



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

## The Book Fair is Coming! (March 11-15, 2024)



The book fair has been delivered! The book fair will be held in the second floor hallway of Westernport Elementary from March 11-15, 2024.

- March 11 & 13 (Monday & Wednesday) The book fair will be open for all students to browse during library classes. Students will write wish lists. Students will be given book fair flyers to take home.
- March 14 & 15 (Thursday & Friday) Students in grades K-5 will shop for books, with the help of teachers and parent volunteers.

Parents who wish to shop online with their children or to purchase gifts may do so. (The link can be found on Class Dojo, Schoology and the PTA Face-

book site). Books make great holiday gifts! Parents may also sign in at the office to shop on Thursday (8:30 AM-noon and 1:00-3:00 PM) or on Friday (8:30 AM-noon). The book fair will close on Friday at 2:00 PM.

Thanks again to the Reeves Foundation for their support by providing grant funds to Westernport Elementary School so that students may once again choose a "free" book at the time of the book fair. Students will be able pick one "free" book from a choice sheet prior to the book fair and books will be delivered to classrooms about two weeks after the fair. The books from the "choice sheets" will be purchased through Main Street Books in Frostburg so that the money may be kept within our local community. Thanks also to Martin's in LaVale for providing plastic bags to help students with their shopping experience.

Profit from all sales will be used by Westernport Elementary School to provide extra funds for books and library-related programs in 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Encouraging a love for reading is critical to student success. Please support the Westernport Elementary Book Fair and help your children find their next favorite book.

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A Title I School  
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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### Spring Forward!

Clocks will officially change on Sunday, March 10th at 2:00 AM!



## From the Principal...Mr. Horne



It is hard to believe that the month of March is already here. We hope that the weather will cooperate and spring weather will begin to appear. With the arrival of spring means that we will have more hours of sunshine and the temperatures are on the rise, which allows students the opportunity to get outside and burn off that built up winter energy. (On March 10th, daylight savings time

begins & clocks spring ahead one hour.) While getting outside is exciting, please take a moment to discuss with your child about using kindness, respect, and being safe while playing outside and crossing our parking lot. Parents, we also need your help to improve student attendance. Please remember that it is imperative that our students are here, on time, and stay throughout the day

every day to ensure that they are getting the best education possible. Even a few minutes late or leaving early have a huge impact on a student's progress. Please talk to your students about the importance of school and make their attendance a priority. We have an amazing staff that are dedicated to your child's success. Please allow them the op-

portunity to provide that education for your students by having them here to learn every day. We appreciate your continued support and effort in a partnership for our children. If you have any questions at any time, please feel free to call the school office at 301-359-0511 for information. You may also contact me at derek.horne@acpsmd.org.



## Title I Tips #1

Westernport Elementary School has a Schoolwide Title I Program. This means that the federally funded instructional staff may work with all of the students in our school, and our school develops a Schoolwide Title I program designed to increase academic achievement for all students. A Schoolwide Program helps us to use federal funds to meet the needs of all students more effectively. Title I provides additional resources for our school, including Instructional materials for our students.

Professional development for teachers.

Information about how to help children succeed in school for parents.

Parent/Family Engagement Programs.

Additional staffing to provide support for reading & math instruction.



## Find Us on Facebook



The Westernport Elementary 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 (under For Parents) 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.



## Citizens of the Month



The character trait for **February** was **Kindness**. Being kind means saying something positive to someone or doing something positive for someone. Students selected receive a trip to our local McDonald's.

**February** "citizens" of the month included Kindergarten-Canaan Dennison & Madelyn Sweitzer ; Grade 1-Bobby Hensley, Cecelia Delilo & Isla Delilo; Grade 2-Olivia Van Pelt & Lillian Robinson; Grade 3-Kierra Bateson & Ava Morgan; Grade 4-Colton Dawson & Jackson Lease and Grade 5-Arianna Adkins & Natalie Harris.

Kindness can become its own motive.  
We are made kind by being kind. ---Eric Hoffer

## Hooley Plunge 2024

In its 20th year, the Hooley Plunge has become the largest single-day fundraising event in Allegany County. On Saturday, March 2nd, hundreds of brave souls ran into the cold waters of Lake Habeeb at Rocky Gap State Park to raise money for local programs supporting the developmentally disabled, including the Special Olympics of Allegany County, Friends Aware, programs based in both the public and private schools, Boy Scout Troop #89 and many more organizations. The Hooley Plunge is co-ordinated by the Alhambra Wamba Caravan #89 and co-chaired by Alhambra member Rob Adams and Northrop Grumman Material Program Manager Stephen Gray. Since its inception, over 1.9 million dollars have been raised.

(Thanks to the Hooley website for this information.)

This year, the team that represented WES included (from left) Aaron Fitzgerald, Shelly Fitzgerald, Tessa Lutton, Karalee Martz, Laura Wilson and Derek Horne. \$325.00 was raised by staff and students to support this worthwhile event.



## WES Calendar

### UPCOMING MARCH-APRIL EVENTS

- ☺ March 10 (Sun.) Daylight Savings Begins (Spring Forward)
- ☺ March 11-15 (Mon.-Fri.) Book Fair
- ☺ March 20 (Wed.) End of MP3
- ☺ March 21 (Thurs.) 3-HOUR DELAYED OPENING-Teacher Work Time
- ☺ March 27 (Wed.) THREE-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-Easter Vacation Begins (Offices Closed March 29 & April 1)
- ☺ April 2 (Tues.) SCHOOLS REOPEN
- ☺ April 5 (Fri.) Report Cards Released
- ☺ April 9, 10 & 11 (Tues./Wed./Thurs.) Grade Level Trips to FSU
- ☺ April 29 (Mon.) Spring Picture Day
- ☺ April 30-May 10 MCAP Testing (Grades 3, 4 & 5)



## Mission & Vision

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**OUR MOTTO:** Building the Future-  
One Child at a Time

**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.

## Our New School Sign!

Our new (electronic) school sign was recently installed by the ACPS Operations staff. Thanks to all who manually placed the announcements over the years, letter by letter, most recently Derek Horne, Devin McGregor and John Fazenbaker.