

January 9, 2025

Wilson Families,

We hope you had a wonderful and restful winter break and were able to enjoy some special time together. As we returned to school this week, we jumped back into learning and routines as we begin the second half of the school year.

We know this first week back can be an adjustment for students, staff, and families alike, early mornings, busy schedules, and getting back into a routine takes time. Please know that we are supporting students every step of the way as they transition back into their school day.

Throughout the week, staff spent time reviewing expectations with students across all learning environments and discussing what The Wilson Way looks like in classrooms, hallways, common areas, and beyond. These conversations help set a positive tone and ensure a safe, respectful, and focused learning environment for everyone.

Report cards will be sent home today. They provide an important snapshot of your child's progress so far this year, and we encourage you to review them together and reach out to your child's teacher with any questions.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. We are excited for all that the second half of the year has in store!

We hope you have a great weekend.

Erin and Brian

Building Information

Gold Spirit Day: Thursday: January 15

We are excited to share that we are having a Gold Spirit Day on Thursday, January 15! For the 10th time, Wilson Elementary has been recognized by the Ohio Department of Education as a GOLD level school for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (aka The Wilson Way). Each year, the Ohio Department of Education and the PBIS Network recognize schools and districts for their quality and fidelity of PBIS implementation. Wilson Elementary is a recipient of the Ohio PBIS Gold Recognition Award for 2024 for our commitment to The Wilson Way, which was established in 2008.

Volunteers to Cover Lunch/Recess on 01/15/26

On Thursday, January 15, we are excited to host a Gold Party Reward for our teachers and staff to celebrate their hard work and dedication to consistently implementing The Wilson Way! As part of this celebration, we would love to give our staff the opportunity to enjoy lunch together with their grade-level teams and colleagues. To make this possible, we are looking for volunteers to help supervise lunch and recess during this time. Any support you can provide would be greatly appreciated and will help us honor our incredible staff!

If you plan to volunteer, please be sure your background check is up to date. If you are unsure about your status or need it checked,

please see the information below or reach out to Mrs. Augenstein for assistance.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping make Wilson such a special place for our students and staff!

[Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Volunteers/Chaperones

If you are interested in volunteering in classrooms, the copy room, or on field trips, you must complete a background check through the district's Raptor System. Background checks are good for 5 years. If you are unsure if your background check is up to date, please contact [Lynn](#) in the main office.

- [Complete online process via Raptor System](#) (includes background check).
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Morning Drop Off Information

As a reminder, student safety is our top priority during arrival and dismissal. We kindly ask families to use the designated school drop-off areas when bringing students to school. Neighborhood streets surrounding Wilson are not intended for student drop-off, and increased traffic on these roads can create safety concerns for families who walk to school, especially in areas without sidewalks.

If you live nearby and choose to walk, we truly appreciate your support in keeping our surrounding streets safe and accessible for all students and families. Thank you for partnering with us to ensure a smooth and safe arrival each morning.

Smart Watches and Phones

As we head into winter break we know some students may receive new personal devices such as cell phones or smart watches as holiday gifts. Below is the language from our PK–6 Student-Parent Handbook regarding these types of devices. We will review this same information with students (especially in the older grades) when they return to school in January.

FHSD Personal Communication Device Usage Guidelines (PK-6 Student-Parent Handbook)

Personal Communication Device use includes, but is not limited to, using a personal device (e.g., phone, smartwatch, or tablet) and/or accessories (e.g., headphones, earbuds, or AirPods) for activities such as making or receiving audio or video calls, sending text messages, blogging, microblogging, and emailing. It also encompasses using video or camera functions, playing games, and accessing the internet, including social media platforms and applications. Elementary Schools and Nagel Middle School: Personal communication devices and/or accessories for personal communication devices must be stored with the students' other belongings during the school day and may not be accessed without administrative approval.

Friendly Tech Reminder for Smart Watches, Specifically

Smart watches are a popular gift this holiday season. While we understand the value these tools provide families in being able to monitor a student's location or communicate before or after school, it is crucial that we maintain a productive instructional environment in our classrooms. Unfortunately, smart watches have become a bit of a distraction across our elementary buildings for some students.

Please remember that during the school day, students are not permitted to use their watch for calling, messaging, texting, web browsing or taking photos. It's also important to understand that in the event of an emergency or safety-related situation, we want students to listen to instructions from their teacher, principal and staff members who are working to keep everyone safe.

Students are welcome to wear a smartwatch during the day, but it must have the Wi-Fi and cellular turned off. Students should not be texting parents, family members, or friends during the school day. Parents and family members should call the office directly if there is a message that needs to be relayed to their student during class time. It is recommended that parents/guardians make sure the watch is set to silent or school mode so it does not disrupt classroom instruction.

If a student uses a smart watch for anything besides checking the time and/or the teacher feels it is a distraction, the teacher will talk with your child about using their smart watch appropriately. If problems continue, the teacher will ask that your child store their smart watch in their backpack during the school day. We appreciate your understanding.

Exciting Author Visit Coming to Wilson!

We are thrilled to announce that author and illustrator Wes Molebash will be visiting Wilson on Thursday, April 2 to speak with all of our students! Wes Molebash is a talented cartoonist and creator of graphic novels and comics for young readers. He is best known for his *Travis Davenport* series, which is a fun, imaginative graphic novel that blends humor, adventure, and engaging illustrations that students love. He's also created popular webcomics and cartoons, and his work appears in books and projects enjoyed by readers of all ages. [Wes Molebash - Legendary Cartoonist+1](#)

In preparation for his visit, classroom teachers will have copies of his books to share with students so they can get excited about his stories ahead of time. Families also have the opportunity to order books for Wes Molebash to sign during his visit!

Book Ordering Details

- You may order books now through March 15. Here is the [LINK](#) for you to place your order.
- The code for the discount is WILSON and families get 20% off their order.

- Signed copies make wonderful keepsakes and great gifts!

We are so excited for this special day and are incredibly grateful to our fabulous PTO for funding this event for our students. A huge thank

you as well to Colleen Birdsong, our fantastic Reading Specialist, for leading the charge in planning this unforgettable experience!

Stay tuned for more details!

Wilson Yearbook Orders

Order your 2025-2026 Wilson Yearbooks by looking at [YEARBOOK FLYER](#) or by visiting: SCHOOLHOUSEPHOTOS.COM/YEARBOOK.

The order deadline is April 15. Yearbooks will be delivered by the end of the school year.

Wilson Running Club Coordinator

We are looking for someone to lead the running club this year for our Wilson Wildcats. The previous coordinator, Joe Dold, has offered to meet with anyone interested in this position to share the training schedule and other important information. (Joe Dold's phone number is 513-582-9767 and his email address is josephdold@hotmail.com).

Running Club will be held every Wednesday, March 11th thru May 6th, with a week break for Spring Break (8 weekly sessions). Runners practice once a week on Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5:00 pm. Runners will be able to showcase their hard work at the Forest Hills 5k on Saturday, May 9.

Please reach out to Erin Sines (erinsines@foresthills.edu) if you are interested.

Counselor's Corner

Mindful Music Champions

I'm excited to share a wonderful opportunity some of our 6th-grade students have been part of this year!

A group of our 6th graders has been working with **Bryce Kessler**, **Program Director at [The Well](#)**, the organization that provides our daily Mindful Music Moments. Our students have been consulting, sharing ideas, and helping to shape future playlists for MMM. Their voices and input are making a real difference in how our school starts each day!

Special Concert Highlight:



This important work will be showcased on **February 1st at Music Hall** as part of a special concert by the **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra**. Our students' project will be highlighted alongside other schools participating in this initiative.

We are incredibly proud of our 6th graders for their leadership and creativity, and we are so grateful to The Well for providing this meaningful experience for our students.

Just ask! Please reach out to me if I can do anything for your family. Smiles 😊 Jean Bode jeanbode@foresthills.edu

PTO Information

Cyclones Information

  Need plans for the day off on MLK Day? Get your tickets now for the Wilson Family Cyclones Game. Monday, January 19th - Puck drops at 1:30 - Kids eat free (hot dog and drink).

Get tickets here: [Cyclone Tickets](#)

Wilson 6th Grade Social at Elite Athletics

WHEN: February 13th from 1-3pm (students are off school that day)

WHERE: 1155 Old State Rte 74, Batavia, OH 45103

COST: There is **no fee** for 6th Graders who RSVP. This event is hosted by the PTO.

FOOD & DRINK: Students will receive 2 slices of pizza, chips and a bottle of water. Additional concessions are available for purchase via cash or card.

Students must RSVP to attend the event! [RSVP HERE](#).

Wilson Bowling Club 2025-2026: Time is Running Out to Sign Up!

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL! GET READY TO BOWL!

8 Week Session: Thursdays, 4:15 - 5:30 pm

February 5th - March 26th

Where: Cherry Grove Lanes, 4005 Hopper Hill Road

Who: ALL Wilson Kids

Bumper Bowling: K - 3rd Grade

Regular Bowling: 4th - 6th grade

Cost: \$75.00

This is a Wilson Elementary PTO-sponsored event.

Transportation is not provided. A team parent must be on site during bowling.

Registration and Payment are only being accepted through the STORE tab in the PTO Membership Toolkit.

INFORMATION, REGISTRATION and PAYMENT can be found in the link below:

[Click Here for the Bowling Club Flyer To Register and Make Payment](#)

Registration and payment are due by January 29, 2026 or until spots are filled.

Once payment is received and teams are finalized, parents will be contacted by email to confirm enrollment and team placement. Questions? Contact Tracy Tekulve (tracytek3@gmail.com, 513-307-1939)

Before / After-School Enrichment Programs

Check out the before and after-school learning opportunities and make sure to communicate with your student's teacher if they are participating in a program!

[PIVO Academy 3](#) - TUESDAYS, Jan. 13 - Feb. 24, 3:50-4:50

An opportunity to continue or learn new futsal skills!

[Spanish Session 2](#) - WEDNESDAYS, Jan. 21 - April 29, 8:10 - 9:05am

Join to continue learning or begin learning the language and culture!

[Sewing \(4th - 6th \)](#) - TUESDAYS, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 3:50 - 5:00

Learn the basics of sewing and make your own pillow!

Restaurant Nights

Support the Wilson PTO, local businesses, and make dinner easy by stopping by one of these restaurant nights! Don't forget to mention Wilson!

Tuesday, Jan. 13 : NVT Pizza & Brew [4pm - 8pm]

Lunch Menu for January

- [JANUARY LUNCH MENU](#)
 - Link for [ALL BUILDING MENUS](#)
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Kdg & First Grade Cafeteria Helpers

If you're interested in volunteering, please use this link to sign up for November and December.

- **January:** [LINK](#)
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District Information

LAST CHANCE! Nominate Outstanding Educators and Staff for Recognition!

Each year, FHSD submits nominees for community award programs. Please take a moment to nominate an outstanding FHSD staff member who you believe deserves special recognition this year! [Online form link](#). The form closes this weekend to allow time to review submissions.

Cold and Flu Season Reminders

Please help us reduce the spread of illness by reinforcing proper hygiene methods with your student(s). Efforts like routine hand washing, covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and avoiding contact with your eyes, nose or mouth can all make a difference. [**For guidance about how to determine whether a sick student is ready to return to school, please review information from the Health Office here.**](#)

Curriculum Up Close: Your Hall Pass into Visual and Performing Arts

Each month we are highlighting a different subject area to celebrate the AMAZING academics offered at FHSD. In December, we celebrated our stellar visual and performing arts programs. [**Click here to get a closer look at our courses of study and see highlights from classrooms across the school district!**](#)

Forest Hills Foundation for Education

The Foundation's [Student-Led Grant application](#) is OPEN!

Student-Led Grants are designed to fund student-initiated proposals that have been supported by parents and/or FHSD teachers/staff.

Adult help in formulating ideas and filling out the application is expected. Grant proposals must have the approval of your school principal and PTO president. Applications are due by February 12. Grants will be awarded in March. We are excited to see our students' great ideas!

Community Events

[Click here to visit the flyers page](#) to learn more about opportunities like:

- [UC DAAP Saturday Art for K-12 | Feb. 14-April 11 | Registration Opens Jan. 24](#)
 - [i9 Spring Sports | Youth Sports for Boys and Girls Ages 3-14](#)
 - [Anderson Fastpitch Softball Association Spring Registration](#)
 - [Anderson Middies Lacrosse Spring Registration](#)
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Upcoming Events

K-4 Unified Arts Rotation

Friday, January 16 will be a "Tuesday."

Friday, January 23 will be a "Monday."

Jan. 12

Jan. 13

- NVT Pizza & Brew (4pm - 8pm)

Jan. 14

Jan. 15

- Gold Spirit Day
- Skating Party at the Beechmont Rollarena 6:00 pm

Jan. 16