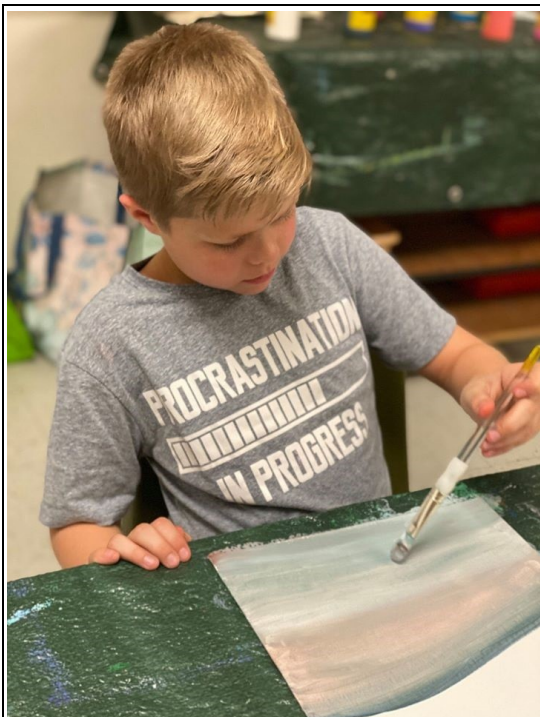




# W.E.S...It's Elementary2

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

## Fifth Grade Arts in the Schools



The Arts in the Schools program again came to WES as a partnership between the Evergreen Heritage Center and the Mtn City Center for the Arts. On February 7th, all fifth grade students learned about the landscape paintings of Grant Wood and had a chance to create a landscape of their own. Shown above are students Max Kalbaugh and Holli Konke. (Photo credit: Ms. Brittany McMahon)

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

Volume 12, Issue 7-8

March-April 2020

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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. Spring pictures will be taken on Tuesday, March 24th. (Tell your children to bring their smiles!) Please remember that all students who are present for the class pictures will receive a class picture with no cost to parents. The school uses fundraiser money to pay for the pictures. PreKindergarten and Kindergarten registration will take place on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Any student age four on or be-

fore September 1, 2020 may apply. Gardner's Candy will be delivered to school on April 1<sup>st</sup>. A letter will be sent home to give details of the candy pickup. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser. Fifth grade students will be taking the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) on April 2, 3, 6, and 7. The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) Testing window in Allegany County is from April

20<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup>. More information will be sent home about the specific dates for testing grades 3, 4, and 5, as it gets closer. WES families were recently given a Title I survey. One hundred fifteen surveys were returned. Although most parents returning the survey said they were aware that the county and school both have a Parent/Family Engagement Plan, fourteen parents said they were *somewhat aware* and three stated that they

were *not aware* of this plan. Westernport's Family Engagement Plan is located on our school's website as part of our School Improvement Plan. If you have any trouble locating the plan, please call school and I will help you find it (or I can make a copy of the Parent/Family Engagement Plan and send it home to you.) 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 2020

## MID-MARCH CALENDAR

- ☺ March 13 (Fri.) Gardner's Candy Sale ends
- ☺ March 14 (Sat.) Art Show Reception @ Saville Gallery in Cumberland (Student art work will be displayed through April 4th.)
- ☺ March 16 (Mon.) PTA Founder's Day Dinner @ 6:00 PM
- ☺ March 24 (Tues.) Spring pictures, class group pictures, staff picture and fifth grade Panoramic picture will be taken.
- ☺ March 27 (Fri.) 3-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL (End of Third Marking Period and Teacher Work Time)

## UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- ☺ April 2 & 3 (Thurs. & Fri.) PreK and Kindergarten registration for 2020-2021
- ☺ April 2, 3 & 7 (Thurs., Fri., Mon. & Tues.) MISA Science Test-Grade 5)
- ☺ April 7 (Tues.) Report Cards released for MP3
- ☺ April 9 (Thurs.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Easter Vacation begins
- ☺ April 10 & 13 (Fri. & Mon.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED
- ☺ April 14 (Tues.) 2-HOUR DELAYED OPENING for Teacher Work Time
- ☺ April 21-May 21 (Tues.-Thurs.) MCAP testing window (grades 3, 4 & 5)
- ☺ April 22-26 (Wed.-Sun.) Student Art Show at Country Club Mall (Opening Reception on Thursday, April 23 from 6:00-7:30 PM.)
- ☺ April 28 (Tues.) Primary Election Day



## UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

- ☺ May 4-8 (Mon.-Fri.) Staff Appreciation Week
- ☺ May 7 (Thurs.) Spring Band & Orchestra Concert @ 10:00 students and @2:00 parents/community; AEP Showcase
- ☺ May 12 (Tues.) PTA Election of Officers
- ☺ May 21 (Thurs.) Grade 5 will be placing Flags @ Philos Cemetery @10:00-noon. (The rain date is Friday.)
- ☺ May 20 (Fri.) Kindergarten Field Trip to Hovatter Zoo



All students in third, fourth and fifth grade in Allegany County will be taking the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) test during the "window" of April 21-May 21, 2020. 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



619 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 \$1,512.09 as of the end 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>

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**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,





## 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 27-31: Danica Miller, Aaliyah Spiker, Madison Lantz, Savannah Miller, Ben Broadwater, Fischer Beeman and Joey Fearon

Week of February 3-7: Kyree Boal, Colton Dawson, Pete Decker, Landen Iliff, Savanna Crites, Jullieanna Dixon and Kealana Puaauli

Week of February 10-14: Weston Reed, Eli Keaton, James Johnson, Ashlynn Lafferty, Nickolas Dawson, Mason Weimer and Wade Barb

Week of February 17-21: Derek Barb, Aveona Durst, Arria Gentry, Zachery Haggerty, Elisabeth Paugh, Sean Wade and Jaren Vasquez

Week of February 24-28: Madison Clark, Brooklyn Edwards, Liam Muir, Kahlan Chojar, Maci Barbe, Megan Carpenter and Aiden Guthrie

## PBIS Dance



The Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Dance was held on Friday February 21, 2020. 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.



## Storycorps Visits



All students and staff at WES crunched on apples or apple slices at 9:15 on Thursday, March 5th as the school participated in the *Hear the Maryland Crunch* program, which was held to highlight the importance of the school breakfast program in ensuring that ALL students start the day off with the necessary nutrition to learn and grow. Miss Stacy, from the Allegany County Public Library Storycorps is shown crunching apple slices with PreK students. Miss Stacy and Miss Kate visit WES PreK and Kindergarten classes about once a month to share with the students.

## Test Tips (continued...)

Finally, you may go to

<https://md.mypersonsupport.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.

## Rest in Peace



Mrs. Emogene Bosley, a beloved member of the Westernport Elementary School staff, passed away on February 12, 2020. She worked in our school cafeteria for about 18 years. Our students truly loved talking with "Miss Emogene" at lunchtime. She was a friend to all and was definitely a great cook. Her chipped beef and potato salad were fabulous. We will miss you, Emogene. Rest peacefully.

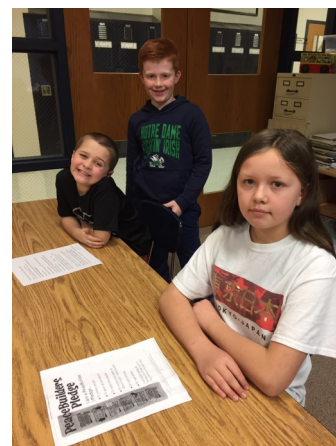
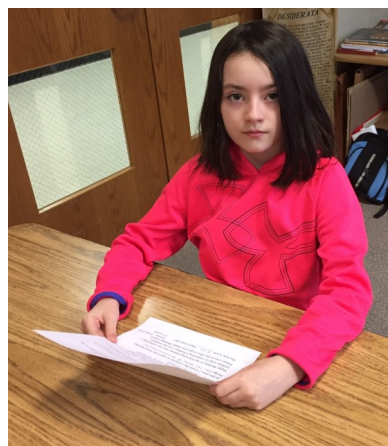
## Attendance Matters

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.



## WWES-TV Returns...

WWES-TV, which has been the home of the morning announcements since 1992 (with an occasional hiatus due to technical difficulties), has moved to YouTube. With the help of Jason Huber, technology infusion specialist, a private YouTube channel was set up to show the broadcasts. Teachers can show the live announcements by accessing a link available on their classroom laptops. Shown at right are students who were the first team using the new format. Mrs. Hendrickson is hoping to involve more students throughout the year.



## Honor Band and Orchestra Festivals

Westernport Elementary students, Jaily Johnson and Holli Konke, both first violinists, will participate in the All-County Junior Orchestra Festival as members of the junior orchestra. The concert will be at Fort Hill High School on Thursday, March 12, 2020.

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. The accompanist will be Tacie Heavner. Featured songs will include Baroque Fanfare, Anvil Chorus, Ninja Storm and Subatomic.

Anne Bell, a music educator from Old Dominion University, will conduct the middle school orchestra. The high school orchestra will be conducted by Dr. Cheryl Brockland, an orchestra director from the Calvert County Public Schools, who is now retired.

Westernport Elementary students Ashlynn Durst, Kyiah Green, Max Kalbaugh, Savannah Kimble, Tyler Miller, Kealana Pua'auli, Evelyn Steiding, Amberlea Sweitzer, and Cheyenne Whetzel will participate in the All County Honor Band concert on Wednesday, March 11, 2020. The event will also be 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 PreK-Madison Clark & Karaliah Griffin; Kindergarten-Aveona Durst & Kevin Stumbaugh; Grade 1-Brayden Trantum & Charlotte Haggerty; Grade 2-Oliver Marsh & Kahlan Chojar; Grade 3-Emily Ellifritz & Adrian Ketterman; Grade 4-Paige Haggerty & Sarah Shingler; and Grade 5-Bella Constable and Cayden Haggerty.

## Online & In Color

See our School Newsletter  
online (and in color)  
on the bottom of  
the WES website!

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



## Art News



Westernport Elementary students Gracie Cosner grade three, and Kiya Chojar, Kindergarten, have art work displayed at the 2020 Allegany County Student Art Showcase: Emerging Artists exhibit. The student artwork is displayed in the Allegany County Arts Council's Saville and Schwab Galleries, which is located at 9 N. Centre Street in Cumberland. A public reception was held on Saturday, March 7th to open the exhibition. The student artwork will be on display until March 28, 2020. 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](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.

