing all of our Wildcats on Wednesday, January 3rd! Happy Holidays!

Take care,  
Erin and Brian

### **Building Information**

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#### **Lost and Found**

Lost and found items will be donated at the end of the day today.

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**Counselor's Corner:****December theme: Being Responsible**

Being responsible means being dependable, making good choices, and taking accountability for your actions. Teaching our students how to be responsible shows children how their actions influence themselves and those around them, which, in turn, strengthens self-esteem and empathy. [Keep reading here...](#)

**Wilson PTO Good Neighbor Committee**

Please reach out to me if you know a family who may need a boost with meals, groceries and gift cards through our Good Neighbor Committee. If you are in being contacted when there is a need, please register here: [Wilson Good Neighbor Committee](#)

As always, please reach out if there is anything I can do for your child or your family.

Smiles,

Jean Bode [jeanbode@foresthills.edu](mailto:jeanbode@foresthills.edu)

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**TECIP Information (Traumatic Event Crisis Intervention Plan)**

We thought it would be helpful to share with you what TECIP is and how our building responds to critical incidents or unexpected events, such as the house fire Monday night and again Tuesday morning. TECIP is a framework that guides our process and decision-making when something unexpected happens within our community.

When such events occur, our primary objective is to support students

with an environment that addresses their basic needs; safety and security, belonging, control and predictability, and freedom. We have learned throughout the years that although we cannot always accurately predict the specific reactions of students and staff, providing the right environment is critical when supporting people.

When working through the TECIP process, we are constantly evaluating the scope of the event and assessing its impact on our Wilson Community. Doing so allows us to provide focused support to those impacted by the unexpected event. As you can imagine, handling these events includes many layers and many key people working together.

We received a call shortly before 9:00 that the fire across the street had reignited and student arrival was going to be significantly impacted. With the help of the district's resource officers, Officers Dwyer and Wolf, in conjunction with Transportation Director Richard Porter, we devised an alternate arrival plan to get students into the building while also giving emergency personnel enough space to work. Teachers and staff members assembled outside to support the traffic flow and get students inside.

Since every single student would be impacted by the arrival adjustment, we made decisions that would extend support to all students. We informed staff that we would start our morning routine a little later than normal. People, especially children, find comfort in routine, so this became an important element to our response. During the routine of morning announcements, we reassured our students and staff that no one was harmed in the fire and everyone was safe. We reminded our students of the importance of taking care of each other when unexpected situations arise. Our staff was able to answer any questions students had throughout the day and

were able to comfort any students who needed it. Of course, the student directly impacted by the fire received additional layers of support by staff.

An essential element of our response plan is a clear understanding of the facts. Working with emergency personnel and the family, we work to ensure we have the most accurate information prior to sending any communication. Most situations also require us to have permission from the family before we send certain details. All of this takes time and is a very delicate situation as families experience the raw emotions of an event. Once we felt comfortable with the information we were able to gather, we then drafted the email sent to all Wilson families.

We know that from the outside it may appear that information is coming slowly. No matter the circumstances, our primary goal is first to take care of our students. That is our unequivocal number one goal. We are pleased that within an hour of the initial notice, a communication was shared with the Wilson Community.

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### **Outdoor Recess Guidelines**

We believe it is extremely important for kids to have an opportunity to get outside for recess as often as possible throughout the winter. As the weather gets colder, we will use the following guidelines to determine how much time we'll spend outside, if at all. Please make sure your Wildcats are dressed accordingly (remember to label coats, hats, and gloves).

- **Outside Recess** → If the temperature is above 20 degrees and the wind chill is above 15 degrees.

- **A Brief Recess** → When the wind chill is between 5 – 15 degrees, children have a choice to go outside for no more than 10 minutes at the teacher's discretion.
  - **Inside Recess** → When snow covers the blacktop, and/or when the temperature is less than 20 degrees, and the wind chill is less than 5 degrees, children will have indoor recess.
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### **Lab Book Helper Volunteers**

Your help is greatly appreciated since we check-in, check-out and reshelve books along with doing STEM activities in the Innovation Lab. Please sign up for your preferred day and time:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49A5AB2EAB9-46412089-innovation>

If you have not volunteered in the learning commons in previous years or completed training, please contact Sara to set up a brief training at the beginning of your volunteer session. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions to Sara at 513-313-3928 or [saraostermeier@hotmail.com](mailto:saraostermeier@hotmail.com)

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### **Lunch Helpers**

We always appreciate our families volunteering whenever your work schedule allows. The opportunity to help Kindergarten and First Graders in the cafeteria is always appreciated! [Volunteer Link](#)

Below is the link to volunteer during the months of January and February.

If you can help in January, [sign up here](#).

If you can help in February, [please sign up here](#).

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## **Enrichment Programs (Code Ninjas added)**

There are lots of enrichment opportunities starting in January! Check out the links below for additional information and steps to register!

**Code Ninjas** starting Monday, January 22 after school from 3:45-4:45. Click [HERE](#).

**Chess Club** starting Thursday, January 11 after school from 3:45-4:45. Click [HERE](#).

**Pottery Wheel 101** [ 2nd-6th ] classes on Jan. 9 and Jan. 16 from 3:35-5:45. Click [HERE](#).

Enriching Kidz **Stitch and Sew** [ 3rd-6th ] class held on Jan. 29 and Feb. 5 from 3:45-5:45. Click [HERE](#).

**QSA Training** [ 1st-6th ] for speed and agility beginning January 24th. Click [HERE](#).

**Drawing/Watercolor** class with Trisha Raymond starting January 11. Click [HERE](#).

A new session of **Spanish** class with World of Spanish LLC beginning January 24th. Click [HERE](#).

## District Information

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### **Friendly Winter Break Reminders**

Please take a moment to [read this article](#) that includes a handful of helpful winter break reminders for families. FHSD hopes you and your loved ones have a fun, relaxing and safe break from school! We look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday, January 3, 2024!

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### **Save the Date: Important Upcoming Events**

- [Kindergarten Registration Opens](#) - Jan. 24, 2024 (24-25 school year)
  - [FHSD Parent Academy](#) - Jan. 24, 2024
  - [Science Fair & Innovation Expo](#) - Jan. 27, 2024
  - [Preschool Peer Model Applications Open](#) - Feb. 1, 2024 (24-25 school year)
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### **JUDGES NEEDED!**

Do you have an affinity for science and engineering? Are you looking for a way to give back to our community? Please consider serving as a judge at the Forest Hills School District Science Fair! You need not be an expert in any field, rather, just have a willingness to

help our great kids! To register as a judge, [please sign up HERE](#). The event takes place on Saturday, January 27, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Nagel Middle School.

Thank you for your consideration! Our goal is to get each student at least 3 visits from judges, so your participation is critical to helping our students. Questions? Please email Shane Hartley, Secondary Director of Teaching & Learning: [shanehartley@foresthills.edu](mailto:shanehartley@foresthills.edu)

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### **Community Events**

You can also visit our [flyers webpage here](#) that has updates on other fun events and activities, including details on [interactive winter camps from Code Ninjas Anderson Township!](#)

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### **EMERGENCY AND SUPPORT RESOURCES**

- If you, your student, or anyone else you know is in a life-threatening health crisis or emergency, call 911.
- If you, your student, or anyone else you know is in emotional distress or experiencing a suicidal crisis, call or text 988, available 24/7.
- If you have concerns about threats to student safety, we urge you to call or text the Safer Ohio School Tip Line at 844-SaferOH. This line is staffed 24/7.



- If you are seeking additional resources, we encourage you to start at the links below:
    - [MindPeace](#)
    - [FHSD Family Resource List 22-23](#)
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## **Upcoming Events**

### **K-4 Unified Arts Friday Rotation**

Friday, January 5th will be a “Tuesday.”

Friday, January 12th will be a “Wednesday.”

### **No School: Winter Break (December 18-January 2)**

#### **Jan. 2**

- Teacher Workday (No School for Students)

#### **Jan. 3**

- First Day Back for Students

#### **Jan. 4**

#### **Jan. 5**