



# 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 March. They will be using computers to complete this test. Then all students in third, fourth and fifth grade in Allegany County will be taking the Partnership for Assessment of College and Careers (PARCC) test during the "window" of April 9-May 18, 2018. 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 needed.
- Reread the problem, question, and answer to check your work.

Finally, you may go to [parcc.pearson.com/tutorial](http://parcc.pearson.com/tutorial) to help your child review. (Select Online Student tutorials, Grades 3-5 Math or Grades 3-5 ELA)

In math, for example, you will be able to see multiple choice, multiple select, drag and drop, Fill-in-the-Blank, Hot-Spot-Items, Inline Choice and a drawing box. In ELA, you will find test samples for the English Language Arts. Your children should be familiar with these types of test questions.



Westernport Elementary

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Westernport, MD

21562

A Title I School

Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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## From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker

The school year is well into the second semester and this 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 20<sup>th</sup>. A letter will be sent home 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) on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

The PARCC Testing window in Allegany County is from April 9<sup>th</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup>. Any student age four on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> 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 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 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. Feel free to stop in or please call the school at [301-359-0511](tel:301-359-0511).

# Mid-March/April/May 2018 WES Calendar

- ☺ March 6 (Tues.) Gardner's Candy Sale ends
- ☺ March 14 (Wed.) STEM Night @ 6:00-7:30 PM; Guys Read Program (lunchtime) begins for grade 5 boys @ 12:45-1:15 PM.
- ☺ March 16 (Fri.) MISA Science Test (Grade 5)
- ☺ March 19 (Mon.) MISA Science Test (Grade 5); Spring Pictures/Class Pictures/ Staff Picture & Grade 5 Panoramic Picture
- ☺ March 20 (Tues.) Gardner's Candy Delivered
- ☺ March 28 (Wed.) End of Third Marking Period
- ☺ March 29 (Thurs.) 3-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL
- ☺ March 30 (Fri.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED-Easter Break

## UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- ☺ April 3 (Tues.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES REOPEN
- ☺ April 5 (Thurs.) PreK & Kindergarten Registration; Miss Stacy & Miss Kate (Allegany County Public Library System) visit AM-PreK, PM-PreK and Kindergarten
- ☺ April 6 (Fri.) PreK & Kindergarten Registration
- ☺ April 9 (Mon.)-May 18 (Fri.) PARCC test window
- ☺ April 11 (Wed.) Report Cards Distributed



## UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

- ☺ May 3 (Thurs.) Miss Stacy & Miss Kate (Allegany County Public Library System) visit AM-PreK, PM-PreK and Kindergarten
- ☺ May 4 (Fri.) PTA Spring Fling @ 6:00-8:00 PM
- ☺ May 5 (Sat.) PTA Yard Sale @ 8:00 12:00 noon
- ☺ May 7-11 (Mon.-Fri.) Staff Appreciation Week
- ☺ May 14 (Mon.) PTA Meeting and General Election



## Citizens of the Month

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

February "citizens" included: Grade K-Emily Weimer, Peyton Cavey, Bailey Brashear, Nickolas Dawson, Carlynn Escobar Molina, Makenna Turner, Bella Constable, Emily Gurtler, Gavin Ravenscroft, Tommy Ellifritz, Jenna Amoruso and Marissa Trantum.



## Public Library News

Ms. Kathy Murphy, and staff from the Westernport branch of the Allegany County Public Library System, would like to remind parents and students that there are many family programs available at the 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 all ages) will be held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 6 and Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

The Book Busters program meets every Tuesday from 4:00-5:00 PM.

Exploring w/Google Expedition (virtual reality) will be held on March 27th at 5:00 PM.

The Westernport Branch is paired with the George's Creek Branch to provide easy access to the public library living in 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



595 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 \$1,692.13 as of January. Please help us to include numbers from your family, your extended family, your friends and your neighbors by going online to register next fall at <http://www.martinsaplus.com>

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**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 29-February 2: Jenna Amoruso, Tommy Ellifritz, Keira Poling and Kaylee Snyder

Week of February 5-16: Abbigail Cage, Kahlan Chojar, Liam Dayton and Emrick Johnson

Week of February 20-23: Silas Beeman, Savannah Kimble, Kambria Spalding and Emily Weimer

Week of February 26-March 2: Aaliyah Davis, Willow Guinn, Conner Thomas-Bryan and Cheyenne Whetzel.



## PBIS Dance Party

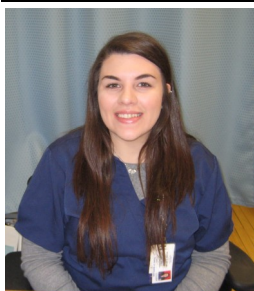
The Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Dance was held on Friday February 23, 2018. The criteria for students to earn a ticket each week was to have no referrals, no red behaviors and no more than one yellow behavior per week. The students started fresh each week, so that one referral did not take the entire treat away. Homework guidelines were at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Behaviors were tracked from January 22nd through February 22nd.

The 30-minute dance activity was led by Mrs. Shelly Fitzgerald. Students who did not earn the dance participated in a positive behavior activities led by Ms. Julie Kyle and Mrs. Beth Weber. The students also discussed some ways to improve their behavior in the future. Thanks to Mike Gurtler, parent volunteer, for the great sound system. Thanks also to Mrs. Patty Zimmerman, music teacher, who taught the students how to line dance before the dance.

## PBIS Dancers



## Meet the (New) School Nurse



Hi, my name is Karalee Collage and I am from Ft. Ashby, WV. I am a 2015 graduate of Shepherd University where I received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I am currently a registered nurse in both WV and MD. My first job was at Meritus Medical Center in Hagerstown.

I never thought that an elementary school would be my next endeavor, but I am so happy to be here! When not in school I enjoy being outside, playing with my dogs Kaci and Tali, and riding my horses all over the hills of WV! I would like to thank everyone for the warm and welcome wishes as I begin my journey as a school nurse at WES! I look forward to working with students, staff and parents. Please feel free to stop by whether it's just to say hello or for a Band-Aid or help of any kind.

## 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 29-February 2: Willow Guinn, Colin Stafford, Gabrielle Shingler, Mason Weimer, Domenick Glotfelty, Hailey Rodriguez Cruz and Joella Wilkins

Week of February 5-16: Addison Shingler, Brayden Iliff, Maci Barbe, Noah Davis, Aiden Guthrie, Skylar Dougherty and John Arlott

Week of February 20-23: Natalie Harris, Irelyn Haines, Ethan Miller, Carlynn Escobar Molina, Max Kalbaugh, Tommy Ellifritz and Autumn Kerchner

Week of February 26-March 2: Natalie Harris, Bentley Slaubaugh, Taylor Saville, Harlie Todd, Savannah Kimble, Emma Trexler and Zoe Pattison



## Online & In Color

See our School Newsletter online (and in color) at the WES website!

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

Click on "Newsletters."



## Honor Band and Orchestra Festivals

Westernport Elementary students, Gabriella Guevara Zelaya, Autumn Kerchner and Alex Perry (grade 5) and Skylar Dougherty, Mikaili Fearon, Zoey Kerchner, Emmalee Tranum and Nicole Youmans (grade four) 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 8th at 6:30 PM. Admission is free.

Directing the elementary portion of the concert will be Allegany County Orchestra instructors Patricia Aaron, Jay Moon (WES Orchestra teacher), Patricia Aaron and Sierra Tretter. Accompanist is Tacie Heavner. Featured songs will include *Dinosaur Damage*, *Salsa Fest*, *Abandoned Funhouse* and *Rightly Low*.

Lori Whitford from Howard County will conduct the middle school orchestra and the high school orchestra will be conducted by Philip Hale, also from Howard County.

Westernport Elementary students Jenna Amoruso, Cailyn Broadwater, Dade Kight, Zoe Pattison, Mollee Slaubaugh, Marissa Tranum and Makaylyn Whetzel will participate in the All County Honor Band concert on Wednesday, March 21, 2018. The event will be held at Fort Hill High School Auditorium at 7:00 PM. Featured songs will be *Royal Crown March*, *Big Rock Candy Mountain*, *Argonauts* and *Defender of Time*.

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.



## Title I Tips

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 and math instruction.



## Welcome, Spring

In spring when maple buds are red,  
we turn the clocks an hour ahead;  
Which means, every March that arrives,  
We lose an hour  
Out of our lives.

Who cares? When Autumn birds in flocks  
Fly southward, back we turn the Clocks,  
And so regain a lovely thing —

That missing hour  
We lost last Spring.

—Phyllis McGinley



## Art News

Westernport Elementary students Gracie Cosner, grade one, and Emily Gurtler, grade three, had art work displayed at the 2018 Allegany County Student Art Showcase, which was held at the Allegany County Arts Council's Saville Gallery in Cumberland. Both students created artwork with mixed media. A public reception was held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 to open the exhibition. The student artwork was on display from February 20-March 3rd. Congratulations, students!

art



## 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.



## "Donors Choice" Provides Games to Grade 3



## 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](mailto: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.

