



Cheetah Family News

2019-2020 School Year

(615) 472-4300

December 13th, 2019

1000 Secluded Lane

Dear Parents,

Winter break is right around the corner and I know our students are ready for a well-deserved break. We still have a week of learning sprinkled with some fun school wide activities. Our annual **Jingle Bell Walk** will be held on Thursday, December 19, from 8:15-8:45. Please join in the community fun by wearing a bell and sipping some cider with us, as you walk your child to school. Our monthly awards assembly will follow this event and culminate with a performance from our wonderful chorus. Since Thursday is a half day, dismissal will begin at 12:10.

We want to take this time to thank you for giving us the opportunity to learn from your children. They are each special and bring joy and promise to our school community. Every smile, laugh, and flicker of wonder renews our spirit and helps us remember that life is here to be enjoyed and discovered. May you have a wonderful holiday filled with laughter and love. See you in 2020!

- Dr. Garrett &
Mrs. Johnson



IMPORTANT DATES

December 19th-Jingle Bell Walk to School Day & ½ day of school for students

December 20th-January 5th-Winter Break

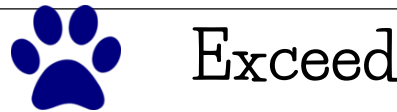
January 6th-Students return



"Jingle Bell Walk" to School Day

On Thursday, December 19th, we will have our annual Jingle Bell Walk to School Day in order to promote a healthy lifestyle. Students are encouraged to wear jingle bells and holiday attire to celebrate the season. Dr. Garrett and Mrs. Johnson will be serving up hot apple cider to participants and their families. It will be a fun way to unify our student body and emphasize the importance of daily activity. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate, and it will be a crisp, dry morning. For those that need to cross Duplex, we have a crossing guard that will be there in the morning and afternoon.

See you on the path!



Cheetah Council's Winter Warmth Drive



The Cheetah Council Winter Warmth Drive



We are collecting the following donations for the Homeless people of Nashville:

scarves, gloves, Hand Warmers,
canvas/drawstring bags & backpacks.

If you would like to donate, please send items to school December 2-17th!

There is a tree at the top of the main stairwell near the balcony overlooking the foyer.
Please take a clothespin and clip your item to the tree!

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Cowan at elizabethc1@wcs.edu.



This month we are working on **Habit 4: Think Win Win!** Thinking Win-Win, or always thinking about another as well as yourself, is one of the great mental habits we can teach our kids. Life isn't just about me, and it's not just about you—it's about both of us. Parents, please take time to discuss this habit at home, and join us on our journey as we strive to help every kid be a happy kid!

Habit 4:

Think Win-Win

I Win, YOU Win, WE Win

I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want.



I make deposits into others' Emotional Bank Accounts.

When conflicts arise, I look for third alternatives.

This Week's Technology Tip

As we approach the end of the 2nd nine weeks it's important to check Skyward for grades and updates. Have you set up your mobile Skyward app? What about having Skyward notices send to your email? Skyward is a wonderful way to stay in touch with your child's teacher, receive notices of grade updates, and stay connected with your child.

Knowing what assignments they have is a wonderful conversation starter and a great way to let them know you care about their schoolwork! Instead of having to ask what they did at school today you can ask how they did on the multiplication assignment. If you have not activated your Skyward account, please stop by the front office.

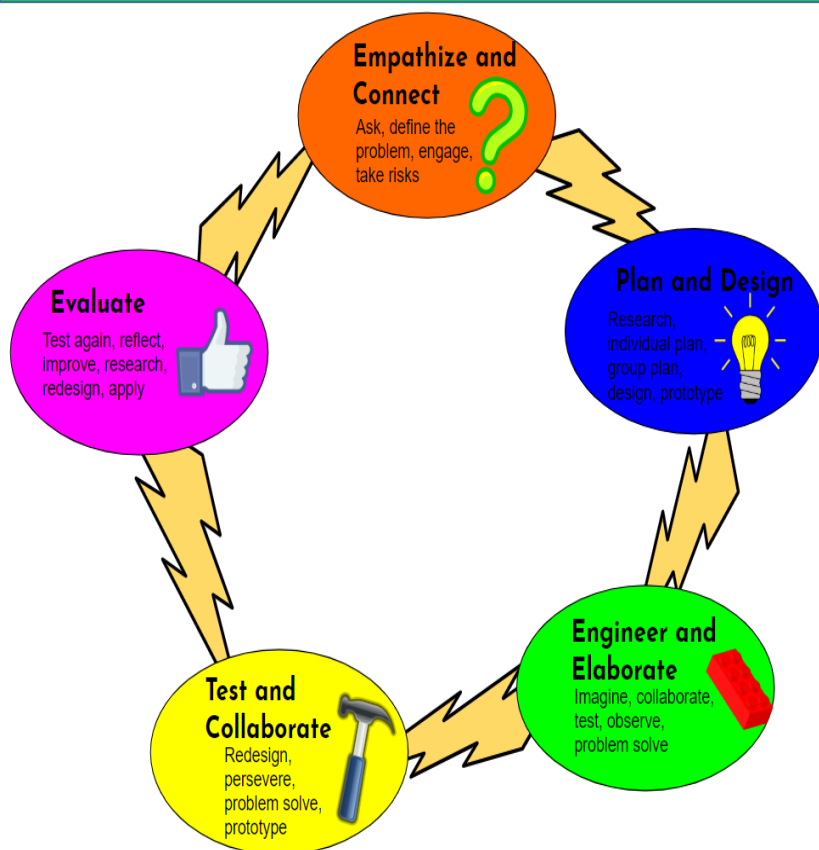


Skyward Help Documents

<https://www.wcs.edu/district/departments/tla/instructional/skyward/>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Gz-NJ9AppEoEscp2MaC-ulPfnAifuSb7/view>

The Engineering Model



Each part of the engineering model is important. During our second STEM Day we will be focusing on the REDESIGN process. Redesigning is often a struggle for students because they feel they have completed the task the first time so it's difficult to see how they should change their prototype a second time. However, the redesign step demonstrates the ability to collaborate and discuss what areas failed and could be improved. Collaborating with others allows students to share ideas and discover different points of view while deepening their sense of empathy. We are excited to see how redesigning impacts our students and community during our second STEM Day!



I hope everyone has a safe and restful break. If anyone is interested in creating over the break I am supplying a winter break drawing challenge.



The Art Room Buzz



With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it can be difficult to keep the kids entertained during vacation. Below is a list of art ideas and drawing activities for your student to complete over break; one of each day of vacation. (Feel free to modify the activities for younger students).

If your student completes and brings ALL of them into the art teacher on the first day back from break, they will enter a contest for prizes. Everyone will get a little something for participating!

Happy Holidays!

December 24th - Draw things that float. See how many you can draw on one sheet of paper.

December 25th - Draw someone who is generous to you. What did they give you? A hug? A smile? A gift?

December 26th - Draw the most beautiful day you can imagine and use only three colors.

December 27th - Create your own game board on a piece of paper. Bonus points for creating a set of rules and pieces to use, so you can actually play the game.

December 28th - Draw life from a fly's point of view.

December 29th - Draw a picture of your dream bedroom.

December 30th - Draw a picture of your favorite cartoon figure (NO TRACING!)

December 31st - Draw something yummy you ate over break. Don't forget to use color!

January 1st - Draw one thing you hope will happen in the new year.

January 2nd - Draw a picture of the first thing you want to do when summer comes.



A Note from our Counselors...

We are happy to work alongside teachers and parents to help students develop socially and emotionally while working toward removing barriers they have in learning.

How can we support parents?

- Helping to handle social or emotional concerns you have about your child
- Improving parent-child communication
- Family difficulties or concerns that affect your child at school
- Referrals for community resources
- Discussing concerns about your child's academic achievement

What types of things do we talk with students about in class and in counseling?

- Making and keeping friends
- Setting goals
- Teamwork
- Feeling good about yourself
- Making good choices
- Being responsible
- Managing strong feelings
- Coping skills and conflict resolution

How does a student see a school counselor?

- Self-referral
- Parent referral
- Administrative, teacher, or other staff referral
- Referral by a friend

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

If you would like to make a parent referral for your child to speak with a school counselor you may contact us directly or complete this online referral form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3DEXytfvt06bcH7gTrtRoxY70mCneg9JtDty4tMkMzNUQldCNFhaNTVOSlpHUUpSVlpMVEFUVIM2VC4u>

A counselor will be in touch with your child's teacher to determine the best opportunity to meet with the student.

- **LAST NAME A-M:**
Mrs. Sheila Koependoerfer
sheila.koependoerfer@wcs.edu
- **LAST NAME N-Z:**
Mrs. Kara Buckner
kara.buckner@wcs.edu

Confidentiality and your family's privacy are important to us. What you or your child discuss with a counselor is private except in cases required by law (when abuse or neglect are suspected) or when a counselor is given permission to share.*



Health News from WCS



With widespread cases of flu being reported across Tennessee, parents are encouraged to review the [Williamson County Schools Illness Guidelines](#) when deciding whether a student should go to school or stay at home.

In addition to seasonal flu, school nurses are seeing students with respiratory viruses, stomach viruses, and strep throat.

Here are some important considerations for parents when making the decision to keep a student at home:

- A student should be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school. If your child has a temperature of 100.0 or above, do not send them to school. Do not give your child Tylenol or Advil and send them to school if you suspect they are coming down with something.
- When antibiotics are prescribed, students must wait 24 hours before returning to school, regardless of whether they have a doctor's note.
- A student should not experience any signs of diarrhea/vomiting within 24 hours of school start time. If a student vomits in the evening, don't send them to school the next morning. Students should be symptom-free and able to tolerate regular food.
- If your child is coughing uncontrollably, they should stay home or seek advice from a health care provider. An uncontrollable cough is disruptive to the classroom, and it is difficult to manage the spread of germs.

Student absences related to illness are excused with documentation from a parent for up to eight days. After eight days, parents need to provide a doctor's note to the school attendance office.

Williamson County schools are following [guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) to help reduce the spread of seasonal influenza, including the routine cleaning of surfaces and allowing extra hand-washing time in student schedules.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school nurse or the health services department.

December 3rd,

2019 | Categories: [District](#) | Tags: [health](#), [illness](#), [wcs](#), [williamson county schools](#)