



# The Bulldog Bulletin

## West Zephyrhills Elementary

37900 14th Avenue, Zephyrhills, FL 33542 ♦ 813-794-6300

[School Website](#) ♦ [Facebook](#) ♦ [Twitter: @WZESBulldogs](#)

**Charlene Tidd, Principal ♦ Liz Boeger, Assistant Principal**

### Principal's Pen

Are you interested in keeping current on what is happening at our wonderful school? ☺ There are several ways that you can do just that in this age of technology! First, do we have the correct phone number on file for you? Please contact the office or your child's teacher to keep us current on your contact info! Have you visited our school website lately? Please visit [www.wzes.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://www.wzes.pasco.k12.fl.us) for updated information regarding happenings around the school campus!

Have you LIKED us on Facebook? We hope so, but if not, be sure to visit and "like" our school Facebook page. We also have the WZES Music Facebook page, the WZES Art Department Facebook page, the WZES PE Department Facebook page and the WZES Science Facebook page! ☺ Do you follow us on Twitter? We have two TWITTER feeds you can follow: [@WZESBulldogs](#) and [@MrsBoegerWZES](#).

Some of our teachers use a classroom tech tool called a "dojo" for parent communication. Through these social media sites, you will see current photos of our students engaged in learning and you will be able to view posts about upcoming events. ☺

Please also continue to use your child's Planner as a communication tool between you and your child's teacher. This will keep you up to date with academic and other information related to your child's particular classroom happenings. The planner is an important learning tool for our students as well.

Last year, we began posting our monthly newsletter on our webpage and provided a limited number of paper copies to parents upon request. This year we will continue to communicate school wide news in this way in order to continue our efforts to be a "green" school.

Finally, as I have stated before, Mrs. Boeger and I are always glad to meet with you by appointment. We are out in classrooms most of the time and cannot always be available to you at a moment's notice. However, you can always schedule a time with us through Mrs. Joanie or one of our other wonderful office staff members.

Mrs. Tidd  
Principal, WZES

**November 2, 2015**

### IMPORTANT DATES:

11/11 Veterans Day—School is open!  
11/20 SAC meeting  
11/16-20 Great American Teach In  
11/19 Nat'l Parent Involvement Day  
11/20 Q2 Progress Reports  
11/22-27 Thanksgiving Holiday  
(School is closed all week.)

### UPCOMING DATES:

12/1 STEM Parent Night  
12/4 All Pro Dads 8:20  
12/14-17 Mid Year Ceremonies  
(specifics TBA)  
12/18 SAC Meeting  
12/21/15-01/04/16 Winter Holiday  
01/05 Students Return  
01/14 End of Quarter 2  
01/15 Teacher Planning Day-no school

### Bulldog Spotlight October

Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Month:  
**Jordan Schafer**

### WZES October Super Kiwanis Kid

October honorees were nominated by their teachers for this recognition, which is hosted monthly by the Zephyrhills Kiwanis Club.

**Dayanara Ortega ★ Malachi Woodard**  
**Kenedi Morfey ★ Pushti Patel**  
**Pamela Shirley ★ Julian Garcia**

### Clinic Updates

With 850 students on campus our clinic gets very busy during the school day. We want to be able to give every student in the clinic our full attention. We have had many "accidents" or clothing spills lately so we need your help. \_Send a full change of clothing with your K-2 grade student for those occasional spills. Keeping this in the backpack or classroom saves a student a trip to the clinic.

## **School Advisory Council**

ARE YOU THE ONE? We are still looking for community members, parents, and/or business partners to join our School Advisory Council. Meetings are one Friday, each month from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Please call Mrs. Bishop at 794-6307 if interested.

## **Community Spotlight**

In addition to the many wonderful unsung donors and partners listed below, we would also like to thank some new heroes this month. Ms. Samantha Jones, a parent of a student at another Pasco District elementary school, made a donation to WZES. She describes it as her way of paying it forward by helping beyond her child's own school community. Superintendent Kurt Browning referred Ms. Jones to WZES. A second donation, by a member of the AMVETS, Ladies Auxiliary, gave the school \$500.00, to help prevent student hunger. Thank You!

First Congregation Church ❖ Our Savior Lutheran Church ❖ First United Methodist Church ❖ Elks Lodge Moose Lodges ❖ Angel Ladies of the Masonic Lodge #198 of Zephyrhills ❖ Betmar ❖ Sundance ❖ Casa del Sol Mobile Home Parks ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of Pasco County ❖ Kiwanis Greater Pasco ❖ Women's Club of Zephyrhills ❖ Direct Auto Insurance ❖ Chalet Florist Norm & Sons Tire & Auto ❖ Pining #4 U ❖ Florida Hospital Zephyrhills ❖ Five Guys ❖ Jersey Mike's ❖ Suncoast Credit Union ❖ Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce ❖ Historehouse ❖ WALMART.



WALMART made twenty teachers very happy to receive gift cards in a surprise drawing held this month.

## **SNIP & CLIP:**



We had a great October! We brought in 4,816 Box Tops. Don't forget, each class that brings in 500 Box Tops by December 11th, will get an ice cream party. Keep on clipping!

## **Congratulations!**

WZES fifth grader, Jenny Delcastillo, in Mrs. Gray's class, won third place in the 2015 Clerk & Comptroller Constitution Essay Contest. Hers was one of 82 entries from across the entire school district. We are proud of Jenny for this recognition!

## **Parent Reminders**

- ✓ Please remember that flowers and helium balloon deliveries are not permitted on campus for students.
- ✓ Bus riders may only ride their assigned bus.
- ✓ Pasco County LEA Parent Involvement Plan, WZES PIP, and the WZES School Improvement Plan are housed in the front office and are available for viewing upon request after October 31.

## **WZES PTA News**

Thank you again to all parents and staff who have become members of WZES PTA. We continue to encourage everyone to become part of Your WZES PTA, at a cost of only \$6.00 per family for the school year. Also, if you are interested in becoming involved, we welcome any help with the many activities sponsored by Your WZES PTA. You may contact Jessica Boydston, President, at 813-794-6300.

## **Please Help Us Reach Our Reading Goal!**



Our school wide reading goal for this year is to read 50,000 books! WOW! Each classroom is currently setting up a tally system and all books read will be recorded. Our students are brainstorming suggestions for rewards if we meet our goal. You can help us to meet our goal by setting aside a time for reading each evening at home. Also, talk to your children about the books they are reading. We are trying to instill a love of reading here at WEST! Look for more information from your child's teacher in the coming weeks. READ! READ! READ!

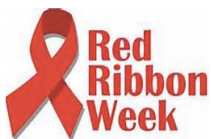
## Guidance Corner

A lot has been happening this first quarter in the Counseling area. In addition to one on one and classroom guidance we currently, have two groups in progress—"Think First" and "Social Skills". Groups are formed based on parent request, teacher request and student self-request. Classroom presentations thus far have included, "School Counselor Orientation", "Safer Smarter Kids", "Bully Awareness", as well as "Healthy Choices/Drug Awareness".

October was recognized nationally as "Bully Awareness Month". All students at WZES received a **STOMP OUT BULLYING BEHAVIOR** bracelet as this was the district and nationally recognized theme. Thank you so much to Mrs. Boydston and the WZES PTA for paying for the bracelets. They are a much-needed reminder of the issue, and we hope the students wear them daily.



**Red Ribbon Week** was held from October 23-30. Red Ribbon Week originated as an honor to DEA Agent, Enrique (Kiki) Camarena, who lost his life while working on an anti-drug operation in California and Mexico. Many of his friends and family wore red ribbons in honor of the DEA agent and others who have died as a result of working to keep drugs off our streets and out of the hands of our youth. In 1988, President Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan joined the "Red Ribbon Proclamation" alongside the National Family Partnership. Eight days in late October are recognized as **Red Ribbon Week**.



At the school level we had several fun activities to focus on the theme: **RESPECT YOURSELF, BE DRUG FREE!** The Elks Lodge once again judged our door-decorating contest won this year by Ms. Williamson's class. They also gave away goodies and ice cream at lunch to all of our students. We appreciate and thank Mr. Gest and our friends at the Elks Lodge for all they have done for WZES over the years.

Lastly, the first quarter **BULLDOG OF HONOR CELEBRATION** was held October 23. WZES honored a Bulldog from each grade

who has exemplified the Seven Habits of the Leadership Skills or a Bulldog who has made the most positive change regarding the Seven Habits of the *Leader in Me* program. Congratulations to these students and their teachers and parents!

PreK: Cameron Lee  
Kg: Zander Daughtery  
1st: Trenton Kienitz  
2nd: Heather Cecil  
3rd: Cayden Palumbo  
4th: Andrea Chavez  
5th: Bailey Whitmer

Our thanks to the family members who were able to join us for this special time. We were also honored to have Mrs. Cora McCreadie, join us in celebration of her great great grandson's



recognition (Trenton Kienitz). Mrs. McCreadie was a school bus driver for Pasco County for many years. We are always so excited to see these generational connections here at WZES.

Thank you also to our many community partners. Your donations helped to make this a memorable and successful event for our students: WZES PTA ♦ Faithful Friends Pet Cremation ♦ Wee Love Logos ♦ Randy Soho and KRY Incorporated ♦ Publix ♦ Happy Cow ♦ Walmart ♦ Sylvan Learning ♦ Pinchasers ♦ Sonny's BBQ ♦ Beef O'Bradys ♦ Five Guys ♦ Capri Pizza and More ♦ Reutimann's Collision and Repair Shop! A Team approach and working together helps build happy, healthy, and smarter kids!

**Mrs. Larkin /Dr. Kelly, School Counselors**



## Recycling Earth Patrol is Teaming up with MARS!



Bring your old electronics to school during regular school hours and the Earth Patrol will send them to MARS!—a Materials Recycling center. Instead of sending them to the landfill, your electronic devices will be recycled 100%!! Nothing is wasted!! We have a large

cardboard box in the back of the school waiting for your old electronics!

## Great American Teach-In

GATI Week is November 16-20. Please join us in this annual event celebrating hobbies, careers, volunteer roles, and any other GROWN-UP pursuit to teach our students about how all of us are life-long learners and doers. Please contact [Mrs. LeAnne John](#) to tell us when you would like to be a Great American TEACHER at WZES!



## STEM PARENT NIGHT



Please join us for our STEM evening at 6:00pm, December 1, in our cafeteria. Further information will soon be sent to parents and grade 3-5 students.

**Pasco Parent Press** Check out the Superintendent's parent newsletter at this link:

<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ppp/102015>



**Superintendent:** Kurt Browning

### School Board Members:

Allen Altman

Cynthia Armstrong

Alison Crumbly

Joanne Hurley

Steve Luikart

## Toys For Tots—FYI NEW INFO!

To participate this year, parents must pickup a *Toys For Tots* letter from WZES by **November 13, at the latest**. The quantity is limited. Please ask for the letter in the front office

The parent must then take this letter to the Zephyrhills Lions Club on either November 7<sup>th</sup> OR November 15<sup>th</sup> to REGISTER. Registration should take between 15-30 minutes at the Lions Club. Specific directions are in the letter. The Lions Club is handling the process from that point. Nothing will be distributed from WZES other than the letter.



## Bulldog Blog: November 2015

By Mrs. Boeger, WZES AP



In last month's Bulldog Blog I wrote about the idea of Primary Greatness, from the *Leader in Me* program. Have you been practicing your inner talents? As I learn more about *Leader in Me*, I am always looking for a Win-Win. Here are some Win-Wins I have seen recently at West!

A group of dedicated staff and school friends spent Saturday, October 23, painting and rejuvenating our campus inside and outside the cafeteria. They SYNERGIZED to make this much used space more pleasant and welcoming to our students. There were many surprised and happy student faces when they walked into the cafeteria! More campus improvement projects are on the horizon—stay tuned!

The City of Zephyrhills and the Zephyrhills Police Department are working together with Principal Tidd and parents (synergy) to make our traffic routines safer. Two new signs were installed out front to reduce arrival and dismissal traffic congestion and the crosswalk fix is being investigated too. We will keep you posted.

Our students are also being given daily opportunities to BE PROACTIVE. One of those times is during lunch. For the past couple of weeks out café monitors have been on the lookout for students who are caught modeling great behavior while at lunch. Each day about a dozen students during each grade's lunch period are invited to go to the Lunch Leadership Lounge on the stage for socializing, reading, puzzles, or art time after they have finished eating their healthy lunches. Ask your child if she or he has made it to the stage yet!

One habit I have noticed we really need to work on at West is to: SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND, THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD. Parents and teachers, I am asking us grown-up leaders to talk MORE about this important leadership habit with our kiddos. Oftentimes students will react before thinking about the consequences. That is because they are just kids. When they think a peer is being mean and they respond in anger instead of asking an adult for assistance, problems result. This impulsive

reaction and the original unkind act can lead to hurt feelings and fights. Sometimes friendly horseplay results in an unintended injury to a friend as well.

As the adults, it is our job to help our kids understand: 1.) We all make mistakes 2.) Adults are here to help kids learn from their mistakes 3.) You can turn it around and not make this mistake again, and 4.) Leaders model the right behaviors even when no one is looking.

When our students make a mistake (and they all do at one time or another), first, use questions to help the student talk through the problem.

- ✓ What were they doing?
- ✓ Why? Did it turn out the way they intended?
- ✓ How do you think it looked to the other child or to the adult who saw you?
- ✓ What can you do to apologize and prevent this from happening again.

Just the process of asking these questions will guide the conversation and help the student become proactive. It is also a great opportunity to build empathy, resilience, and trust.

You would be surprised at how respectful, responsible, and level-headed kids can be when they have a caring adult talk them through this problem-solving process instead of just yelling at them! Believe me—I had both experiences as a child and I benefited from the tough-love delivered by a calm adult intent on teaching me to think through my problems much more than when I just got yelled at☺

Once the problem solving is through, there may need to be a consequence. Each case is different—just as each child is different. In other cases, the problem-solving is the best consequence. And sometimes a completely different, but accurate picture of what really happened is revealed and we can counsel students on that. So, thank you, adults, for leading our students to be leaders.

Happy Thanksgiving!—Mrs. Boeger

