



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Thanks, Veterans



Westernport Elementary
172 Church Street
Westernport, MD
21562
A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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Inside this issue:

A Veterans Day program was held at Westernport Elementary School on Monday, November 11, 2019. Parents and community members, including veterans from the Tri-Towns area, were invited to attend. Students in grades Kindergarten, 1 & 2 presented a musical program called "Celebrating Our Veterans".

After the singing of the Star Spangled Banner by Ms. Chelsea Carr, third grade teacher, students marched into the gym to a series of patriotic songs, carrying flags. Some of the featured songs were "The Brave", performed by grade two; "My Country Tis of Thee", sung by grade one; and "Marching for Our Veterans", performed by the Kindergarten. The finale of the program included a song called "We are American, Every Day", which was sung by all of the students. Veterans from the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy were asked to stand to be recognized after a few bars of their service songs were played and then students shouted "hooray." Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, principal, presented veterans with certificates as their names were announced.

Local veterans who attended included Robert Beeman, Michael Bitteringer, Wendell Bobo, Chad Butler, David Deal, Robert Edwards, Daniel Lewis, Dorothy Lewis, Timothy Llewellyn, Greg Marsh, Richard Rinar, William Shimer, Glenn Shingler, Bill Spiker, Marcus Stuart, Robert Turner, Doug Wade, Harry Walker, Michael Whetstone and Mark Whetzel.

Mrs. Patricia Zimmerman, vocal music teacher, arranged and conducted the program. She was assisted in the dress rehearsal and performance by WES classroom teachers. Program narrators were fifth grade students, Reid Robison and Amberlea Sweitzer.

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From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

I want to say thank you to Mrs. Patty Zimmerman and the kindergarten, first and second grade classes and teachers for the inspirational Veterans Day Program that was presented to students, parents and the local community. 20 veterans attended the program. We appreciate the sacrifices that our veterans and those currently serving in the armed forces have made and are making to protect this great country.

Thanks to all families who sent in canned food and non-perishable items for the food drive. Over 1,900 items of food were taken to our local Food Pantry, which is located at the Piedmont Presbyterian Church on 63 Ashfield Street in Piedmont, WV. If you need assistance, please contact the food pantry at 304-790-1771. They are open on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to noon. You need a photo ID and a current utility bill to register there.

We are holding the first "Jingle and Mingle" event for Grandpar-

ents and Grand Friends on Wednesday, December 4th from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. Please try to RSVP. Please support our local restaurants (before or after the event) that are offering some specials or donating a percentage of their profits to WES.

Please plan to attend the **Band & Orchestra Concert** on Thursday, December 5th. There will be a morning performance at 10:00 AM for students (and the parents who may not be able to attend in the afternoon)...

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Martin's BonusCards



617 Martin's BonusCard numbers have been collected 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 \$597.20 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 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. Our recent Peace Days winners include:

October 28-November 1: Ryler Wilson, Owen Brashear, Jonathan Wolford, Aaliyah Redman, Zarianna Griffin, Nathan Whelan and Domenick Glotfelty

November 4-8: Kaiden Wilt, Anastasia Roe, Mya Kolberg, Brayden Lytle, Bailey Brashear, Sarah Shingler and Amberlea Sweitzer

November 11-15: Macyn Bittinger, Harleigh Mason, Arria Gentry, Peyton Cavey, Ethan Mauck, Jeremy Fasching and Holli Konke

November 18-22 & 25-27: Kylaha Heavener, Eli Karalewitz, Adrianna Adkins, Brody Hook, Delaney White, Paige Haggerty and Max Kalbaugh.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

WES School Calendar

- ♦ Dec. 3 (Tues.) Denim Day for "Toys for Happiness."
- ♦ Dec. 4 (Wed.) Grandparents and Grand Friends "Jingle & Mingle" @4:30-5:30 PM
- ♦ Dec. 5 (Thurs.) Band/Orchestra Concert @ 10:00 AM & 2:00 PM
- ♦ Dec. 9-11 (Mon.-Wed.) Santa's Secret Shop
- ♦ Dec. 10 (Tues.) Books Before Bedtime for grades PreK-2 @ 5:45-7:30 PM
- ♦ Dec. 17 (Tues.) Christmas Program @ 10:00 AM and 1:45 PM with PreK, Grades 3, 4 & 5 presenting
- ♦ Dec. 18 (Wed.) PTA "Pictures With Santa"
- ♦ Dec. 23 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED; Christmas Vacation Begins
- ♦ Dec. 24- 25 (Tues.-Wed.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED
- ♦ Dec. 26-27 (Thurs.-Fri.) SCHOOLS CLOSED & OFFICES OPEN
- ♦ Dec. 30 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED
- ♦ Dec. 31 & Jan. 1 (Tues.-Wed.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED
- ♦ Jan. 2 (Thurs.) 2-HOUR DELAY (Teacher Work Time @8:15-10:15 AM); then SCHOOLS REOPEN

Food Drive a Success



The annual fall food drive at Westernport elementary was held during the month of November. A contest was held between the 14 classrooms to see which students could support the food drive by bringing in the most food. The school as a whole donated over 1,900 non-perishable

items of food to the Tri-Towns Food Pantry. The winning classroom will be given a small party, with a special theme. The top three classrooms were Mrs. Hughes's classroom (517 items of food), Ms. McMahon's class (419 items of food) and Ms. Carr's class (237 items of food).

Title I Tips



Parent/family engagement is an important factor in the academic success of students. The Title I Parent/Family Engagement Plan describes how the Allegany County Public Schools will plan and support programs, activities and procedures for involving parents/families in all schools with a Title I program. The policy

is also posted in our school and is on the website of the Allegany County Public Schools' at www.acpsmd.org

OUR MISSION: Westernport Elementary will partner with family and community to build a better world—one child at a time.

OUR VISION: Westernport Elementary will strive to prepare and empower students to successfully meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, by nurturing the whole child: intellectually, physically and emotionally.

Citizens of the Month

Student "Citizens of the Month" were recently chosen. Students who were selected earned a trip to McDonald's for a treat.

The character trait for November was citizenship.

Grade PreK-Ryler Wilson & Aubrie Lambert

Grade K-Jacob Whetstone & Nathan Wade

Grade 1-Krystyle Washington & Arria Gentry

Grade 2-Taylor Getson & Zach Haggerty

Grade 3-Cassidy Kyle & Maci Barbe

Grade 4-Mason Weimer & Liam Dayton

Grade 5-Wade Barbe & Kealana Puaauli

Citizenship
CITIZENSHIP

Memorial Books

Have you ever considered making a small donation to Westernport Elementary School to purchase a book for the school library in memory or in honor of a loved one? With your donation, a library book may be purchased to encourage student reading for personal interest and/or to support the curriculum.

Memorial/honor donations may be made at any time during the school year. These books are generally ordered in June or when a sufficient amount is available to make up a book order. A minimum of \$25.00 is appreciated to cover the cost of the book, as well as library processing. A plaque is placed in the book and the family will be notified of your donation.

Call 301-359-0511 for more details

In Loving Memory

Nutrition Education

University of Maryland Extension Educator Tammy Humberson, who visits our school on a regular basis to provide students with nutrition lessons, will be featured in our newsletter from time to time with nutrition tips for families.

Miss Tammy says, "Parents, it is easy to forget that children are watching us, even when we are eating. Remember to be a good food-tasting role model. Be willing to try new foods. Take at least two bites. Say "please" and "thank you" and be polite even if you decide you don't like it. Your children will model what you do."

Learning to eat a wide variety of foods ensures that both children and adults get all the nutrients they need. Miss Tammy recently shared a book with students called Don't Yuck My Yum! by Amy Pleimling, which teaches healthy eating concepts to kids and parents in a fun and healthy way.

Have you tried a new food recently?

Meet the (New) Faculty and Staff

Mrs. Cherie DeVore is a part-time special education teacher at Westernport Elementary School. She spends her mornings at George's Creek School and her afternoons at WES. Mrs. DeVore is a graduate of Frostburg State University with a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. She has a master's degree in Autism Spectrum Disorder from Grand Canyon University. She has been teaching for four years. Mrs. DeVore lives in Midland with her husband and three children, Madelynn, Quinton and Aspen, and 11 chickens. Mrs. DeVore was born and raised in

Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Tim Martin is the new head custodian at Westernport Elementary School. He is a native of Westernport and a graduate of Bruce High School. Mr. Martin worked at George's Creek and then South Penn School, where he was head custodian, before coming to WES. He has one daughter, Ashley. Mr. Martin and his wife, Kim, live in Westernport with their grandsons, Tyler and Alex. He loves to attend auctions.

Deputy Michael Cessare, a member of the Allegany County Sheriff's Office is the new resource officer at Westernport Elementary. He also maintains a presence at Westmar Middle and George's Creek School. Deputy Cessare attended WES as a child. He graduated from Mountain Ridge High School the West Virginia Police Academy. Then he received additional certification so that he could be employed in Maryland. Deputy Cessare is happy to be at our school and hopes to get to know faculty, staff and students and assist us with safety concerns.

In the News...



The fifth grade "Green Team" celebrated America Recycles Day on Friday, November 15, 2019 by collecting office paper, cereal bowls and plastic bottles.



Westernport Elementary students created holiday decorations, which have been displayed at local businesses in the town of Westernport. Great job, students!



Congratulations, Fifth Grade D.A.R.E Graduates!

A Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) Celebration was held in the gym of Westernport Elementary School on Friday, November 8, 2019. Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, principal, opened the program. School Security/Safety Officer, Mr. Tim Stevens, who taught the D.A.R.E. lessons to the fifth grade class, told the audience that the D.A.R.E graduation "is all about the students and congratulating them for their hard work." Mountain Ridge High School student Kristen Smith spoke about making good choices in life. Students Max Kalbaugh, Kealana Puauli, Emily Gurtler, Kambria Spalding, Nadiyah Placka and Amberlea Sweitzer, D.A.R.E. Essay Winners, represented the fifth grade classes of Mrs. Sarah Llewellyn and Ms. Brittany McMahon and read their essays. In addition to the featured speakers, special guests included the fourth grade classes of Mrs. Jennifer Hughes and Mrs. Janice Raines; Matt Marlowe, ACPS Student Support Services; Ms. Deb Frank, Board of Education member; and Sheriff Craig Robertson of the Allegany County Sheriff's Office. During the program, the fifth grade students took a pledge to be "Drug Free." Finally, Ms. McMahon, Mrs. Fazenbaker and Mr. Stevens congratulated the students and presented the D.A.R.E. graduation certificates.

Define
Assess
Respond
Evaluate



D.A.R.E.
TO RESIST
DRUGS
AND
VIOLENCE

Mr. Tim Stevens and D.A.R.E. Essay Winners.

From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker (continued from page 1)



*Sounds
of the
Season*

and an afternoon performance for parents and the general public at 2:00 PM. Please come to support our students as they show off their amazing talents with band and orchestra instruments.

Santa's Secret Shop will be held in the Art Room from December 9th-11th. Thanks in advance to parents who volunteer to help our students shop to find just the right gifts for their family and friends.

Books Before Bedtime will be held on Tuesday, December 10th from 5:45 to 7:30 PM in the gym. The event is for students in grades PreK through grade two. A note will be sent home explaining the program and asking for a RSVP so we will know how many people plan to attend.

Thursday, January 2nd is the first day back for students in 2020. January 2nd will be a two-hour delay day with teacher work time from 8:15 to 10:15 AM. That day will be here before we know it!

secondSTEP

Students at WES are participating this year in Second Step, an evidence-based social-emotional learning curriculum, which improves the lives of over 10 million U.S. students every year. When students are better equipped to manage their own emotions and build positive relationships, they are better equipped to learn. The Second Step units include Skills for Learning, Empathy, Emotion Management and Problem Solving. The skills taught by classroom teachers are reinforced by Mrs. Barbara Amtower, guidance counselor, during her weekly lessons and by Mrs. Shelly Fitzgerald, the LAP Room instructional assistant, during behavioral interventions. Second Step is designed to help the students acquire social and academic skills which they need to be successful at school and in life.



The Westernport Elementary **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2019-2020** will be available for parents to view in early 2020, once it has been approved. The new plan will be available in the school office and then will be posted online @ <http://www.acpsmd.org/wt>

Please remember that Mrs. Fazenbaker's door is always open to parents. If you have any questions about the SIP plan or any other concerns, do not hesitate to contact her.

