

Principal's Pen

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I cannot believe that we are over halfway through the school year. I love W.Z.E.S!

We still have a lot of work ahead of us. A few months from now, our faculty and staff will begin to meet to make recommendations for student placements for next year. Many factors will be taken into consideration as we strive to put together equitable and balanced classrooms. This equity and balance will ensure that we provide each student with the best learning environment possible. We will look at the individual academic needs, behavioral and emotional needs, Individual Education Plans, Progress Monitoring Plans, etc. We will use this information to make the best educational decision/placement for your child. Any input that you would like to offer will be taken into consideration as we make these decisions. Please note that we are unable to accept parent requests for specific teachers.

Actual teacher grade level assignments for next year are subject to change. Once state/ district budgets are finalized and we know how many teacher allocations we will receive, we will then be able to determine teacher grade level assignments. We expect to have everything in place by the end of May.

I want to thank you for your support. It is a pleasure to work closely with each of you. Don't hesitate to call with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Wendy Lane, Principal W.Z.E.S

# **Upcoming Events**

| 2/11-15<br>2/12<br>2/13 | Domino's Pizza Week<br>Kiwanis SuperkidsI<br>Picture Day |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2/15                    | Sundance Celebrity Readers                               |
| ≈/ 10                   |  |
|                         | Earth Patrol to Zephyr Park                              |
|                         | PTA Dance Café 6:00 P.M.                                 |
|                         | Reading Rally 4:30 P.M.                                  |
| 2/18                    | No School  |
| 2/20                    | Citizen of the Month                                     |
| 2/21                    | Sunshine State BK Bingo                                  |
| 2/21-22                 | Students Visit Farm on the Hill                          |
| 2/22                    | Volunteer Luncheon                                       |
|                         | SAC Mtg '7:30 A.M.                                       |
| 2/25                    | Student of the Month 7:30 A.M.                           |
| 2/26-28                 | Star Lab Parent Night 5-7 P.M.                           |
|                         | FCAT Writing, 4th Graders                                |

## **Miss Buckler's Class Rocks!**

Congratulations to Ms. Buckler's class for having the most families participate in the Family Nights Dominos's Pizza Week. Her class has won the pizza party for the month of January 2013!! Way to go!

# The Bulldog Dash

All students in grades K-12 are invited to attend the first Annual Bulldog Dash on Saturday, February 9th. The cost to participate is \$10.00. All students who participate will receive a t-shirt.

# **Invention Convention Winners**

W.Z.E.S had a great turnout for the invention convention. We would like to congratulate the following students for their hard work.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Emily Mayville, Natalee Mason, Ruthie Hay, Dalton Davis, Aniyah Torres, Danny Wade, Emily Kirk Alyssa Perez

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Jarek Piankowski, Konner Vest, Weston Oakley, Kayla Dye Evlyn Woody/Taniaalexis Arce-Figueroa, Hannah Yeomans, Joshua Forster Curtis Hambrick

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Dakota Boydston, Jacksen Woods, Gloria Harrison, Savannah Baptist Abby Wilder, Cassandra Perrini Hannah Corrigan, Benjamin Rodriguez, Sarah Hamilton

## **Beanie Baby Sale!**

W.Z.E.S had a successful beanie baby sale. Thank you to the 2nd grade pod for assisting. All proceeds benefit the W.Z.E.S Relay for Life team.

# **Reading Rally!**

Have you ever seen a dog in the Media Center? On Friday, February 15, you

will! Come meet Chip, the Therapy Dog, and his friends at our Reading Rally. Hear about how Chip and other therapy dogs help people. Our families and Chip will also be listening to their favorite stories about dogs, telling dog jokes, having a snack , and taking Accelerated



Reader tests. We will also make an informational craft, practice I PICK, and check out books. Plan to join us for a 'howling' good time! The time is 4:30-6:30 p.m. right before the school dance. WZES is the place to be . Come join us!

# Georgia O'Keefe Inspired Art <u>Exhibit</u>

Pasco County Visual Arts classes have assembled a traveling exhibit of student artwork from all ages. This exhibit showcases the visual arts learner from early years of artistic development through college and career preparation. Students created artwork based on the artist, Georgia O'Keefe.

The artwork will first be displayed at the Pasco County Fair in February and then be displayed in March at the Pasco Arts Council in New Port Richey. The exhibit will then travel to the School District Offices in Land O'Lakes and be returned by mid-May to the student artists.

This art gallery collection of Georgia O'Keefe inspired artwork includes work by the following WZES students: Tanialexis Arce-Figueroa, Sara Alexander, Kayce Straughn, Brittany Sanborn, Trinity Exum, Nellie Cruz, Lina Liu, Samarah Watson, Heather Heister, Gabrielle Torres, Daniel Ashmore and Norah Catlin.

# <u>Congratulations Art Dept.!</u>

The Art Department recently was awarded a grant from the Suncoast Arts Fest. The grant money will fund the purchase of plaster mask-making materials for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Thank you to the Suncoast Arts organization for their support of art teachers through grant opportunities for their classrooms!

# Open Enrollment For School <u>Choice</u>

Open Enrollment for School Choice will be **February 1st to March 1st, 2013.** All applications will need to be completed online. If you do not have access to a computer please contact our front office or visit the public library. Each child wishing to be considered for school choice will need to complete **separate applications.** Applications that list multiple students will be considered incomplete and will not be considered. If you have a student **currently** on School Choice, you do not need to reapply UNLESS:

1. Your address changed after initial approval

- 2. You reside outside of Pasco County OR
- 3. If the student will be moving to the next school level (Elementary to Middle OR Middle to High)

Our goal for requests received by the Open Enrollment deadline is to have determinations to the parents of high school students by May 1st , middle school and elementary school by the end of the current school year. However, our ability to meet these goals will greatly depend on volume of requests received.

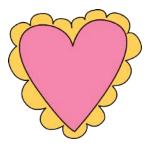
Please visit the Student Services web site (http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ studentservices/school\_choice/) to access the School Choice Open Enrollment

Guidelines and the approved School Choice Open Enrollment plan, approved by the Florida Department of Education, for detailed information regarding Open Enrollment School Choice.

# Fifth Grade is sponsoring a fundraiser to help with the Fifth Grade Field Trip:

Get your valentine a stuffed animal!

Only 50 cents! WZES Cafeteria (on the stage) Mon., Feb. 4th - Wed., Feb. 13th 8:20 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.



# About Our Teacher Of The Year

Robin Carter began teaching in Pasco County 6 years ago. She began her teaching career here at W.Z.E.S after graduating from Saint Leo University in 2007. Along with being a Saint Leo graduate, she also attended West Zephyrhills Elementary School (where Mrs. Tidd was her Kindergarten teacher), Stewart Middle School, and graduated from Zephyrhills High School in 2003. Mrs. Carter has been featured in PETV as a 21st Century educator for using technology with kindergarten students.

She is the Clover Bud leader of West Oinkers 4H club, a member of the Pasco County Fair Dairy Committee, and volunteers with Tranquil Paws Therapy Dogs, an organization that brings dogs to nursing homes, schools, and libraries. Mrs. Carter says her favorite thing about being a teacher is "the kiddos." She "loves teaching kindergarten and seeing the kid's growth throughout the year."

She loves to learn new things and always seems to be trying something new either in her teaching, with 4H, or at home. She recently received a \$500 grant to teach 4H students about beekeeping and to start a bee hive.

She is very grateful to have been selected as the 2013 teacher of the year. W.Z.E.S has so many wonderful teacher s She considers it a great honor to have been chosen among them.



*Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Winner-Holmes, Teacher and SRP of the Year 2013* 

## About Our SRP Of The Year

Karen Winner-Holmes was born and raised in a small community located on the Ohio River in Pennsylvania. She is the third oldest of seven children. Ever since she can remember she wanted to teach, however, she found herself in the banking field for over 18 years.

Her early adult life was spent raising 3 sons; Gary, a probation officer; Sean, a financial attorney; and Kevin, an insurance adjustor.

She became Mrs. Holmes in 1995 and moved back to Napeville, IL where she decided to go back to school for teaching. She earned her Associate's degree in Early Childhood education at the College of DuPage. After graduating, she worked at the college in their pre-k program.

When Florida became home to all three of her children and grandchildren she and her husband, Dave, decided to move to Florida to be closer to family.

In 2004, she began work at W.Z.E.S in the Head Start program. She then moved on

to a position as an instructional assistant for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. She is currently the Guidance Secretary for the ESE Department and is approaching her 10th year at W.Z.E.S.

Her favorite past time is spending time with her grandchildren. She says, "They keep me young and involved in their sporting events." She also loves to read, sew, and paint. She also likes to look for "treasures" to refurbish with her husband, Dave.

She is honored to be named the SRP of the year and thanks her co-workers for their support.

#### **Volunteer News!**

WZES Volunteers and Community Partners are invited to attend our Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, February 22 at 11:30 A.M.

Please contact our school's volunteer coordinator, Becky Bishop, for more details at 813-794-6307





Pasco County's vision is "To Create a community which works together so all Pasco County students will reach their highest potential." For more information about the county's Vision/Strategic Plan, please visit <u>www.pasco.k12.fl.us</u>

> Superintendent: Kurt Browning School Board Members: Allen Altman Cynthia Armstrong Alison Crumbley Joanne Hurley Steve Luikart

