



May/June Specials Newsletter

Spanish

It is with great sadness that we learned that the Spanish FLES Program will no longer be running at WES. We have enjoyed working with your students! If you would like for your children to continue to have some exposure to Spanish, check the JMRL public library for story times in Spanish. Several private schools are also running summer language camps.

Kindergarten students have continued to increase their vocabulary by learning words of fruits, and body parts. They have reviewed older vocabulary and phrases. As we learned about Mexico, the students have enjoyed tasting fresas con crema, watching short movie clips and listening to a folktale called Cucú. During the last week, they will learn about the famous artist Frida Kahlo. Some students have been decoding short stories in Spanish in literacy. All the students have been practicing the Spanish alphabet.

After learning about animal classification and making a project on their favorite animal, first graders learned about Mexico. They prepared elote callejera, took a VR field trip to Mexico, and listened to the folktale Cucú, and the legend of corn. During the last week, they will listen to a biography of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.

In second grade, students learned some action words, which they used in the sentences *Me gusta + verb* and *No me gusta + verb*. They have

also continued practicing numbers. During the last week, they will also learn about the famous artist Frida Kahlo.

3rd, 4th and 5th grade students have learned about some Spanish-speaking countries' currencies and their value in relation to the American dollar. We have also compared and contrasted grocery shopping in different countries as we have learned about food items and how to express what we eat and drink at breakfast.

Art

In our last couple months of art, students have been learning more about how to recycle certain art mediums and supplies and what it takes to keep all our materials clean and how to respect them. Kindergarten students have been reading the story "Broken Crayons Still Color" and have been learning just that. We have been drawing with only broken crayons, teaching students that mistakes can be happy accidents. Kinders have also been learning about fireflies and how these bugs can be a beautiful sight.

Firsties through 3rd graders have been learning about the art of collage and how we can create a colorful composition out of all the leftover small pieces of paper that normally get thrown out. Fourth graders have begun a house plant drawing project, learning how certain plants are good for a variety of reasons, right in time for summer planting. Lastly, 5th graders have been working on their large 3D candy projects and are now getting to design their own shoes. They've been waiting for this and are super excited! I have had so much fun with these kiddos and can't wait to see what next year brings, in our new and colorful art room!

Music

Summer is almost here and we are wrapping up our school year with some fun activities and projects. 4th and 5th graders just finished their chrome lab beat assignments. They've been creating their own musical

compositions and practicing recorder for the annual string challenge. 2nd and 3rd graders are finishing up their ukulele unit. They've learned 5 chords and 3 songs! K/1 finished their music concert at the beginning of May and they did a fantastic job. Since then, we've been dancing, singing and getting them started with ukuleles and pianos! It's been a great year for music and we look forward to working together next year!

Physical Education

Greetings from the Phys. Ed. Crew!

We have enjoyed having your students with us this year! This last quarter has been full of trying new activities and revisiting old favorites before the year ends. We have been active in soccer, lacrosse, star wars tag, boiling peanut butter pitt, We are ending the year with favorites of fitness stations, and shack attack. We hope everyone has a safe, relaxing summer, and we want to remind everyone to keep moving!





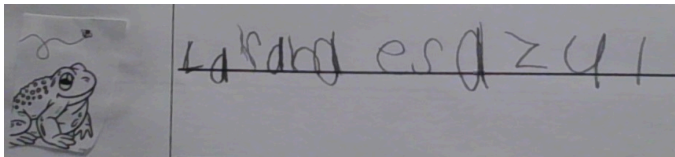
Spanish

Students in 3rd, 4th and 5th have achieved a great deal of success in Spanish class. We have learned over 20 vocabulary words related to classroom's objects. We have learned 5 prepositions of locations: Encima

de / on top of, debajo de/under, al lado de/next to, delante de/in front of, and detrás de/behind. Finally, we added the question word “dónde/where”. Students are able to make full sentences to indicate an object or person’s location in relation to something else. Students watched a short story video in Spanish. They were successful at retelling the story, identifying the characters, setting and problem all in Spanish. Their comprehension, writing and production of Spanish is outstanding.

Kindergarten students have learned shapes and practiced counting to 31. Now they are learning the vowels and the alphabet in Spanish. They are discovering that there are more letters in Spanish but the vowels have only one sound.

First graders are busy writing sentences to describe animals, after having learned and read about the rainforest environment.



Example: (Emerald, G1)

Second graders are writing letters to new penpals in Crozet. They practiced introducing themselves with name, age, feelings, favorite color and favorite animal. They also practiced asking questions. They are now using these skills to write their first letter!

Library

We have an exciting month in the library. Our Book Fair will be the week of the 22nd through the 26th. More details will be made available.

Art

Spring has sprung in the art room. This month we will be focusing on all items related to spring. In grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade, students will be creating multimedia projects that consist of a variety of flowers, butterflies, bird nests, and rainbows. In 5th grade, we began a

gorgeous landscape mural project that we are painting on our sheds near the back playground.

Music

April will be an exciting month for music! 4th and 5th graders are learning how to find notes and play simple melodies on the piano without the notes being labeled. They're also going to start their recorder unit towards the end of the month. 3rd and 2nd grade had an excellent music concert in March, so they are learning some fundamental piano skills and continuing with rhythmic games that highlight the concept of tempo. K/1 is gearing up for their concert in May, so we're working on some tunes from a musical called "How Does Your Garden Grow". We're using dance moves for each song to help remember the lyrics, while also learning about plant science.

Physical Education

Students have been learning basketball skills like passing, shooting, and dribbling. We have also worked on basketball language (baseline, free throws, foul line, etc) and game fundamentals. They have also been working on their jump rope skills. Students in K-2 have learned how to hold, turn, and jump a rope. 3rd-5th grade have been able to complete the Jump Rope Ninja Challenge and work on their long rope skills.

All students were able to participate in the 100th day of PE Class. Students completed challenges that included 100 dribbles, jumps, and shots. Along with 100 seconds of sit ups, jumping jacks, plank, and running.

We have begun our kicking unit with students working on ball control, utilizing the inside of their foot for dribbling, and kicking with the laces (top of the foot) for distance and power.

4th and 5th grade are completing their FitnessGram testing. These tests include the Pacer (cardiovascular endurance), Curl-up and Push-up

(muscular strength and endurance), Sit & Reach and Trunk Lift (flexibility). So far our students are excelling at these tests and are showing great growth from the Fall.

Be on the lookout for Field Day volunteer sign up information. Field Day will be held on Friday, May 31st this year.





Spanish

In 3rd and 4th grade, we worked with partners and Venn Diagrams to find out daily activities we have in common. We used these diagrams to report to the class about what our partners do or don't do. For example, my friend rides a bike, I listen to music, she dances, etc. In 5th grade, we have been working on mastering the verb "ser" or "to be". We wrote diamond poems about ourselves. For example, I am artistic and talented; sometimes, I am silly and impatient.

Kindergarten is starting to learn to say their age. We celebrated Gato's birthday (he turned 6). Now we are practicing the question

‘¿Cuántos años tienes?’ with the answer ‘Tengoaños’. The students also enjoyed listening to the story *Stella’s Stellar Hair* by Yesenia Moises, a young designer, writer and illustrator from New York with Puerto rican roots.

First grade is reviewing calendar and weather, as well as saying their names and ages *en español*. They also learned about the olinguito, a recently discovered new mammal species from the cloud forest of Ecuador. We learned about the cloud forest, read the book *Olinguito de la A a la Z*, and read a short text in Spanish about the olinguito.

Second grade is working on understanding and answering basic questions (a lot of review from previous years and early 2nd grade). The goal is to be able to introduce oneself to somebody in Spanish with information such as name, age, feelings, favorite color and animal.

Art

This month was black history month and man oh man did we learn about a lot of African American artists and inventors. From Jean Michel Basquiat self-portraits in 3rd grade, to Mae Jemison space modules in Kindergarten, our art classes have been fun and informative. In the halls of the school you could find Kente Paper Weaving done by 1st grade, Kente Cloth done by kindergarten, African masks done by 5th grade, and African flags with a personal flair from 2nd graders. Others we have touched on would be Lois Mailou Jones, Rosa Parks, Alma Woodsey Thomas, Dr. Marian Croak, Frederick Jones, James West, & Marie Van Brittan Brown.

Music

We’ve been working on our 2nd and 3rd grade concerts. We have 3 songs for each grade and our performance will be on March 14. 4th and 5th grade is exploring our new electric pianos and learning ukulele chords.

Kindergarten and 1st grade are taking songs and creating dance moves for each stanza. All grades are singing black history month songs.

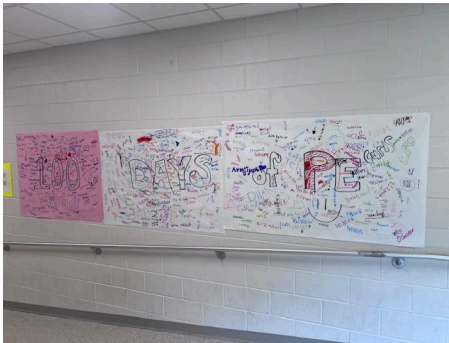
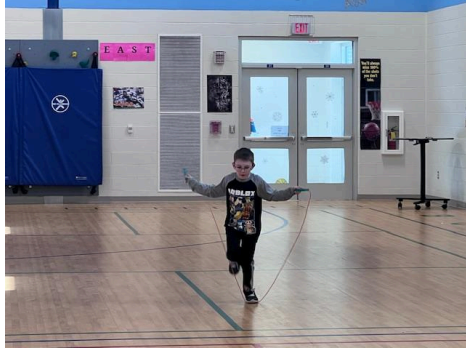
Physical Education

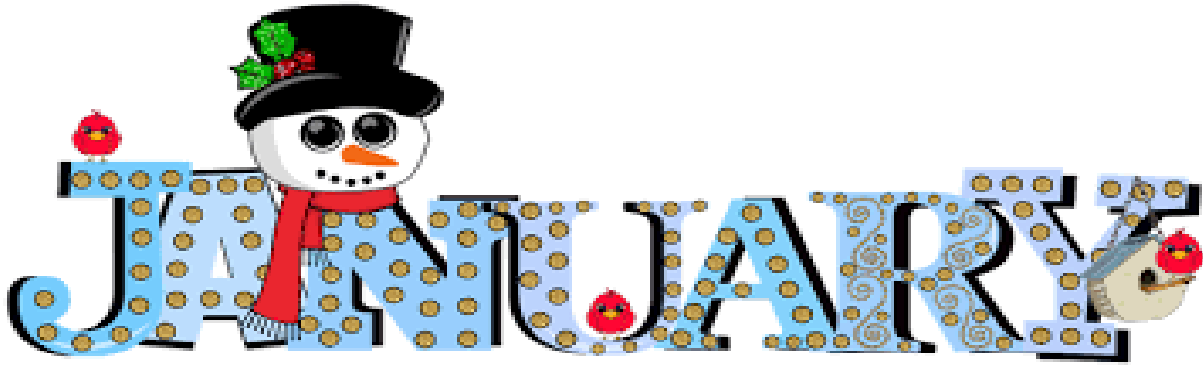
Happy Heart Month from the PE department.

In February we have focused on the basketball skills of ball-handling, shooting, and passing. All working on the student's hand-eye and bilateral coordination. We also practiced various rope jumping skills. Students had opportunities to work on their individual skills as well as the cooperative skills of long rope jumping. During the week of the 12th, we celebrated the 100th day of school by completing several exercises and activities for either 100 times or for 100 seconds. Every student who completed the 100 Days of PE, got to sign our hall banner.

We are ending the month with a few favorite large group games such as Shack Attack (over hand throw), Scooter Track Relay (working on muscular endurance, and strengthening the vestibular system), and Pin Take Away (over hand throw, and under hand roll).

Here are a few pictures of our fantastic students working hard in PE.





Spanish

Students in 3rd and 4th grade have focused on learning many more -AR verbs. For example: patinar, bailar, escuchar, necesitar, usar, etc. We have conjugated our -AR verbs so many times that, by now, we almost know them by heart. We have also used them in context.

Students in 5th grade have focused on learning adjectives that can describe a person. For example: artistic-artístico, talented-talentoso, paciente-patient, athletic-deportista, etc. We have practiced how to talk about ourselves by using these adjectives. We are now just starting with the verb TO BE - SER.

Kindergarten students are learning the names of the seasons and the months of the year. In Literacy they are learning the letters a,i,m, and how they can be combined to form words like *mamá*.

Kindergarten and 1st graders enjoyed the book Los animales no se dormían, and the math question it is asking: How could we sort animals? First graders have also started to learn how to say their age in response to the question *¿Cuántos años tienes tú?* Now they are working on saying the month of their birthday.

In second grade students enjoyed the rescheduled Mexican hot chocolate. They learned about where chocolate comes from, before tasting it and learning a hand game with the word *choco-la-te*. They also practiced

numbers up to 100 by ones and by tens by playing games such as bingo and *mano nerviosa*.

Library

The library hosted the Spelling Bee this month. It was an exciting time, and our very own Logan Paparella won 1st place. A huge thank you goes out to all the people involved who made this event so successful.

Art

In art this month, younger grades, kinder through 3rd, began working on 3D art projects. Kindergarten and first graders made the connection between music and art and how the two are related. Kinders made shakers and firsties made maracas. Second grade students learned about 3D arts as well and are in the process of making paper mache donuts, inspired by Wayne Thiebuad. As far as 3rd and 4th graders go, these students are finishing up a variety of 2d projects. 3rd grade is finalizing their graffiti brick walls and 4th is finishing up their patterned skateboards. 5th graders are now beginning their 3D art project, a time capsule. Students will get to create a capsule filled with all small items and notes, for them to enjoy at the end of highschool. These time capsules will be made to look like pencils. It is going to be such a fun activity for the older students to begin.

Physical Education

Hello Woodbrook Families! Happy January!

We have been introducing several different concepts in Physical Education during our days we have been able to be in school. The 2nd - 5th graders have been learning about Invasion Games, and what it means to use agility to change directions and move quickly. We even had Principal DeLaurier join in for a quick game! Students were also introduced to various muscles and

bones that make up their bodies. Ask your student if they can show you where their Humerus bone is located (upper arm), or can they show you where their Gastrocnemius muscle is located (calf muscle).

The Kindergarteners and 1st graders have been reviewing their locomotor and non-locomotor (run, gallop, skip, bend, and stretch) skills, and they are starting to learn simple gameplay. They are also learning that their heart is a muscle (not a bone), and the way to make a muscle stronger is to use it more.

As we move into February students of all ages will be working on their basketball, rope jumping, and fitness skills. Thank you for always supporting your students to keep them moving outside of school! Many students have shared with us what sports/activities they are playing, and about their teams. We love to hear about their active lives outside of school!







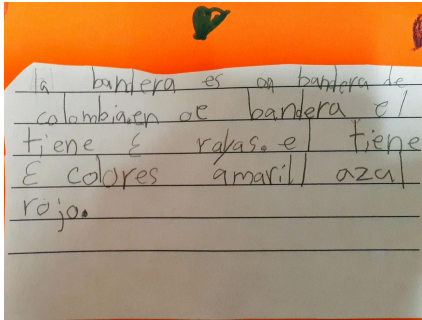
FLES

Kindegarten students have learned vocabulary related to family and feelings, as they are continuing to practice colors, numbers up to 20, days of the week and questions-sentences like *¿Cómo te llamas? ¿Cómo estás? Yo me llamo... Estoy...* (What is your name? How are you?)

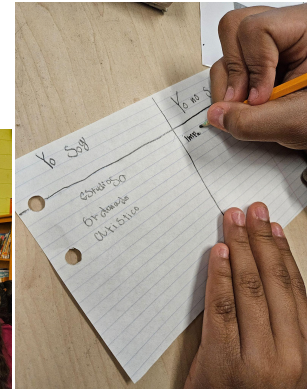
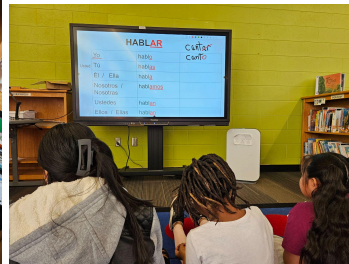
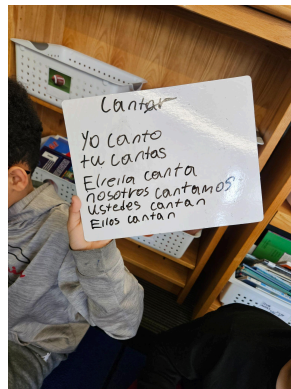
1st graders have also learned about family and feelings. In additio, they have learned vocabulary like *día, noche, sol, luna, estrella, rotación* (day, night, sun, moon, star, rotation) to support their understanding of what causes day and night.

2nd graders have taken a break in late November from practicing numbers up to 100 in order to finish their 'flag projects'. They described flags with colors and shapes. Each student worked according to his or her ability.

In December, first and second graders enjoy learning about where chocolate comes from, and tasting Mexican hot chocolate. Ask them about the hand clapping game they are learning! All the primary grades are enjoying some seasonal stories related to Hispanic culture.



This month in 3rd and 4th we are focusing on the -ar family verbs. That is a list of verbs in Spanish that end in “ar”. We have learned the pronouns “yo, tú, él,etc” and used them to conjugate our “ar” verbs. In 5th grade we learned the ABCs in Spanish, we are counting to 50 and we are working on counting by 10s. All students in 3rd, 4th and 5th have learned the history of Spanish language.



Library

This month, we are reading stories with winter-related themes and focusing on elements of storytelling such as plot, characterization and setting. The students will be given a picture of a snow globe and will be illustrating a winter scene inside of it.

Music

This month in music, we have been exploring new ways to collaborate musically by introducing rounds, assigning individual parts, and giving students instrument options when performing songs and doing activities. 4th/5th graders are practicing for their winter concert. Each grade has three songs and we've been learning lyrics and instrumental parts. 2nd/3rd graders are working on song form and knowing the difference between A, B, and C sections. (Choruses, verses, and bridges). We have also been reintroducing the ukulele and introducing solfege. K/1 graders are learning new dances, and playing percussion instruments!

Art

In art this month, Kindergarteners, 1st graders, and 2nd graders are finishing up wishing trees, winter landscapes, and the Taj Mahal. Moving forward these students will begin working on more winter themed art projects, such as tie dyed winter snowflakes and symmetrical cut paper snowflakes. For the older students, 3rd-5th, we are finishing up our graffiti/ zentangle unit this month, which focuses on **contrast**, **lines**, and **texture**. 3rd grade is creating their own brick walls, 4th grade creating their own zentangle skateboards, and 5th grade finishing up their 3D graffiti fences.

Physical Education

This month in PE our students in grades 2-5 concentrated on learning the sidearm strike. They got to utilize these skills in pickleball and scooter hockey. We also continued to work on our personal fitness through strength work utilizing our body weight. Some of the body weight exercises used were planks, squats, push ups and curl ups. Our 1st graders have also been working on learning the sidearm strike, but using their hands instead of equipment. They have also been working on developing their physical fitness using games like exercise tag and

Scooter Track. Our Kindergarten students have been developing their coordination, spatial awareness, and physical fitness through the Scooter Track, and games like Builders and Bulldozers and exercise tag.





FLES

This month our Spanish students have learned about Hispanic Heritage month and Latin America. Kindergarten students listened to an Aztec legend called The rabbit in the moon (*El conejo en la luna*). First and second graders learned the names of the continents in Spanish and worked on a world map. K and First grade students learned about some

Latin instruments such as maracas while second grade students also learned some facts about Latin America. They will also work with flags to practice making sentences. In addition, K students learned how to respond to the question *¿Cómo te llamas?* (What is your name) with a complete sentence, and the days of the week, while first graders are learning about the seasons.

Students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade have learned about “heritage” and Hispanic Heritage Month. We have reviewed the correct terminology when referring to people who have heritage from Latin America or who speak Spanish. By using a map, we have identified all the countries in Latin America. Also, during this month 3rd and 4th have gone back to where we left last academic year by reviewing our verbs and how to conjugate them in the first person (I). 5th grade has learned their ABCs and vowels in Spanish.



Music

This month in music, we have been learning more about xylophone technique by practicing scary, spooky songs! We've also been getting a head start on concert music and practicing ukulele for 4th and 5th grade. Kindergarten and first grade have gotten a small taste of the xylophones

for the first time, and 2nd/3rd grade have started learning how to sing songs in rounds!

Art

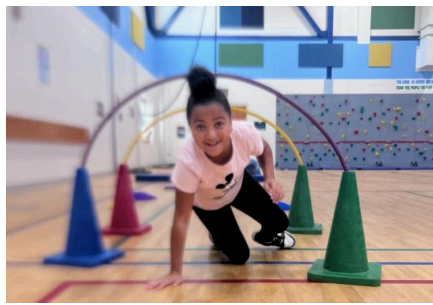
In art this month we have been finishing our exploration of the elements of art. We will also celebrate Hispanic Heritage month with inspiration from Frida Khalo, Pablo Picasso, Lordes Villagomez and Salivador Dali.

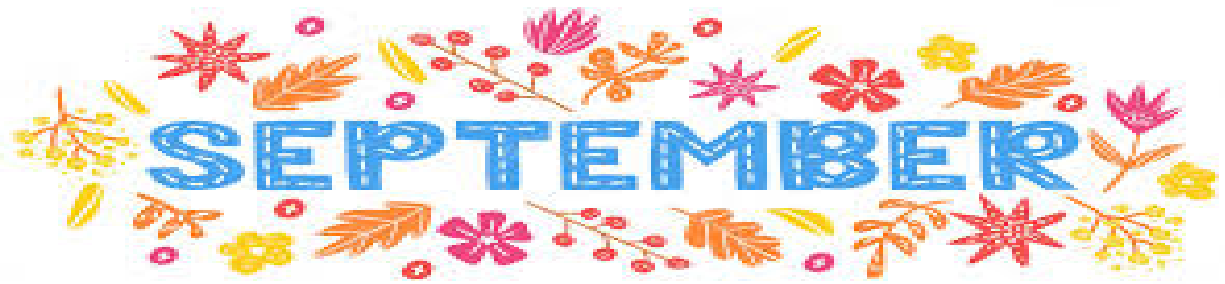
Physical Education

Hello from the Physical Education Department!

The end of September, beginning of October has been a busy month for us! All 4th and 5th grade students have completed their first round of the Fitnessgram Fitness Tests required by the state of Virginia. Students will complete these tests once in the Fall and again in the Spring to measure their improvement in the four wellness areas. The four areas are muscular endurance in both arm/shoulder and core/abdominal (push-ups and sit-ups), cardiovascular endurance (pacer running), and flexibility (sit and reach and trunk lift).

Last week we had a week of our indoor obstacle course which included the cargo net, rope swing, climbing wall, and rolling mats, and is always a student favorite. This week we have moved on to emphasizing the skill of the underhand roll in game situations for the older students, and skill practice for the younger ones. As the weather turns cooler we will be spending more time outside on the running track and soccer activities. The 4th and 5th grade students will be starting to think about goal setting using their Fall fitness scores, and the younger students will continue with their skill development.





Art

This month in art we will be focusing on breaking down the elements of art. K-5 will begin by identifying and drawing different types of line. Then, 3-5 students will do a deep dive into the difference between horizontal, vertical, expressive, and contour lines. After line, we will move into our shape and color unit. K-1 will begin by identifying circle, square, rectangle and triangle, as well as, ROYGBIV and primary colors. 3-5 will work on identifying organic and geometric shapes, as well as, primary, secondary & complementary colors. All students will have the opportunity to explore the art of suminagashi, an ancient Japanese art technique of painting on top of water.

Music

This month in music class, all grades have been working on listening to each other and the music around them. We've been progressing using the repetition of various rhythms via rhythm sticks, hand drums, boom whackers and xylophones. Also with the use of eurythmics, we've been using movement to internalize rhythm for the younger grades (K - 3). Songs have also been used across all grades to demonstrate melody and the concept of notes within a melody. K-3 has been learning "I Love the Mountains" and "Kookaburra". 4-5 has been learning "Viva La Vida - Coldplay", and "All the Small Things - Blink 182"

Spanish

Students in 3rd and 4th grade have been reviewing our routines in Spanish class: calendar, numbers, and the weather. Similarly, 5th grade is off to a nice start by warming up our brains to the new language. We have begun the year with some counting, days of the week, the months, calendar and “what is your name?/ ¿Cómo te llamas?”

Kindergarten through second graders have defined expectations and practiced routines. In Kindergarten, students are learning basic greetings (*Buenos días, hola, ¿Cómo estás?*), and colors. First graders have reviewed colors and shapes, and numbers up to 20 in any order. They have been working on listening skills such as identifying a shape and its colors by listening to directions. Second graders have reviewed colors and shapes, and numbers up to 100. They are composing written sentences with colors and shapes such as ‘*El cuadrado es rojo.*’ They are also practicing using words to describe the location of a shape (*arriba, abajo, a la izquierda, a la derecha, en el centro*).

Library

In the library, all students were given time to check out books. K-1 may have their books for one week, and grades 2-5 may have them for two weeks. Also, we will be reading books for Hispanic Heritage Month. Exciting times are happening in the library!

Physical Education

Hello Woodbrook Families!

We have gotten off to a great start in Physical Education! We began the year getting to know each other and learning several new TAG games that we will be using all year. Ask your child which was their favorite. We then moved into our week of cooperation with the Boiling Peanut Butter Pit for grades 2-5. This is usually a student favorite and is requested every year. This week we began to focus on the Fitnessgram wellness fitness tests for the 4th and 5th grade students. We do this twice a year, once at the

beginning, and once at the end so our students can see how much they have improved over the course of the school year.

The K-1st grades are continuing to learn and practice moving their bodies in good space, and with equipment, while in the gym. As the weather cools down we are looking forward to getting outside to introduce our outdoor track, and field activities.

Students are beginning to do a great job with bringing their tennis shoes for class. Please continue to help them remember which two days of the week that they have PE, and to please wear or bring their tennis shoes. We are looking forward to a great year!

