

Principal's Prowl Newsletter



September 1st , 2019

Kristen Klein, Principal
Banks Spicer, Assistant Principal

Weddington Elementary School

3927 Twelve Mile Creek Rd.
Matthews, NC 28104
Phone: 704.849.7238
Fax: 704.849.2238

Website:
<https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/54>

Twitter: @WeddingtonES_NC
Facebook: Weddington Elementary (Union
County, NC)
Instagram: @weddingtonelem

From the Principal:

Hello Wildcat families! We had a great first week of school and the students are already back into the routines of the instructional day. On the first day of school, all grade levels met with administration to review safety information and school policies. We ask that you also review this information in the WDES Student Handbook at home.

I want to pass along a few reminders as we start the second week of school. Please be sure your student is inside the building by 7:30 a.m. so they are seated and ready to learn. **Students who are Tardy must be escorted into the building and signed in by an adult.** Also, the transportation change form must be sent to the teacher for each day you would like your child to go home by an alternative means of transportation.

Finally, all parents will have access to Powerschool on September 11th. If you have questions about Powerschool prior to September 11th, please contact Norma Felipe.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Labor Day Holiday. We look forward to seeing our Wildcats for our 2nd week of school.

With gratitude,
Mrs. Klein

Calendar of Events:

September:

9/3/19 – First day for all Kindergarten students
9/9/19 – WDES Independence Day – all students walk to class independently
9/26/19 – Grandparents/Grandfriends Day – K-2
9/27/19 – Grandparents/Grandfriends Day – 3-5
9/27/19 – Elementary Cluster Night at WHS game
9/27/19 – WDES Spirit Wear Day – all Wildcats sport your spirit wear for school!
9/30/19 – Teacher Workday – No School for Students

October:

10/8/19 – Early Release Day – All students dismiss at 11:00 a.m.
10/9/19 – Teacher Workday – No school for students
10/18/19 – Race, Rock, and Roar Day
10/25/19 – Race, Rock, and Roar – *Rain Date*

***Please see the school calendar on the WDES webpage for additional dates of events.**

2019-2020 Student Handbook:

The 2019-2020 Student Handbook has been sent via email from your child's teacher and is posted on the school website. The handbook was also attached in last Sunday's Principal Prowl Newsletter. All students and parents are required to review this information. A form has been sent home by the classroom teacher for all students and parents to sign confirming they have reviewed and understand the policies as written in the WDES Student Handbook as well as the UCPS Board Policy handbook. The signed form is due to the classroom teacher by **Friday, September 20th**.

From our WDES Instructional Coach:

Welcome back families! I am your new Instructional Coach and so excited to be working with the staff, students and families at Weddington Elementary. As we begin the new school year, students are starting to bring home assignments. A requirement across grade levels is to read each night. Having your child find a comfortable place to read each day and discussing what they have read will help to encourage positive reading habits. Reading to younger siblings can also be a great way to practice their fluency and share what they are reading. For students who are just learning to read, reading a story together, taking turns reading pages and talking about the text are also great ways to enjoy a book. Encouraging your child to read and selecting books that they are interested in will help to foster a love for reading.

If you have any questions about ways to help with instruction at home, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Darcy Swiatek

Media Center Makeover

Do you have a business or know a company interesting in donating to our school? We are currently looking for donations for our "Media Center Makeover" campaign. Be sure to go to our WDES website under Announcements for full details. There, you can click on the "Donate" button for your opportunity to help our cause. Our Wildcats deserve a 21st Century Media Center. Let's continue our partnership and help us create a future focused learning environment. <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/54>

From the WDES PTO:

The 2019/2020 WDES PTO would like to welcome you all back to school! We all hope you had a relaxing summer! Look for our Back to School email coming this week!

Have you become a PTO member yet? No worries, you have plenty of time! Becoming a PTO member DOES NOT MAKE YOU A VOLUNTEER! Actually, if you do not have time to volunteer this is a great and easy way to help out your child's school!
<https://www.weddingtonpto.com/>

The PTO is in need of some parents stepping up to become volunteers and take on a Chair Position.

TEACHER APPRECIATION COMMITTEE: We need 2-3 people to take on our fun and loving Teacher Appreciation tradition! Each month starting in October, one grade level will donate food to feed our staff members in the Teacher's Lounge. The Teacher Appreciation Committee will organize this event; accept donations through car-line the day of the events, and setup the teacher's lounge and then cleanup. We have a chairperson for this committee, we just need some helpers! This committee requires about 2 hours each month there is an event.

This is a great way to show your appreciation for our wonderful teachers and staff! If you are interested please email our secretary Ashley Espinosa; wdesptosecretary@gmail.com

MEDIA CENTER VOLUNTEERS:

From the School Counselor:

Hello Weddington families! I hope everyone had a wonderful first week back to school. Sign-ups for group counseling sessions are now open. You can find the link to sign up by [clicking here](#). **Please note the change in the availability when it comes to group enrollment.** Coming up this month, September 23rd through 27th is "Start With Hello Week". You can find [more information about it here](#). Stay tuned for daily activities! Be sure to visit the [School Counseling webpage](#) for more information about Weddington's counseling program!

As always, do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Mrs. Jewell

From Mr. Becker: **September Music News**

I have really enjoyed this first week back to school. Your singers are wonderful and I look forward to an amazing school year of singing, dancing, and playing instruments. I have also really enjoyed meeting and teaching all the new students to Weddington Elementary. Welcome!

MUSIC AT HOME

Listen to music and discuss if the music feels happy, sad, etc. Ask about the tempo (speed) of the music and/or discuss the lyrics (relates to ELA). Take your singer to a music concert. We have several community and professional orchestras and bands in the area including the [Charlotte Symphony offering family concerts](#).

Even closer, we have the [Union Symphony Orchestra](#) and the Matthews Community Band.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050848ABAD2AA6>

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School Store Volunteers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AADA822A0F85-20192020>

Box Tops:

Instead of clipping from packages and checking expiration dates, all Box Tops will be earned digitally by scanning your receipt. The Box Tops for Education team has worked hard to build a NEW and IMPROVED user-friendly Box Tops mobile app, available now. This new app features state-of-the-art technology that allows you to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online. If you still have traditional Box Top clips at home, be sure to send them to school. We will earn cash for all clipped Box Tops until they expire. Better yet, you can "double dip" during the packaging transition by clipping traditional Box Tops and scanning your store receipt containing participating products.

LINK YOU HARRIS TEETER CARD TODAY: School Code: 1892

Our first Chick-fil-A Spirit Night will be 9/9 at Wesley Chapel location, 4-6 p.m. You and your Wildcats can come and enjoy dinner out while raising money for our school! Be sure to mention WDES!

ROOM PARENTS NEEDED:

Please consider becoming a room parent for your child's teacher. A room parent organizes class parties, class needs, and communicates with the PTO. This is an important job. A Room Parent meeting will be held on **9/24 at 9:00 a.m. in the WDES Cafeteria**. Please contact your teacher or our Room Parent Coordinator, Terry Key, wdesptoparentcoordinator@gmail.com

Grandparents Days will be September 26th (K-2) and 27th (3-5). More information will be coming through your child's backpack along with a Grandparents Day email.

IN MUSIC CLASS

In Kindergarten, we will be singing and dancing (moving) during every music class. The students will be singing songs like "Mama Soup Surprise" and "Bumble Bee Song". Students will echo sing their name and tap a steady beat. Below is the link to the Weddington Elementary Music Website where you can listen to Mr. Becker sing and play guitar.

1st and 2nd graders will be singing, playing different types of percussion, and lots of song games like "Oats Peas Beans", "Shoo Fly", "I Let Her Go-Go" and more. 1st and 2nd graders will be performing a Global Concert during the Spring Book Fair Family Night on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will be working on music from Seussical KIDS. We will be performing at the Fall Book Fair on Tuesday, November 12th. More information will come home later, but if your singer would like to practice, all the music and a sample video can be found on the [WDES Music Website under Seussical KIDS](#).

MORNING CHOIR for 4th and 5th GRADERS:

After several years, the Morning Choir is back!! We will meet from 7:00-7:25 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning on September 17th.

If your 4th or 5th grade singer is interested in joining, please sign-up at
<https://wdesmusic.weebly.com/morning-chor.html>

Keep the music playing,

Bruce Becker, bruce.becker@ucps.k12.nc.us

Music Teacher

Weddington Elementary School

SPIRIT WEAR is back with all new designs and color schemes! If you were not able to visit us at Open House, shop our online Store. Your purchases will be delivered to you through your Child's backpack 5-7 business days after your purchase.

<http://squareup.com/store/weddington-elementary-pto>

Ashley Espinosa, Secretary

Weddington Elementary School PTO

wdesptosecretary@gmail.com

For up to date PTO reminders and information about WDES, please like us on **Facebook** at **Weddington Elementary School PTO**.

**Thank you,
Your WDES PTO Board**

<https://wdesmusic.weebly.com/>

Principal Prowl Newsletters:

Have you missed one of our newsletters? You can access all Principal Prowl Newsletters on our school website. Just click on our school website link, <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/54>,

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!
Mrs. Klein

