



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Help Your Children to "Do Their Best on the Test!"

Students in fifth grade will be taking the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) in late March. They will be using computers to complete this test. Then all students in third, fourth and fifth grade will be taking the Partnership for Assessment of College and Careers (PARCC) test in early April. The PARCC test is an assessment of both reading and math achievement that meets the testing requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act. Students will use a computer to take both the reading and math tests. Here are test taking tips for you to share with your children in grades 3, 4 or 5.

Before a test

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Eat a good breakfast. (Students will be served breakfast each testing day.)
- Come to school with a positive attitude.

During a test

- Stay calm.
- Listen carefully to the directions.
- Focus on the task that you are being asked to complete.
- Work at a steady pace and check your answers.

Do your best on Multiple Choice Questions by remembering to:

- Read the question/problem and all answers carefully.
- Cross out the wrong answers to eliminate unwanted choices.
- Reread the questions and answers.
- Check to make sure you have not left a question unanswered.
- Carefully check your scrap paper answers with the answers on the test.

Do your best on Constructed Response Questions by remembering to:

- Read the question/problem carefully.
- Highlight words in the directions and other key words, as necessary.
- THINK about your answer and organize it in your mind.
- Enter your answer, work, or explanation in the box.
- Use the Basic Equation Editor or Open Response Equation Editor, as necessary.
- Reread the problem, question, and answer to check your work.



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

Volume 9, Issue 7-8

March-April 2017

Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
ACPL News	2
BonusCard Update	2
Citizens of the Month	2
Meet the Faculty	3
Peace/Attendance	3
Find Us on Facebook	3
STEM Night/Title I	4
All County Honor Band & Orchestra Concerts	4



From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker

The school year is well into the second semester and the year is definitely flying by.

We recently held an awards assembly at WES. I was proud of all of the students who received awards for their hard work, citizenship and attendance during the second nine week grading period.

Gardner's Candy will be delivered to school on March 27th. A letter will be sent home to remind everyone and to give details of the candy pickup. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser, and enjoy the delicious candy.

Fifth grade students will be taking the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) test on Friday and Monday, March 24th and 27th. The PARCC Testing window in Allegany County is from April 5th to May 19th. Third, fourth and fifth grade students will know when they are testing and this information will be written in their assignment books to let you know as well. During the testing weeks, please make every attempt to get your child to school on time so he/she can eat breakfast and be prepared for

the day. Please ensure that your child is well rested. Please talk to your child about the testing and the importance of doing his/her best. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration will take place on March 30th and 31st. Any student age four or on before September 1st may apply. Finally, it is important for your child to arrive to school on time every day and to not leave early from school, not just dur-

ing testing days. When your child is late to school or leaves early from school, he/she is missing valuable instruction that is hard to make up. Your child is considered tardy when he/she arrives after 8:45 AM. Classroom instruction runs to 3:20 PM every day. Please help your child by getting him/her to school on time and not picking your child up early so he/she may get ALL of the instruction every day. Please remember that my door is always open to you or, please call the school at 301-359-0511.

Mid-March/April/May 2017 WES Calendar

- ☺ March 8 (Wed.) All County Honor Band Concert-Fort Hill High School @ 7:00 PM
- ☺ March 9 (Thurs.) All County Orchestra Concert-Fort Hill High School@ 7:00 PM
- ☺ March 13 (Mon.) Spring Individual & Class Pictures; Grade 5 Panorama Picture
- ☺ March 15 (Wed.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Supervisor Staff Development
- ☺ March 17 (Fri.) Fourth Grade Sheetz Gas Card Raffle Drawing
- ☺ March 27 (Mon.) Gardner's Candy Delivery
- ☺ March 28 (Tues.) THREE-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-Teacher Work Time
- ☺ March 30-31 (Thurs.-Fri.) PreK and Kindergarten registration

UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- ☺ April 5-May 19 (Wed.-Wed.) PARCC Testing Window (ACPS)
- ☺ April 6 (Thurs.) Miss Stacy & Miss Kate (Allegany County Public Library System) visit AM-PreK, PM-PreK and Kindergarten; Report Cards Distributed
- ☺ April 8 (Sat.) PTA Vendor Event @11:00 AM-3:00 PM
- ☺ April 11 (Tues.) PTA Parent Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- ☺ April 13 (Thurs.) THREE-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-Easter Vacation begins
- ☺ April 18 (Tues.) SCHOOLS REOPEN



UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

- ☺ May 1-5 (Mon.-Fri.) Teacher Appreciation Week
- ☺ May 4 (Thurs.) Miss Stacy & Miss Kate (Allegany County Public Library System) visit AM-PreK, PM-PreK and Kindergarten
- ☺ May 4 (Thurs.) Band Tour in Community; AR Skating Trip @3:30-7:30 PM
- ☺ May 5 (Fri.) Fourth Grade Trip to Medieval Times
- ☺ May 6 (Sat.) Spring Fling



Citizens of the Month

Students selected as "Citizens of the Month" exemplify the character trait for the month. The character trait for **January** was **Fairness**. Those students selected for January took a trip to McDonald's for a treat!

January "citizens" included: Grade K-Ethan Mauck & Americus Greene; Grade 1-Mason Weimer & Bentley Tippett; Grade 2-Abigail Baker & Aaliyah Dorsett; Grade 3-Ava Fazenbaker & Aiden Burns; Grade 4-Dade Kight & Landon Collins; and Grade 5-Colton Shingler & Zach Gooding.

The character trait for **February** was **Respect**. Those students selected for February also took a trip to McDonald's for a treat.

February "citizens" included: Grade K-Alivia Warnick & Hailey O'Haver; Grade 1-Lynden Haggerty & Sarah Shingler; Grade 2-Daniel Kyle & Aiden Guthrie; Grade 3-Gracelyn Shingler & Christopher Baker; Grade 4-Kaylee Snyder & Wyatt Riggleman and Grade 5-McKenna Zais & Zachary Gooding.

Public Library News

Ms. Barbara Riffey, branch manager of the Westernport location of the Allegany County Public Library System, would like to remind students and parents that there are both family and children's programs available at our local library.

Family Lego Play at the Westernport Library meets every Saturday at 11:00 AM.

Story Time for children ages 18 months to five years of age meets at the Westernport Library every Thursday at 11:00 AM.

Minecraft (for family members of all ages) will be held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 21 and Tuesday, April 11.

The Westernport Branch is paired with the George's Creek Branch to provide easy access to the public library throughout the creek area. So, for example, when the Westernport Branch is closed (Mondays), the George's Creek Branch is open. The Westernport Branch is open from 1:00-8:00 PM on Tuesdays and from 10:00 AM-5:00 PM on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.



Martin's Update



598 Martin's Bonus-Card numbers have now been collected by Westernport Elementary

students, faculty and staff. The points from those bonuscard numbers have earned the school \$2,057.22 to date. There is still time to include numbers from your family, your extended family, your friends and your neighbors by going online to register at <http://www.martinsaplus.com>

THE MISSION of Westernport Elementary School is to prepare and empower all students to successfully meet tomorrow's challenges. We will partner with family and community to nurture the whole child, intellectually, physically and emotionally, to build a better world — one child at a time.



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. Pictures of these students are displayed near the office.

Week of January 30-February 3: Taylor Saville, Liberty Sweitzer, Marissa Tranum and Cheyenne Whetzel

Week of February 6-10: Nicholas Freeman, Layla Pattison, Aaliyah Redman and Emma Trexler

Week of February 13-17: Dawn Cook, Hailey Durst, Joey Fearon and Bentley Tippett

Week of February 20-24: Carter Kight, Brady Moran, Sarah Shingler and Harlie Todd

Week of February 27- March 3: Cassidy Kyle, Brayden Reed, Bryson Saville and Gabby Shingler

PBIS Dance Party

The Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Dance was held on Friday February 17, 2017. Students who had no more than one yellow behavior per week, no red behaviors and no office referrals were eligible to attend. Homework guidelines were at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Behaviors were tracked from January 23rd through February 16th.

The 30-minute dance activity was led by Mrs. Melissa Nelson, guidance counselor, and Mrs. Shelly Fitzgerald, LAP instructional assistant. Students who did not earn the dance participated in a positive behavior activity led by Mrs. Beth Weber and Ms. Julie Kyle. They also discussed some ways to improve their behavior in the future with their classroom teachers.

Thanks to Michael Gurtler, parent volunteer, for the great sound system and wonderful musical selections.

Find Us On Facebook!

The Westernport Elementary PTA Facebook page was created to give members of our Westernport Elementary community important information, announcements, and updates about school happenings and events. Parents may use the link on the Westernport Home Page (click on For Parents and then PTA News) or search Facebook to find this group and request to join it. This is a closed group, but please be respectful when posting on this page. Administrators have the right, and responsibility, to remove anything that is offensive, inappropriate, or not pertaining to PTA initiatives and efforts.



Meet the (New) Faculty and Staff

Ms. Mandy Smith is a new part-time custodian at Westernport Elementary School. Ms. Smith is a native of Lonaconing and a graduate of Westmar High School. Before working at WES, she worked at Archway Station. Ms. Smith lives in the Barton/Lonaconing area with her two sons, Brady, age four, and Gavin, age three. Welcome, Ms. Smith!

Mrs. Kim Albright is a new part-time instructional assistant in PreKindergarten at Westernport Elementary School. Mrs. Albright is a native of Mount Savage. She is a graduate of Mount Savage High School and Allegany College of Maryland, with an associate's degree in education. She worked part-

time at Cresaptown Elementary and West Side School in PreK and first grade before coming to WES. Mrs. Albright lives in Mount Savage with her husband, John, and children Tallon, age 16, and Bailey, age 13. She also has two cats and one dog. Welcome, Mrs. Albright!



WES says a fond farewell to **Mrs. Tammy Bittinger**, who left our PreK to take a position at Salem School in Garrett County, Maryland. We will miss you, "Miss Tammy!"

Attendance Matters

It is important for your child to arrive to school on time every day and that your child not leave early from school, not just during testing days. When your child is late to school or leaves early from school, he/she is missing valuable instruction that is hard to make up. Your child is considered tardy when he/she arrives after 8:45 AM. Classroom instruction ends at 3:20 PM every day. Please get your child to school on time and avoid picking up your child early so he/she can receive a WHOLE day of instruction.



Attendance Drawing Winners

These are the latest 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 silver or gold dollar. If a student is absent, tardy or leaves early on any day during the previous week, the name is not announced but put back in the bucket and a new name is drawn. The following students have won coins recently by being in school:

Week of January 30-February 3: Brayden Iliff, Bailey Brashear, Nicholas Freeman, Damon Sarfino, Cole Ramsey, Zoe Pattison and Kaden Davis

Week of February 6-10: Brayden Riker, Charlie Spiker, Sarah Shingler, Jaren Vasquez, Landon Haggerty, Erin Kesner and Hailey Burdock

Week of February 13-17: Bailey Cavey, Parker Rishel, Jeremiah Woolard, Joey Fearon, Kolby Woolard, Violet Sowers and Emma Wolford

Week of February 20-24: Ashlynn Lafferty, Alivia Warnick, Sarah Shingler, Aiden Guthrie, Nautika Turner, Hailey Durst and Hailey Burdock

Week of February 27- March 3: Brayden Riker, Ben Broadwater, Megan Carpenter, Witten Green, Nautika Turner, Harley Smith and Ashlynn Hobbs

Online & In Color

See our School Newsletter online (and in color)

at the WES website!

<http://www.acpsmd.org/wt>

Click on "Newsletters."



All County Honor Band/Orchestra To Perform

Westernport Elementary students, Connor Dayton, Kaden Davis, Mackenzie Derham, Anthony Dolly, Shaun Heeter, Gracie Raines, Morgan Steckman, McKenna Swisher and Jacob Van Pelt will participate in the All County Honor Band as members of the junior band. The concert will be held at Fort Hill High School on Wednesday, March 8th at 7:00 PM.

Featured songs will be "Dr. Rock", directed by Harold McClay (WES Band Teacher); "American March", directed by Sarah Jackson; "American Folk Trilogy", directed by Scott Heavener; and "Little Bit of Swing", directed by Charles Yarnell.

Westernport Elementary students, Clayton Davis, Laci Dolly, Autumn Kerchner, Talen Kerchner, Kira Ramos and Emma Wolford will participate in the All County Orchestra Festival as members of the junior orchestra. The concert will be held at Fort Hill High School on Thursday, March 9th at 7:00 PM.

Directing the elementary portion of the concert will be Allegany County Orchestra instructors Patricia Aaron, Jay Moon (WES Orchestra teacher), and Sierra Tretter. Featured songs will include "Supernova", "The Boll Weevil", "Asobu" and "The Happy Robin."

Congratulations to all who were selected to participate in county-wide musical programs. These students are now travelling to Cumberland for weekly practice so that they will be well prepared for their concerts. Westernport Elementary School band and orchestra students will also gain valuable experience by playing with students from other elementary schools in Allegany County.



Welcome, Spring

"The sun was warm but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day
When the sun is out and the wind is still,
You're one month on in the middle of May.

But if you so much as dare to speak,
A cloud comes over the sunlit arch,
A wind comes off a frozen peak,
And you're two months back in the middle of March."

- Robert Frost, *Two Tramps in Mud Time*

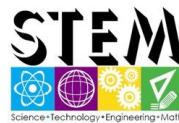
The Egg Drop



Stem Night 2017: Disasters, Foil Boats, and More



STEM Night was held on February 8, 2017 for third, fourth and fifth grade students. Approximately 19 parents and 25 students participated in activities which incorporated science, math, engineering and technology. Mr. Eric Follett, Mrs. Jennifer Hughes, Mrs. Sarah Llewellyn, and Mrs. Janice Raines assisted with the STEM activities done in the gym and on the third floor of WES.



Title I Tips

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

Mr. Jeff Blank, Chief Human Resources Officer
108 Washington Street
P. O. Box 1724
Cumberland, MD 21501-1724



Questions, Questions...

Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, principal, wants to remind parents that her door is always open to them that if they have any questions or concerns or wish to discuss any school topic with her. Mrs. Fazenbaker's e-mail address is alexa.fazenbaker@acpsmd.org and you may contact her at any time. You may also call the school at 301-359-0511 to schedule a conference. Mrs. Fazenbaker is always glad to assist students and parents in any way.

