

The Owl Oracle

Watergrass Elementary • 32750 Overpass Rd • Wesley Chapel • (813) 346-0600

December Events

- 12/5 Cusmano/Holbrook
EMC Field Trip
- 12/6 Chatmon/Gaudens
EMC Field Trip
- 12/7 Hoffman/Pierce
EMC Field Trip
- 12/7 Chorus Off Performance
- 12/8 Grade 4 and 5 TEDx Talks, 2:00 PM in the cafeteria.
- 12/11 K & 1st Grade Musical Program
Wesley Chapel Center of the Arts
- 12/11-12/15 PTA Holiday Shoppe
*PTA Fundraiser
- 12/15
- All Pro Dads, 8:30 AM, Media Center
 - Elf Owl Musical at the WGES Cafeteria, 10:30 AM
 - Citizen of the Month, 3:00 PM
- 12/22 Quarter 2 Ends
- 12/22 Carols & Cocoa
- 12/25-1/5/18 Winter Break
(School Closed)

January Events

- 1/8 Teacher Planning (No School)
- 1/9 Students Return to School
- 1/16 POWER UP! IRLA Family Night, 6PM



Lost & Found

Please come by the cafeteria to check our *Lost and Found*. We have quite a collection of jackets, hoodies and sweaters. You will find *Lost and Found* in the cafeteria towards the lunch line.

From the desk of Mr. Mitchell

Our Great American Teach-In was a huge success. We had an excellent group of presenters who provided our students experiences with many different careers and hobbies. Thank you to everyone who participated. Your time is appreciated.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Watergrass Elementary, I wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season. Please take time to relax and enjoy your family during the break.

If Mrs. Felice or I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.



YEARBOOK Reminder!

Last Chance to purchase a yearbook for \$15* Only 80 copies left for sale ... Not sure if you purchased one already? Ask kreinhol@pasco.k12.fl.us

Cash or Check at the WGES school office OR credit/debit card online at www.yearbookforever.com

*Price increases to \$20 on January 1, 2018.

November Citizens of the Month

Burrowing
Owls

Isabella D.
Ayannah J.

Pygmy Owls

Theori G.
Derek L.

Eagle Owls

Rhean'ya W.

Spotted Owls

Jayden N.
Marc M.

Great Gray
Owls

Matias C.

Elf Owls

Kiera O.

Spectacled Owls

Vincet P. Julian B. Andrea M.

WGES Community Page

Resources and activities to help families stay connected to their community!



PTA News & Events

Healthcare Marketplace

Enrollment Assistance

Healthcare Marketplace Enrollment Assistance

The deadline for enrolling for healthcare insurance is December 15th.

Assistance is available with Premier Community Healthcare counselors.

They can help you review your options and ensure that you have the coverage you need at an affordable cost. Enrollment assistance is free.

December 6th | 4pm-7pm

Dade City Library:

4215 4th St., Dade City, FL 33523

December 14th 4pm-7pm

East Hernando Library:

6457 Windmere Rd., Brooksville, FL 34602

December 15th | 4pm-7pm

Main Library:

238 Howell Ave., Brooksville, FL 34601

Please bring the following to your appointment:

- * Proof of household income
- * Social Security Number
- * Immigration documentation for non-citizens
- * Current insurance information
- * Employer name, address and phone number



Congratulations to our TOP supporters of our Fun-Run! Thank you for your fundraising efforts!

Spotlight on Talent Community Talent Show

This is a local competition sponsored by The Heritage Arts Center. It is open to all students grades K-12. There is \$4,000 worth of prize money and trophies. This is the time to showcase your child's talents in musical performances, dance, and gymnastics. Application deadline is January 25, 2018.

For more information, go to <http://www.heritagearts.org/>



Like WGES PTA on Facebook for frequent updates!

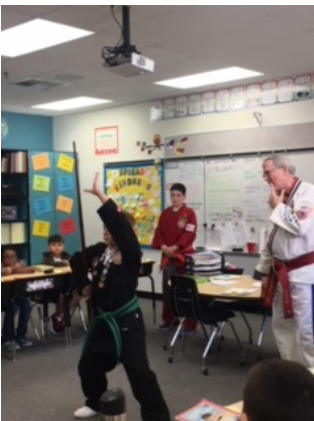


Thank you Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel for your generous donation towards this year's Fun Run! We truly appreciate your commitment to the local community and positive impact on children's health and well-being!



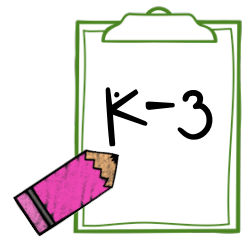
Great American Teach In

Thank you to the local work force and business owners who attended this year's Great American Teach-In event. Our students and teachers were impressed with your skills, talent, and commitment to our community!





Team News



WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

(813) 346- 0600

Burrowing Owls- Kindergarten

The Burrowing Owls are very excited for the *Elflandia* concert on Monday, December 11. The students have worked so hard to learn their parts and the songs for the show. We can't wait to see all the little elves on stage! Be sure to have turned in your child's permission slip and bus fee for the morning trip to the Center for the Arts for rehearsal.

As we come into the colder days of December and January, we want to remind parents that little hats, mittens and jackets tend to go astray from their owners once the day warms up. Please write your child's name inside their belongings so we can identify them when they show up in the overflowing *Lost and Found*. If you are missing an item, the *Lost and Found* is located in the cafeteria.



Kindergarten students work on creating force and motion in the Maker Space! Students use the Maker Space to explore scientific concepts.



Pygmy Owls- 1st Grade

The Pygmy Owl students have been working hard on their *Elflandia* Concert which they will perform on Thursday, Dec. 11th at the WCHS Performing Arts Center.

December is a busy month for all, but we want to emphasize the importance of practicing power words and reading stamina at home. Reading at school will allow your child to quickly build and reinforce skills learned at school.



Get ready to see our talented K-1 students perform in the Holiday Musical *Elflandia*!

The performance will be held at Wesley Chapel Center of the Performing Arts at Wesley Chapel Elementary School.

See you on Thursday, December 11 at 7 PM.

Eagle Owls- 2nd Grade

Hello Eagle Owls! December is upon us already! We are working hard to master our 2nd grade academic standards. The quarterly testing window is coming up soon for ELA, Math, and Science. The dates will run from December 11-22 from 1:00-1:40 PM. We would love to see all of our Eagle Owls in attendance on their classes' assigned testing days. These assessments will show student's progress on the skills covered during the second quarter. We are planning our grade level winter celebration for the morning of December 22nd. This marks the halfway point in the school year. More information will come home with details at a later date. Our WGES annual *Carols and Cocoa* activities will be on December 22nd; our last day before winter break. The students love to participate! The time for second grade is 1:00-2:35 PM on that day. If you think you would be interested in helping out with this event, please contact our music department for information. Lastly, if you would like some worthwhile Math activities to try at home, please go to embarc.online. This fabulous website can be used to support and help reinforce your child's Eureka Math skills. There is a multitude of activities and information. You can log in as guest or create your own account.



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Snowy Owls- Third Grade

December is going to be a very busy month for 3rd graders, but exciting as well! Starting the week of December 11th, we will be taking the District Quarterly exams. Students will be tested on all of the standards we have been working on this quarter in Reading, Writing, Math, and Science. The last week before winter break, we will have our Hot Chocolate Reading Celebration for all students who have met at least 4 Power Goals this quarter!

As for what we're currently learning, students are continuing to study the Regions of the United States in Social Studies, and the Properties of Matter in Science. We finished up our Fun Folktales Reading Unit right before Thanksgiving, and we are now reading texts relating to Native Americans. There is a heavy focus on identifying the Main Idea and Key Details within these stories! In Math, we are still working on the various multiplication and division strategies in Module 3. We have also started timed multiplication fact tests for students to build up their fact fluency. It's always beneficial to practice those multiplication facts at home, as often as possible. (There's tons of apps and websites available to use.) In our next math module, students will explore Area of 2D Shapes, which requires them to know their basic multiplication facts.

Happy Holidays from all of the Snowy Owl teachers!!

Spotted Owls- 4th Grade

We are looking forward to going to the EMC the first week of December. This is a great hands on field trip the students will remember forever!

TEDx talks are coming to a close. Our finalists will speak on Friday, December 8th.

As TEDx is coming to a close, we will be starting the STEM Fair. Be on the lookout for information from your child's teacher. Please see Mrs. Hoffman's website for more information on the STEM Fair <http://connectplus.pasco.k12.fl.us/alhoffma/>

Quarterly Checks will begin the week of December 11th. The students will be tested on standards they learned from Quarter 2 in Reading, Math, Science, and Writing. This is data collected that we use to inform our teaching. Students will have the chance to earn hot cocoa, marshmallows or whipped cream, and a candy cane depending on their Quarterly Check improvement from the first quarter.

Towards the end of December, students will be able to participate in Carols and Cocoa before Winter Break.

Winter Break is from December 23rd-January 8th with students returning on Tuesday, January 9th.

Great Grey Owls- 5th Grade

All fifth graders should be working on their STEM Fair projects. Students should be ready to perform their experiment over the Winter Break. We will be completing the projects when students return from the break. Please contact your child's STEM teacher with any questions or concerns. Good luck Great Greys.

All students are also working on an Explorer Project! They have been assigned an explorer and have been working hard on writing informative papers. Their final copies are due 12/8/17. The next step will be to create a presentation on their explorer project that they can use to teach the class with. We are all excited to see what they come up with!

We will be hosting a Winter Celebration so look for information from your child's teacher in the next couple of weeks about a date and items needed!

Please to continue to have your child read every night for 30 minutes and fill in their book logs. They can also use Zearn.com to help review daily skills and practice math facts.

Specialists News

WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

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Music Notes

Our Annual Carols and Cocoa Event is Friday, December 22. We need approved volunteers to escort students from station to station. Please contact Mrs. Reinhold at kreinhol@pasco.k12.fl.us if you can help!

- 3rd, 4th, 5th and Elf Owl will be from 10:15 – 11:50
- K, 1st, and 2nd will be from 1:00 – 2:35

We have 3 concerts in December. Our Chorus and Orff Ensemble Concert is Thursday, December 7th at 7:00 PM in our cafeteria. Our Kindergarten and 1st Grade Concert is Monday, December 11th at 7:00 PM at the Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel High School on Wells Rd. Don't forget to turn in your permission slips to participate in this concert! Our Elf Owl Concert is Friday, December 15 at 10:30 AM in our cafeteria.



Carols and Cocoa is coming soon! If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact our music teachers OR Mrs. Causey in the front office.



Counselor's Corner

Happy Holiday Season!

Our ABC (Assist, Believe, Care) program supports our own WGES families during the holiday season. If you'd like to take part in our Angel Tree gift buying program, please stop by the front office to claim an angel. If your family is in need of assistance, please call or email me.

mward@pasco.k12.fl.us

All grade levels will begin or continue the Safer, Smarter Kids program this month. Please look for parent letters to come home after our lessons and talk to your child about what they learned. Thank you.

Meredith Ward, School Counselor



Thank you Miss Ali for decorating our Angel Tree!