



W.E.S...It's Elementary2

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Thank You, Reeves Private Foundation



Westernport Elementary School was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant from the J. Norman and Margaret J. Reeves Private Foundation, which is administrated by First United Trust & Investments. This is the third year that the Reeves Foundation has awarded a grant to WES. The grant money will be used to pay for the 2016-2017 online subscription to the Accelerated Reader program. Having a grant to pay for the subscription will allow book fair profit be used to provide student reading incentives, including a free book at the book fair for ALL students and AR prizes throughout the 2015-2016 school year.

The mission of the Reeves Private Foundation is to benefit non-profit organizations in the vicinity of Westernport, Maryland; Keyser, West Virginia;

Luke, Maryland and Piedmont, West Virginia. A committee of local representatives from those areas evaluates each grant request based on its merits and how the grant meets the desires of the foundation.

Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson, media specialist, applied for the grant in August. She attended the Grant Award Reception at Trinity United Methodist in Piedmont in early November to accept the grant on behalf of the school. We are grateful to the Reeves Private Foundation for their support of the Accelerated Reader program at Westernport Elementary School. The online subscription provides unlimited access to over 170,000 Accelerated Reader quizzes and to the AR Bookfinder. Westernport Elementary has participated in the Accelerated Reader program since November 1991. Currently, students in grades two, three, four, and five participate in this reading incentive program.

Shown above are Emilee Lambert and Sidney Donnelly, both who are participants in the Accelerated Reader program at Westernport Elementary School.

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A Title I School

Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

Volume 8, Issue 5

January 2016

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From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker



Happy New Year!

I would like to thank Mrs. Patty Zimmerman, Mr. Harold McClay and Mr. Jay Moon for directing the music, band, and orchestra programs which were presented in December. I really appreciate all of the work done by our talented students and by our dedicated teachers that makes those programs so great. I also want to thank our extended school com-

munity for supporting our students in their musical endeavors. Thanks also to our PTA for sponsoring Santa's Secret Shop in early December. The children loved to shop for their loved ones and I am sure that their families loved the presents that were picked especially for them. It is hard to believe that we are almost through half of the school year. Please check the

calendar in this newsletter to plan ahead for a scheduled early dismissal (Teacher Work Time) on January 13th and scheduled whole day for Professional Development which will be held on January 28th. Fifth grade will be taking the MSA Science test in March. The PARCC Assessment will begin in mid-April and grades 3 through 5 will be participating in these assessments of reading and math skills. More

information will be sent home about testing closer to the test dates.

Please remember that my door is always open and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. It is a privilege to work with your children every day and to be a part of this wonderful school community!

Martin's BonusCards



595 Martin's BonusCard numbers have been collected to date by Westernport Elementary students, faculty and staff. The points from those BonusCard numbers have earned the school cash to use for student activities, **which totals \$1,334.87 to date** (Martin's has pledged to give away three million dollars to schools.) There is still time to register to support the school at <http://www.martinsaplus.com>.

We need YOUR BonusCard numbers! Thanks to all who have supported this campaign by registering and then shopping for WES!



Peace Days Winners

A drawing is held each Monday to award a small prize to four students who have had a peaceful week. These are students who have followed the rules for the previous week and have no yellow or red behaviors. Pictures of these students are displayed near the office. The most recent Peace Days winners include:

Week of November 23-25 and November 30-December 4: Tommy Ellifritz, Kadie Matthews, Declan McGeady and Levi Wilkinson

Week of December 7-11: Christopher Baker, Ben Broadwater, Emily Ellifritz and Clara Madero

Week of December 14-18: Postponed

Five peace parties have been held since September. The parties have included extra play and a "stop and dance" day. What will be the theme of the next Peace Treat? Stay tuned...



WES School Calendar

- ☺ Jan. 4 (Mon.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES RE-OPEN
- ☺ Jan. 6 (Wed.)-Feb. 10 All County Orchestra Rehearsal 4:00-5:15 p.m.
- ☺ Jan. 12 (Tues.) End of First Semester-Close of Second Marking Period
- ☺ Jan. 13 (Wed.) 3 Hour Early Dismissal-PM Teacher Work Time; Ms. Barbara (Public Library) visit with AM-PreK @ 10:00 a.m., Kindergarten @ 10:30 a.m. and PM-PreK @ 1:30 p.m.
- ☺ Jan. 18 (Mon.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED-Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
- ☺ Jan. 20 (Wed.) Guys Read @ 12:30 p.m.-Fourth Grade Boys
- ☺ Jan. 26 (Tues.) Report Cards Distributed
- ☺ Jan. 27 (Wed.) Guys Read @ 12:30 p.m.-Fourth Grade Boys
- ☺ Jan 28 (Thurs.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-System-wide Staff Development Day

Attendance Drawing Winners

Here are the results of the weekly attendance drawing, which is sponsored by Verso Corporation. The names of the students who are drawn from the "pot of gold" are checked against the attendance list from the previous week. If a student whose name is drawn is present at school each day for the previous week, he/she wins a silver or "gold" dollar. If a student is absent, tardy or leaves early on any day during the previous week, his/her name is not announced, but is put back in the bucket and a new name is drawn. Drawings are held each Monday on WWES-TV. One coin is awarded to each grade level.

Week of November 23-25 and November 30-December 4: Emrick Johnson, Carlynn Escobar Molina, Jayden Paugh Lee, Emma Trexler, Blaze Kennedy, Colton Shingler and Leuma Puaauli

Week of December 7-11: Sophia Decker, Nathan Miller, Owen Walker, Devin Holt, Joey Miller, Jessica Snyder and Bryson Wil-

kins
Week of December 14-18: Gabrielle Shingler, Jeremiah Woolard, Kambria Spalding, Michael Douglass, Matthew Camposeco, Alex Reed and Kaylee Blocher

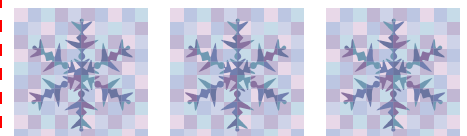
A NOTE from Mrs. Fazenbaker about ATTENDANCE at WES

I am very concerned about the number of tardies and early dismissals at WES. Your children are missing valuable instruction that cannot be made up. Our teachers are preparing your children for the PARCC Assessments, which will be given in early April this year. We want our students to do their best, but if they continue to miss instruction, that may not happen. I realize that tardies and early dismissals cannot always be avoided, but please try to schedule appointments late in the day so that no school has to be missed. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Safety First

A NOTE from Mrs. Fazenbaker about SAFETY at WES

Parents, when you are in the lobby, please do not open the door to others who are coming into the school. Every person coming into the school needs to "buzz" the office for admittance. If you are at the door and have been "buzzed" in, please do not hold the door open for others who are behind you. They also need to push the button when they get to the door, and then they will be let in. Thank you for your cooperation with this important safety issue.



Fall 2015 Band/Orchestra Concert a Success

A band and orchestra concert was held at WES on Thursday, December 10, 2015. The concert was held for students, parents and community members at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The band, directed by Mr. Harold McClay, played a variety of instrumental music and featured these songs: Hot Cross Buns, Rolling Along, Listen to Our Section, Mozart Melody, Doodle All Day, Good King Wenceslas, and Up On the House-top. Fourth grade band members included **FLUTE** - Connor Dayton; **CLARINET** - Catelynn Davis, Mackenzie Derham and Gracie Raines; **TRUMPET** - Anthony Dolly, Austin Pattison, Morgan Steckman, McKenna Swisher, and Bruce Zamko; **TROMBONE** - Kaden Davis and Jacob Vanpelt and **DRUMS** - Shawn Heeter and David Miller. Fifth grade band members included **FLUTE** - Clara Madero, Baylee Mowbray, and Kiawna Paugh; **CLARINET** - Aryonna Arlott, Kaylee Blocher, Nevaeh Friel, Emma Lewis, Elizabeth Schramm, Emily Schofield and Samantha Wiland; **SAXOPHONE** - Gwen Fazenbaker, and Jordan Oates; **TRUMPET** - Macy Guinn; **BARITONE** - Kailic Carpenter and **DRUMS** - Brycen Gardner, Larae Grove, Jason Haggerty, Jaden Lee, Owen Llewellyn, Jacob Tinsley, and Bryson Wilkins.

The orchestra, directed by Mr. Jay Moon, played a variety of music arranged for strings, including the songs: On the Trail, Morning Dance, Walking Song, Rolling Along, What's For Lunch, Leftovers, Steps to Success, Snake Charmer, Bil'em Cabbage Down, and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. Orchestra members included (4th Grade) Talen Kerchner, Rylee Moran, Jessica Snyder and Jacy Tinsley and (5th Grade) Mary Keller, Caden Kyle, Kaitlynn Lands and Brandon Zais.

Both groups played arrangements of Jolly Old St. Nicholas and Jingle Bells.

Congratulations, students, you played well. We look forward to hearing another great concert in May.



Books Before Bedtime (for PreK-2)

Books Before Bedtime was held on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 for students in grades PreK through two. A total of 22 students wore their favorite pajamas and brought along their favorite



blankets, pillows, and stuffed animals to be ready for a night of bedtime stories, snacks, and prizes. Many adult family members also participated in the activities. Adult winners of the door prizes, which were \$25.00 Wal-Mart gift cards, were parents, Karen Guinn and Angela McConnell. Each student received a non-fiction book to take home to keep. WES teachers Kim Aikman, Eric Follett, Lisa Harris, Jennifer Hughes and Beth Weber helped to lead the evening's activities. A good time was had by one and all.

Resolutions for a Happy New Year

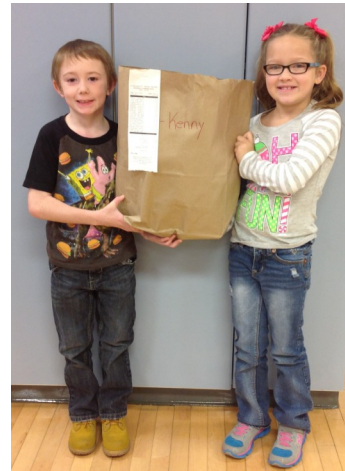
No one will ever get out of this world alive.
 Resolve therefore to maintain a reasonable sense of values.
 Take care of yourself. Good health is everyone's major source of wealth. Without it, happiness is almost impossible.
 Resolve to be cheerful & helpful. People will repay you in kind.
 Avoid angry, abrasive persons. They are generally vengeful.
 Avoid zealots. They are generally humorless.
 Resolve to listen more & to talk less. No one ever learns anything by talking.
 Be chary of giving advice. Wise men don't need it, & fools won't heed it.
 Resolve to be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, & tolerant of the weak & the wrong. Sometime in life you will have been all of these.
 Do not equate money with success. There are many successful money-makers who are miserable failures as human beings. What counts most about success is how a person achieves it.

---Lloyd Shearer (1985)



WES Faculty and Staff wishes all of you a VERY Happy New Year!

Students Receive Free Books



All students at Westernport Elementary School received a free book from the recent Scholastic Book Fair. 75% of the book fair profit was doubled by Scholastic so that each student in grades PreK-5 could select a free book. This "One Book/One Student" project was paid for in spring 2015 by a grant from

the Reeves Private Foundation. The foundation provided partial funding to the school library this fall to make this project again possible.

Citizens of the Month

Students selected as "Citizens of the Month" exemplify the character trait for the month, as determined by the Allegany County Public Schools. The character trait for **November** was Citizenship. Those students selected for November took a trip to McDonald's for a treat! Students included: Grade K-Harlie Todd and Emma Streets; Grade 1-Joey Fearon and Kyiah Green; Grade 2-Ashlynn Light and Hunter Roderick; Grade 3-Wyatt Walker and Dawn Cook; Grade 4-Zach Ellifritz and Matthew Hanlin; and Grade 5-Macy Guinn and Caden Kyle.



THE MISSION of Westernport Elementary School is to prepare and empower all students to successfully meet tomorrow's challenges. We will partner with family and community to nurture the whole child, intellectually, physically and emotionally, to build a better world — one child at a time.