



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

How We Are Spending Our Summer Vacation

PreKindergarten: **Mrs. Aikman (Miss Kim)** plans to enjoy the South Branch river while in her new kayak. She also plans to go to the beach. **Ms. Orange (Miss Natalie)** plans to take her nephew to the zoo and enjoy reading and relaxing around the pool. She is looking forward to teaching Kindergarten in the fall.

Kindergarten: **Mrs. Harris** will be starting a new job as full-time grandma. She said, "Thanks to everyone at WES who has made my life as Mrs. Harris, Kindergarten teacher, so special. I will treasure those memories. I love you all!". **Mrs. C. Smith** will be spending time with family and friends.

First grade: **Mrs. McDowell** plans to spend summer with her family, visit some parks, and do lots of swimming! **Mrs. A. Smith** and her husband are heading out west for the first time. They will be staying in Custer National Park in South Dakota. They plan on spending time exploring the surrounding areas such as Mount Rushmore, Deadwood, Sturgis and the Badlands.

Second grade: **Mrs. Chapman** will going to visit Disney World in Florida to celebrate her daughter's graduation from high school. **Mrs. Kealy plans to** de-stress from school by going to the Outer Banks, reading lots of books, and enjoying her morning walks with her dogs. **Ms. McMahon** will be traveling to Myrtle Beach, SC and Fenwick Island, DE in between taking lots of naps and playing with her soon to be kindergartners, Luke and Reid.

Third grade: **Mrs. Brantner** will be enjoying time with her husband and children, and making hay (when the sun shines) on her parents' farm. **Ms. Carr** is looking forward to jogging many miles on the C & O Canal trail and spending time at the beach with family and friends as she enjoys the summer sun. She may see some students in July at summer camp!

Fourth grade: **Mrs. Hughes** will be spending time with her family, reading books and helping with her son's dirt track race car. **Mrs. Raines** is planning on spending time with her family and friends and traveling to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and to Bermuda.

Fifth grade: **Mr. Jones** plans to spend time relaxing at the beach (Myrtle Beach and Ocean City) with friends and family. **Ms. Laffey** will be working on her Master's Degree at FSU. She is also planning to go fly-fishing, kayaking and camping every chance that she gets!

Mr. Horne plans on taking a trip to Ocean Isle, North Carolina. He also is looking forward to a summer reunion at his house that will allow him to see relatives he has not seen since December 2019. **Mrs. Fradiska** plans to spend time at the pool with her grandchildren and just relaxing! She will be vacationing with family in Ocean City in July. **Nurse Karalee** plans to take a trip to Tennessee, float on the river and just enjoy her days off. **Mrs. Amtower** is retiring from teaching and is looking forward to what life brings her in the future. **Mrs. Weber** plans to make memories with her grandchildren. She will also spend time relaxing and reading, lots of reading! **Mrs. Durrance (formerly Ms. Kyle)** and her new husband are going on a belated honeymoon cruise. **Ms. Sivic** will go to Myrtle Beach and Niagara Falls with her family. She is looking forward to being a Kindergarten teacher at Cresaptown! (continued on page 2)

Westernport Elementary
172 Church Street
Westernport, MD
21562

A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

Volume 13, Issue 9-10

May-June 2021

Inside this issue:

Peace Days	2
Summer Cleaning	2
Thanks for Donations	2
When We Grow Up	3
Citizens of the Month	3
Teacher/Staff	3
Appreciation Week	
Fifth Grade Awards	3
"Life Changed"	



From the Interim Principal...Mr. Horne



Dear Westernport Families, It's amazing to see that the end of the school year arrived so quickly. I want to thank you all for the support and patience shown these past 10 months. We had successes and some challenges, yet despite all, we continued the work that has to be done to ensure the safety and educational needs of our students. Through the hard work and dedication of staff, families, and students, we were able to

persevere through an unprecedented year. I have only been here for nine months but it has been an honor being Principal of Westernport Elementary this year. There are countless people to whom I owe an expression of gratitude. I hope that we continue working together in the coming years. With a continued strong partnership between school and home, our students' learning will remain the focus.

Congratulations to all students of Westernport Elementary. I wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer. Please be sure to take time as a family to talk, play and READ together. (Do the ACPS Summer Reading Challenge!) The school will be open over the summer Monday through Thursday from 8am - 4pm. **We will be offering lunch pickup at school each Monday through Friday from**

11:30am - 12:00 noon. **Due to the pandemic, yearbooks will be arriving in about four weeks. We will contact families when they arrive.** If you have any questions, suggestions, or positive comments to share, please feel free to contact me at derek.horne@acpsmd.org or 301-359-0511. Again, have a great summer and I hope to see you again in the fall!

Rick Rando Says...



Peace Days

WES School Calendar



Thanks to Master Rick Rando, from Kick Masters Karate in Clarysville, who provided an inspirational message to students on May 12, 2021. Students watched Mr. Rando using a Google Meet shown in all classrooms and were also able to participate in his presentation.

Mr. Rando spoke to students about personal goals that we should have as we finish the school year and emphasized that students (and staff) should:

1. Finish strong
2. Listen closely
3. Be kind
4. Stay focused

A drawing is held each Monday to award a small prize to four students who have had a peaceful week.

Week of April 5-9: Grayson Cuppett, Madison Clark, Eli Keaton, Jayden Larue, Landon Shimer, Gabby Shingler and Makenna Turner.

Week of April 12-16: No drawing

Week of April 19-23: Skylar Jackson, Leah Kolberg, Skylar Crites, Anastasia Keefer, Lacey Custer, Mackenzie Raines and Sarah Shinger.

Week of April 26-30: Grayson Cuppett, Abel Twigg, Lane Youngblood, James Johnson, Ashlynn Lafferty, Kaden Bruce and Dayton Smith.

Week of May 3-7: Hudson Placka, Aubrie Lambert, Jackson Lease, Jade Greenwald, Emily Weimer, Savannah Baker and Lynden Haggerty.

Week of May 10-14: Gavin Marsh, Easton Guinn, Colton Dawson, Brayden Tranum, Adrianna Molina Escobar, Bryan Claycomb and Lauren Biser

Week of May 17-21: Brayden Deal, Kierra Bateson, Carter Blacka, Johnathan Fasching, Zach Haggerty, Emrick Johnson and Brie High.

Week of May 24-28: August Nies, Noah Sanford, Reylin Matias, Cameron Hamilton, Brayden Iliff, Taylor Saville and Megan Carpenter.

June 8 (Tues.) LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS- Three-Hour Early Dismissal; Teacher Work Time; Close of Fourth Marking Period & End of Second Semester

June 9-August 24 (All Summer) ACPs Summer Reading Challenge (Keep a reading log!)

June 30 (Wed.) Report Cards Released

Summer Cleaning

Our custodians, Tm Martin, head custodian; David Parker, Nakoa Weimer and Tara Smith will soon be busy with summer cleaning at WES so that the school will be bright and shiny in August. Our custodians literally empty every room of desks, tables, computers, books and other materials as they do the summer cleaning. Often teachers call the school to ask, "Are you done with my room yet?" so that they can come in to get a head start on organizing their rooms, laminating and other tasks which will help them to get ready for a successful year. We want to thank our custodians for all of their work during the summer and throughout the year.

Many thanks to Sheila Golden, retired WES teacher, for donating money to purchase library books in memory of Sarah Andrews, Emogene Bosley, Jim Hartman and Dorothea Rowe. All were former staff members of WES.

Many thanks also to Sandy Wolfe, who donated money to the library earlier in the year. Her donation will be used to replace library books that were lost last spring or just worn out by constant use.

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.



Summer Vacation (continued)



Mrs. McCusker (Miss Katie) plans to recharge by spending some much needed, uninterrupted, time with her children! She is looking forward to sunshine and fun times **Mrs. Rankin** should be working on some home projects, but she plans on checking out some new and some familiar kayak floats and visiting family on the beach in NC. She may take care of a few things around her house!

Mrs. Klink plans to spend lots of time at the playground with her daughter. She and her family also plan to go camping. **Ms. Lutton (Miss Tessa)** plans to do lots of fishing, camping and relaxing at the beach. **Mr. McGregor** is teaching music in summer school, going to a concert and will spend time in Charleston, S.C. with his family.

Specialists: **Mrs. Beeman** plans to spend time this summer soaking up the sun with family at the Outer Banks. She will also relax and read. **Mrs. Schall** will be spending lots of time with family and will be visiting the Outer Banks for the first time!

Cafeteria Ladies: **Mrs. Lambert** will be spending her summer outdoors in the sun, either here or in SC with her daughter and

family. If not outside, she will be indoors sewing and quilting. **Mrs. Lewis** will be spending some weekends at their camp with her husband and children and will work here at WES handing out lunches. **Mrs. D. Llewellyn** will be working at WES during the summer lunch program and hoping that she will have a new shoulder by the beginning of next year! **Mrs. Parker** will be working at WES during the summer lunch program. On the weekends she will be camping, swimming and fishing and spending time with family.

Instructional Assistants: **Mrs. Albright** will be vacationing in Ocean City with family and friends. **Ms. Bray (Miss Megan)** will be exploring the outdoors with her two dogs and finishing the plans for her September wedding. **Mrs. S. Fitzgerald (Miss Shelly)** plans on spending a lot of time with her family, especially her sweet grandbaby, as well as swimming, grilling, enjoying evenings around the fire making s'mores, and possibly going to the beach. **Miss Marple (Miss Tammy)** plans to spend time with family, relax by the pool and hopefully take a trip to the beach. **Mrs. Snyder** will be spending time with her family and going to the beach.

Resource Teachers: **Mrs. Hendrickson** will be visiting her out of town family, most of which she has not seen since 2019, plus do a lot of reading! She may also go to the beach (yes, she worked two summers at a lake but has never gone to the beach!)

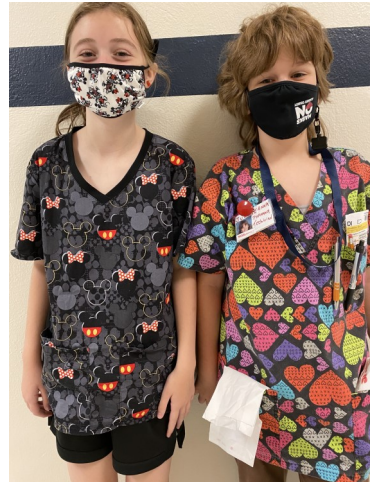
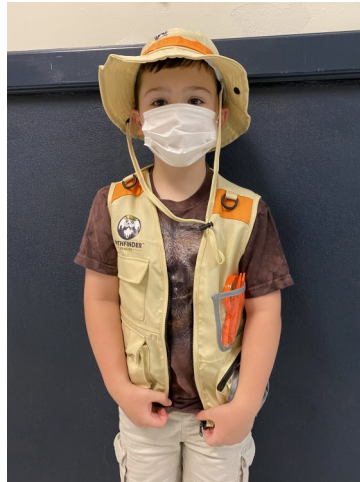
Mr. Moon will be chilling out in Frostburg catching up on Honeydew (Honey, do) projects plus visiting his kids and grandkids, then conducting the Potomac Concert Band. **Mr. McClay** will be spending time with his family. **Mr. Seibert** will be showing off his renovated home and yard to Mrs. Hendrickson and retired music teacher, Mrs. Zimmerman. **Mr. Blowe** will be taking a vacation to Myrtle Beach and spending quality time with his family. **Ms. Hendrix** plans to spend time tending to her garden, relaxing with her cats and camping with family. She is especially excited to take a trip to the Outer Banks with her family because she loves the beach!

Finally, our parent involvement coordinator, **Mrs. Delsie Fazanbaker**, plans to relax around her pool, take a few weekend trips with friends and enjoy summer with family.

Have a great summer, and we all hope to see you in August!



When I Grow Up...



On Friday, June 4th, students at WES dressed up in costumes to indicate careers that they are interested in exploring! Students dressed up as nail technicians, veterinarians, geologists, paleontologists, sports stars, police officers, construction workers, hair stylists, firefighters, rock stars, doctors, nurses, astronauts, teachers, explorers, painters and farmers. Great job, students!

March 13, 2020: "When Life Changed."

Student Thoughts: Dealing with COVID has changed a lot of things for me. It caused me a lot more stress and made me worry a lot. I was afraid of going outside during the pandemic. I could not see my family. Sometimes when we went to the store everything we wanted was sold out, even such everyday items such as soap, hand sanitizer, toilet paper and food. Virtual learning was hard for me because of Wifi issues and it was not like being at physical school. I didn't like to wear masks to return to school and I still don't. They are uncomfortable, sweaty and hard to breath in. But I am glad to be back. So a lot has changed for me, both good and bad.

Teacher Thoughts: What was the last 15 months like for us? We missed our students (and colleagues) although we knew that teaching virtually was a good decision. We felt so grateful to have a chance to be vaccinated and to see our students again in person. We learned/used new ways to communicate virtually (e-mail, Class Dojo, PTA Facebook, Schoology, etc.) We were trained on MANY new types of technology platforms (plus learned from our colleagues and as we used the new programs...) Our document cameras and laptops and webcams became our best friends. We found new ways to teach (and we will keep some of these new routines...) We helped our students to explore eBooks and myON interactive books. We became creative in so many ways. Life changed, but we survived!

Fifth Grade Awards



An Awards Assembly was held on Monday, June 7, 2021 to present completion awards, gift bags and Presidential Awards to the outgoing fifth grade. Earlier in the year, fifth grade students wrote essays telling about their school memories. Those chosen to read essays were Nathan Miller and Rachel Wolford. Students received a treat after the program.

President's Award for Citizenship Winners

- Nevaeh Blowe
- Kristen Paitzel
- Aiden Weimer
- Nathan Weimer

President's Award for Education Achievement Winners

- Nathan Whelan

President's Award for Educational Excellence Winners

- Sarah Shingler
- Emma Streets
- Makenna Turner
- Sean Wade
- Rachel Wolford

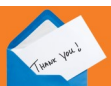


Citizens of the Month



Students selected as "Citizens of the Month" exemplify the character trait for the month. The character trait for **April** was **Integrity**. Those students who showed integrity included PreK-Bentley Paitzel & Asher Marchinke; Grade K-Danica Miller & Ryler Wilson; Grade One-Kameron Cage & Hillary Shapiro; Grade Two-Adrianna Adkins, Addison Hensley & Jonathan Wolford; Grade Three-Bailey Cavey & Mathew Alt; Grade Four-Delaney White & Cassidy Kyle; and Grade Five-Julieanna Dixon & Brody McDougal.

The character trait for **May** was **Caring**. We have many caring students at WES! Thanks again for your support for our Citizens of the Month program in 2020-2021.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You



Westernport Faculty and Staff would like to express their appreciation to Mr. Derek Horne, the Westernport Elementary PTA, as well as students and parents who made the recent Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week so wonderful. We enjoyed the food and other special treats. Thanks so much! We feel so very fortunate to be part of such a great school community. Thanks again for making us feel so special.