



# Cheetah Family News

## 2019-2020 School Year

(615) 472-4300

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019

1000 Secluded Lane

Happy Fall Parents,

I have already obtained quite a few parent requests for student absences from school. Please refer to the information below regarding the State and WCS attendance policies.

### Chapman's Retreat Attendance Policy 2019-2020

Consistent attendance and punctuality are a cornerstone of student progress and success. When students are repeatedly absent from school or are frequently tardy, they are at risk of missing explicit instruction and valuable purposeful practice guided by the teacher. We utilize every instructional day, hour, and moment to facilitate student understanding and mastery of the TN academic standards.

The new Tennessee Department of Education Accountability Regulations (ESSA) defines students as "Chronically Absent" after 18 absences per year, regardless of whether they were excused or unexcused. Students who accumulate 18 or more absences will be considered "Chronically Absent" and reported to the state.

In accordance with the Tennessee Truancy state guidelines for schools, Williamson County Schools has implemented a three-tiered system to monitor attendance. Parents will be notified as **unexcused absences** accumulate to proactively support truancy concerns.

- 3 unexcused absences: Parents will be contacted via email or phone.
- 5 unexcused absences: Principal will meet with student and parents to create a plan to ensure consistent attendance.

Additional unexcused absences will require the student and parents to attend a regional truancy awareness meeting hosted by the WCS truancy officer.

### Excused Absences

Excused absences include: illness, death in the family, recognized religious holiday, doctor or dentist appointment, and/or emergency/exceptional

circumstances with principal approval. The principal has the authority to approve up to 8 absences per year (4 each semester). This includes absences for illness or trips. The Tennessee State Truancy Law (TN Code Annotated 496-3007) states that absences beyond 10 days per school year are automatically unexcused, unless medical documentation is provided to the school within 48 hours of the student's return.

### Written Documentation

The Williamson County School Board Policy 6.200 requires written parental or medical documentation for all absences, tardies, and early dismissals. This documentation ensures that all school personnel are accurately informed about your child. All absences are considered "unexcused" until a note is received, preferably within 48 hours of the students return to school.

Parents may also send an email with all necessary information to the teacher or attendance secretary, Heather Curtis: [heather.curtis@wcs.edu](mailto:heather.curtis@wcs.edu). Absence notes should include:

Child's name, Teacher's name, Grade, Date of absence, Reason for absence, Parent/ guardian signature, and Doctor's note attached (if applicable)

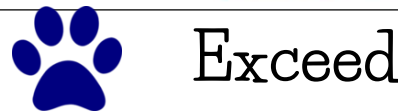
### Family Trips

In response to the New Tennessee Department of Education Accountability Regulations, WCS schools will be more conservative than in the past regarding excused absences due to family trips. Please schedule trips during school breaks.

- October 10-11<sup>th</sup>- Fall Break
- December 20 - January 3 Winter Break
- March 16-20 Spring Break

Family trips taken when school is in session will not be excused, except for extenuating circumstances which will require approval from the principal.

- Dr. Garrett



# IMPORTANT DATES

October 2<sup>nd</sup>- Walk to School Day

October 4<sup>th</sup>- CRES Spirit Night at Summit Football Game

October 5<sup>th</sup>- Grey Ghost 5K

October 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>- Fall Break

October 14<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>- Fall Conference window

October 18<sup>th</sup>- Report Cards go home and Cheetah Chase Pep Rally

October 25<sup>th</sup>- Fall picture make-ups

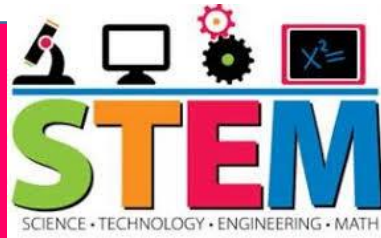


Thank you for your support at Culver's last week! We raised around \$700 for our school!

Next Friday is CRES Spirit Night at the Summit Football Game! Please save the date and keep an eye on the PTO Facebook page for more detailed information about the evening. This is always a fun evening for our students!

THE **best** WAY  
TO PREDICT  
YOUR FUTURE IS TO  
**create it.**

ABRAHAM LINCOLN



The Learning Commons and STEM Day need your help! The following items will be used in various grade level activities on our first school-wide STEM day on October 4<sup>th</sup>. If you're willing to donate any of the following items, please send them to the office, labeled "STEM Day supplies" and we'll get them to where they need to go!

- Cotton balls
- Bubble wrap
- Mini flashlights
- Red solo cups
- Popsicle sticks
- Tape
- Straws
- Notecards
- paperclips





Chapman's Retreat Elementary School will join schools from around the world to celebrate International Walk to School Day on **October 2, 2019**.

We are encouraging as many students, parents, and teachers to walk to school on this day. The event will begin at 8:20, with students, parents, and teachers walking or biking to school. Teachers in the past have met their students on the trail at the bridge and walked the rest of the distance with them.

Walk to School Day events raise awareness of the need to create safer routes for walking and bicycling and emphasize the importance of issues such as increasing physical activity among children, pedestrian safety, traffic congestion and concern for the environment. The events build connections between families, schools and the broader community.

For those that need to cross Duplex, we have a crossing guard that will be there in the morning and afternoon.

The crossing guard will be assisting walkers to cross the road from 8:15 to 8:45 in the morning and then 3:40 to 4:10 in the afternoon.

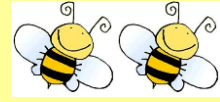
# READ



**THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!**

To all the parents, parent volunteers, family members, staff, and community members who made the Book Fair such a success. We reached 89% of our goal!! We sold 1,441 out of our goal of 1,625 books!

The funds we raised will go toward updating our library's collection and for our STEM initiative. I am hard at work revitalizing our Non-Fiction section and you have helped to make it happen. With the "All for the Books" change round up initiative we were able to buy 11 titles to add to the library collection!



## The Buzz from the Art Room

Fall has arrived in the art room!

Kindergarten is busy learning the variety of media we utilize in the art room. We are focusing on color and lines with the new media.

First Grade is continuing to learn about collage, not to be confused with college, which is where students go after they graduate.

Second and Third Grades are exploring pattern and texture and how that affects the visual weight of a composition.

Fourth Grade is painting with brushes and glue bottles exploring new ways of creating art.

Fifth Graders are learning about Surrealism and how the art form is impacting careers in different fields today.



### Art Room Needs:

We continue to need magazines, clorox wipes, and extra LEGOS. In keeping with the emphasis on STEM, I am creating extra project boxes that students can experiment with after they complete their assignment. One of those is a Lego design challenge



## artsonia UPDATE

We are beginning to upload finished projects to our digital portfolios on Artsonia. Most students have permission to upload their own artwork and create their Artist Statements for their fan clubs. If you are learning about the Artsonia gallery for the first time this year, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or, if you need information on your child's gallery. Artsonia should have sent you a request for your child's artwork to be viewed by the public, which is anyone with whom you share your child's code. I will be posting all our art projects on [Artsonia](#), which not only lets us share the Artwork with friends and relatives far away, but also offers us a wonderful way to earn funds for the art room through customized keepsakes. I am always happy to add artwork done at home to a student's gallery, so please don't hesitate to bring any of those special creations to me for publishing. Your child will have this digital portfolio available to them forever. I appreciate this opportunity to teach your child.

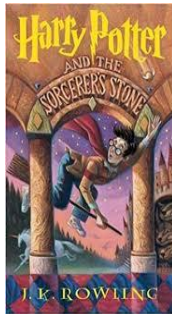
Thank you so much for all your support!

## Recorder Time!

4th and 5th graders will soon our recorder unit. If your 4th or 5th grader has a recorder at home, now is the time to bring it in to the school! All recorders will remain in the music room for the entire school year, and be returned home before summer. This just ensures that all students always have their instrument to play on music day.

4th grade families, be on the lookout for a recorder order form this week!

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone Book Club (HPBC1) will meet on Tuesday from dismissal to 5pm. We will be reading and doing activities and artwork that relate to the story. There are still spots available to any 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grader that wishes to join. Just come by the art room for a permission letter.



Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (HPBC2) is meeting on Thursdays from dismissal to 5pm. All available spots have been taken.



Let's see what the rest of our Cheetahs are up to in the music room!

3rd graders have been reviewing orff instrument technique: holding mallets correctly, playing in the center of the bar, and removing bars carefully. We even began improvising melodies to a poem!

2nd graders are working on percussion instrument timbres. They can listen to a sound and tell you which percussion instrument it came from!

1st Graders are in the beginning stages of learning rhythm and rests.

Kindergartners have been working hard at following a conductor, keeping a steady beat, and using our 4 voices: speak, whisper, shout and sing!

# Cheetah Council Presents: The Well Food Drive



The Cheetah Council invites you to participate in:

## The Well Food Drive

Benefitting The Well Outreach of Spring Hill

Monday, September 23 - October 9

### Items Collecting:

- Pancake mix, syrup, boxes of stuffing, cereal, canned oranges, ramen noodles, Jiffy cornbread mix, Chicken Helper meals, canned carrots, baked beans, pork and beans, salad dressings, variety pack oatmeal, 5 ounce can of tuna, cream style corn, canned chicken, 4-pack toilet paper, bar soap, and single roll paper towels

**STUDENTS WILL TURN ALL ITEMS IN TO THE LABELED BOXES OUTSIDE OF THEIR CLASSROOM.**

**LET'S SEE WHICH CLASS WILL COLLECT THE MOST DONATIONS.**

If you have any questions, you contact Liz Cowan at [elizabethc1@wcs.edu](mailto:elizabethc1@wcs.edu)



# This Week's Technology Tip

Have you checked your browser history recently? As your child uses the computer more it is important to check the browser history every so often. Internet safety is on-going process. Open a new browser tab, put your cap lock on, click the **Ctrl + H** at the same time and your browsing history tab will instantly open! It's a great shortcut that allows you to Be the Internet Awesome Parent you always wanted to be!



As many of you know, we encourage our entire school to run the **Grey Ghost 1K(\$10) or 5K(\$30)**. We have won the most participation award for the last 4 years and are hoping to keep our streak going. For every student that signs up, our school receives \$10 of their race fee. This money goes straight to the PE dept. In years past, we have been able to buy awesome new equipment for your students!!

This year's race is **October 5th!** Unlike last year, we are unable to collect registrations and race fees at the school. We did this to give our families the ability to avoid the online fee of \$3 (per runner). You are still able to mail in your registration to avoid the online fee.



**GREY GHOST 5K**



# CUB SCOUT

**Kids in K-5: Interested in Joining Cub Scouts**

Learn More and sign up at Pack 345 Fall Party!

Monday, October 7 at 6:30 PM

First Baptist Church, 5219 Main Street, Spring Hill, TN

Wear your favorite costume and come celebrate fall with snacks and games!

For more information contact Cubmaster Matt Durlin at [mattdurlin@gmail.com](mailto:mattdurlin@gmail.com) or Committee Chairman Joshua George at [joshpgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:joshpgeorge@gmail.com).

IHS THEATRE INVITES YOU TO OUR

# Princesses and HEROES EXTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2019  
10 AM - 1 PM



INDY THEATRE  
TROUPE 7038

INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL  
1775 DECLARATION WAY  
THOMPSONS STATION, IN 47179

**\$10** per child  
paid at the door

**Ticket Information  
and Reservations**

Reservations Recommended  
**BY SEPTEMBER 25**  
Email : [ihstheater@yahoo.com](mailto:ihstheater@yahoo.com)



**You will...**

- Enjoy treats and crafts alongside your favorite characters
- Be entertained by Princesses and Heroes
- Wear your favorite costume

*If you keep on believing,  
the dreams that you  
wish will come true!*



Join us Saturday, September 28th for The Princess and Hero EXTRAVAGANZA! Exciting activities and unforgettable moments are just a couple weeks away!

Come meet your favorite princesses (like Belle, Elsa and Moana!) and heroes (Spiderman, Batman, and Mr. Incredible just to name a few!). We will have delicious treats, crafts, facepainting, a heroes corner, storytime, and songs from your favorite characters! Costumes are welcomed and encouraged 😊

The cost is just \$10/child!!! You can come by any time between 10am and 1pm on Saturday, 9/28!

Reservations recommended - e-mail  
[ihstheater@yahoo.com](mailto:ihstheater@yahoo.com) by Wednesday, 9/25



## FALL SOCCER CAMP FOR KIDS IN GRADES K-8th

\*\*\*OCTOBER 10th & 11th (1-3PM)\*\*\*

Registration ends 10/1. Click the link below and mail registration form and fee to Summit High School!!!

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:f33ba83f-bcdd-4927-92c4-614e670d0514>







## Online Meal Payment Information

My School Bucks is a website for parents to pay for their child's school meals using a credit or debit card. With this online service, parents can also view a child's cafeteria purchases, make payments for their children even if they attend different schools, and set up automatic email reminders to be notified when a payment is needed. The online meal payment link can be found under "Quick Links" on our CRES website, or though the WCS app. For more information, visit <https://www.wcs.edu/district/departments/food/meal-payments/>



## Does your child ride the bus?

Please consider creating an account with the bus tracking app, Safe Stop. Information is found on the Transportation webpage.

<https://www.wcs.edu/district/departments/transportation/bus-routes/>



## WCS Joins Instagram!

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**WCS Mobile App**  
Notifications, calendars and much more!

Available on the App Store

Google play

NEW WCS TN

**WCS wants to keep you informed! Download the free WCS Mobile App and stay up-to-date with your child's school.**

The app includes access to school calendars and lunch menus to student grades and attendance reports. Users may also use the staff directory to find employee information and a Tip Line to share information with the district about issues ranging from bullying to school threats.

To download the app, visit the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and search for "Williamson County Schools TN."



- SACC pick-up is in the back of the building starting after 4:00.
- Please be sure to park in the afternoons, if buses are present.