



FRIENDLY CONNECTION

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A Bi-Monthly School Bulletin from the office of the Head of School

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Quaker Faith and Practice The heart of the Meeting for Worship is the lifeline of a Friends school. Its strength is the special communication, which draws us together in a unity that transcends all barriers of discrimination, hatred and discord. We are all equal in the process of love. Unfortunately, unlike other events, there is no recipe for success. There are no guarantees. You cannot mix ingredients and hope that the cake will rise. No formulas, no specific objectives, nor course description, no game tactics can help you discover the mysteries found in this special Meeting. Therefore, it will be for all of us a struggle, a life-long process to discover through endless wanderings the most important dimension of our lives, that of our spirituality.

Please join the students, faculty and staff of WFS and Members of the Meeting any Friday at 2 p.m. for Meeting for Worship. You will treasure this time together in peace.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE



The faculty and administration at WFS strive to make a difference in the lives of the children in their classrooms every day. They do this in many ways and one is to keep the love of learning, which they instill in their students, alive and well for themselves. Since school began in September, members of the faculty and administration have done just that by attending conferences and workshops which energize and motivate them to try new approaches and stay current on educational methods and pedagogy. This approach will continue throughout the year.

Pep Stein, First Grade teacher attended an **ESP (Elementary Science Programs)** workshop in early October that focused on science units of study across the grades. Pep's afternoon provided us with the possibility of leasing science kits to support the science program at all grade levels. Linda Wilmot and Barbara Hershman traveled to NYC in mid October to be part of the **NYSAIS Professional Development Liaison Seminar** at The Brick Church School. They shared many thoughts taken from that experience with their colleagues at the October 27th faculty meeting. Nick Belle spent 3 days last week at Pendle Hill (a Quaker Retreat Facility) outside of Philadelphia to begin his two year commitment to the Friends Council on Education **SPARC PROGRAM**. (Spirited Practice and Renewed Courage) Nick's experience will add greatly to our faculty study of Quakerism in the Classroom, which began last year under the guidance of Nancy Aranda and Mike Flanagan. Head of School, Gerri Faivre, attended the **Heads Gathering** at the George School in Newtown, PA on October 8th and 9th conversing with other Heads on the many topics of leadership and school life in these interesting times. On Saturday, October 24th Linda Wilmot, Barbara Zaccaria, Barbara Hershman, Pep Stein, Nancy Staab, Mike Flanagan, Kara Martone, Karen Stone, Nancy Aranda, and Gerri Faivre spent the day at **Columbia Teachers College for the 77th Annual Saturday Reunion** participating in workshops focused on the **TC Reading and Writing Project**. Many ideas were gathered and then shared among the faculty during a follow-up faculty meeting last week.

Barbara Zaccaria, Linda Wilmot, Barbara Caccamo and Pam Wells will attend **BRINGING THE INDOORS OUT AND THE OUTDOORS IN** workshop next week. Kara Martone will be participating in the **Technology Peer Network Conference** in November and the **Library Conference** in February, both sponsored by Friends Council on Education. Mike Flanagan will be off to Abington Friends in mid-November to learn about **QUAKER LIFE IN LOWER AND MIDDLE SCHOOL: Making Quakerism Visible**. This December, Chris Maloney will be away from her desk attending the **FCE Administrative Assistants Conference**. In February, Karen Stone and Nancy Staab will attend the **Friends Council Diversity Conference**. Nancy Preisler and Mike Flanagan will participate in a **Rebecca Sitton Spelling Program Workshop** in February in Ryebrook, New York.

Come April, Lydia Parrish and Barbara Caccamo will once again be a part of the **Friends Environmental Conference**. In the same month, Barbara Zaccaria, Linda Wilmot, Barbara Hershman and Pam Wells will depart for the **Early Childhood Conference**. In May, Nancy Aranda will attend the **FCE Admissions Peer Network Conference**.

Throughout the year, beginning in late fall Lydia Parrish, Pam Wells, Barbara Zaccaria, and Christina Staab will attend a series of workshops at **Variety Child Learning Center** focused on topics such as **RESPECTING AND RESPONDING TO DIVERSITY and BUILDING SUCCESSFUL CLASSROOM EXPERIENCES FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS**.

Finally, 5 members of the Board of Managers, along with the Head of School will travel to Oakwood Friends in Poughkeepsie, NY for a **Governance Matters** workshop next Saturday, November 14th.

Onward we go...all of us learning each and every day on behalf of the children in our care!



East Coast Conference Fitness Challenge at NYIT chaperoned by Mr. Belle is tomorrow!!! Mr. Belle looks forward to seeing those who signed up for this day at NYIT promptly at 10:45 a.m. Directions are being sent home today with your child.

School is closed on Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans Day.

RUN ACROSS AFRICA UPDATE

*Countries run through:

Gambia and Senegal.

We are presently in Mali

*Miles Run: 743

*Pledges In: 2

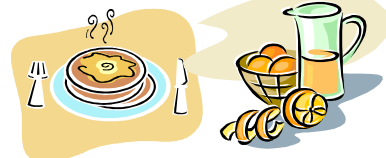
*Interesting Facts learned:

- Gambia: named after the Gambia River, which flows through its entire length, east to west for 300 miles.
- Senegal: a major surfing spot of the world
- Mali: is West Africa's biggest country



BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S???

No, more like breakfast in the Village of Westbury, as the Kindergarten begins to investigate their nearby neighborhood.



The first trip out and about will be on Monday, November 9th as they embark on yet another walk to visit the Post Ave. Café in the village of Westbury. Upon arrival at the Café, the K students will enjoy a 'second breakfast' of silver dollar pancakes and juice. They will 'read' the menu and practice how to order. Polite restaurant manners are sure to be used.

Then, as another treat, the K class hopes to visit Marie's Bakery right across the street from the Café. They will see how the bakers prepare the many delicious breads, cakes and cookies. Perhaps a sample of something sweet before returning to school will be possible!

This trip is the first of a few investigations the Kindergarten plans to enjoy during their Social Studies unit about the services that exist within the school neighborhood.



Calling All Guests!!!

No sooner do we end Parents Visiting Morning than plans for **Grandparents/Grandfriends Day, scheduled for Tuesday, November 24th** get underway. Invitations are being sent home with this newsletter and we ask that you mail them to your child's guests.

We also ask that all information on your child's anticipated guests are on file in the Front Office. If you have not yet sent in this information, please do so **asap**. If you are uncertain if we have the necessary information, simply contact Chris Maloney who keeps this database in the Front Office.

We specifically need info from all families new to WFS this year. We look forward to this special morning for all!

Differences Between Cold and H1N1 Flu and Seasonal Flu Symptoms Chart being sent home with this newsletter. We hope that it will be helpful regarding any concerns you might have with respect to your child's health.



Annual Giving Off to a Fantastic Start!!!

Annual Giving in any Independent School is a yearly fundraising appeal designed to generate additional revenue for the school's Operating Budget. Simplified, Annual Giving makes up the difference between what tuition covers and the actual cost of running the school, ensuring the very best teachers and programs for our students. Strong support of Annual Giving on the part of the parents, faculty, staff, administration, friends, and Board of Trustees is critical to the present and future of any school. Generosity and commitment through Annual Giving support the school, the people and the programs that make Westbury Friends unique such as: talented faculty, small student teacher ratio, and special activities and endeavors.

Tysha Scott, Clerk of Annual Giving spoke passionately to the parents assembled in the Center on Parents Visiting Morning and again to the faculty on November 3rd of the importance of Annual Giving, particularly in this time of economic concerns. Tysha shared that the Annual Giving Committee understands that these are hard economic times for everyone. However tuition only covers 80% of the costs it takes to manage Westbury Friends yearly. So, as we look forward to the wonderful projects of the year ahead, Tysha asked that we be mindful that Annual Giving allows us to continue a strong academic education while preserving the Quaker values that make us who we are...Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community and Equality.

Tysha announced that the Annual Giving appeal at WFS had kicked off with a generous contribution of \$1000 by long-standing members of the Westbury Monthly Meeting. Let's keep it heading down that most positive path! **Please anticipate the arrival of information in your mailboxes within the next two weeks and consider giving a gift to Annual Giving to benefit the children of Westbury Friends School. We need your help and your support. THANK YOU!**

