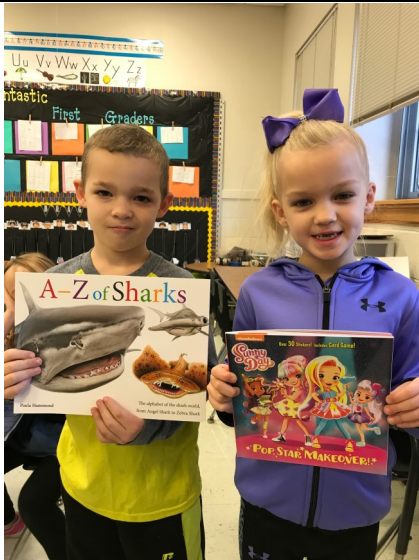




W.E.S...It's Elementary2

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Thank You, Reeves Private Foundation & WES PTA



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.

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.

This is the sixth year that the Reeves Foundation has awarded a grant to the school. About 44% this year's Reeves grant was used to help to purchase the license needed to run the Accelerated Reader program during the 2018-2019 school year. 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.

56% of the grant money was used to allow each WES student to choose a "free" book from the November book fair. We are extremely grateful for this support for the One Student/One Book program. However, the Reeves Grant did not cover the entire amount of books, so the Westernport PTA donated almost \$500.00 to support the One Student/One Book program. Thanks, Westernport PTA!

Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson, media specialist, applied for the grant in August and received the check just in time for the book Shown above are students, Zachary Haggerty and Klarissa Paitzel, holding two of the "free" books selected by Mrs. Kara McDowell's first grade class.

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A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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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 the fantastic music, band, and orchestra programs that were presented in December. I really appreciate all of the work that goes into those programs by our talented students and their dedicated teachers. I also want to thank the parents, grandparents and the school community for supporting our students in their musical endeavors.

Students, parents and grandpar-

ents enjoyed Books Before Bedtime on Wednesday, December 5th. Special thanks to Mrs. Kim Aikman, Mrs. Lisa Harris and Mrs. Amy Smith for coming back to school at night for the event.

Thank you to our PTA for having a Santa's Secret Shop in mid-December. The children loved to shop for their loved ones and I am sure that the parents loved the presents that their children picked especially for them.

Thanks also to our PTA for getting in touch with Santa to schedule time for pictures here

at WES. The children were very excited to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas!

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 2-hour delay on January 2nd, which is our first day back in 2019. Schools are closed on January 9th for a Supervisor's Staff Development and teacher work time.

Please remember that my door is always open. If you have any

questions or concerns, please contact me. It is a privilege to work with your children and to be a part of this wonderful school community!



Martin's BonusCards



610 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 \$1,015.60 as the end of November.

Martin's has pledged to give away three million dollars to schools. So we still need YOUR BonusCard numbers! There is still time to register to support the school at <http://www.martinsaplus.com>.

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 had no yellow or red behaviors. Pictures of these students are displayed near the office. The most recent Peace Days winners include:

Week of December 3-7: Lynden Haggerty, Olivia Kenny, Jaselynn Ravenscroft and Jaren Vasquez

December 10-14: Peyton Cavey, Taylor Schramm, Megan Smith and Brayden Tranum

Several peace celebrations have been held since September. The parties have included extra play, items from the "pick a prize" cart and a "stop and dance" day. What will be the theme of the next Peace Treat? Stay tuned...



WES School Calendar

- ☺ Jan. 2 (Wed.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES REOPEN @10:15 AM (2-HOUR DELAY for Teacher Work Time)
- ☺ Jan. 9 (Wed.) SCHOOLS CLOSED for AM Supervisor Staff Development & PM Teacher Work Time
- ☺ Jan. 21 (Mon.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED-Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday
- ☺ Jan. 24 (Thurs.) End of First Semester-Close of Second Marking Period
- ☺ Jan. 25 (Fri.) 3-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL & PM-Teacher Work Time
- ☺ Jan. 31 (Thurs.) Report Cards Released



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 "gold" (or silver) 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 "gold" coin is awarded to each grade level.

Week of December 3-7: Eli Karalewitz, Emmitt Dawson, Ray Simon, Alivia Warnick, Ethan Broadwater, Leighton Johnson and Alex Haines

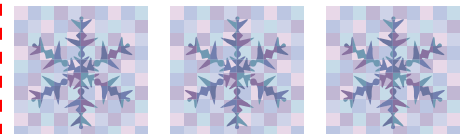
Week of December 10-14: Reylin Matias, Cameron Hamilton, Adrianna Escobar

Molina, Gracie Cosner, Rachel Wolford, Kambria Spalding and Haley Peck
The next drawing will be held on January 7, 2019.

A NOTE from Mrs. Fazenbaker about ATTENDANCE at WES
I am always 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 begin in mid-April this year. I 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 into the lobby. Thank you for your cooperation with this important safety issue.



Fall 2018 Band/Orchestra Concert



Fourth and fifth grade band and orchestra members performed for students, parents and community members during their annual holiday concert. The concert was held on Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM in the school gym.

The band, directed by Mr. Harold McClay, played a variety of instrumental music and featured these songs: *Hot Cross Buns*, *Rolling Along*, *Go Tell Aunt Rhodie*, *Lightly Row*, *Doodle All the Day*, *Jolly Old St. Nicholas*, *Good King Wenceslas* and *Up On the Housetop* and *Jingle Bells*.

FOURTH GRADE BAND members included: Alyssa Bittinger, Ashlyn Durst, Savannah Kimble and Cheyenne Whetzel (Flute); Kyiah Green, Evelyn Steiding and Amberlea Sweitzer (Clarinet); Jaren Vasquez (Saxophone); Max Kalbaugh (Trumpet); Gabe Cramer, Joey Fearon, Cayden Haggerty, Johnathyn Hanlin, Lucas Johnson, Tyler Miller, Kealana Puaauli, Destiny Studli and Shayden Thierry (Drums) and Leighton Johnson (Bells). **FIFTH GRADE band members** included Cambria Guinn (Flute); Emma Trexler (Clarinet); Noah Hartlaub (Saxophone); Chris Baker, Jakob Emrick, Chloe Haggerty, Trey Idol, Cole Ramsey, Maddixx Reed and Kris Washington (Trumpet); Dae Rinker (Baritone); and Alyssa Crossland, Brody Dayton, Hailey Rodriguez Cruz, Landen Haggerty, Abbigale Lambert, Haley Peck, Nikoa Wilkinson and Kolby Woolard (Drums).

The orchestra, directed by Mr. Jay Moon, played a variety of music arranged for strings, including the songs: *What's For Lunch*, *Leftovers*, *On the Trail*, *Morning Dance*, *Walking Song*, *Bil'em Cabbage Down*, *Steps to Success*, *Mary's Baa'd Adventure*, *A Mozart Melody*, *Jingle Bells* and *Jolly Old St. Nicholas*. **FOURTH GRADE ORCHESTRA members** included Bella Constable, Holli Konke and Hunter Roy (Violin). **FIFTH GRADE ORCHESTRA members** included Alexandria Parker-Holmes (Violin); Mikaili Fearon, Zegan Konke and Xzavier Wilt (Viola); and Skylar Dougherty and Nicole Youmans (Cello).



Meet the (New) Faculty and Staff



Mrs. Samantha Parker is a cafeteria worker at Westernport Elementary School. She has worked at WES for about a year. Samantha is a graduate of East Carteret High School in Beaufort, North Carolina. She lives in Westernport with David, her husband of almost two years, and her two daughters, Cassidy, who is in high school and Nicole, who is in fifth grade at WES. Mrs. Parker has two dogs, who are loveable mutts named Buddy and Baby.

Miss Crystal Palumbo is an instructional assistant at WES. She came to WES in December from Cresaptown School. This is her first year working for the ACPS. Miss Palumbo is a graduate of Linganore High School in Frederick, MD. She is also a graduate of Harford Community College, where she majored in psychology. Miss Palumbo lives in Frostburg with her boyfriend, dog and two sons, named Jenio and Cristo. She enjoys dancing, singing and playing music.

Ms. Amber Thaxton is an instructional assistant at WES. She began working at with children here last year. Ms. Thaxton is originally from Williamson, WV and recently moved to LaVale to further her education as well as assist in the schools. She has an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts from Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College. She is also a certified Lifeguard and helps when she can at summer camps. Ms. Thaxton strives to help the students in her care learn and grow.

Congratulations to...

- fourth grade student, Emily Gurtler, who was selected to design one of the three annual holiday greeting cards sent out by the Board of Education of Allegany County. Emily's design represented art students at the elementary level. Mr. John Seibert, art teacher, was very happy for Emily.
- the Westernport Calico Coders, who competed against 12 other elementary schools and 13 middle schools in the First Lego League Mountain Maryland Qualifier, which was held on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at FSU. Team members included Ian Derham, Ava Fazenbaker, Emily Gurtler, Chloe Haggerty, Zegan Konke and Kerin Richard. These students spent more than 20 evenings after school learning about building and programing LEGO robots and the teamwork, core values and research connected with the program. They also attended a summer clinic and visited several other teams to learn robotics skills. Coaches were Mrs. Nancy Supinsky and Mr. Mike Gurtler. Parent volunteer was Mrs. Julie Derham. Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker and Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson helped to organize the team and provided space and materials, in addition to the LEGOS, which were purchased for WES through a local grant.
- the Kindergarten class of Mrs. Candice Smith, who had the most number of family members join the PTA. The class will receive a special treat.

Books Before Bedtime (for PreK-2)



Books Before Bedtime was held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 for students in grades PreK through two. A total of 19 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. 20 adult family members also participated in the evening's activities.

Adult winners of the door prizes, which were \$25.00 Walmart gift cards, were Brian Alkire and Melva Shimer. Each of the students received a paperback book to take home to keep. WES teachers Kim Aikman, Lisa Harris and Amy Smith directed the reading activities. A good time was had by one and all.



Resolutions for a Happy New Year

Christmas Program 2018

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 in PreK, Kindergarten, first and second entertained family and friends during the annual Christmas program, which was held at WES on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. The first selection included rhythm sticks, with PreK students moving to "Music, Music, Music". Kindergarten, first, and second grade students performed a number of seasonal songs, including the delicious

"Peppermint Candy Cane" (Kindergarten), "If I Were A Reindeer" (Grade 1) and "The Night Before Christmas" (Grade 2), which was narrated by second grade students. The program was written, arranged and directed by Ms. Patricia Zimmerman, vocal music teacher at Westernport Elementary School.

(Shown above are Kindergarten students, Atalie Wilson and Madison Lantz.)

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 **December** was Caring. Those students selected for December will take a trip to McDonald's for a treat. Students included: Grade K-Izaiah Clark and Anastasia Keefer; Grade 1-Lacey Custer and Brayden Riker; Grade 2-Savanna Crites and Delaney White; Grade 3-Liam Dayton and Nevaeh Blowe; Grade 4-Amberlea Sweitzer and Tyler Miller; and Grade 5-Ava Fazenbaker and Dae Rinker.

We hope that these students will have a good time and enjoy the treat provided by McDonald's of Westernport, our partner in education. Congratulations, students!



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.