



# WARRIOR NEWS

MAY 2013 VOLUME 6, No. 8

FANNIE C. WILLIAMS CHARTER SCHOOL • 11755 DWYER ROAD  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70128

Visit our website at [www.fcwcs.org](http://www.fcwcs.org)



## It's All About Reading!



Reading is important at FCWCS. Twice yearly we hold our Scholastic Book Fair (top pic), encouraging students to explore the joys of reading. The ladies of the New Orleans Alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority have dedicated a corner of our library to the memory of educator Jacqueline T. Dennison (bottom pic). It's all about reading!



The lazy days of summer are fast approaching. Parents often begin to ponder how to keep their children "entertained" during the 10 weeks school is closed.

Good books can be a child's best friend during the summer. Parents should encourage their children to develop the habit of reading for enjoyment and for educational purposes.

**Reading is THE fundamental skill that will help to ensure good grades.** It is important that we develop the skill and love of the written word in our children early—before they develop the fear of reading. Educational specialists state, "The ability to read well affects many aspects of our lives including work, leisure and personal health. Without good reading skills, it is difficult to write a business letter, use a cookbook, follow directions on a medicine



Got a neighbor or friend whose child will attend FCWCS next year? Or will you have a new child on our campus next year? Share this information below:

Welcome **New Families** to FCWCS

Registration will be held for **new students** on:

**Tuesday, May 28**

**Wednesday, May 29**

**Thursday, May 30**

**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

(choose one of the days above to visit us)

Please bring *all* of the following documents to complete the registration. **Registration is not complete until all documents are in! You will need your child's:**

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security
- Immunization Records
- Proof of Address\*
- Final Report Card for 2012-2013
- Most recent LEAP, iLEAP, or IOWA Test Scores
- IEP (if applicable)
- IAP/504 Plan (if applicable)

\*Energy bill, cable bill, telephone bill, etc.

*New students are not enrolled until this process is completed. Don't risk losing your seat!*

Inside **WARRIOR NEWS**, May 2013

It's All About Reading .....	1, 5
Principal's Message .....	2
Closing Calendar .....	2
21 Summer Activities .....	2, 3
From the Desk of Nurse Robichaux .....	3
Uniforms Needed .....	3
LEAP Remediation .....	3
Lemonade Day .....	4
Scholastic Book Fair .....	1, 4

bottle or take the test for a driver's license. For students, one of the important benefits of being a good reader is that it helps improve grades in all subject areas" ([www.ehon.com](http://www.ehon.com)). Most children who can sit for hours and master a video game are capable of becoming a reader. Parents must motivate students at home, just as the classroom teacher does. Students capable of reading independently and comprehending what they read (cont'd on pg. 5)

"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all."  
—Jacqueline Kennedy

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."  
—Emile Buchwald

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free."  
—Frederick Douglass



Lawrence Goffner III, (Grade 2) won the March drawing because his mother read the **WN!** Enter your child today, see pg. 6.

## WARRIOR NEWS MAY 2013

### Message from Our Principal/C.E.O. May 8, 2013

The countdown is on! Can you believe there are 11 more days in the 2012-2013 school year to go!

It's been an eventful year on campus. A look back at this publication—the **WARRIOR NEWS**—tells of all the events that marked our year. We've had two book fairs, two festivals, visitors from Fisk University, Grandparents Day, Donuts with Dads, and Muffins with Moms.

The after school program serviced more than half of our student body. After school kept everyone busy. There were classes in art, dance, aerobics, cheerleading, flag twirling, and music. Athletic activities included basketball (girls and boys), track & field, and karate. They put on two outstanding showcases, displaying their talents, in the days leading up to the Christmas holidays and last week.

Our band and auxiliary marching units performed in four Mardi Gras parades—looking very polished, I might add. The Voices of FCWCS Choir and Recorder Ensemble performed at Celebration in the Oaks. Unfortunately, they were rained out last Friday at the New Orleans Jazz Fest. Just wait till next year . . .

The move into our new home has been the highlight of our year. We had been housed in the white trailers on the back of the school's lot since September 2007, our opening year. Our ribbon cutting was a grand event, with community leaders, neighbors, contractors, educational leaders, and parents in attendance.

With about 95,000 sq. ft., we now have the space to accommodate students wishing to eat breakfast at one time in the Warrior Café, instead of doing shifts of 10 minutes each morning. School assemblies are now comfortably held in the gymnasium. Our middle school students now have a place of adequate size to have after school dances. Our Warrior basketball teams—boys and girls—now have a court to practice on and truly a home court.

Our annual Black History Month now has a stage and the room to put on true theatrical productions. We're taking it to another level with our new facility.

We've got a library with about 7500 volumes. Next year, we will get our database up and running, thus allowing students to be able to borrow a book or two at a time to take home and enjoy.

We've got great neighbors in the congregation from Cornerstone United Methodist Church a few yards down Bullard. The men of Cornerstone have provided our students with good male role models, teaching chess and reading to our younger scholars about the Civil Rights Movement during the decades of the '50s, '60s, and '70s.

Our PTA marked their second year of leadership, with hard work to show for it. Our Board of Directors—C.L.A.S.S.—was the glue that held it all together.

Our school family is growing. We anticipate more than 50 new families joining us next year. We hope we can count on you to join our PTA and help to make our school flourish academically. Our scholars—your children—deserve it.

Kelly S. Batiste, Principal/CEO

### 21 Great Summer Activities for Kids (free & otherwise)

1. Visit the Audubon Insectarium
2. Spend the day at Audubon Zoo
3. Visit the Aquarium of the Americas
4. Visit the Louisiana Children's Museum
5. Have a picnic at City Park or Audubon Park
6. Visit Preservation Hall to hear some Jazz
7. Take a ride up (or down) the Mississippi River on a Riverboat
8. Ride the entire length of the St. Charles Streetcar
9. Visit the New Orleans Public Library (Main Branch or Read Blvd.)
10. "Window" Shop through the French Market
11. Tour the Old U. S. Mint on Esplanade Avenue
12. Tour St. Louis Cathedral and Jackson Square
13. Visit the playground at Audubon Park (St. Charles Ave.)
14. Take in the sights & sounds of Jackson Square
15. Ride the Canal Street Ferry to Algiers



(cont'd on pg. 3)

### Closing Calendar Events

#### May 2

Promotion Pictures Taken  
Pre-K, K, and 8th Graders  
Sunday Best!

#### May 3

Voices of FCWCS (Choir) @  
Jazz Fest, 11:30 a.m., Kids Tent

#### May 3

End of School Year Dance  
Middle School Students  
Time: 5:30-8:30

#### May 4

Lemonade Day  
FCWCS Lemonade Stand  
Corner of Bullard & Lake Forest  
Blvd.

Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### May 6-10

Staff Appreciation Week

#### May 8

Final PTA Meeting  
Warrior Café  
4:00 p.m.

#### May 8-9

8th Grade Final Exams

#### May 9

Muffins for Mom  
Location: Warrior Café  
8:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m.

#### May 9

ExpandedED Showcase  
FCWCS  
Time: 4:30 p.m.

#### May 10

Spring Bling (Spring Festival)



#### May 13-17

8th Grade Spirit Week

#### May 13-14

4th Quarter Final Exams

#### May 14

Faculty vs. Students Volleyball  
Game  
\$1.00 Admission  
FCWCS Gym  
Time: 1:00 p.m.

#### May 14

Last Day for Enrichment Classes

#### May 15

Career Day for 8th Graders

#### May 16

Pre-K Closing Program,  
Time: TBA  
Location: FCWCS

#### May 16

8th Graders Class Trip

### Closing Calendar Events (cont'd)

#### May 17

Kindergarten Promotional  
Ceremony  
Location: FCWCS  
Time: TBA

#### May 17

Classroom Award  
Presentations

#### May 17

8th Grade Picnic

#### May 18

8th Grade Closing  
Ceremony  
Location: FCWCS  
Time: 1 p.m.-3 p.m.  
(4 guests per student, strictly  
enforced)

#### May 20

School-wide  
Awards Program,  
Grades 1-7  
FCWCS Gym  
Time: 9:00 a.m.

#### May 21

C.L.A.S.S. Meeting,  
FCWCS Café, 6 p.m.

#### May 22

ExpandedED Last Day  
3:30-6:00 p.m.

#### May 23

Last Day for Students  
(4th Quarter Ends)  
Parent Meeting  
Report Card Distribution  
Time: TBA

#### May 24

Last Day for Staff

#### May 28

Summer School  
Remediation Begins  
for 4th & 8th Graders  
(LEAP Remediation)  
Location: FCWCS  
Time: 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

#### June 25-27

LEAP Remediation Ends,  
Retest Administered in  
ELA and Math  
4th & 8th Graders

#### 2013-2014

#### August 5

School Opens for the  
2013-2014 School Year  
Grades 1-8

#### August 12

1st Day of School for  
Pre-K & K

#### September 2

Labor Day—NO  
SCHOOL





### From the Desk of Nurse Robichaux

Have you ever wondered how the topics are chosen for this column? There is an extensive list of annual health observation and recognition dates that can be found on the web. Between that list and what I feel are needs at FCWCS, the monthly topic is developed. **May is known as Healthy Vision Month.**

Can you think of life without sight? Think about the things you couldn't do or would have to make adjustments to perform them. For about 285 million people in the world, this is reality.

There are an estimated 19 million children in the world who are visually impaired. Most of these children live in developing countries.

The United States is not a developing country, but we are not immune to diseases of the eye. In Louisiana, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy,

and glaucoma account for the largest number of those with impaired vision or blindness.

Children's eyes and vision are an important part of their development. Like the other parts of their bodies, their eyes should be examined regularly. Eye exams should begin at birth, with newborns checked for basic eye health by the pediatrician or family physician in the hospital nursery. Premature infants and other high-risk newborns, babies born into a family with history of eye problems, and obvious eye irregularities should be examined by an eye doctor without fail.

By the time a child enters FCWCS, he/she should have had their vision and eye alignment examined by their family doctor. **Children who complain frequently of headaches should be seen by a doctor immediately.** Classroom teachers often note students having difficulty with their vision. Signs that a child may have eye problems include:

- constant eye rubbing

- extreme sensitivity to light
- poor focusing
- inability to follow objects
- abnormal alignment or movement of eyes (after 1/2 year)
- chronic redness of the eyes
- chronic tearing of the eyes
- a white pupil instead of black
- sitting too close to the TV or computer screen
- inability to see objects at a distance
- squinting
- difficult reading
- inability to read the board in class

Watch your child for any of the above problems. Eye problems/diseases can be prevented and treated successfully when caught early.

Summer is an excellent time to have eyes examined. If there is a need for glasses or contacts, your child has time to adjust before school resumes in August. ###

### 5th & 8th Grade Uniforms Needed

Parents of 5th and 8th grade students are asked to donate *gently used* uniforms to the school.

Fifth graders entering middle school next year, will wear gold shirts. If there are no younger siblings who can inherit these shirts, we would love to make them part of our emergency supply for next year. Eighth graders moving on to high schools are also asked to donate gently used uniforms. We are also in need of uniform pants. Please send these uniforms to the main office. We appreciate your assistance. ###



LEAP Remediation takes place May 28-June 27.

### LEAP Remediation Scheduled to Start Tuesday, May 28

Test scores are not back yet, but we anticipate a few Warriors who may need some additional assistance to reach their goal of BASIC in either Math or English Language Arts. Students in 4th and 8th grade must have a score of BASIC in Math or ELA to advance to the next grade.

#### 4th and 8th grade students who were not successful during this spring's LEAP test will have an opportunity to retake the test.

Those students will be invited to take part in LEAP remediation at FCWCS, beginning Tuesday, May 28 at 8 a.m. (breakfast served at 7:30 a.m.). Classes will be held Monday (with the exception of Memorial Day, May 27) through Thursday. The sessions will conclude each day at 2:30 p.m. The test will be re-administered June 25-27. ###

## 2013-2014



### Next year's School Supply Lists coming soon!

*Lists will also appear on [fcwcs.org](http://fcwcs.org) website*

Classroom teachers are currently preparing Supply Lists for next school. The lists will be prepared by grade levels. Parents are asked to begin purchasing the items early in the summer, buying a little each week or two, so that it will not be so overwhelming to the family's budget. We would like all scholars to start the school year with every item on their class list.

Remember, **school starts August 5th for grades 1-7 and August 12th for scholars in Pre-K and kindergarten.** It's important to begin the year with all needed supplies. It sets the tone for an exceptional year! ###



At press time for this issue of the **WARRIOR NEWS**, FCWCS's administration has a tentative calendar for next year. **School is scheduled to begin Monday, August 5th for students in Grades 1-7. Our Pre-K and kindergarten students will return the following week, August 12th.** ###

### 21 Great Summer Activities *(cont'd from pg. 2)*

- Let kids see and touch the Sculpture Garden in City Park
- Take a ride to Baton Rouge and tour the State Capitol Building
- Have a late afternoon picnic on the Lakefront and watch the sun set
- Visit the Music Legends Park on Bourbon Street and take a pictures with Fats Domino, Pete Fountain, or Al Hirt (daytime only)
- Catch a concert on Wednesdays on the Point in Old Algiers.
- Take in an afternoon movie.



###





### Scholastic Spring Book Fair '13

Our bi-annual book fair was held the week of April 22nd. Sales were so brisk, that a decision was made to hold it over for an additional two days! Students, parents, and even a neighbor or two from the community made their way to the Warrior Library to see what tomes (books) and trinkets were available. Our school earned more than \$500.00 in sales. This season's theme was Story Laboratory, which accounts for all the "mad scientists" we had running around in scrubs and lab coats!

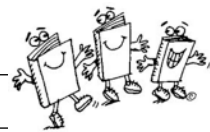


### Nat'l Lemonade Day, 13

For the second consecutive year, FCWCS took part in the National Lemonade Day. The program is designed to teach young people the benefits of entrepreneurship and joy of giving to others. Our stand was located at the intersection of Bullard and Lake Forest. We sold 370 cups of lemonade, while teaching our students the hard work that goes into starting and maintaining a business. Like last year, a portion of our profits will benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.







### Delta's Dedicate Dennison Reading Center

The ladies of the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority donated more than \$900 to the library of FCWCS last November. The generous gesture was made in memory of their soror, Jacqueline T. Dennison, a former educator in the New Orleans Public Schools for over 35 years. The monetary gift went to the purchase of books for FCWCS's library. The dedication of the corner in the library was held on Wednesday, April 24th. Members of the Dennison family, sorors on staff at FCWCS, and local chapter members were in attendance.



### Voices of FCWCS Rained Out at Jazz Fest

After months of preparation, the Voices of Fannie Choir and Recorder Ensemble were unable to perform at Jazz Fest on May 3rd due to inclement weather. Weather conditions pushed the Fest to open an hour later (noon), causing the Warriors to lose their opening act status. Fest goers missed a treat! Congratulations to Mrs. Wright and our musicians for the effort. See you next year. ###



### It's All About Reading! (cont'd from pg. 1)



can master most academic subjects they are confronted with in school.

Today's students are expected to read and take notes in all their classes, including physical education. Try using a computer without the ability to read, it doesn't work! The computer and the Internet are all about information. Information is usually given with words.

Literacy Matters is an online education resource that states "in math, students must make sense of the technical vocabulary, complex information, and detailed directions contained in textbooks, articles, and documents such as graphs and charts."

Several generations ago, students were expected to master reading by the sixth grade. That has changed. Mastery of the written word should be obtained by grade 4 in order to be successful with content-area subjects. This is referred to as reading to learn."

Of course there are those who do not believe totally in this concept. Reading specialists Marie Clay and P.

David Pearson have questioned this direction in the instruction of reading. Their research indicates that this is not the best way to teach reading. "Learning to read and reading to learn should be taught at the same time, by practicing and applying reading strategies, as well as by deepening their knowledge of letter and sound relationships, word families, and spelling patterns," is the method advocated by Clay and Pearson (*scholastic.com*).

Many teachers in today's K-3 classrooms follow the best practices as favored by Clay and Pearson. Upper elementary (4-8) are also reinforcing K-3's instruction and employing strategies especially conceived for older students, such as teaching students how to decode multi-syllable words, enhancing their vocabulary by teaching roots, stems, prefixes, etc., teaching the structure and parts of content textbooks, analyzing and comparing texts to find common themes, etc.

Whatever methods are employed to teach reading, it is imperative that school and home partnership in developing this most basic skill in learning. Children today must become life-long learners. We no longer live in a world where people can get by without knowing how to read. The average worker will change careers about three times during their lifetimes. That means there will always be a need to learn something new by reading. Reading is and will continue to be an crucial life skill in the 21st century—one that can not be ignored. ###

Did you read this last issue of **WARRIOR NEWS** for 2012-2013? It was prepared especially for parents and friends of FCWCS! We've got a monthly drawing for a prize for those Warriors whose parents send this coupon (*within 2 school days of receiving the WN*) back after reading these pages for important information about our great school! Let us know you've read these pages by signing the backside of this coupon on page 6.

**2nd Grader Lawrence Goffner III won last month's prize because his mother reads the Warrior News!**



*Exciting, thrilling, invigorating, challenging, and fun*

## Faculty vs. Students Volleyball Game

Tuesday, May 14th  
1:00 p.m.

Warrior Gymnasium

Admission: \$1.00

Concessions will be sold

### Mission Statement of Fannie C. Williams Charter School

The mission of Fannie C. Williams School is to achieve the highest academic success through collaboration of staff, parents, and community.

504.365.8327  
Berry Transportation

### C.L.A.S.S.

is scheduled to hold its  
Board of Directors  
Meeting



6:00 p.m.

Location:  
Warrior Café

# May 21st

*The public is invited to attend.*



### WARRIOR NEWS

Fannie C. Williams Charter School  
11755 Dwyer Road  
New Orleans, LA 70128  
504.373.6228  
www.fcwcs.org

### WARRIOR NEWS

is published monthly during the academic school year by the Faculty & Staff of the school, under the auspices of Community Leaders Advocating Student Success - Debra Dean, President, Candice Forest, Duane Stelly, Donnyette Love, Al Edwards, Emily Roubion, and Brenda Flint-Minor

Kelly S. Batiste, *CEO/Principal*  
Tarynesa "Terri" Williams, *CAO*  
Terry M. Smith, *Photographer & Editor*  
FCWCS Faculty & Staff, *Contributors*



*Don't forget us over the summer recess. Clip Box Tops for Education coupons and send them back to school in August. Remember, 10% of your purchase goes to FCWCS with this coupon. We appreciate your efforts!*



Visit the  
Public  
Library,  
it's  
FREE!

## "Fun is good."

Dr. Seuss

The last **PTA Meeting** of the year was held on Wed., May 8th. Where you there? We need you! Join next year . . . your voice is needed!!!



Cut me out and send me back to school within 2 school days.

Save this issue to keep abreast of all the good things happening at Fannie C. Williams Charter School.

I've read the May 2013 issue of **WARRIOR NEWS** . . . please enter my child in this month's drawing!

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Rm. No. \_\_\_\_\_

*please write legibly (print the name above)*

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_