

# West Frederick Middle School

<http://schools.fcps.org/wfms>

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Issue 2008/9-8

## APRIL

- Apr. 1 Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> grade Cultural Arts / Shakespeare Alive! (PTSA sponsored)
- Apr. 2 Thu. Willy Wonka Performance
- Apr. 3 Fri. **Willy Wonka Performance** 7:30 pm GYM (tickets)
- Apr. 4 Sat. Cinderella Castle fundraiser 10 am - 4 pm at Tuscarora High School's cafeteria (formal/semi formal dresses)
- Apr. 7 Tues. **NO** activity bus run
- Apr. 8 - 13 **Spring Break - school closed**
- Apr. 14 Tues. 7<sup>th</sup> grade Cultural Arts / Step Afrika (PTSA sponsored)!
- Apr. 14 - May 1 Yearbook Pre-sale
- Apr. 20 Mon. PTSA Meeting - 7 pm - Modular C
- Apr. 22 Wed.+ **Science MSA tests for 8<sup>th</sup> grade**
- Apr. 24 Fri. **WFMS Dance 6 - 8 Gym (\$5)**
- Apr. 25 Sat. FHS Safe and Sane

## May

- May 4 - 8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 11 Last PTSA meeting / Election of new officers



## BOX TOPS for Education

This is our LAST call for all Box Tops! We are still well short of our goal and we need your help. Please send in any box tops to Ms. Katzenbarger and thanks again for supporting your school.

## LOST and FOUND

We have three locations for lost and found – our cafeteria, front office and the box outside Mr. Lippy's office (B-113).



The front office has a number of house keys, so if your child has misplaced his/her house key, have them come take a peek.

## PERFORMANCE NOTES



WFMS Theatre is gearing up for a great show: **Willy Wonka!** Our show runs **April 2nd and April 3rd**. The show begins at 7:30 pm in our gymnasium. Tickets will be sold at the door. We have a cast of over 60 people. This is going to be one you DON'T want to miss!

## STAFF KUDOs

Congratulations to sixth grade science teacher, Mrs. Staley, on receiving a service award from the Education Commission for the City of Frederick. She was recognized for her work with WFMS students and the ThorpeWood program.

## MSA INFORMATION

Our eighth grade students will be taking the Science MSA beginning April 22.

## THANK YOU to our WFMS PTSA !!

We thank the WFMS PTSA for providing two Cultural Arts opportunities for our students during the month of April. (Our third cultural arts program is in May.) On Wednesday, April 1, our eighth grade students will be treated to The Maryland Shakespeare Festival's performance of *Shakespeare Alive! Will Power!* On Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, our seventh grade students will watch a performance by *Step Afrika!*

## SCIENCE CORNER

The West Frederick Middle School 2009 Science Fair was a huge success! Held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, the science fair gave our students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of scientific processes and skills. Investigations were completed independently or by teams, and results were displayed in a public forum. We had an excellent group of judges that included parent volunteers and employees from Ft. Detrick. Judges evaluated the projects with an emphasis on the scientific method and judging criteria that was aligned to compliment county competition. The judges were specifically asked to write comments which would help each student to improve for county level competition or future projects. Students who received 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Honorable Mentions have been encouraged by their science teachers to register their projects for the county's Science and Engineering Fair. The 2009 Fair was held on March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at Walkersville Middle School. Our student projects were well prepared and did very well at the county's higher level of academic competition.

The following students received awards at the Frederick County Middle School Science & Engineering Fair on March 27th and 28th, 2009:

- 6th Grader Nathaniel Anderson - 2nd Place in Behavioral and Social Sciences
- 6th Graders Amanda Tang & Swathi Penumuthu - 3rd Place in Biochemistry
- 8th Grader Brock Chamberlain - 3rd Place in Chemistry
- 8th Grader Tristan Canter - Honorable Mention in Chemistry
- 6th Grader Abigail Brady - 3rd Place in Environmental Science
- 7th Grader Madelyne Xiao - Honorable Mention in Microbiology
- 6th Grader Samantha Nelson - 1st Place in Physics and Astronomy

Please congratulate these students! WFMS is VERY proud of them! Thanks!

## NURSE'S CORNER

Many people today suffer from allergies. This occurs not only at school, but also at home and in the community. Allergic reactions can be as mild as a runny nose, or they can be severe very severe and cause difficulty breathing. It is important if you or your child does have allergies that you are aware of the possible triggers (items that provoke a reaction).

Seasonal allergies and severe life threatening allergies are an abnormal immune system reaction to things (allergens) that are typically harmless. If you are allergic to something, your immune system mistakenly believes that this substance is harmful to your body. In an attempt to protect the body, the immune system produces antibodies to that allergen. These antibodies cause certain cells in the body to release chemicals into the blood stream called histamines. This histamine reaction is what causes allergic symptoms such as sneezing and watery, itchy eyes or even hives, throat tightness and difficulty breathing (anaphalaxis).

Avoiding identified allergens is critical for people who suffer from **severe** allergies.

People who may be susceptible to anaphylaxis should make it a point to become educated about the allergen. For example, those with insect stings allergies should carry emergency medication while outdoors; those with food allergies should inquire about food ingredients prior to ingestion; and those with latex allergies need to find out which products contain latex.

It is best to consult with your doctor for the proper treatment of severe allergies.

If your child requires any medication to treat allergies while in school, be sure that the proper medication authorization form (found at [www.fcps.org](http://www.fcps.org) or in the health room) is completed by your child's health care provider, signed by a parent and brought to the health room for the registered nurse's approval. If you have any questions please feel free to call your child's health room at 240-236-4059. Thank you, Carol Forbes, RN / School Nurse

[www.kidshealth.org/teen/diseases\\_conditions/allergies-immune/allergies](http://www.kidshealth.org/teen/diseases_conditions/allergies-immune/allergies)

## Yearbook Update

Attention WFMS. In an effort to assist students in purchasing a yearbook, we have decided to do one more presale. The sale will run from April 14<sup>th</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup>. The cost will be \$29.00 per book. Personalization is NOT available. This is your final chance to pre-order and secure a yearbook for this school year. After this sale, books will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Order forms will be coming home soon!

## ACADEMY News

Thanks to a \$600 grant from Target, 6th grade Academy students will be attending a field trip to the Maryland Science Center in April. Target provides funds to cover field-trip expenses to 5,000 schools throughout the country each year and we are proud to have been chosen for this unique opportunity for our students. Thank you, Target! Jane Hatcher

## RENZULLI News

Please kindly congratulate the following students for their outstanding participation in Frederick History Day at Linganore High School this past Saturday.

Sixth graders:

- Andrew Smith
- Kathryn Janisiewicz

Seventh graders:

- Lily Miller
- Natalie Cook and Jacqueline Baidoo
- Madeline Macharsky

Lily won a special award from the Bechtel Corporation for her exhibit, "Alexander Fleming Saves the World."

Kathryn and Natalie will advance to the state competition. Kathryn performed a monologue on the life of Emily Dickinson; Natalie and Jacqueline created a website on the life of Helen Keller. The state competition is on April 25th at UMBC. Judy Reilly

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration Information

It's time to start planning for the Grade 8 year end celebration.

Where: Baker Park

Date and Time: Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 - 2:30

Students will enjoy games, crafts, and just hanging out with friends. Parent volunteers and donations are needed. Letters were sent home with each eighth grader on Monday, March 30, 2009. Complete the permission slip and return it with your student by April 17<sup>th</sup>. Please note: students who consistently violate the WFMS hallway behavior rules (WALK), will not be allowed to participate. Direct questions or comments to Mrs. Gillett Palmer, 240-236-4005.

## PTSA Corner

### PTSA Meeting Calendar

Our next meeting will be held **April 20 at 7 pm in Modular C** and a slate of officers for next year's PTSA will be presented. At our last PTSA meeting on **May 11** we will elect our PTSA officers for next year.

### Upcoming Events

The PTSA is proud to present three dynamic **Cultural Arts Programs** for our students.

- 6th Grade - Fabulous Chinese Acrobats - May 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m., WFMS gymnasium
- 7th Grade - Step Afrika (yes, with a K) - April 14th, 8:15 a.m., WFMS gymnasium
- 8th Grade - Shakespeare Alive - April 1, 8:15 a.m., WFMS gymnasium

**A special thanks to the WFMS staff and PTSA who organized this series of cultural events -- Dottie Wood, Ginny Hines, Kaye Stefanick and Judith Reilly, and PTSA Cultural Arts chair, Claudia Nealley. Please contact Claudia at 301-662-9576 if you can help the day of the program. Thanks also to all**

the WFMS families who supported our fundraising efforts which made these programs possible.

**FHS SAFE and SANE - The Big Sweep Event, April 25<sup>th</sup>** This fundraising event for FHS's Safe and Sane celebration "turns trash into cash." By making a tax exempt donation you sponsor a student to clean up trash along roads in our area and watershed while raising money for students to attend their celebration at Adventure Park at no cost. If you want to make a pledge or get more information, contact Betsy Fisher at 301-663-8662 or visit <http://www.firstgiving.com/fhssafeandsane> by April 22.

### Volunteers Needed

The PTSA will focus on next year's PTSA leadership. If you're **interested in being an officer or committee chair for next year's PTSA**, please contact Kevin Kusmider at [kevinkusmider@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinkusmider@yahoo.com), Maribeth Visco at [mb@klinescottvisco.com](mailto:mb@klinescottvisco.com), or talk to someone you know who is a current member of the Executive Board. The PTSA Executive Board is made up of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, a volunteer coordinator and chairs for membership, fundraising, staff appreciation, and cultural arts. A slate of nominations will be presented at the April PTSA meeting. However, interested candidates can submit their name at the May meeting before the vote.

**Volunteers are needed to chaperone and provide drinks** for a school-wide dance on **April 24 from 6-8 pm**. This dance is sponsored by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student council in their efforts to raise money for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance on May 29. If you can help out on April 24, please

contact staff member Karen Wishner at [Karen.wishner@fcps.org](mailto:Karen.wishner@fcps.org).

**Thanks to the parents who donated drinks** for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student council's school dance on March 20.

### **Great News from our PTSA ...**

- They are almost at 60% of their proposed monetary goal for the year w/ more fundraisers to come!
- A cultural Arts Program for each grade level has been funded
- MSA incentives (daily and end-of-testing) have been funded = \$900
- MSA snacks (daily) have been funded = \$790
- Target incentive awarded to WFMS = \$250
- April eat out fundraiser at Poblano's or Pizza Blitz - more info to come
- *May, 2009 eat out fundraiser at Rita's - we get 20% of all sales for the entire day (if the WFMS fundraiser flyer is turned in when ordering/paying) - Dan Lippy & Denise Flora will both be working behind the counter, serving to our community, families, students, and staff after school that day - this is a MUST NOT MISS fundraiser*
- Teacher Appreciation week (May 4-8) will feature a breakfast and a luncheon
- PTSA wants to help organize, fund, and volunteer at grade-level end-of-the-year incentives. They would like team communicators to start the discussion process and develop a plan that can be approved by admin and then brought to the PTSA Executive Board. They would like to have this completed early so that they can purchase items, get donations, etc. The May meeting is on the 11th, so let's set May 6th as the deadline for getting your approved grade-level incentive plans completed.
- Approx 80% of the monetary goals of our PTSA go directly to our students! Lois Roney