

The Wolftrap Connection

A biweekly newsletter jointly published by the Wolftrap Administration and PTA

From the Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL BUSSANICH: Ms. Bussanich's last day will be Wednesday, February 28. Please join me in congratulating her on her retirement as her career in education has spanned over 30 years! Her dedication to our students, staff, and families has inspired



all of us. Her extensive knowledge of instruction, her ability to connect with students and her unwavering commitment have had a tremendous impact on our school. Her advocacy for what is in the best interest of students and her passion for helping those around her will be greatly missed. Ms. Bussanich is an exceptional educator and we are so grateful for everything she has done for Wolftrap over the past six years!

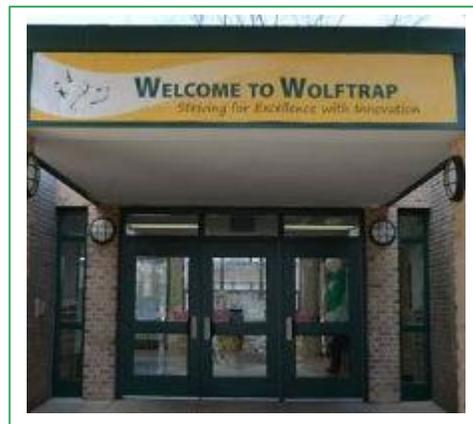
NEW WEBSITE: Tomorrow, Wolftrap will be unveiling our new website to match the new format of the FCPS website which launched this summer. The new web address is <https://wolftrapes.fcps.edu/> and I encourage you to bookmark it. I am excited about the new look and features available and I hope you will find it easier to navigate than the previous website.

Our new site offers several important advantages to include:

1. Improved viewing on mobile devices; many of you come to our website through phones.
2. Enabling the easy sharing of content between Wolftrap and FCPS; for example, emergency alerts about weather closures from the main FCPS site will be promptly displayed on our site.
3. Ability to translate our site content into 75 different languages.
4. Making navigation of FCPS sites easier for you as all school sites will feature similar menus.
5. Better accessibility to all users with disabilities.

We strive to keep our website current with important information for our families. While we have tried to include all of the information that you have come to rely on, there may be items we have forgotten or that you cannot locate. If that is the case, please contact Wolftrap web curator Mat Campet at mfcampet@fcps.edu. In April a professional photographer will be coming to take new pictures that we can feature on the website.

MONTHLY UPDATES: Please see the announcement section of our new website tomorrow for the link to this month's updates from our grade level teams and specialists!



IN THIS ISSUE

Page 3: Faculty Volleyball Game Reflections

Page 4: Call for Volunteers
World Heritage Night
Walking Wednesdays

Page 5: Race to the 5k

Page 6: GRACE Art
Odyssey of the Mind
Soil Conservation

Page 7: Battle of the Buildings
Skate Night Pictures

OTHER HAPPENINGS

GRACE Art Jam
Wednesday 8:45, February 28th

Walking Wednesday
Wednesday, March 7th

PTA Meeting
Thursday, 8:45 March 8th

Faculty Volleyball Game
Saturday, March 10th

As always, Skate Night was a wonderful community event and fun was had by all. Please mark your calendar for the next PTA event, the Wolftrap vs. Louise Archer Faculty Volleyball Game on Saturday, March 10!

Sincerely,

Teresa Khuluki
Principal



Greetings from the PTA

Our next PTA meeting will take place at 8:45 AM in the Teachers Lounge on Thursday, March 8th. We hope to see many of you there! As always, if you have an item you would like placed on the agenda, or need to contact the PTA Board for any reason, please send an email to PTABoard@wolftrappta.org.

News and Upcoming PTA Events

Goodbye to Mrs. B: On behalf of Wolftrap families, thank you to Mrs. Bussanich for her tireless dedication to our students during her six years at Wolftrap. Congratulations on a well deserved retirement!

Congratulations to Dr. Grove. While we are sad to see Mrs. B. leaving us, the PTA is excited to have Wolftrap's own Dr. Maggie Grove step into her Assistant Principal shoes and we look forward to working together for many years to come.

PTA Volunteer Needs. The month of March is our big push to find volunteers for the 2018 – 2019 school year. The PTA can't run without the support of dozens of parents filling a wide variety of duties, involving time commitments big and small to accommodate everyone's schedules. There is always a role you can play... if you are interested in helping, but just aren't sure where or when or how much time you have to give, the Board is always happy to help you find the right fit for you. See our flyer of open positions, or come to our March PTA meeting to learn more, or contact me at president@wolftrappta.org to just ask!

Spirit Wear: The spring spirit wear sale is still underway! To place an order, visit the [Spirit Wear web page](#) and either click on the link to place an order online or print the form and send your order in with your student. All orders will be held and submitted together on March 31st. Orders will be delivered by the end of April.

Camp Invention. Wolftrap is hosting Camp Invention again this year, July 16 – 20. Registration is now open. Visit www.campinvention.org for more information, or to sign up.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Wolftrap Elementary School has a great presence on Twitter, managed by Mr. Campet. Follow the school [@WolftrapES](#). The brand-new STEAM Lab has its own handle: [@WolftrapSTEAM](#). Follow them for great photos of school day happenings!

The PTA has both a Facebook Page and a Facebook Group. Follow the page for information you might want to share with your neighbors and join us in the group for school-specific conversations. See you there!

YOUR PTA BOARD

- Michelle Ramos, president
president@wolftrappta.org
- Sarah Helou, president-elect
President-elect@wolftrappta.org
- Doris Sandall, secretary
secretary@wolftrappta.org
- Lori Bowlin, treasurer
treasurer@wolftrappta.org

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

Rene Ridgeway

March 11th

Cara Iselin

March 21st

Laura May

March 24

Samira Newman

March 25

Wolftrap Announcements

Faculty Volleyball Game

Age-old rivals Wolftrap and Louise Archer collide in the annual Faculty Volleyball game March 10 in the James Madison HS gym. Doors open at 6 p.m. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

Cheer for your favorite faculty members and staff -- "Killer" Khuluki, "Batman" Batsel, "B-Frizz" Mallino, "Downtown" Stulb, "Uptown" Stubbs and their fearless leader, "D-Money" Dowell. Rounding out the Team will be "Dr. G" Grove, "Kat Attack" Mehari, "Bushwhacker" Bush, "Sir Spike" Campet, "Fullhouse" Fuller, "NewNewman" Newman, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Van Hilst, Mr. Polaha, Mr. Rosenfeld, and Ms. Case.

We'll also have pizza, other food and drink, and a chance to win prizes between games.

Admission is free, but you're invited to bring cans for a food drive at the door.

We also need a few volunteers to set up, run the concessions, maybe even DJ? Sign up at SignupGenius:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044aacac2cab9-faculty>

Bring your Wolfie spirit!

Reflections

We would like to congratulate the Wolftrap Elementary School students who participated in this year's National Reflections Art Contest and recognize the winners from the school for each of the categories. The winners shown below had the highest scores for their interpretations in various art forms of the 2017-2018 Reflections theme, "Within Reach". Their entries were judged by respected and extremely qualified artists from the Vienna Arts Society.

The Wolftrap Elementary School 2017-2018 Reflections Category Winners are as follows:

Matteo Lambert Film Production - Primary
Simon Smith Visual Arts - Special Artist
Lucia Bonilla Visual Arts - Primary
Sophia Lord Visual Arts - Primary
Brendan Wheeler Photography - Primary
Cassandra Geer Photography - Intermediate
Lily Eldridge Literature - Intermediate
Miranda Elliot Ortega Visual Arts - Intermediate
Tabitha Bowlin Film Production - Intermediate
Rachel Neuman Film Production - Intermediate
Jeremy Tavernier Visual Arts - Middle



The artwork from each of these Category Winners was submitted to the Northern VA District to be judged against entries from other schools within Northern Virginia.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The PTA's After School Program Committee is looking for someone who is interested in the After School Monitor position for the 2018 – 2019 school year. The monitor is responsible for identifying students and making sure they get to the correct class after school. This position is perfect for high school students, nannies, stay at home, or part-time working parents.

Without this position being filled, we cannot offer any after school classes next year. Please spread the word and email afterschool@wolftrappta.org if you know if anyone who might be interested.

The After School Programs team is looking for new members!

if you are interested in joining our team email afterschool@wolftrappta.org.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The PTA can't run without your support! There are many open PTA positions for the coming 2018-2019 school year. For a complete list of areas where we could really use some extra hands, as well as descriptions of the each volunteer role and general time commitments, please view the flyer

https://wolfrappta.membershiptoolkit.com/assets/00230/Wolfrap_PTA_2018_-_2019_Open_Positions_Flyer_2_.pdf

Thank you in advance for your help! Please contact Michelle Ramos at president@wolfrappta.org or Jean Lee at volunteer@wolfrappta.org with any questions, concerns or to sign up for a particular role.

World Heritage Night

The World Heritage Night is back and will take place on Friday, May 4, 6:30 to 8:30 PM!

The student body at Wolfrap is diverse from various cultural, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds. World Heritage Night is an opportunity to share and celebrate our cultures and heritages through music, dance, fashion, and food.

World Heritage Night only happens every two years so don't miss out! Sign up to join us in preparation for this fun-filled and enriching event:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4ba8ac2caa8-20182>

For questions, please contact Anna and Anisha:
worldheritagenight@wolfrappta.org

Walking Wednesdays

Congratulations to the 2nd Grade for winning the Golden Sneaker for February. Pictured are Kinsley Wintermute and Lucy Graham presenting the award to 2nd grader, Eve Henry. Keep up the great turnout for Walking Wednesdays on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month. A special thanks to Caffe Amouri and Andrea Dahl for providing coffee at every WW!



The Bike Train is back! The first of 2018 will be held Wednesday, March 21 beginning on the corner of Liberty Tree and Beulah. More details to follow.



SAFE ROUTES

Please remember, there is NO parking, standing, dropping off/picking up along the school side of Talisman between Beulah and St. Roman. For the safety of Wolfrap students, please use the kiss and ride or park in allowable areas.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

SAVE THE DATE

Kindergarten Orientation:
April 13!

If you have a child entering Kindergarten at Wolfrap this Fall, mark your calendars for Friday, April 13, from 2:00-3:15 pm, for Kindergarten Orientation!

Also, please complete the form on Wolfrap's website to indicate that your student will be enrolling.

The form and more information about preparing for Kindergarten can be found on our [school's website here](#)

RACE TO THE 5K



Join us for the 12th annual **Wolfrap 5K & Fun Run** on **Sunday, April 8.**

This is a fun-filled morning for the whole community and it is the biggest fundraising event of the school year including food, a cake-walk, basket raffles, giveaways, DJ Darin Pusker of "Belt It Out Productions," and more. "Running Through the

Decades" is this year's theme and runners are encouraged to wear a costume from their favorite decade. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes!

Early Bird Registration Closing Soon

For the best rates, be sure to register online

(<https://potomac.enmotive.com/events/register/2018-wolfrap-elementary-5k-and-1-mile-fun-run>) by **February 28.** The fees for early bird registration are 5K Adult/\$30, 5K Child/\$20, Fun Run/\$10. Rates go up by \$5 starting March 1, when regular registration opens.

Teacher Sponsorships

By now, you should have heard from your child's room parent about the opportunity to make a collective donation to sponsor their teacher. Teachers will be recognized in a few ways for their participation including awarding the teachers in two prize categories- the teacher with the most overall money sponsored and the teacher with the highest percentage of families that donate. It's a terrific way to show teachers our gratitude for everything they do for our kids.

Also, as a way of thanking the kids (and you all, their generous parents!) for their sponsorship, the classes with the highest sponsorship amounts and highest percentage of participating families will be rewarded with a pizza lunch and popsicles in their PJS.

Please send your donation in by **March 15** to the attention of "5K – Michelle Ramos." If you make the check out to "Wolfrap PTA – 5K," the donation is tax-deductible. Participation is completely optional.

New This Year – Pie in the Face!

This year some of our amazing teachers and our very own Mrs. Khuluki have generously volunteered to let a lucky raffle winner throw a pie in their face! Kids will be able to purchase raffle tickets for the teacher/administrator of their choosing. The more raffle tickets sold for each person, the messier the pie will be! Your kids will not want to miss this!

For continued updates on the event and to see our growing list of sponsors, please check the race page (https://wolfrappta.membershiptoolkit.com/5K_Fun_Run).

YEARBOOK SALES

LAST DAY FOR PICTURES

A friendly reminder that February 28th is the last day to submit pictures for the yearbook. Go to [this link](#) for instructions on submitting pictures.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING

March 9th is the deadline for ordering. [Click here](#) to order the Wolfrap 2017-2018 Yearbook

WATCH D.O.G.S.



Still interested in becoming a Watch D.O.G. for the day?

Want to come spend another day at Wolfrap?

It is not too late to sign up - we still have many dates available in April and May! [Click here](#) to check availability and sign up.

What's Happening Around Wolftrap

GRACE Art

The GRACE Art featured artist for the month of March is French Neoimpressionist painter Georges Seurat (1859-1891). Seurat invented a style of art called Pointillism, where he explored the science of optics and color. He found that when he placed tiny dots of different colors next to each other on canvas, the eye would mix the colors and the colors would appear to be brighter. His most famous painting is a massive 6 feet, 7 inches tall by 10 feet, 1 inches wide masterpiece called Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Jatte. It took him two years to complete and helped establish him as one of the leading artists in Paris.

Students will paint in Seurat's style by using tempera paint and Q-tips to create small scale pointillist paintings of fruit. They will paint from observation and work with shape as well as color. Students will explore using colors next to one another as well as mixing some together on paper. Students will also incorporate the use of light and shadow into their paintings.

Odyssey of the Mind

After many weeks of planning, preparing and rehearsing, seven Wolftrap teams consisting of 4-7 members each will compete at the Odyssey of the Mind regional tournament at Westfield High School in Chantilly, VA this Saturday, March 3, 2018. Many thanks to Mrs. Burdett and Dr. and Mr. Grove, who will be volunteering their time to serve as tournament judges at the event. Also, thanks to the many parents and family members who have contributed countless hours as coaches, judges and tournament volunteers to ensure that our Wolftrap students can benefit from this enriching team building and problem solving activity.

For more information about the Odyssey of the Mind program at Wolftrap, visit:
https://wolftrappta.membershiptoolkit.com/Odyssey_of_the_mind

Information about Odyssey of the Mind can be found here:
<https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/>

Soil Conservation Project

Our third grade students are preparing to take their soil conservation project outside! Mrs. Newman and Mrs. Clinage accompanied several students to Merrifield Garden Center, where they used \$200 in PTA Green Team funds to purchase native plants. Students are learning how native ground covering can help control soil erosion, which helps keep our water clean and maintain natural habitat. Last year, students in Mrs. Newman's class presented a request at a Spring PTA Meeting to fund this project. It is exciting to see the work continuing across the years!

Shifting Gears

Shifting Gears is the Kilmer Middle School Summer Transition Program, open to all rising 7th grade Kilmer students. It takes place at Kilmer Middle School.

Session I: July 30 - August 3, 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Session II: August 6 - 10, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Early Bird Special Price: \$165

Registration is open February 8th until sessions are full, [click here](#) for more information. Registration form must be completed online - click to access the [Shifting Gears Registration Form](#) and enroll!



FCPS Battle of the Buildings

Wolftrap students are now participating in the FCPS Battle of the Buildings energy challenge, through March 31. FCPS spends over \$30 million annually on utility bills. Energy conservation not only saves money, but also reduces greenhouse gas emissions and provides educational opportunities for students and staff.

Competing is as simple or in-depth as classes want. There will be 5 different schools declared winners based on three different criteria:

- 3 schools with greatest percentage reduction in electricity use
- 1 school with most creative communication campaign
- 1 school with most comprehensive community engagement

More info, including a link to our school's utilities dashboard, is at: <http://get2green.fcps.edu/challenge.html>



Skate Night

Thanks to Everyone Who Came out to this weekend's Skate Night.



6th Grade Field Trip

The Sixth Graders went this past week on a field trip to the National Art Museum.