



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Kindness Matters



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

Westernport Elementary
172 Church Street
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. Spring pictures will be taken on Tuesday, March 26th. (Tell your children to bring their smiles!) Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration will take place on April 4th and April 5th. Any student age four on or before September 1, 2019 may apply.

Gardner's Candy will be delivered to school on April 10th. A letter will be sent home to give details of the candy pickup. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser, and do enjoy eating the delicious candy with your families! Fifth grade students will be taking the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) on March 18th and 19th. The PARCC Testing window in Allegany County is from April 8th to May 17th. Third, fourth and fifth grade students will know when they are testing and the 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. 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. WES held the

first attendance incentive for students who were in school every day, did not come late or did not leave early during the time period of January 25th through February 25th. Seventy-five students were eligible to attend the incentive. The second attendance incentive is underway now and it began Friday, March 8th. Hopefully, your child will qualify to attend the next event! 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 2019 WES Calendar

MID-MARCH CALENDAR

- ☺ March 18 & 19 (Mon. & Tues.) Grade 5 MISA (science) testing
- ☺ March 19 (Tues.) Grade 3 Train Trip; Gardner's Candy orders due
- ☺ March 21 (Wed.) Intermediate Parent Math Workshop (Mr. Jamie Clark) in Art Room
- ☺ March 25 (Mon.) 2-HOUR DELAYED OPENING (Teacher Work Time)
- ☺ March 25-29 (Mon.-Fri.) Hearing and Vision Screenings (mandatory for grades PreK, K, 1 & 5; optional for grades 2, 3 & 4)
- ☺ March 26 (Tues.) Spring/Class Pictures

UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- ☺ April 2 (Tues.) This is now a FULL DAY for students.
- ☺ April 4-5 (Thurs. & Fri.) PreK, Kindergarten and Grade 1 registration
- ☺ April 5 (Fri.) Close of Third Marking Period; 2-HOUR DELAYED OPENING (Teacher Work Time)
- ☺ April 8-May 17 PARCC Testing window
- ☺ April 10 (Wed.) "The Energized Guyz" program, by First Energies Maryland Utilities @2:00-2:30 PM
- ☺ April 15 (Mon.) Report Cards Released
- ☺ April 18 (Thurs.) 3-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-Easter Vacation begins
- ☺ April 19 (Fri.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED
- ☺ April 22 (Mon.) 3-HOUR DELAYED OPENING (Make Up Day)
- ☺ April 23 (Tues.) Total School Composting Day



- ☺ April 25 (Thurs.) Fifth Grade Panoramic Picture and Staff Picture; Student Art Show Reception (Country Club Mall) @ 6:00-7:30 PM

- ☺ April 29-May 5 PTA 50/50 Raffle Sale

UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

- ☺ May 2 (Thurs.) PTA Meeting/Election of Officers @5:00 PM
- ☺ May 9 (Thurs.) Spring Band & Orchestra Concert @ 10:00 students and @2:00 parents/community
- ☺ May 10 (Fri.) PTA Spring Fling
- ☺ May 15 (Wed.) Grade Three Environmental Education Day @ Rocky Gap
- ☺ May 24 (Fri.) Grade 5-Placing Flags @ Philos Cemetery @10:00-noon.



Help Students to "Do Their Best on the Test!"

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 8-May 17, 2019. 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..



Martin's Update



610 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 \$2,022.94 as of February. 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>

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.



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 28-February 1: Arianna Adkins, Willow Guinn, Ashley Robertson and Gabrielle Shingler

Week of February 4-8: Eden Brashear, Charlotte Haggerty, Maddix Reed and Kambre Wright

Week of February 11-15: No drawing

Week of February 18-22: Joey Fearon, Nathan Miller, Malaki Roy and Austin Stout

Week of February 25-March 1: Ava Fazenbaker, Vayda Marsh, Aaliyah Spiker and Jonathon Wolford

Week of March 4-8: Megan Carpenter, Zachery Haggerty, Brayden Riker and Klarissa Paitsel.



PBIS Dance Party

The Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Dance was held on Friday February 22, 2019. 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 28th through February 21st.

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 classroom and resource teachers. The students also discussed some ways to improve their behavior in the future. Thanks again to Mike Gurtler, parent volunteer, for providing the great sound system.



Arts in the Schools



The Arts in the Schools program came to WES as a partnership between the Evergreen Heritage Center and the Mtn City Center for the Arts. On February 28th, all fifth grade students learned about landscape painting and had the opportunity to create a landscape of their own.

Test Tips (continued...)

Finally, you may go to

parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/ to help your child review. (Select View English Language Arts/Literacy or Mathematics Practice Tests.)

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 English Language Arts/Literacy, you will find test samples for the that portion of the test. Your children should be familiar with these types of test questions.

(New) Faculty and Staff

Miss Selena Warnick is a new instructional assistant at Westernport Elementary School. She is currently working in Mrs. Hughes's classroom. Miss Warnick has been employed by the ACPS as an IA since January 2018 and previously worked at Cash Valley and Beall Elementary Schools. Miss Warnick has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Frostburg State University. She enjoys working with children to help them learn and succeed. She is happy to have the opportunity to work with children at Westernport Elementary.

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 23-25 & 28-30: Brooklyn Edwards, Hayden Doman, Dustlyn Rebar, Declan McGeady, Emma Kelley, Tyler Miller and Damien Miller

Week of February 4-8: Addalye Bennett, Keira Poling, Bentlee Slaubaugh, Emrick Johnson, Lillian Thrasher, Savannah Kimble and Michael Douglass

Week of February 11, 14-15, 19, 21-22: Addalye Bennett, Kristyle Washington, Addison Hanlin, Kaiden Jones, Paige Haggerty, Holli Konke and Hailey Rodriguez-Cruz

Week of February 25-March 1: Eli Karalewitz, Willow Guinn, Emily Weimer, Bailey Brashear, Kristen Paitsel, Domenick Glatfelty and Nicole Youmans

Week of March 4-8: Kiya Chajar, Atalie Wilson, Emily Weimer, Taylor Saville, Margo Webb, Aiden Guthrie and Kerin Richard

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, Skylar Dougherty, Mikaili Fearon and Alexandria Parker-Holmes (grade 5) and Holli Konke (grade four) participated in the All County Orchestra Festival as members of the junior orchestra. The concert was held at Fort Hill High School on Thursday, March 7, 2019.

Directing the elementary portion of the concert was Allegany County Orchestra instructors Patricia Aaron, Jay Moon (WES Orchestra teacher), Patricia Aaron and Sierra Tretter. Accompanist was Tacie Heavner. Featured songs included *Ridgadoon*, *Dragon Slayer*, *Chicken in the Kitchen* and *Rock On*.

Jennifer Murray, a music educator from Prince George's County, conducted the middle school orchestra and the high school orchestra was conducted by Dr. Chris Cicconi, director of bands and orchestras at Towson University.

Westernport Elementary students Alyssa Crossland, Brody Dayton, Cambria Guinn, Chloe Haggerty, Noah Hartlaub, Trey Idol, Abbigale Lambert, Hailey Rodriguez Cruz and Nikoa Wilkinson participated in the All County Honor Band concert on Wednesday, March 6, 2019. The event was held at Fort Hill High School Auditorium.

Congratulations to all who were selected to participate in county-wide musical programs. These students travelled to Cumberland for weekly practice so that they would 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.



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-Charlotte Haggerty and Brayden Trantum; Grade 1-Aaliyah Redman and Emily Weimer; Grade 2-Remington Mowbray and Cassidy Kyle; Grade 3-Bentley Twigg and Emma Streets; Grade 4-Max Kalbaugh and Kyiah Green; and Grade 5-Haley Peck and Tommy Ellifritz



Welcome, Spring

It ought to come in April,
or, better yet, in May
when everything is green as green—
I mean St. Patrick's Day.

With still a week of winter
this wearing of the green
seems rather out of season—
it's rushing things, I mean.

But maybe March is better
when all is done and said:
St. Patrick brings a promise,
a four-leaf clover promise,
a green-all over promise
of springtime just ahead
---Anonymous



Art News

Westernport Elementary students Rachel Wolford grade three, and Nadiyah Placka grade four, had art work displayed at the 2019 Allegany County Student Art Showcase: Emerging Artists exhibit, which was held at the Allegany County Arts Council's Saville Gallery in Cumberland. A public reception was held on Saturday, March 2nd to open the exhibition. The student artwork will be on display from March 2-23, 2019. 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.



Questions, Questions...

Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, principal, wants to remind parents that her door is always open 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.

