

June, 2019

Volume 5, Issue 4

The Wildcat Journal

Dear Parents / Guardians:

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It's amazing that the end of the school year is here and it is now time for summer vacation. Please take the time to read all about the wonderful learning activities, projects, and lessons that our teachers have been doing with the students throughout the 4th Marking Period. The faculty and professional support staff of Faust School want to thank all of our families for their continued support throughout the 2018-2019 School Year. As professionals, we make every effort to make learning enjoyable and provide instructional lessons that are tailored to meet the individual needs of our students. It is an exciting but challenging time in education and we will continue to strive for academic excellence and prepare our students for future success.

I want to thank our PTA and the 8th Grade Committee for their dedication and for generously volunteering their time to support our school community. We appreciate all their effort throughout the school year to raise funds in order to bring educational programs and resources as well as fun activities and special treats for the students, faculty, and staff. We are truly grateful for their commitment and continuous support to the children and families of the East Rutherford School District.

To our graduates, congratulations on your achievement! All of the teachers and professional support staff at Faust and McKenzie School wish you the best as you take on the next 4 years of high school. We know that you are well prepared and have gained a firm educational foundation while attending the East Rutherford School District.

For those families who will be returning in September, school will begin on Thursday, September 5th. If you have any concerns, questions, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me throughout July and August. Over the summer please make sure that your child completes their math and language arts packets to keep their mind stimulated and fresh for educational reinforcement. Feel free to also visit our website at http://www.erboe.net for further details on each grade level's summer assignments and other related information pertaining to the up-coming academic school year.

We look forward to seeing all of our students and their families in September.

Have a relaxing, safe, and enjoyable summer.

Warmest Regards,

Mrs. Regina Barrale

Alfred S. Faust School Principal

<u>Rbarrale@erboe.net</u>

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Time Capsule Webquest Class of 2021

The students in Mrs. Pappas's 6th grade English classes created a time capsule to be opened at the end of their 8th grade year. The students constructed their time capsules and selected the items inside that best represented them. The time capsules were based on a Webquest, where pupils were required to conduct research. They also included a letter to themselves, as well as photos. Students also placed items that illustrated the culture and fads of the sixth grade class in 2019. The eighth graders who opened their time capsules reminisced on their past with laughter and tears. How will you remember – and be remembered?







Summer Wishes from the Math Department

The Math Department would like to wish all of our students and their families a safe, healthy, and restful summer vacation! While summer is the time to relax, it is also the perfect time for our students to freshen up on their ability for the upcoming school year. The students will be receiving their Summer Math Packets. This will help maintain their skills and prepare them for school in September. These packets will be the student's first grade upon returning in September. It is essential that you encourage your child to do their best! Class of 2019: Congratulations and best of luck as you move onto the next exciting chapter of your lives! We know you will continue to grow and be the best versions of yourselves! We wish you all the success in the world!

Student Council

The Student Council would like to thank everyone for their donations to Alex's Lemonade Stand. The school raised \$765 for childhood cancer research and support. The kids had a great time running the stand!





Spanish

In 7th grade Spanish, students learned how to tell time. They also learned the name of school subjects, classroom objects, and daily activities. They were also able to describe their classes, say where things are located, and where they are going. Grammar concepts focused on were—the verb estar (to be), the difference between ser and estar, the verb ir (to go), tener (to have), and the present tense of -ar, -er, and -ir verbs. Students practiced reading, writing, listening, and speaking in Spanish.

Some of the students were able to read a short story *Brandon Brown vs Yucatan* integrating vocabulary and grammar concepts learned this year. In addition, the 8th grade Honor students were able to read the same book but, in the past tense. This prepared them for the new challenges of the Spanish language in high school.

The 5th grade Spanish students studied basic greetings, numbers, months, days of the week, the weather, and telling time. 6th Grade Spanish completed their "Franela de Adjetivos" as our final project. Students decorated a paper T-shirt using adjectives that described them. 6th graders also had a chance to celebrate the end of their Spanish Cycle by having a FIESTA. Finally, the 8th Grade Spanish enjoyed the opportunity to comprehend the Mexican Culture by watching the highly proclaimed animated movie "CoCo".

5th Grade Math

The 5th Grade ended the year reviewing 5th grade skills! The students also worked very hard on a geometry project where they had to create a playground using specific geometric shapes. Here are a few of the posters.



Take a Journey This Summer with a Book

As the school year comes to a close and the summer rapidly approaches, students are naturally looking forward to their relaxing vacation, and part of that is the enjoyment of a good book. It is crucial to your child's academic achievement that they continue practicing their literacy skills throughout the summer. Studies show that student reading increases fluency, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills essential for maintaining scholastic progress. Students who do not practice these skills are at risk for summer slide, or the loss of learned academic skills.

Incoming fifth graders will be reading *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, by Judy Blume, while sixth-grade students will be reading *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau. Students in Ms. Cerny's and Ms. Velasquez's incoming sixth grade will be reading *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary. Seventh-grade students will choose between *Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli or The Wave* by Todd Strasser. All incoming eighth graders, including Honors, will be reading *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl.* Students will be tested on their respective novels after September 9.

For more information on the summer reading assignments, please refer to your child's summer reading packet or access the <u>erboe.net</u> district website.

Music Cycle

We are coming to the end of our 4th marking period music cycle! The 5th grade students were busy doing musical math which really helped them learn the values of all the notes. The 6th graders enjoyed learning about all kinds of instruments in the orchestra. The 7th graders learned about the history of music from all the way back to the 1600's! They became familiar with so many different styles of music and how it is influential on the music of today!

Expanding Foreign Language Course Offerings

We are excited about being selected for the 2019-2020 Teachers of Critical Languages Program (TCLP) Grant through the U.S. Department of Education. TCLP is a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, designed to increase the study and acquisition of important world languages in U.S. schools.

Our World Language program has been thriving at Faust School for years with our exceptional Spanish program. Now, we are eager to expand this department with the addition of Mandarin, the most widely spoken language in the world with over one billion speakers. This is an exciting change that will benefit not only our students, but also district staff and the broader East Rutherford community!

All students, grades 5th-8th, will have the chance to take Mandarin during the 2019-2020 school year. We hope that our students will develop an appreciation for and fluency with the critical language of Mandarin Chinese, while also learning about Chinese culture.

While we are going to learn so much through this exchange program, the exchange teacher will also be gaining invaluable best practices and teaching experience that they will bring back to their home country. With a commitment to sharing best practices in education, the Mandarin teacher will provide professional development opportunities to the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. Another benefit of this exchange program is that the Chinese exchange teacher will grow to understand and appreciate American culture. Ms. Sulin Lu will be able to take her stories and experiences back to her home province of Suchian, to her English language students for the 2020-2021 school year!

How Can You Help?

Imagine traveling over 7,000 miles, 14 hours and taking multiple flights from China to arrive in East Rutherford, New Jersey, for a one-year work assignment! Living and working abroad can be an exhilarating experience that encourages new world views, increases cultural curiosity and supports a willingness to explore unfamiliar terrains! However, it can also invite a sense of feeling a bit lost in the world. Culture Shock is real!



Please remember to complete ELA and Math Summer Packets! These assignments will be graded at the start of the school!

To Report an absence—please call Ms. Wolfe—201-804-3110