

Wingate Elementary News

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September 3, 2019



Growing Together with Curious Minds and Kind Hearts

Be Safe ~ Be Kind ~ Be Persistent ~ Be a Problem Solver

September Calendar & Upcoming Events

Monday, September 2 nd	No School – Labor Day
Tuesday, September 3 rd	Explorer 100% Donation Drive begins
Tuesday, September 10 th	School Picture Day
Wednesday, September 11 th	Parent Engagement Meeting & PTA Meeting 6 pm
Monday, September 16 th	No School for Students – Educator Effectiveness Day
Tuesday, September 17 th	No School for Students – Teacher Workday
Friday, September 27 th	Fun Friday and Wingate Spirit Wear Day
Monday, September 30 th	Explorer 100% Donation Drive ends

Wingate's School Focus 2019-2020

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend this year's parent information night(s)! We appreciate your support. We also realize the life can be busy, which presents challenges – especially in the evening as parents try to navigate work, activities and meals. If you missed it, please take a moment to read over our continued focus around literacy instruction this year:

- Writing instruction with a focus on engaging writers.
 - K-2 Phonics Instruction
- Balanced Literacy - with district purchased curricular resources (continued focus from last year.)



With a school wide focus on literacy, teacher teams had an opportunity to develop beliefs about writing instruction at Wingate. The articulation of core beliefs allows teachers to align instructional practices directly to those beliefs. There were some common threads across all grade levels:

- Young writers need **TIME** to write **EVERYDAY!**
- Direct, explicit writing instruction is necessary for our young writers.
- Writing should be authentic, meaningful and engaging. We do this by providing **VOICE** and **CHOICE** for students' writing.
- Young writers need a **PURPOSE** for writing and must have opportunities to talk about and share their writing.

PTA and Parent Engagement Meeting

Please join us on Wednesday, September 11th for our quarterly Parent Engagement (formerly known as "SAC") and PTA meetings. The Parent Engagement Meeting, which will run from 6:00-6:45, will present the opportunity for you to learn more about Wingate's growth and achievement data as well as how that data aligns to our school goals. This will be a great opportunity to get a deeper dive into our school data and to ask questions and provide input from a parent perspective. Stick around from 6:45-7:30 for our first PTA meeting of the year. We will discuss upcoming events and fundraisers. Childcare will be provided.

Artist in Residence


Please welcome our new Artist in Residence, Robyn Kinnick, to the Wingate team. Mrs. Kinnick is a former Wingate parent and has spent time as the Artist in Residence/Art Heritage Coordinator at Rocky Mountain Elementary. She has also spent time teaching art in New Zealand. We are so excited to have Mrs. Kinnick join our Wingate community!

News from the School Counselor

Hello from the Counseling Department! I hope your year is off to a great start. In September, 5th grade will be reviewing and revising goals they set at the end of 4th grade. We will also begin our yearlong learning about coping skills during emotional times. 4th grade will read the book, *I Am Human*, and discuss how each of us is human. This will be a launching pad for our yearlong learning about our emotional spectrum. 3rd grade has already started learning about HA HA SO, a strategy for dealing with interpersonal relationship problems. We will learn about appropriately using humor to defuse situations. 2nd graders will revisit their writing about coming to 2nd grade, which they wrote about last May. We will compare those expected feelings with how they are feeling now. 1st graders will start a unit of study on Growth Mindset, including writing our own books! Throughout the year in Kindergarten, we are working on emotional awareness, expanding our emotional vocabulary and friendship.

What do teachers do on days when students do not attend?

As you know, students do not have school on September 16th and 17th. Even though students are not in attendance, teachers have specific responsibilities to fulfill on those days. September 16th is *Educator Effectiveness Day*. Each year teachers are evaluated using a state rubric. Part of a teacher's evaluation is to set professional goals as well as student learning goals. The process of setting meaningful goals is time consuming, but also can have positive impacts on student growth. Therefore, we ask that parents do not request meetings with teachers on September 16th. September 17th is a Teacher Workday. On Teacher Workdays, many teachers work in teams in order to collaboratively plan grade level units. Teacher availability varies on Teacher Workdays and parent meetings are at the discretion of the teacher.

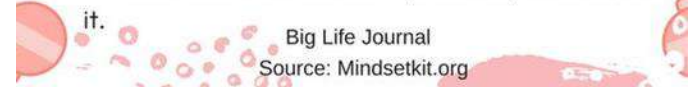


HOW TO PRAISE YOUR KIDS

#GROWTHMINDSET
biglifejournal.com

- ★ Great effort! You must have **worked** really **hard**.
- ★ You really **studied** for your test and your **improvement** shows it.
- ★ I like the way you tried all kinds of **strategies** on that math problem until you finally got it.
- ★ I love the way you stayed at your desk, you kept your concentration, and you **kept on** working.
- ★ Wow, you really **practiced** that, and look how you've **improved**.
- ★ See, you **studied** more and your grade on this test is higher.
- ★ You tried **different strategies** and you figured out how to **solve the problem**.
- ★ You **stuck to this** and now you really understand it.

Big Life Journal
Source: Mindsetkit.org



Coat Hooks Thank You

A special thank you goes out to a group of dedicated dads who put time and money into the installation of new coat/backpack hooks in our 2nd grade classrooms. Thank you to Sean Steimel, Aaron Tice, and Nick Santos.



