

# FWJH DAILY BUZZ



*Issue 1: May 2022 - written and edited by the Fifth Grade Students*

## Yearly Fun

By: Abbey Bessetti

This year we have been super happy to get back to many activities held at our school FWJH. Because of quarantine, we haven't been able to do much. We are so grateful to be able to have these things again. This includes Fall Fest, Polar Express movie night, 7th-8th grade dances, Pre-k Parade, Holiday Fun day, Testing Prep Rally, and many more!

Fall Fest is held in October. This event has many math and ELA related activities, book fair, face painting, and much more fun! We hope you attend next year.

The Polar Express Movie Night was held in December for our students while our parents were learning at Parent University. It was for kindergarten up to 6th grade, and it was a lot of fun! We hope you attend next year, if they have it, and that you will have a great time!

Every year we have a 7th-8th dance. Due to COVID-19, we have not been able to have a junior high dance in a while, but luckily we had one this year. The junior high had so much fun at this dance and we hope to have one again.

Every Mardi Gras, we have the Pre-K Parade. This happens right before our break for the holidays. Our Pre-K children decorate their floats and throw beads and fun toys to our students. So many people enjoy this and I hope you do too.

Holiday Fun Day is the day before Christmas Break. During this time we go to different classrooms in the hallway and do different Christmas activities such as making snow globes, writing stories, and much more. We enjoy this day a lot!

Before State Testing starts, we have a Test Prep Rally. This is where we do many activities that involve encouragement for LEAP. This school year we had Pacman, glowstick dancing, swimmers, and much more.

Overall, these days and activities make your experience at FWJH more fun and joyful. GO FALCONS!

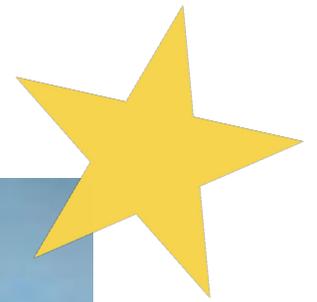
## Our New Principal

By: Madie Lumpkin and Kendal Fuerst

Our new principal a.k.a ( Mrs.Simmons ) has been working at this school since 2013 which means she has been here 10 years. Mrs.Simmons said that she loved this school and there is no better place than FWJH! Mrs.Simmons also said that when she was assistant principal she couldn't get in as much trouble like she can as principal because now she has more responsibilities being principal than being assistant principal. When we asked her if she wanted to share anything, she said this was an amazing year and wants to see our kids come to school here. She also said that when she became principal, she wanted to make this school fun so more kids would like coming to school. Mrs.Simmons has been our principal for 1 year and was the assistant principal for 9.



# OUR STARS



## Mrs. Payne, Teacher of the Year

By: Mason Hosey and Alexander Couvillon

This school year, 2021-2022, Mrs. Payne won the teacher of the year award. When asked how she felt about that, she responded with, "Very excited and honored."

Teachers teach many subjects. When asked about what her favorite topic to teach was, Mrs. Payne responded with, "Fractions, because we get to use a lot of food."

Mrs. Payne won this award by being nominated by her peers. Other factors include data on student success and school leadership. She said that the favorite thing she had done to earn this title was helping with our PBIS program.

When she was awarded with the Teacher of the Year, she obviously wasn't unfazed. In her words, she felt, "Shocked, I was very surprised."

Mrs. Payne isn't just the teacher of the year, she is also a mother and wife. Therefore, she has her own hobbies and things she enjoys and wants to do. She said that she liked, "Spending time with my family and doing as much as possible outside. I also like watching baseball."

Mrs. Payne will be teaching here next year as well. Therefore, she has her own goals for next year. She said, "Well, I am hoping things get back to normal. I guess helping kids to get excited to learn."

Mrs. Payne attended FWJH as a student, but being a teacher is clearly different from being a student. A few examples from her are, "Getting to give back, do what other teachers did for me."

Well, that's all folks. This was Mrs. Payne's response to our questions about being teacher of the year and a person in general.

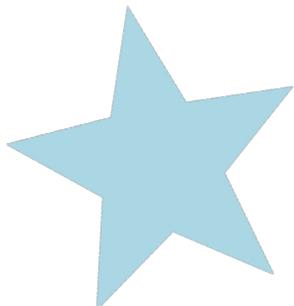


## Gabriella Forar, Student of The Year

Written by: Lilly May Morrison

To get Student of The Year, you have to have good grades all year. You also have to have a good attitude and behavior to get this award. Gabriella Forar represented our school as Student of the Year for the 2021-2022 school year. When she received this award, she felt proud but flustered. Her parents surprised her with presents. She said, "I gained knowledge throughout the school year. I worked my hardest to receive this award." She is very proud of what she has accomplished.

One thing she learned was that whatever you put in, you get out. Everyone is so proud of her hard work! The Falcon Community is proud of her hard work and dedication to the community. She has made many new friends throughout the 2021- 2022 school year. She is excited for what the future at this school has to come. She said, "I am so thankful for this award. Thank you Fifth Ward community!"



# Falcon Farwell



## Coach Hoffpaur Retires

By: Elliott Pittman and Aldwyn Yearwood

After 34 years of teaching, Coach Hoffpaur is ready to retire. After retiring, she will have taught at 12 different schools, including Fifth Ward. Speaking of Fifth Ward, she has taught here for 7 years. Coach Hoffpaur says she will miss the structure teaching brings to her life and also watching kids develop physically and socially. Her favorite skill/ sport to teach was softball. She is also going to travel the world after she retires. Coach Hoffpaur has already traveled to all of the states in the United States. In addition, she has traveled to many countries. Some examples: Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago, China, Japan, Chile, Peru, Tibet, Morocco, Italy, and France. She plans to visit Turkey and Greece soon! How amazing!!

## Ms. Cindy Wallace

By: Mileigh Robinson and Krysta Hyatt

Our school secretary, Ms. Cindy Wallace, is retiring after 32 years and worked as a substitute for 3 years before becoming a secretary at FWJH. We are so sad to have her leave, so we jotted down some notes of things to remember her by. Cindy Wallace wanted to be a secretary ever since she was a kid. She went to school for a long time and took all the classes she needed just to get here. She has never worked at any other school besides Fifth Ward and is proud to call Fifth Ward her home! She enjoys working here because she loves the staff and students. It brings her joy everyday when she gets to see new and past students. Another reason she loves this job is because she loves being a part of so many lives. One thing she will miss most when she retires is people she has worked with, especially Mrs. Nina because she is her best friend, and they have been working together for so long. She is currently working for a CPA also known as Certified Public Encounter. She also wanted everyone to know, "When you love what you're doing, life is a lot easier!" She is also so excited for a new chapter at her new job!

GOOD BYE





# DID YOU KNOW?

## The History of Fifth Ward! (Go Falcons!)

By: Annabel Tenorio and Juliet Jochum

The history of Fifth Ward Junior High is very interesting! The school was built in 1949 and is located on HWY 21. This school was originally a high school in 1946. The first principal of this school was Mr. Sam Mizel (1949-1954!) Fun fact, Ms. Margaret Dubea was an assistant principal in 2005, and still works here to this day as a substitute! But Fifth Ward has never had an assistant principal until 1998, and the first assistant principal was Ms. Rebecca Stogner!

At first, this school looked like a house, but now it has expanded a lot and look at the school now! There is even a school Alma Mater, and it's called, "Fifth Ward Alma Mater," written by the class of 1956-57.

The old, original sign of the fifth ward has been replaced with a new one, but it still lies in the junior high hallway to never be forgotten. And did you know that the old gym was turned into a library in 1979, but is now a computer lab/ classroom! There is a lot of history in Fifth Ward that will never be forgotten, and a lot more fun memories to make!

## SPORTS



### Coach's Corner - Comeaux and Senez

By: Preston Hooge, Rodney Stewart, and Jett Thompson

Coach Comeaux is the boys basketball coach, which is his favorite sport. Coach Comeaux says that you need 11 people to have a team, so he encourages all boys in junior high to come try out for the team. His most exciting moments of his coaching career is seeing the kids' skills increase. The leaders on this year's team were Peyton, Cade and Adam. Coach Comeaux has played basketball for 37 years, and he still loves it to this day!

Coach Senez coaches both football and baseball. His favorite sport is football, and he loves to watch it. He also likes to play it, too. The best players on the team are the people who try the hardest. Coach also says that the worst players are the people who don't try. His favorite moments as a coach are when he sees the players increasing their skills for the sport.



# Field Trips

## 1st Grade Field Trip

By: Lily Garafola and Christopher Drake

During the Spring of 2022, Mrs. Romano, Ms. Brown, and Mrs. Hidalgo's class went to the zoo. Most of the children enjoyed the field trip, although some were nervous. Some of the coolest things they saw based on Ms. Hidalgo's class opinions were the tigers, gorillas, lions, cheetahs, sea lions, alligators. They also enjoyed the secret area in Monkey Hill, and the lions playing with hose water. They also say Monkey Hill is very fun, but you should bring a bathing suit with you if you want to swim in the secret area of Monkey Hill after the field trip. Some students felt lonely because their family couldn't or didn't come. These first graders advise you to bring a family member with you. These kids say the best part of their field trip was spending time with family and friends. For some students, they said that it was a great first experience at the zoo.

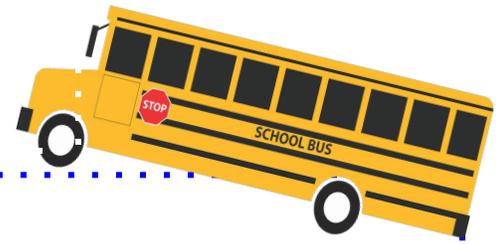


## 2nd Grade Field Trip

By: Thomas Odom, Conor Sinopoli, and Cayden Lowery

The second grade classes went to the Audubon Zoo on the other side of Lake Pontchartrain in New Orleans. The second graders were nervous because either they had never gone over the lake before, or they were nervous of going on a bus over a long, big bridge. Mrs. Schawner's class saw reptiles like snakes, alligators, komodo dragons, and many more. Also, mammals like sea lions, tigers, lions, rhinos, and many more. The students also saw plants like sugar cane and bamboo. Something funny the animals did was an elephant took a laffy taffy from a kid, and the sea lions splashed people standing near the tank. I bet that would feel nice on a hot day! Both classes said it was so much fun, and they would want to go again in the future. Their favorite parts were monkey hill, the bat cave, and all the different kinds of animals. They learned interesting facts about animals like what they do and what their life is like in their lifestyle.

# Field Trips



4th Grade

by: Kenzleigh Thigpen

The 4th grade students went to the Instigator Ranch to see both baby and grown-up alligators. They learned about how the people at the alligator ranch kept all of the baby alligators safe in the environment. Another fact they learned was Alligators love marshmallows, and if they fed them meat, then they would be very aggressive. The last fact they learned was alligators grow up to 16 feet long. All of them said they would like to revisit in the future. Also, just like the 5th graders, we picked two people who had inspiring words to convince friends and family to go. Liam H., “You can learn about alligators and how to catch them and take care of them.” Also, Charlie had a good way to tell her friends to go to the Instigator Ranch. She said, “You should go because you get to hold baby alligators and you can learn new things.”

5th Grade

by: Callie Bordelon

5th grade went to the Lake Basin Maritime Museum in Madisonville, LA. They learned things about safety on boats, how they built boats back in the day, and different kinds of wildlife. The most amazing thing about it was everyone learned different things, and everyone learned things that they would use in everyday life, and they learned information that they could use to gain knowledge. Students loved it so much that they said the most amazing things to convince their friends or even family to go. Lilliana- “you can learn stuff and go on a submarine. Also, you can do fun activities and it can teach you how to stay safe on a boat.” And one more student from 5th grade, Alex- “you can do fun things and it can teach you to stay safe.”

7th Grade

By: Abbey Bessetti and Lilibeth Branch

The 7th graders at FWJH took a field trip to the Ocean Event Marine Park. A few of the 7th grade girls got interviewed about their experience here. At their field trip, they pet stingrays, watched a dolphin show, fed birds, and much more. These girls said they enjoyed their experience at the Ocean Event Marine Park. One thing they learned is that dolphins can swim very fast in the water. At this place, one of the students freaked out about a bird and “threw” it at Coach Senez. Lovely. Overall, these girls enjoyed their experience at their 7th grade field trip.