

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had the opportunity to relax and spend some time with friends and family. It was a joy to see all the students return to campus eagerly waiting to see classmates and teachers, wanting to share stories of what they did during the break.

Now that we are back, I want to remind you of our comment on you and our students. We are committed to providing our students with a high-quality, well-rounded, hands-on educational experience that will prepare them to become hardworking, inspiring servant leaders who make positive impacts in and outside of school.

This semester, our ECC/Elementary and Secondary divisions will focus on 4 areas. Our ECC/Elementary division will work on strengthening the ECC program by rearranging and reorganizing the classroom learning spaces. This will create a more cohesive learning environment for STEAM lessons with more flexibility to group students. This will also allow for smoother transitions between activities, providing teachers with more instructional time. The ECC/Elementary division will also work on implementing STEAM concepts in all content areas, build a framework for implementing more Mastery-Based Learning, and participate in STEM competitions.

Our Secondary division will continue to focus on teacher professional development in areas that involve instruction and motivation, providing timely feedback, maximizing instructional time, and ensuring our English-only policy is carried out on campus.

School Uniform

As we start the second semester, I wanted to remind everyone of the uniform policy. It has come to my attention that some students come to school wearing the wrong school uniform combination. In most instances, it is the student wearing the correct shirt but the wrong bottom. Before your student leaves for school in the morning, please check to make sure they are wearing the correct school uniform.

There are two types of **uniforms**: **formal** (cotton) and **athletic** (polyester). Students are only allowed to wear the athletic uniform on the days that they have PE. The formal uniform is grey shorts/skorts/pants and a green or white shirt with the ISW logo. The outermost layer of a student's clothing attire must be a school-issued uniform item that is worn in school buildings. On Fridays, students can wear their **ISW Pride Shirts/Polos**. Students are welcome to wear additional personal clothing outside of the buildings, but once they enter a building their outermost layer must be a school-issued uniform item. Hats and other head coverings may be worn to and from school but not in the school building.

Students out of the dress code will be required to change clothing before going to class. Parents will be called to bring the student a proper uniform and the student will be marked absent for any class time he/she misses. We do appreciate your help and understanding in this situation.

Here are some important dates and reminders to be aware of for the coming weeks.

Middle School VEX Robotics Competition in Wuhan

- January 13th, Friday.

High School SYAC Basketball Tournament

- January 13th, Friday.

STAR Testing Window

- January 9th - 23rd. The STAR assessment provides great data about your student's reading comprehension level. It is the time of year to see if students have made adequate growth.

China Week

- January 29 - February 2 (Monday – Friday)

Pride Chip Total

Taylor Tigers -	1215 points
Liddell Leopards -	1213 points
Morrison Mountain Lions -	947 points
Goforth Jaguars -	639 points

Our LifePlus 9 Qualities of Life for the month of January is **Service**. Ask your child(ren) what they have learned about **Service** and how they can participate in Service activities outside of school.

Have a great weekend Wildcat Family!

Dr. Williams