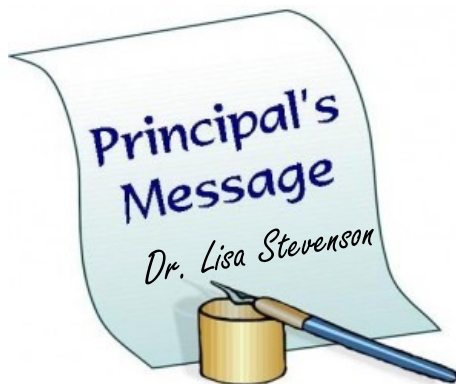




Cash Valley Connection

November, 2020

Volume 2



Hello Cash Valley Families! We are so excited to hear children's voices in the building and seeing them in person. I must compliment your children on returning to school ready to learn. They are following safety protocol, being respectful of others, and persevering in their learning. It is amazing how resilient children can be through change of instruction and routine. Please let your child know that you are so proud of their flexibility and positive attitude. As the first marking period ends, Cash Valley keeps rocking and rolling! Our discipline approach through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) has earned a GOLD LEVEL recognition award by maintaining a multi-tiered system team structure providing practices that guide positive actions and choices. We also celebrate the announcement of our school earning the NATIONAL Blue Ribbon Schools Award for high academic achievement – WOW! Along with submitting an intense application, below is the overview "school story" submitted to the United State Education Department:

Cash Valley provides education through general classrooms, regional structured learning environments, inclusion services, and early childhood programs. Believing "Every Connection Counts," we are an educational family acknowledging that positive school-community relationships develop an integrated unit with common expectations for educational success. We attribute this success to our vision, mission, and core values; with school initiatives prioritized on students' needs delivered through best practices. The instructional framework follows the Gradual Release of Responsibility and Universal Design for Learning principles, a process including focused and guided instruction with collaborative and independent learning. Students are provided with multiple means of representation, action, expression, and engagement. Mindfulness and metacognition strategies allow students to "drive their brains" and apply the growth mindset approach. Maryland Coalition of Inclusive Educators and Schoolwide Integrated Framework for Transformation focus on equity-based inclusive practices and collaborative planning among general and special educators. Formative Assessment for Maryland Educators and Leadership Teams provide teaching tools to differentiate the process, product, and learning environment. Sustaining effective instructional strategies through Professional Learning Communities improve practices with book studies, coaching, observations, reflection, and strategic planning. Differentiation is our strategy for academic success. We conduct formal data dives of assessments using the Five Whys technique to identify root causes of problematic areas and create action plans for improvement strategies. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support identify instructional practices to sustain our improvement initiatives. Differentiation approaches have unified our school and created an environment with quality feedback, blended learning, and strong relationships to foster a love of lifelong learning.

Arrival and dismissal must remain an organized routine for functionality and safety. Students can arrive at 8:20 when the doors become unlocked. There is not any supervision available prior to this time. If you are using the car drop off area, please be considerate of other drivers in the line, have your children prepare to exit quickly, and continue moving the line forward. Please do not allow your children to exit the vehicle until the car is directly beside the school walkway. This is a safety concern due to the vehicles continuously moving forward. If you want to see your child enter the building, park at the upper lot and walk your student to the front of the building. Dismissal begins at 1:25. Vehicles are not to enter the lower lot until the buses have left the parking lot (approximately 1:45). This is another situation that can become dangerous for those using the walkways throughout the parking lot. Cameras and school resource officers will be monitoring the arrival and dismissal procedures to maintain safety and security.

For all school information, a communicator folder is sent home, along with daily contact through assignment books and Schoology. Please visit the school website at acpsmd.org/ca regarding and Facebook facebook.com/cashvalleypto. Please monitor all information, hard copy and electronic, that is sent home. As the principal, I continue the development of a school family where visitors, students, and staff are excited to attend, learn, and grow. Families and school personnel together want to achieve the same overall goal – a safe, secure environment where students have the support and resources to grow. Regardless of how the delivery of instruction may change, strong relationships between school and home will be the support necessary for all students to be successful. Everyone is welcomed into the Cash Valley family and again it is awesome to have students in the building!

Every connection counts –

Dr. Lisa Stevenson

5th Grade News-*Mrs. Rowley & Mr. O'Neal*

Welcome to the wonderful world of 5th grade! Even though 5th was all virtual with the exception of one week, we have covered a lot of instructional territory! We finally have our routines down and we have been working hard! We have learned many new and exciting concepts since the beginning of the year! In Language Arts, we have worked on our inferencing, main idea and details, analyzing text structure, and character and setting skills, and we will continue to review these skills to keep them sharp! Students have been working hard on strengthening their writing skills, virtual or not, you cannot stop the 5th grade fire with Friday writing! Ask your child about what they are reading and writing about in school. In math we have already covered place value operations, reading and writing decimals to the thousandths, comparing and rounding whole numbers and decimals to the thousandths, base 10 units, exponents, operations in decimal form, and we are currently working on standard algorithm for multiplication, calculating the volume of rectangular prisms, and we are looking forward to working on 2 digit division! Whew, we have been busy!

In science we have completed our Life Science unit about the food chain and the flow of energy, ecosystems, and invasive species, and we are currently wrapping up our Physics Unit. We will be moving onto Earth and Space science next!!

So far in Social Studies we have studied how the First Americans came to America, natural resources, and renewable and non-renewable resources. 5th grade has also just completed their Native American unit focusing on their customs and the knowledge of the natural resources within each region.

Please remember to ensure your student is completing their afternoon classwork by following the easy to step-by-step checklist on Schoology! It is important for our students to practice their new skills and solidify the topics we have already covered, especially since we are back to an all virtual schedule!

3rd Grade News *Mrs. Stouffer & Mrs. Belcher*

This new school year has had its obstacles, but third grade is working together to build a mindset for success. In reading, we are learning about story structure, and how to determine the main idea of a nonfiction text. In math, we are developing strategies for adding and subtracting greater numbers. Just around the corner is multiplication!!

Thank you to our families for making our virtual learning happen every, single day. Together we will help your child succeed.



4th Grade News—*Mrs. McCann & Mrs. Eber*

A huge thank you to all our students and parents for being patient and supportive through this very difficult time. We appreciate each of you and are thankful to have you as a part of our fourth grade this year.

In ELA we continue to work on author's purpose and text structure with our stories. We are making progress when responding to text dependent questions. Please be sure you are reading every night.

In Math, we are working in our Multiplication and Division unit. We are learning to multiply and divide with area models and place value strategies. Word problems continue to challenge the students but we will persevere.

In Science, we are finish up Life Science and will go back to Social Studies for Maryland History.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Eber & Mrs. McCann



Mrs. Lewis, Ms. Blake, & Mrs. Humbertson

Classroom News

Parent Tips—

Occasionally, children become frustrated and have meltdowns. Teach your children some calming strategies. It may take a while, but don't give up. It will get better. Some strategies are rocking, walking, swinging, playing calm and quiet music, dimming lights, and reducing the noise in the room.

Items can also be helpful to practice deep breathing. Teach your children to blow bubbles gently and slowly. They can also use a pinwheel to practice breathing out slowing or quickly to figure which way works and feels best. A third strategy is to have children lay on their backs with a stuffed animal on their bellies. Breathe in deeply to move the animal up and breathe out to bring the animal back down.

Calm Down Jars can also be made. When your child needs a break, give the jar a big shake and watch the glitter settle.



Directions to make a Calm Down Jar:

1. Use a recycled plastic jar or bottle.
2. Add about 1/2 bottle of glitter glue. (use a favorite color)
3. Add in warm water to almost fill the jar/bottle. (save room for shaking and movement)
4. Add a small amount of food coloring and shake in some extra glitter.
5. Add a favorite mini figure.
6. Hot glue the lid closed.

1st Grade News

Mrs. Greig & Mr. Steckman

First grade has been learning a lot this year. We have been working on words with -ed endings in reading as well as memory words. In math we are learning about related facts. Everyone is doing a great job navigating through virtual learning. We are proud of all of our students for the effort they put in daily. We started doing lessons on NEARPOD and have had a lot of success. Keep up the great work! Have a great Thanksgiving.

2nd Grade News- Mrs. Murphy & Mrs. Rice

Whether we are having school virtually or in person, second graders are doing a fantastic job with learning!

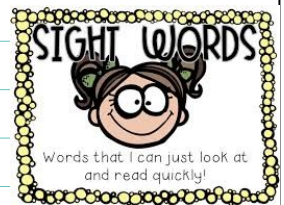
In math we have been reviewing fact families, arrays, and numbers to 100. We enjoyed making a candy corn craft where we wrote a fact family on the different colors of the candy. After we wrote a correct fact family, we had a tasty candy corn treat. To help learn about arrays we used our new boogie boards. We can write on these boards and then push a button and they erase. To finish up our unit, we made arrays with goldfish crackers. Then of course, we got to have a snack.

In reading, we have been introduced to new characters called the Super Kids. We are now using a reading series called "The Superkids Reading Program." We are reading about events in their lives at school. Each day we have a new Super Kid adventure to read about in class.

In Social Studies, we focused on Growth Mindsets and Perseverance. This school year has been a growing year for teachers, parents and students as we have learned how to use Schoology, a new computer platform for virtual learning. Our positive mindsets have helped us overcome many obstacles in this new learning environment. Thank you to the parents and the students for helping us to achieve success. As we say in school, "I may not be able to do it **yet**, but I will keep trying until I can."

Ms. Cresta's Classroom Update

Welcome to the second quarter of the school year! It has been a pleasure getting to know your students and working with them in the physical classroom and in the virtual classroom. Each day we are focusing on sight word building, core vocabulary, reading fluency, and answering reading comprehension questions. In mathematics, we are building mathematics concepts like number quantities, number representation, number recognition to 50, and adding quantities of items to find a total. We stay busy all day long and hope you are seeing the results of their hard work.



Thank you for taking the time to check their daily folders and daily check sheets-this communication is important to their success. Remember to keep a change of clothes that is appropriate for the season in their backpack in case of an emergency and we will indicate if it needs changing. We appreciate your flexibility with the ever-changing school situation and want you to know that your child is our priority whether they are here in person or over the computer. As always if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out and contact me! Take care and stay safe!

Kindergarten News

Mrs. Nines & Ms. Sibley



Do you remember back in August when online schooling and Schoology were intimidating?

Well, look at us now!

Kindergarten took off with a great start! OUR students and parents are giving it their best.

At this point, students should know the letters and sounds for:

Cc, Oo, Gg, Aa, Dd, Ss, Ll

They should also learning to blend and read words with these sounds.!

Parents. please make sure your children have a designated space for their virtual school and their supplies!

Thank you for all you have done to make this year successful!

PK-3 News—

Ms. Robinson & Mrs. Jessica

We are off to a great start between bridging the gap with virtual and in person learning. Thank you to all of our families for their support of our early childhood program. We have completed Theme 1 Awesome Me in our Frog Street Threes curriculum and are presently working through Theme 2 My Family and Friends. During these themes we work to unite, calm, connect, and commit during our opening activities. We are working on building language skills, taking turns and listening as we complete daily phonemic awareness activities. Children are engaging with beginning writing through our daily morning messages. We are building comprehension and attention span with our literacy read alouds. Children have explored attributes and position words during our math and science lessons. We look forward to working with our youngest explorers as we venture through these unprecedented times.

PreK-4 News—Mrs. Hardman

Pre-K is ready to GOBBLE up some new learning! During the month of November, we will be learning about Thanksgiving. We will compare Thanksgiving in the past and in the present. In Reading, we just finished the reading unit on "Family and Friends". The class read a variety of stories on how to be a good friend and ways we can help each other. We also looked at how families can be different and what families do together. We have also started to identify the letters of the alphabet by name and the sounds each letter makes. In math class, the boys and girls are learning to touch and count

groups of up to five objects arranged in different ways.

They are learning to match their counting to a numeral.



We are also learning how to represent numbers by drawings or objects. The students are learning to see patterns in the counting sequence. When counting forward, they see each number is 1 more: One. One more is 2. Two. One more is 3. Our next math focus is identifying, describing and building shapes. Pre-K would like to thank all of our wonderful families for their support and understanding during this new adventure with virtual learning. Continue to check the classroom announcement tab on our schoology page for the most up to date information regarding our virtual learning. I hope to see all of my students back in the classroom very soon.

Guidance News—Mrs. Paton

Hello families,

Since the beginning of the year, grades K-5 have been learning about the tools in TOOLBOX. TOOLBOX is an evidence-based social and emotional learning program. The 12 tools of TOOLBOX help reduce student conflict and behavior referrals, improving classroom achievement and school climate. Children trained in TOOLBOX describe ongoing benefits of Tools in their adult lives. You will find a copy of the toolbox poster under your teacher's Schoology classroom under the "Guidance" folder. Please ask your child about the tools and feel free to reach out to me at any time.



News from Library/Media

Mrs. Robertson

Cash Valley Library Media Center is “Virtually” Open!

The pandemic has changed many things about the way we are instructing our students and the way they are learning. One thing that has not changed, however, is the fact that our students can still read books from our library! We now have e-books (electronic) books that the students can check out and read from their devices. To see our collection of ebooks and have your student check one out to read, just follow these steps.

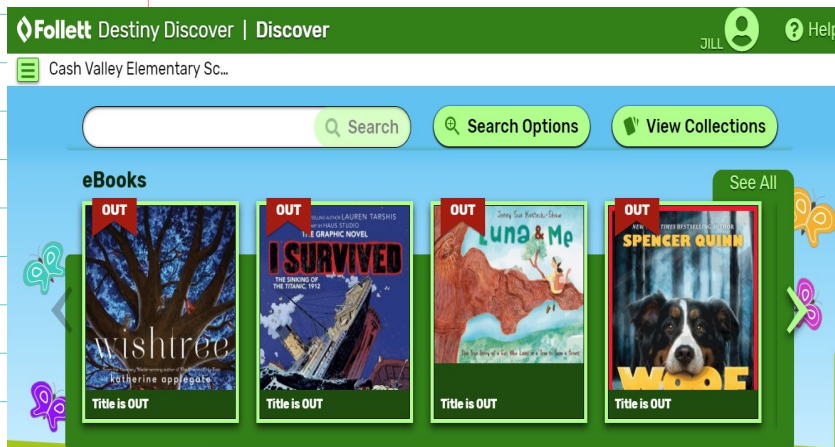
Go to the Cash Valley School Bookmarks page at <https://www.acpsmd.org/domain/496>

Click on the link for our school Library Media Center catalog

When the student's catalog page comes up, go to the upper right corner and click on Log In

When the next screen appears, just click on the box that says “Log in with Google”

You will now see the complete Library catalog. Scroll down on the screen until you see the section called “e-books”



Click on “See All” to see the collection of ebooks

To have your student check one out, click on the book and then on ‘details’ and you will see the button “check out”.

The book can now be opened and read on their device.

There is a virtual bookmark that they can use to mark their places and then they simply come back to their book through the library link to finish it. Some of the books will read aloud to them.

When they are done, they click on the button that says “Check In” and the book will be back in the collection.

If you have any questions about this new feature with our library, please contact Mrs. Robertson at school and she will be glad to help you. The students in Grades 3-5 have already been instructed in the use of our new library catalog and how to access the ebooks.

Happy Reading!

Title I Parents Right to Know

Parents have the right to know the certification status of the teachers and instructional assistants who work with their children. You may get this information by making a written request to—

Mr. Steven Wilson
Supervisor of Human Resources
108 Washington Street
P.O. Box 1724
Cumberland, MD 21502



November 2nd—Grade 5 Returns

November 3—Election Day—
Schools/Offices Closed

November 12 —1st Marking Period
Ends

November 25—3 HR Early Dismissal
No afternoon requirements for stu-
dents (Thanksgiving Break Begins)

November 26,- Schools/Offices
Closed

November 27—Schools/Office Closed

November 30—Schools Closed

December 1—Schools Reopen for
Virtual Learning

December 3—Report Cards Distribut-
ed