



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Veterans Day & Christmas Programs 2016 Monarch Butterflies

This year, the primary and intermediate classes at Westernport Elementary School will be divided for special holiday programs. The third, fourth and fifth grade students will be performing the Veterans Day program on Monday, November 7th at 1:45 PM. This is a yearly program that Westernport Elementary School does to honor all veterans that have a tie to our school, whether it be as a member of our community or a relative of a student who attends here. The annual Christmas Program will be presented this year by our pre-k, kindergarten, first and second grade students on Tuesday, December 20th at 1:45 PM. In recent years, all grade levels have participated in this program; however with the smaller number of grade levels performing, the students will be given more time on stage for their parents/grandparents to enjoy. We are making this necessary change for several reasons. We work hard to ensure the safety of all our students; however when we have extremely large audiences for this program, it is difficult to manage. We are always conscious of the Maryland State Fire Marshal Regulations and with the large number attending the Christmas program, we are not in compliance. Another concern is the parking for such a large audience. Even with teachers parking in the field, there is still not enough parking. If we were to have snow or severe weather before the program date,

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Students at Westernport Elementary learned about the migration of the Monarch butterfly when representatives of the Discovery Center in Garrett County came to the school on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. After a program in the gym, students formed groups on the front lawn of the school. Students first got to see how the feet of the monarch butterflies felt on their hands. Students then participated in the tagging of the butterflies. Finally, students made a "platform" of their hands and launched a butterfly and waved the butterflies off as they began their journey to Mexico. This program was sponsored by the Allegany County Library System and was facilitated by Joni Reed, Outreach Coordinator. (Shown are students from PM-PreK)

Westernport Elementary
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A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor



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October 2016

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From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker



We have had a smooth start to our school year. Students and teachers are settling into the school year well, and there are many exciting activities happening. The first Parent Conference Day was held on Thursday, September 29th. I want to thank all parents who came to talk to their children's teachers. There is no better way that you can help your children to be success-

ful in school than have open communication with their teachers. Thank you to all parents and students who have supported WES by selling donuts and sending in new Martin's Bonus Card numbers. The money that the school makes from these fundraisers benefits your children and we appreciate the time and effort that you have put into these fundraisers. WES sold

1,030 dozen donuts this year! October will be a busy month at Westernport. Mr. Tim Stevens, our resource officer, will continue DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) training in the fifth grade. He has already been working with Mrs. Sechler's class and will begin working with Mrs. Swisher's class on October 3rd. Be sure to ask your children what they are learning in their

DARE classes. On October 18th, schools are closed for a Professional Development Day. There will be a 3-Hour Early Dismissal on Friday, October 28th and the annual Halloween Parade will take place that morning. As always, thank you for all that you do for the students at WES. We appreciate all of your help to assure that our students do their best!

Attendance Drawing

Here are the results of the attendance drawing, which is sponsored each week 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 instead is put back in the bucket and a new name is drawn.

Drawings are held each Monday. One coin is awarded to each grade level.

Week of August 29-September 2, 2016: Landen Iliff, Aaliyah Davis, Mason Weimer, Abigail Baker, Cambria Guinn, Violet Sowers and Jacob Van Pelt

Week of September 6-9: Aiden Marsh, Adrian Ketterman, Max Cole, Jayden Paugh Lee, Damien Miller, Jonathon Lovell and David Miller

Mission Statement

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

Attendance (continued)

Week of September 12-16: Klarissa Paitzel, Nick Dawson, Makenna Turner, Shayden Thierry, Michael Douglass, Dawn Cook and Liberty Sweitzer

Week of September 19-23: Klarissa Paitzel, Delaney White, Lynden Haggerty, Evelyn Steiding, Landon Haggerty, Kadie Matthews and Aidan Braithwaite

Week of September 26-30: Brayden Riker, Hailee O'Haver, Breanna Warden, Kealana Puaauli, Ava Fazzenbaker, Kadie Matthews and Hailey Burdock

WES School Calendar

Oct. 11 (Tues.) PTA Parent Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Oct. 17 (Mon.) School Picture Day

Oct. 18 (Tues.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Staff Development Day

Oct. 19 (Thurs.) Kindergarten to Brookdale Farms; Dental Sealants-Grades 1, 2 & 3 (through Nov. 2, 2016)

Oct. 24 (Mon.) PBIS Hayride; PTA t-shirt sale begins

Oct. 26 (Wed.) Parent Meeting (Health Department presentation about Heroin Epidemic) @1:30; DARE Graduation @ 2:00 PM

Oct. 27 (Thurs.) Close of First Marking Period

Oct. 28 (Fri.) AM-Halloween Parade; 3-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-PM for Teacher Work Time

Oct. 31 (Mon.) Town of Westernport Trick or Treat (6:00-8:00 PM)



Title I Tips

Westernport Elementary has a **School-wide Title I Program**. This means that the federally funded instructional staff may work with all of the students in our school, and that our school develops a Schoolwide Title I program designed to increase academic achievement for **all** students. A Schoolwide Program helps us to use federal funds to meet the needs of all students more effectively. Title I provides additional resources such as:

- Instructional materials for our students.
- Professional development for teachers.
- Information about how to help children succeed in school for parents.

- Parent Involvement Programs.
- Additional staffing to provide additional support for reading and math instruction.

Our Title I staff includes Julie Kyle, Support Teacher for Reading and Math; Mallory Sechler, Grade 5 Classroom Teacher; Robin Everline, Title I instructional assistant; and Delsie Fazzenbaker, Parent Involvement Coordinator.

Delsie Fazzenbaker comes to WES every other Monday. She would love to have parent volunteers help with laminating, crafts and other projects that will benefit all classrooms.

No experience is necessary.

Veterans Day (cont.)

teachers would be unable to park in the field, therefore making it more difficult to find parking for the audience that attends. The grade levels participating in these programs will be rotated yearly. Next year's Christmas program will be presented by the third, fourth, and fifth grade students and the younger grades will do the Veterans Day program. Thank you for understanding and we appreciate your continued support.



The school website may be found at <http://acpsmd.org/wt>



Accelerated Reader Contests 2016-2017



There will be three Accelerated Reader contests during 2016-2017.

September 6-November 7, 2016: AR Coloring Craze Contest

Students will win small prizes (bookmarks to color) for passing AR quizzes during play period. At the end of the contest, students will participate in a drawing based on number of AR points earned. Each student who earns one AR point will have one ticket with his/her name on it placed in the drawing. A student who earns two points at the end will earn two tickets, etc. There will be four "buckets" so students will just be competing against students in their own grade level. Students may use their TOPS papers to watch their progress, but do not need to turn them in to Mrs. Hendrickson. Book Fair gift certificates and small prizes will be

awarded to the winners.

January-Mid-March: Winter AR Contest (theme yet to be determined)

Skate to Your AR Goal (year-long event)

48 student "winners" will travel by school bus to Moon Glo Skating Rink in Cumberland on Thursday, May 4, 2017. (This trip will be from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.)

The top six students in each grade who pass a minimum number of AR Practice Quizzes as well as earn the most Accelerated Reader points by taking AR Reading Practice Quizzes throughout the entire school year will be invited to attend this trip.

All other students who pass a minimum number of AR Reading Practice quizzes during the entire school year will be eligible to be in a drawing to select six more

winners, per grade. (Eight quizzes in grade 2, twelve quizzes in grade 3, sixteen quizzes in grade 4 and 20 quizzes in grade 5.)

To prevent indiscriminate quizzing, students who are in the "top six" or students who pass the minimum number of quizzes also must have an average of 70% of quiz questions correctly answered to be eligible to attend.

AR Quizzes may be taken in the computer lab during after lunch play period on **MON-DAYS and TUESDAYS for grades 2, 3, 4 & 5.** Students may also take quizzes in their classrooms at their teachers' convenience. The AR program has been synched with the results of your child's STAR Reading diagnostic test results (grades 3, 4 & 5 only) to encourage your child to read and test on books that are not too easy, and not too hard, but "just right."

Meet the (New) Faculty and Staff

Mr. Joshua Blowe is the new PE teacher at WES. He is a native of Piedmont and a graduate of Keyser High School. Mr. Blowe has a bachelor's degree in physical education/health and a master's degree in athletic coaching education, both from West Virginia University. He taught for eight years at the Burlington Center School. Mr. Blowe is the head coach of the Keyser varsity girls' basketball team and

has worked with the team since 2009. He is also certified in middle school math. Mr. Blowe and his wife, Sheri, and their two children live in Keyser. **Mrs. Cindy Shumaker** is a new instructional assistant at WES. She has worked for the ACPs for 25 years, beginning at WES during 1991-1992, which was the year WES was renovated. She has worked at Frost School for the past five years. Mrs.

Shumaker is a native of Westernport and lives here with her husband, Don. Their son, Michael, attended WES. Mrs. Shumaker is very happy to be part of our school community and is looking forward to working with WES students again.

Welcome, Ms. Beth Moore, new instructional assistant at WES, and **Ms. Sue Ann Bittinger**, new cafeteria worker. We will "meet" them in a future newsletter!

Ways to Support WES

If you want to help Westernport Elementary School to raise money for the "extras" that every school needs, there are several ways to do it! You can:

-sign up online to share your Martin's BonusCard points with the school, if you did not do so last year. WES will receive one point for every dollar that you spend at the supermarket, and those points will become dollars for the school. **You do not lose your own points!**

-send in Box Tops for Education. Each box top is worth 10 cents. The money will directly help your child's classroom.

-send in Campbell's Soup Label squares

-support school and PTA fundraisers and attend parent and student events at WES

Thanks to all who supported the Reading for Education Fundraiser and filled out booklets. We reached our goal of over 161 booklets. Winners of the student prizes were Makinzie Zais (minion) and Hailey Durst (speaker).

Cafeteria News

A school lunch is now \$2.55 (full price) and \$.40 (reduced price). Please pay your child's lunch bill on time with cash, check or Pay-PAM. You may pay everyday or send in money for a week or month at a time. This way you can assure that your child will have money in his/her account.

If your child charges five meals or \$12.25 (or \$2.00 charged for five reduced meals), he/she will receive a substitute meal of 1/2 cup vegetable, 1/2 cup fruit and half pint milk.

Happy Grandparents Day 2016





Happy
Grandparents
Day
2016
(Continued)

Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2016

No one wants to hear the sound of sirens as fire trucks scream through the streets. But fires are a reality. **Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15th** and The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) uses this as an opportunity to educate students and parents about fire safety. This year's theme is "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years." Once a fire starts in your home, you may have as little as two minutes to escape. Advance planning and a practiced fire escape route can save lives. NFPA suggests the following when making an escape plan for your family:

- Have two ways out of every room in your house.
- Have the number to call in case of a fire emergency posted near the phone.
- Establish a place outside for members of the family to meet in case the house must be evacuated.
- Make sure bedroom windows open easily for a possible escape route.
- Have children practice opening doors and windows until you know they can do this easily.
- Test smoke alarms regularly and change the batteries at least once a year.
- If the house has a second floor, have an escape ladder that can be dropped down from the upstairs window.

NFPA also stresses general fire prevention and lists a series of checks to be made in the home to lessen the chances for a fire. Visit <http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/safety-in-the-home/escape-planning>

for a home escape plan grid and home safety tip sheet.

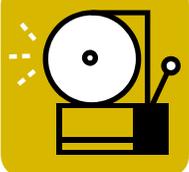
Fire Drill Procedures @ WES



Peace Days Winners



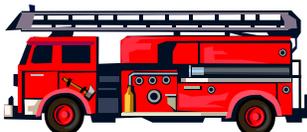
Maps which show building evacuation routes have been posted throughout WES. These maps may be found in all classroom doorways and in other locations such as the cafeteria, gym, computer lab and office.



If you are a parent volunteer or visitor to WES, you are expected to exit the building when the fire alarm rings or if there is a scheduled fire drill. Please assist to close all doors and windows, as necessary, and turn off the lights before

proceeding to the playground blacktop area via the east (McDonald's side), west (Alley side) or Cafeteria Lobby doors.

Please take a moment to become familiar with evacuation routes so that you may safely exit WES.



A drawing is held each Monday to award tokens 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 school office. Some of our latest peaceful students are:

Week of August 29-September 2: No drawing

Week of September 6-9: Abigail Cage, Max Kalbaugh, Makenna Turner and Jeremiah Woolard

Week of September 12-16: Abbigale Lambert, Ashlynn Light, MaKenzie Raines and Mason Weimer

Week of September 19-23: Sophia Decker, Emma Kelley, David Miller and Jessica Snyder

Week of September 26-30: Emily Ellifritz, Zach Ramos, Dominic Saville and Wyatt Walker

PTA Meeting/Title I Meeting

IMPORTANT: The PTA Parent Meeting and Title I Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th at 6:00 p.m. Please come to support the PTA and to learn about Title I at our school.