



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

## Halloween and Veterans Day...virtually!

Halloween was celebrated virtually this fall at Westernport Elementary during "Virtual Friday" instruction. Each classroom teacher found ways to make the day a fun one.

PreK, Kindergarten, first grade teachers and instructional assistants made the celebration extra special by choosing a theme, which was "The Wizard of Oz."

Shown on the side steps of WES are staff members Kim Aikman, Lisa Harris, Candice Smith, Kara McDowell, Amy Smith and Shelly Snyder



Veterans Day was celebrated virtually, as well. Students made crafts which were displayed in the school and in the Town of Westernport. Students and teachers made videos to share on Schoology. Students also learned about the five branches of the military. Finally, several classrooms enjoyed a story about Nubs: the true story of a mutt, a Marine and a miracle, which took place during the Iraq War. Veterans, thank you for your service! Hope to see you in the gym in 2021.

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

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Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
Peace Days Winners	2
Resource News	2
Read, anywhere	2
Title I Tips	2, 3
Citizens of the Month Meet the (New) Staff	3
Second Step/Safety	3
Spirit Week Pictures	4



## From the Interim Principal...Mr. Horne



Hello Westernport Families,  
I am excited to be the new interim principal of Westernport Elementary! Although our time of in-person learning has come to a halt, it was nice meeting some of you during that time. I can't wait to meet the rest of you! My initial impression of Westernport Elementary is that it is a small school with a big spirit. I am grateful for the staff and families for welcoming me with open arms.

We have much to be thankful for during this season. I am grateful

for the staff, which has worked tirelessly to implement a new way of learning. I am thankful for your grace in understanding that this style of teaching is new for our staff. I am also appreciative of your continued support and partnership throughout this challenging time. Never before has there been more of a need for us to work together to support our kids.

I want to also thank all of our parents and guardians who have been communicating with us about students who do not feel

well, who have been keeping students home when they are sick or letting us know of any situations as it relates to COVID19. These actions really help mitigate the effects on our students, teachers and staff. The kids have done tremendous at adapting to this "new normal" and I am hopeful that we will be able to return to a sense of normalcy in the near future.

Thank you, again, for your support! Please feel free to contact me with questions at 301-359-0511.



## Resource News

**Mr. Blowe** would like to thank students for working hard during physical education classes this year. He said, "everyone has been doing an amazing job of participating and making class fun. It is awesome seeing everyone. Remember to be as active as possible, and try to reach 60 minutes of play per day."

**Mr. Seibert** is glad to report that creativity continues online! Westernport Elementary students have been working through the creative process of developing ideas, using materials to express ideas, and reflecting on the results of their work. Students are guided through step by step art-making demonstrations in order to build basic skills, and then apply those skills through self directed, exploratory activities.

**Ms. Hendrix** would like to thank all of her students for a stellar first marking period! It has been a tremendous joy getting to know everyone and she cannot wait to continue dancing, singing, and exploring the wonderful world of music together!

**Mrs. Hendrickson** has enjoyed teaching library media, technology and enrichment activities! She hopes that students will be able to again enjoy having library books in their hands one of these days soon! She misses everyone!



## Peace Days Winners

A drawing is held each Monday to award a small prize to seven 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 19-23: Payton Davis, Abel Twigg, Colten Dawson, Madison Lantz, Nancy Cook, Lily Johnson & Nathan Miller

October 26-30: Maleah Tranum, Ava Morgan, Harleigh Mason, Charlotte Haggerty, Landen Iliff, Colten Brant & Kristen Paitsel

November 2-6: Gavin Marsh, Amiya Martin, Hillary Shapiro, Addison Wolfe, Bailey Cavey, Ben Broadwater & Makenna Turner



**NOTE from Mrs. Hendrickson:** The WES book fair, which is usually held in November, has been cancelled until further notice. I hope to reschedule it

## WES School Calendar

- ◆ Dec. 1 (Tues.) SCHOOLS REOPEN FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING
- ◆ Dec. 3 (Thurs.) Report Cards Released
- ◆ Dec. 23 (Wed.) THREE-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL Christmas Vacation Begins
- ◆ Dec. 24- 25 (Thurs.-Fri.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED
- ◆ Dec. 28-30 (Mon.-Wed.) SCHOOLS CLOSED & OFFICES OPEN
- ◆ Dec. 31 & Jan. 1 (Thurs.-Fri.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED
- ◆ Jan. 4 (Mon.) SCHOOLS REOPEN FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING;
- ◆ Jan. 18 (Mon.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED Martin Luther King, Jr., birthday
- ◆ Feb. 1 (Mon.) End of First Marking Period; End of First Semester

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

## READ, online and anytime!

*"Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are."*

---Mason Cooley

There are many ways to provide reading opportunities for your child when he/she must stay close to home during the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are a few:

\*\*\*Encourage your child to read or borrow eBooks from the **Westernport Elementary School Library**. Go to the Westernport Home Page (Bookmarks).

<https://www.acpsmd.org/domain/515>

Click on Follett Destiny (tree icon). Have your child log in using his/her google login, i.e., lastname.firstname@acpsmd.org & PIN. That will allow your child to use the Destiny Discover Page. Have your child choose an interactive eBook online or read/checkout a Follett eBook. He/she may also explore PebbleGo!

\*\*\*Explore **myON (My Online Library)**!

Go to the Westernport Home Page (Bookmarks).

<https://www.acpsmd.org/domain/515>

Have your child click on Clever, then click on myON. (If your child needs login cre-

dentials, see above.) Show your child how to use the Library, Recommended and Search buttons to find books. (Please note that your child needs to do the 20+ question quiz independently before the 6,500+ books will be available to read online.)

\*\*\*Explore the books and other materials available at the **Allegheny County Public Library**: Have your child use his/her regular library card number or STAR card number to reserve a book online. Call Service Specialist, Kathy Murphy, at the Westernport Branch (301-359-0455) so she can provide your child's library card number (s). You may also ask "Miss Kathy" to choose books for your child or for the entire family. She will let you know when the books are ready. Items may be picked up in front of the library on Mondays-Thursdays during the designated "Sidewalk Service" time of 2:30-5:00 PM. [www.alleghenycountylibrary.info/coronavirus](http://www.alleghenycountylibrary.info/coronavirus) is the public library website.

*"Gotta keep reading, cause this book's gonna be a good book."*

---Black-Eyed Peas (parody)

## Title I Tips #1



Parent/family engagement is an important factor in the academic success of students. The Title I Parent/Family Engagement Plan describes how the Allegheny 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 Allegheny County Public Schools' at [www.acpsmd.org](http://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 (September)

Student "Citizens of the Month" were chosen recently. **The character trait for September was Responsibility.**

Grade PreK-Finn Taylor

Grade K-Kay Heavner & Amiya Martin

Grade 1-Devyn Pritts & Kiyah Chojar

Grade 2-Wesley Haggerty, Cyrix Whiteman & Charlotte Haggerty

Grade 3-Dustlyn Rebar & Colin Stafford

Grade 4-Charlie Spiker & Declan McGeady

Grade 5-Nevaeh Blowe & Emma Streets



## More Title I Tips



The Home School Compact outlines what the school staff, parent and child will do to increase learning for our students. Parents and school staff

help to write or revise the agreement. We review the compact each spring and ask for parents to comment on the compact each year. The compacts are signed and parents receive a copy to keep at home. The Home School Compact is a tool to be used during the year to help everyone remember how important it is for all of us to work together to help our students learn. Please review the Home School Compact throughout the year and use it to help your child to succeed in school.



## Citizens (October)

Student "Citizens of the Month" were chosen recently. **The character trait for October was trustworthiness.**

Grade PreK-Vanessa Marsh & Paisley Edwards

Grade K-Ava Morgan & Aubrie Lambert

Grade 1-Aaliyah Spiker & Nathan Wade

Grade 2-Jaselynn Ravenscroft, Willow Guinn & Izaiah Clark

Grade 3-Klarissa Paitsetl

Grade 4-Aaliyah Davis & Americus Greene

Grade 5-Sean Wade & Mason Weimer



## Meet the (New) Faculty and Staff

**Mrs. Jamie Klink** is a part-time special education teacher at Westernport Elementary School. She also teaches at West Side Elementary. Mrs. Klink is a graduate of Frostburg State University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She has a master's degree in Special Education from Frostburg State University. She has been teaching for seven years. Mrs. Klink lives in Frostburg with her husband and daughter, Hadleigh and dog, named Lyla. She loves to read!

**Ms. Natalie Orange** is a half day Pre Kindergarten teacher and half day intervention teacher at Westernport Elementary School. Ms. Natalie is a graduate of West Virginia University with a Master's degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education. She taught in Virginia for three years before moving back to the area and has been teaching in Allegany County for two years. Ms. Natalie lives in Cumberland with her two cats, Oliver and Tallulah. She is happy to be part of the WES family.

**Mrs. Cheryl Fradiska** is the new secretary at Westernport Elementary School. Born and raised in Cumberland she is a graduate of Fort Hill High School. Mrs. Fradiska first worked as an IA for 28 years. She worked for a while at Flintstone and West Side Schools, but the majority of her time was spent at South Penn Elementary. Mrs. Fradiska and her husband, Paul are the proud parents of three sons and enjoy spending time with them and their five grandchildren. Mrs. Fradiska is enjoying her new job and has made many new friends here at Westernport.

## secondSTEP

Students at WES are again participating 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.



## Safety is #1

Please have your children in the appropriate child restraint when bringing your children to school in your vehicle for any reason, including lunch pick up. The current law requires that children under eight years old or 80 pounds in weight are to be in a child restraint unless the child is 4'9" or taller. Every child from 8 to 16 years old who is not secured in a child restraint must be secured in the vehicle's seat belt, in every sitting position in the vehicle. The fine for not having a child secured is \$83.00, which includes court costs. Thanks for helping to keep kids safe.

## Spirit Week Monday...Decade Day



## Spirit Week Tuesday...Pet Parade



## Spirit Week Wednesday...Comfy Day

