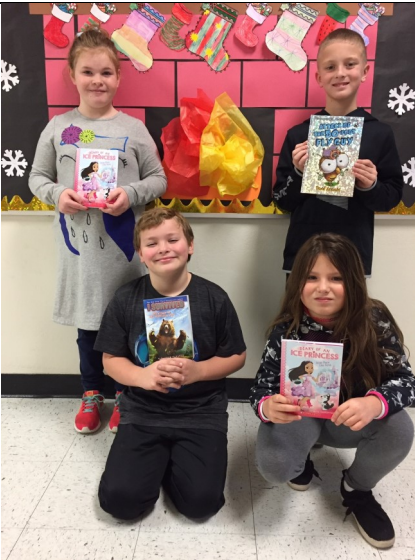




W.E.S...It's Elementary2

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 seventh year that the Reeves Foundation has awarded a grant to the school. About 36% this year's Reeves grant was used to help to purchase the license needed to run the Accelerated Reader program during the 2019-2020 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 four and five participate in this reading incentive

program.

64% 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 approximately a dollar per child. Thanks, Westernport PTA!

Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson, media specialist, applied for the grant in August and received the check just in time for the book fair. Shown above are students, Kaleb Whelan, Sophia Decker, Parker Rishel and Taylor Saville holding two of the "free" books selected by Ms. Chelsea Carr's third grade class.

Westernport Elementary
172 Church Street
Westernport, MD
21562

A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

Volume 12, Issue 5

January 2020

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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 parents, grandparents and the school community for supporting student musical endeavors.

Thanks to Ms. Tiffany Moran who organized our first "Jingle and Mingle" event for grandpar-

ents and "grand" friends which was held on December 4th. Those attending had the choice of making ornaments, playing games, taking selfies and/or enjoying hot chocolate and cookies. Thanks also to Ms. Kim Aikman, Mr. John Fazenbaker, Mrs. Shelly Fitzgerald, Mrs. Deloris Lambert, Mrs. Janice Raines and middle school students Abigail Lambert, Rylee Moran and Morgan Steckman, who assisted.

Students, parents and grandparents enjoyed Books Before Bedtime on December 10th. Special thanks to Ms. Kim Aikman, Ms.

Brittany McMahon 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 for them. Thanks also to our PTA for getting in touch with Santa to schedule time for pictures 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 January events. Schools are closed on January 21st for a Supervisor's Staff Development and teacher worktime.

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



617 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 some cash to use for student activities, which totals \$901.56 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 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 3-6: Abel Twigg, Katalina McGeady, Cyrix Whiteman, Grayson Wilson, Emily Ellifritz, Brie High and Reid Robison

December 9-13 and 16-20: No drawing due to snow days

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 (Thurs.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES REOPEN @10:15 AM (2-HOUR DELAY for Teacher Work Time)
- ☺ Jan 11. (Sat.) Allegany County First Lego League Qualifier at Allegany College of Maryland (Westernport Calico Coders) @9:00 AM.
- ☺ Jan. 17 (Fri.) End of First Semester-Close of Second Marking Period
- ☺ Jan. 20 (Mon.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED-Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday
- ☺ Jan. 21 (Tues.) SCHOOLS CLOSED for AM Supervisor Staff Development & PM Teacher Work Time
- ☺ Jan. 28 (Tues.) Report Cards Released



Gingerbread Houses

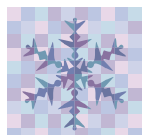
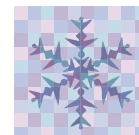
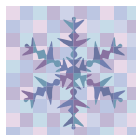


The Kindergarten classes of Mrs. Lisa Harris and Mrs. Candice Smith participated in a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activity in December. Students followed directions to create holiday gingerbread houses with their families.

Attendance Matters

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 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 2019 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 5, 2019 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, A Mozart Melody, Jolly Old St. Nicholas, Good King Wenceslas, Up On the Housetop and Jingle Bells.

FOURTH GRADE BAND members included: Jullieanna Dixon (Flute); Makenna Turner and Rachel Wolford (Clarinet); Ethan Broadwater (Saxophone); Keagan Butler, Lynden Haggerty, Brie High, Sarah Shingler and Jeremiah Woolard (Trumpet); Liam Dayton, Ian Paugh, Sean Wade and Roman Willis (Trombone); Nick Freeman and Paige Haggerty (Drums).

FIFTH GRADE band members included Ashlynn Durst, Savannah Kimble, Joley Trottier and Cheyenne Whetzel (Flute); Kyiah Green, Evelyn Steiding and Amberlea Sweitzer (Clarinet); Jaren Vasquez (Saxophone); Bella Constable, Domineck Glotfelty and Max Kalbaugh (Trumpet); Jenna Wolfe (Trombone); and Alysha Bittinger, Emma Rose Decker, Joey Fearon, Cayden Haggerty, Johnny Hanlin, Lucas Johnson, Daniel Kyle, Tyler Miller, Kealana Pua'auli and Shayden Thierry (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, Rolling Along, Hot Cross Buns, A Mozart Melody, Jingle Bells, and Jolly Old St. Nicholas. **ORCHESTRA members** included Fischer Beeman, Lauren Biser, Megan Carpenter, Carlynn Escobar Molina, Jeremy Fasching, Jailyn Johnson, Holli Konke, Skyla Stickle and Megan Smith (Violin); and Nevaeh Blowe (Cello).

Arts in the Schools

Third grade students at WES recently participated in the Arts in the Schools Program called "Dancing to the Music of Van Gogh's Garden." Each third grade class had two and a half hours of instruction, hands-on art-making, music and dance.

Students learned some little known information about Vincent Van Gogh, including about his lifelong love of birds and their songs, his love of the music of nature, and his ability to "hear" color. Students were also encouraged to identify how artists might use recycled materials in art, such as using newspapers to represent sunflower seeds. They were encouraged to be expressive and to develop their own ideas and

techniques as they worked with their projects.

The visual arts instruction was provided by Ms. Maggie Pratt and Ms. Sharon Ryan of the Evergreen Heritage Center's Arts of Evergreen Program, directed by Pratt. The performing arts component was led by theater/dance instructor Mrs. Mathen Potts of Mountain City Center for the Arts.

The Arts in the Schools program is made possible through The Allegany Arts Council, The Allegany County Board of Education and the Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation. Each school year, these programs reach every third and fifth grade classroom in the county, bringing interdisciplinary

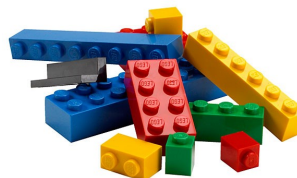
enrichment and hands-on cultural experiences that are directly correlated to curriculum standards. For more information, please contact Maggie Pratt at artsofevergreen@gmail.com



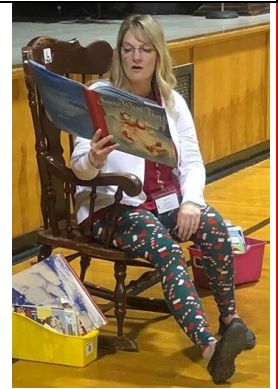
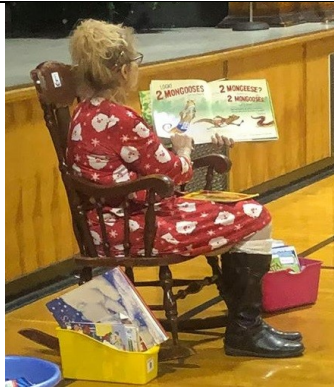
Congratulations to...

- the Westernport Calico Coders, who will finish their second season next week and will compete against other elementary schools and middle schools in the Allegany County First Lego League Qualifier, which will be held at 9:00 AM on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at Allegany College of Maryland. Team members include Ian Derham, Emily Gurtler, Brie High, Makenna Turner, Sean Wade, Aiden Weimer and Jeremiah Woolard. These students spent more than 20 afternoons after school learning about building and programming LEGO robots and the teamwork, core values and research connected with the program. They also visited a team in Hampshire County to share robotics skills. The 2019-2020 coaches are Mrs. Nancy Supinsky and Mr. Mike

Gurtler. They were assisted by Mrs. Julie Derham, parent volunteer. Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson helped to organize the team and provided space and materials. The LEGOS were purchased for WES in fall 2018 by a local grant.



Books Before Bedtime (for PreK-2)



Books Before Bedtime was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 for students in grades PreK through two. 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. Many adult family members also participated in the evening's activities.

Adult winners of the door prizes, which were \$25.00 Walmart gift cards, were Lisa Boggs and Carrie Wolford. Each of the students received a paperback book to take home to keep. WES teachers, Ms. Kim Aikman, Ms. Brittany McMahon, Mrs. Amy Smith and principal, Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, directed the reading activities. A good time was had by one and all.

Resolutions for a Happy New Year

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!



Christmas Program 2019



Students in PreK, third, fourth and fifth grade entertained family and friends during the annual Christmas program, which was held at WES on

Wednesday, December 18, 2019. The first selection by PreK included rhythm sticks and then the students sang "Jingle Bells". The older students performed a number of seasonal songs, including "Snowman, Where are You?" (Grade 3), "Angels in the Snow" (Grade 4) and "The Biggest, Brightest Holiday Lights" (Grade 5). The program was written, arranged and directed by Ms. Patricia Zimmerman, vocal music teacher at Westernport Elementary School. Students were able to watch themselves later on the school's new (and private) Youtube channel.

(Shown above are fifth grade narrators, Leighton Johnson and Wade Barbe)

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 PreK: Kenzie Weiss and Jace Fitzgerald; Grade K-Addalye Bennett and Kasadie Durst; Grade 1-Koltin Spalding and Mya Kolberg; Grade 2-Peyton Cavey and Aaliyah Redman; Grade 3-Declan McGeedy and Delaney White; Grade 4-Emma Streets and Megan Smith; and Grade 5-Kambria Spalding and Aiden Guthrie.

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.