

## Notes From Our Family Liaison:

Parents, I have children’s books for your to check out in my office (in the Library). Students may not check out a book without a parent present. I will be available Monday and Wednesdays after school until 3:30pm. In the event you are not able to make either of those days please call me at 253-945-2516 and we can set up a time for you and your child.



I am also available to help with other needs.

We have a backpack program that sends food home with scholars every Friday. We also have vouchers for clothing and household items available.

Please call if you have questions or family needs and I will do my best to help or find someone who can be of assistance.

Shannon Curran

Family Liaison – Camelot Elementary

253-945-2516 [scurran@fwps.org](mailto:scurran@fwps.org)



## Visitors and Volunteers:

We appreciate your participation at our school, and parents/guardians are always welcome.

Please contact your student’s teacher to make arrangements before visiting their class.

We ask that all visitors and volunteers sign in at the office to receive a “Visitor Badge”.

Safety procedures require that only visitors & volunteers that are cleared through the WA State Patrol Background Check spend extended time on school grounds, or volunteer to be chaperones on field trips. Please plan ahead; it may take weeks for approval. You may pick up a WSP Form in the school office, these forms require the applicant turn them in in person as we are required to make a photocopy of your WA state ID. There is no fee.

We look forward to seeing you at our school!



# Camelot—DRAWBRIDGE

Federal Way Public Schools

September 2017

Joe Kosty, Principal (253) 945-2504

Natalee Daniels, Assistant Principal (253) 945-2504

Attendance email: [camoffice@fwps.org](mailto:camoffice@fwps.org)

Maureen Nunley, Office Manager (253) 945-2501

Lindy Lothian, Secretary (253) 945-2502



## From the Principal:

Dear Camelot Community,

Thank you for our excellent start to the 2017-2018 school year. I have been extremely impressed by our scholars already. This is certainly an exciting time! Scholars have begun building strong relationships. They have already been engaged in rigorous and meaningful work. Our big goals for Camelot are going to continue to be around **early learning** and **supporting the whole child**. With early learning, we are focusing on **aligning our newly adopted curriculum to research based best practices**, and in having **clearly communicated learning targets** so our scholars know what they are learning and why they are learning it. With the whole child, we are pushing ourselves to support a variety of strategies to **help families advocate and support their scholars**, as well as focusing on **teaching social emotional learning skills**. We also want you to know that we are using a new formative assessment called the iReady to help us make data-informed decisions. This assessment closely aligns to the SBA state assessment, which is nice because it will better help us support our scholars in preparing for the state test.

Thanks,

Joe Kosty, Principal



## Dates to Remember

### September

22nd Individual Picture Day

26th - 10am Celebration Assembly

### October

4th - 1:35pm **Early Release Day**

5th - 9:00am PTA Jog-A-Thon

5th - 6-7pm Bullying Prevention Education Night

11th - 4:00pm PTA Meeting

13th **No School - Teacher In-Service**

18th - 1:35pm Early Release Day

19th - 10am Celebration Assembly

20th Picture Re-take Day

24th - 6:00pm STEM Night

## Message From Our Assistant Principal:

Hello Camelot families, I am so excited to join you as the Assistant Principal of Camelot. I hope to serve our school community in partnership with you. I believe school is a place where scholars can be their best selves both academically and socially. I recently graduated from the University of Washington Danforth Principal program with a certificate in administration and principalship. I also earned a Masters in Instructional Leadership and Curriculum that focused on Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners from the University of Washington, Seattle—where I also earned my undergraduate degree. In education, I have worked in various teaching, coaching, and administrative roles in Washington, California, Florida, Oklahoma, Peru, and Ecuador. I look forward to engaging in conversations about our school and scholars this year. Go Dawgs!

### Social Emotional Learning:

This month, our school wide theme is “our school as a welcoming place where every student feels like he or she belongs”. In our morning announcements and school assembly, we’ll be reminding students to welcome others and act and speak in safe, respectful, and responsible ways.

We’ll also begin teaching the *Second Step* program, which includes lessons that support these behaviors.

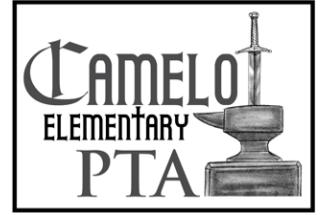
You can help at home by welcoming others, acting and speaking in safe, respectful, and responsible ways. Please ask your child’s teacher if you have questions about specific ways you can help your child with these behaviors at home.

As we head into the month of October, we will be honoring National Bullying Prevention Month. We will be holding a Bullying Prevention Education Night for families and caregivers on **October 5, 2017 from 6-7 pm**. Be on the lookout for additional information. Please reach out to me, with questions at 253-945-2507 or at [ndaniels@fwps.org](mailto:ndaniels@fwps.org)

Natalee Daniels, Assistant Principal

## Camelot PTA News

Camelot PTA is comprised of hard-working families committed to enhancing every student’s experience. Your participation (no matter how big or small) makes a huge difference. Here are a few important upcoming dates you need to know:



**Emergency Kits Due: Sept. 22** • Every student must have an emergency kit turned in or purchased by Friday, September 22. PTA is selling kits for \$5 which can be purchased through the front office.

**National Box Tops Week: Sept. 24 – 30** • Our school goal for this year is \$1,000 (we receive \$.10 cents per label). Box Tops are labels that can be clipped from many common household products and food. Please watch for the collection sheets coming home soon, but don’t wait! Start clipping today.

**Jog-A-Thon: Thursday, Oct. 5** • Mark your calendars for our 2nd annual Jog-A-Thon (K – 5th). Students will be receiving information this week about how to raise money. ALL funds stay at Camelot to support special projects. If you are able to help, please email our Jog-A-Thon Coordinator, Amy Peterson at [amyp347@gmail.com](mailto:amyp347@gmail.com).

**PTA Meeting: Oct. 11 at 4 PM** • Thanks to everyone who came out for our September PTA Meeting. We’re so excited to continue to meet families and work together to support Camelot scholars! Don’t forget to sign up for PTA Membership, Individuals \$13.00, Family \$18.00. Our goal is to have at least 100 members actively supporting students this year.

Available to volunteer? Interested in helping with a specific area? Let us know! You can drop us a note at the front office (just mark it for PTA) or email our PTA President Kim Jenkins at [Jenkinskimberly81@gmail.com](mailto:Jenkinskimberly81@gmail.com). Let’s make it an amazing year for our kids!

## Yearbook Club... Calling All 5th Graders

Yearbook Club will be starting soon!

If any of the following sounds like something you would like to do, look for a permission slip to come home soon.

- Taking candid photos of students around school
- Taking make-up portraits
- Taking group/club photos
- Marketing – making posters and pre-sales of the yearbook
- Designing and picking layouts for the yearbook (computer program)
- Selecting photos from our collection to include in the book

Questions? See Mrs. B or Ms. Curran

## Yearbook Presales Forms Coming Home Soon!

Yearbooks are 32 color pages. The cost is \$15.00 each if ordered during presales. We are ordering a limited quantity so order yours today. If there are unsold books available in the spring, the cost will be \$17. Please complete the form below and return it with your check (payable to Camelot PTA). Books will be handed out at the end of the school year. Please only list one student per book ordered. **5<sup>th</sup> graders that are unable to afford a yearbook and would like to receive one may obtain a scholarship application from Ms. Curran or Mrs. B. Scholarships will be provided as available based on need.**

## WELCOME New Camelot Staff!!

Mrs. Ball-Toughill	3rd Grade	Ms. Lee	Resource Room
Mrs. Chuprik	Para	Ms. Pomfret	1st Grade
Ms. Daniels	Assistant Principal	Ms. Prokhor	K-3 Literature Teacher
Ms. Heagerty	SLP	Ms. Shvartsman	SLP
Mr. Kosty	Principal	Mrs. Whitford	5th Grade

## Counselor's Corner

### College Wear Wednesdays/Spirit Fridays

As part of our college and career awareness focus, Camelot observes "College Wear Wednesdays". All staff and students are encouraged to wear logo and/or colors of the college that they have loyalty to or are interested in.



**Fridays** show your spirit by wearing your Camelot Gear or Seahawks logo or colors!

### Arrival/Departure Reminders

Students eating breakfast at school may arrive at 8:05 AM.

Students NOT eating breakfast at school may arrive at 8:15 AM.

Frist bell rings at 8:30 AM.

Morning assembly begins at 8:35 AM

Dismissal is 3:05 PM.

Please do not drop students off early as there is not adequate supervision available. The same is true for pickup in the afternoon. Please be on time for pickup. Staff often have meetings before and after school, making them unavailable to supervise.

### Student Council Application Available Now

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders interested in serving on Student Council this year should pick up an application outside Mrs. B's office right away. Completed applications must be turned in to classroom teachers no later than **Friday, September 29**. *Please be sure your student reads the application and understands the responsibilities of serving prior to signing.* Classroom elections will be held the week of October 2-4.

Elected classroom representatives wishing to run for an office will record a one-minute video speech with Mrs. B to be presented to 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. Officer elections will be completed by Wednesday, October 11. Student Council members and officers will be notified and announced on Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> in morning assembly. If you have questions please feel free to contact Mrs. B.

## Important updates to Washington state attendance laws take effect 2017-18 school year

School is back in session and we are so excited to have our scholars back in their classrooms, ready to learn. Did you know that missing only 2 days per month could negatively affect your child's ability to learn?

For elementary scholars studies show many children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years. They often have trouble mastering reading by the end of third grade. By middle and high school, chronic absence is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out.

To combat the effects of chronic absences, WA state attendance law has changed recently, requiring greater accountability for school districts and parents alike. Beginning the 2017-18 school year, the following changes will be implemented at all school sites:

- **Automated Attendance Letters**

Sent from the school when scholars' absences trigger intervention.

- **Morning Call-outs**

Auto-calls when scholars are absent without notification from a parent/guardian.

- **Excused/Unexcused**

School secretaries will be excusing (or not excusing) absences based on district and state law definitions. Ex: Sleeping in is not a valid excuse.

- **Needs Assessments**

Middle and High School scholars with 3+ unexcused absences in a month will be administered a needs assessment to determine if there are mental health or substance abuse concerns present.

- **Attendance Conferences and Agreements**

Parents/Guardians of scholars who are on track to be chronically absent will be required to meet with the school.

- **Community Truancy Board**

FWPS is piloting a Community Truancy Board comprised of community members, social service providers and district employees to meet with families who are experiencing significant barriers to attendance.

- **Prearranged absence requests**

Prearranged absence requests need to be submitted at least 3 days prior to taking off. These forms can be found on the district website here: <http://bit.ly/2vGcgud>.

These changes will affect every family and staff member in Federal Way Public Schools. FWPS educators look forward to collaborating with families to ensure that each scholar has the opportunity to attend school today, graduate tomorrow.

For more information, district attendance policies can be found in your Rights & Responsibilities. More information about the importance of attendance can be found on the district website here: [www.fwps.org/Page/433](http://www.fwps.org/Page/433).



**FEDERAL WAY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## Safety Patrol:

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. We are so excited to have a lot of students returning to safety patrol as well as newcomers to our team! We find that students who are in safety patrol finish the year as:

Safe

Responsible

Respectful

Leaders



The students and staff want to give some safety tips in order to get all students to Camelot on-time and ready to learn!

### **Please use the crosswalks**

We have students at every crosswalk (especially in the parking lot) to help parents, families, and students cross safely.

**Safety Patrol students having breakfast can arrive at 7:50am. Those not eating at school can arrive at 8:05.**

Safety Patrol members are at their posts STARTING at 8:05. We want every child to be safe, so please find a way to make sure students start arriving at school at 8:05 at the very earliest.

### **The parking lot has two purposes:**

-Park only in the parking spaces and use the crosswalk.

-Drop off on the sides of the parking lot, but please **do not park in the drop off zones**.

The busses have to leave as soon as possible, so please use the drop-off zones as drop off only.

### **Please wait until the safety patrol says, "Crossing"**

**Pick one day (at least) to walk. We all live busy lives, so it is hard to find a time to walk and take in all of the smiling faces of Camelot students and staff.**

Camelot is also a Green School, so let's try to pick at least one day per week where we save a little fossil fuel. At Camelot, being green is cool!

As Safety Patrol, we are proud to serve our students and families. Thank you for all your help to keep everyone at Camelot safe!

Sincerely,

Your Safety Patrol Student Members and Mrs. Burhenn and Mr. Barry