



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

## How We Are Spending Our Summer Vacation

Kindergarten: **Ms. Orange** will be working, spending time with family, and hopefully finding time to take a relaxing vacation. **Mrs. C. Smith** plans to spend time with her family and at Disney!

First grade: **Mrs. McDowell** plans to vacation in Puerto Rico to celebrate her son's graduation as well as spend time with family and friends. **Mrs. A. Smith** is will be doing lots of reading and relaxing. **Mrs. K. Zufall** will be working, packing up to move to her new home and going to Lake Erie for a vacation.

Second grade: **Ms. Bolton** will be taking trips to the beach and lake, reading, and spending time with friends and family. **Mrs. Chapman** will be taking a trip to the beach as well as spending time with friends the family.

Third grade: **Mr. Benson** will continue to work on his healing journey, and doing lots of yoga, as well as hanging out with friends. **Ms. Carr** will be spending time with her younger sister in Ocean City and her older sister in New Mexico!

Fourth grade: **Mrs. Hughes** will be making memories with her family, reading books and relaxing. **Mrs. Raines** will be working on the final details for her daughter's wedding in mid-June. She will also spend the summer at her beach house in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Fifth grade: **Mrs. Cadwallader** is looking forward to traveling, going on an Alaskan cruise and spending time with family and friends. **Mr. Jones** will be fishing and taking a trip to the beach.

**Mr. Horne** will be taking a trip to the beach, watching his son play baseball and making college visits. **"Mrs. Shelly" Fitzgerald** is going to relax in her pool, enjoy time with her family and make a couple trips out of town. She is also going to work at the Central Office several days a week. **Nurse Karalee Martz** plans to help her dog, Pipa, recover from surgery, spend time outdoors and vacation with friends and family.

**Mrs. Morgan** will be travelling to the beach, chauffeuring her children to camps and reading a lot of books. **Mrs. L. Wilson** plans to relax at the beach, read lots of books and spend time with her husband and dog. **"Miss Tessa" Lutton** will be doing wedding planning, fishing and taking trips to Lake Erie and the beach! **Mrs. Vinci** plans to relax at the beach, go camping, watch her son race his dirt bike and spend a lot of days at the pool! **Mrs. Clark** plans to spend time with her family and three grandsons and hopefully take a relaxing vacation! **Mrs. S. Wilson** plans to soak up quality time with her two sons as well as take day trips to waterparks, zoos and so on.

**Mrs. Dolly** is looking forward to relaxing with her pets, reading books, taking small trips, and taking care of her flowers. **Ms. Haught** will be enjoying her pool, decluttering her house and hopefully catching a concert or two. She will also be watching the Summer Olympics!

(Continued on page 2)

Westernport Elementary  
172 Church Street  
Westernport, MD  
21562

A Title I School  
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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May-June 2024

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## From the Principal...Mr. Horne



Dear Westernport Families,  
It is amazing to see that the end of the school year arrived so quickly. Our students have come so far from the beginning of the year! Through the hard work and dedication of staff, families, and students, we were able to make it a successful and memorable year.

There are countless people to whom I owe an expression of gratitude. As parents and

guardians, your partnership and collaboration continues to be so important in achieving our goal of developing the maximum potential for every learner to thrive in our changing world. Thank you to all the staff for a great year. Congratulations to all of our students. A special shout out to our fifth grade! Good luck at Westmar Middle, and make us proud! 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. The time will go fast. The school will be open this summer on Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM. If you have any questions, suggestions, or positive comments to share, please feel free to contact me at 301-359-0511 or

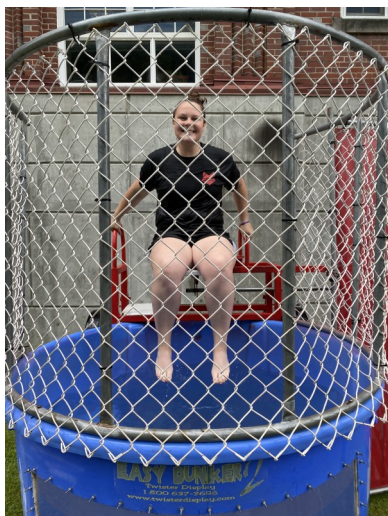
[derek.horne@acpsmd.org](mailto:derek.horne@acpsmd.org)  
Again, have a great summer and I hope to see all of you again in the fall!



P.S. I hope you are all enjoying our new school sign!

## Dunk Tank

Students who worked hard during MCAP testing in April and early May received a ticket for each day of testing. Students were able to trade in the tickets for a chance to dunk a staff person into very cold water. Staff member volunteers participating were Shelly Fitzgerald, Derek Horne, Shawn Jones, Tessa Lutton, Karalee Martz and Laura Wilson. The Chick-Fil-A cow also made an appearance at the end of year event.

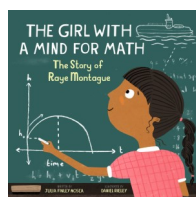


## Many Thanks

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 Farmer's Market, lunchtime food and other special treats. Thanks so much! We feel so very fortunate to be part of such a great school community. Thanks once again for making us feel so special.

## Memorials

Thanks to all who have donated **memorial books** to our school library during the 2023-2024 school year. If you wish to donate a book, you may find the form under the "Library" tab on the Westernport Home Page.



## WES School Calendar

- May 30 (Thurs.) LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS -Three-Hour Early Dismissal; Close of Fourth Marking Period & End of Second Semester
- June 13 (Thurs.) Report Cards Released
- **August 20 (Tues.) Back to School Night@ 5:00 PM**
- August 26 (Mon.) SCHOOLS OPEN: Three-Hour Early Dismissal—Teacher Work Time

## Summer Cleaning

Our custodians, Tim Martin, head custodian; Tara Smith and Renee Taylor 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. 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, 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.

**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-



## Summer Vacation (continued)



**Mrs. Rankin** is doing a beach and Black Bay Wildlife Refuge trip with her family, some kayaking, as well as playing with the Potomac Concert Band. **Mrs. Records** will be doing some home and yard projects, relaxing with a few good books and spending unhurried time with friends and family. **Mr. McGregor** is going to enjoy time with family and work on being kind to his broken foot.

Instructional Specialists: **Mrs. Beeman** is excited about going to the beach. Soaking up the sun and reading a couple of good books on the summer sand is the best! **Mrs. Pratt** plans to spend the summer camping with friends and family, travelling to a few of her favorite places and listening to lots of live music!

Cafeteria Ladies: **Mrs. Lewis** will be working and camping on the weekends. **Mrs. Baker** will be enjoying time with her husband and kids. **Mrs. Colmer** will be spending time in her pool as well as vacationing in Panama City Beach and Myrtle Beach. **Mrs. Llewellyn** will be enjoying her family.

**"Mr. Mike" Muir**, our school resource officer, is just planning to relax.

Instructional Assistants: **Mrs. Albright** will be spending time with family and friends. **Mrs. Benson (Miss Olivia)** will be enjoying time with her family. **Mrs. Lancaster (Miss Timmie)** is looking forward to spending time with her grandkids, relaxing, and enjoying the nice weather. **Miss Marple** will be spending a lot of time by the pool with friends and family and hopes to take a trip to the beach. **Mrs. Snyder** will be spending time with her two granddaughters and celebrating her daughter's graduation from high school. **Mrs. Steiding (Miss Treva)** is keeping it simple, just spending time with friends and family. **Mrs. Biser** plans to spend time with her family, especially her grandson!

Resource Teachers: **Mrs. Hendrickson** will be visiting family in the Midwest and seeing some sights along the way. She hopes to do a small job for the Cumberland Times-News. **Mr. Blank** will be golfing, playing music, and spending time at the beach. **Mr. Blowe** will be relaxing with friends and family, his current plan so far. **Ms. Hendrix** plans

spend as much time outdoors as possible: kayaking, fishing, camping and beach time are forecasted. **Mr. McClay** will be spending time with his family. **Mr. Seibert** plans to work on his house and visit his family.

**Have a great summer, everyone!**

## Career Day-Hooray!

Career Day was held at WES on Friday, April 26, 2024. Students learned about careers from Steve Bennett, Civil Engineer; Nicole Broadwater, Farmer; Jared Bruce, Police Chief; Brooke Cosgrove, State Police Officer; Jonathan and Addy Dayton, Health/EMS; Aaron Fitzgerald, Electrician; Jessica Harris, X-Ray Technician; Johnny Hull, Correctional Officer; Jordan Montgomery, Potomac Edison; Meghan O'Neal, Nurse Practitioner; Christopher Timbrook, Paramedic/Firefighter; and Stephen White, HVAC Technician. Thanks to all who gave their time to talk to our students and to Laura Wilson and Tessa Lutton, who organized the event.

## Spring Fling



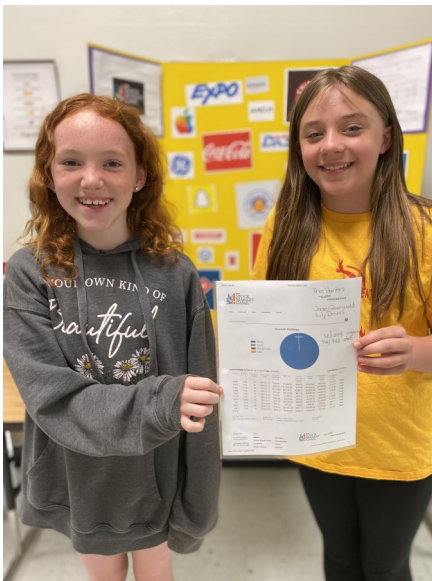
Staff from the Joint Training Facility came to Westernport Elementary on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 to provide a program for the PBIS Spring Fling. Students could earn tickets for the event by showing positive behavior in their classrooms, resource classes, hallways and the cafeteria.

Students participated in activities throughout the day such as Snookball, Light Battle, Bubble Soccer (shown at right), Archery Tag, Box Hockey, Laser Tag (shown at left), Corn Hole and More, Gaga Ball, Foot Darts, Human Football and Inflatable Ax Throwing. Each student received a delicious treat from Kona Ice.

A great time was had by all.



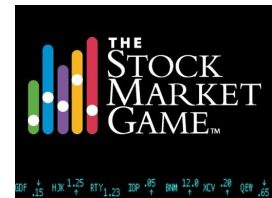
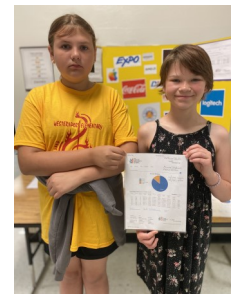
## The Stock Market Game



Congratulations to fifth grade students, Lily Dennis and Jade Greenwald (at left) whose Stock Market Game team called "The Hunters" finished 12th out of 294 teams in the North Region and 56th of 942 teams at all grade levels in the state of Maryland. Close behind were "The Flower Skulls", which placed 14th of the 294 teams in the North Region and 64th of 942 teams at all grade levels in the state. Fifth grade students, Aurora Stephens and Atalie Wilson, shown at right, were the members of that team.

Westernport Elementary had six teams participate in the year-long Stock Market Game, which is sponsored by the Maryland Council on Economic Education. Students receive a hypothetical \$100,000 to spend on their stock purchases, which grew in value over 5 months.

Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson was the SMG advisor. Mr. Josh Blowe also played the yearly game, playing against Mrs. Hendrickson in the Adult Division. Mr. Blowe beat her score by over \$10,000. Great job, Mr. Blowe!



## Seed Library Project



Mrs. Beth Chapman's second grade class worked on a project to collect seed packets for the Westernport Branch of the Allegany County Library System. It became a school-wide service learning project and approximately 350 seed packets were collected. FSU Block Assistants, John Flannery and Bryan Litton, led the project. Maryland Extension Master Gardener, Sarah Llewellyn, was also part of the initiative to provide seeds to the Westernport community.



## Fifth Grade Farewell

On Tuesday, May 28, 2024, a DARE graduation and farewell program was held in the gym of Westernport Elementary School to present completion awards and several special awards to the outgoing fifth grade. Earlier in the year, fifth grade students wrote essays telling what they learned from the DARE program. Those chosen to read their essays were Addison Lafferty and Jaselynn Ravenscroft. Students and parents attending received a treat after the program.

**President's Award for Educational Excellence Winners:** Willow Guinn and Atalie Wilson

**President's Award for Educational Achievement Winners:** Lily Dennis and Johnathan Fasching

**Citizenship Award Winners:** Addison Lafferty and Arianna Adkins

"When becoming part of tradition, we leave behind our example and take with us our memories."



## Band and Orchestra Concert



The Spring Instrumental program, featuring Band and Orchestra, was held on Thursday, May 23, 2024 in the Gym of Westernport Elementary School. Attending the concert were students in grades K-5. Parents were invited to attend the program in the afternoon.

**Fourth Grade band members** included Aveona Durst, Brooklyn Edwards and Maci Iliff Flute; Elijah Keaton, Camden Shafer and Taylor Windle, Clarinet; Nathan Wade, Saxophone; Porter Beard, Connor Coffman and Lennon Metz Trumpet; Aryan Webster, French Horn; Jace Lytle, Trombone ; and Brennan Whetzel, Drums.

**Fifth Grade band members** included Lily Dennis, Jade Greenwald and Isabella Reed, Flute; Addison Lafferty, Clarinet; Izaiah Clark, Elijah Craze and Willow Guinn, Saxophone; Madelynn Lantz, Trumpet; and Silas Beeman, Charlotte Haggerty, Jayden Larue, Aden Powell, Taylor Schramm and Atalie Wilson, Drums.

**Song selections** included Go Tell Aunt Rhodie, Au Clair De La Lune, London Bridge, A Tisket, a Tasket, Skip to My Lou, Long Long Ago, William Tell and We Will Rock You.

The band was directed by Mr. Harold McClay, band instructor.

**Fourth grade orchestra members** included Ella Aronhalt, Chaney Butler, Serenity Clark Kuhn, Justin Claycomb, Colton Dawson, Laydon Dobbs, Kasadie Durst, Elaynah Hartman, , Katalina McGeedy, Anastasia Roe, Aaliyah Spiker and Kambre Wright, Violin; and Devyn Pritts; Viola; Addalye Bennett, Kiya Chojar and Brantlee Lavalley; Cello; and Landon Alkire, Bass.

**Fifth grade orchestra members** included Cayde Crites, Hayden Doman, Johnathan Fasching, Jamyson Hanlin, Addison Hensley, James Johnson, Jaselynn Ravenscroft and Makenna Sgaggero, Violin.

**Song selections** included Open String Dance, Pizzicato Pop, Double Stop Show, Pepperoni Pizza, Staccato Style, Twinkle, Little Lamb and Bluey.

The orchestra was directed by Mr. Jacob Blank, orchestra instructor.

## Robotics: Challenging Students to Complete a Task



In the spring, third grade students at WES received six hours of foundational robotics lessons to introduce them to the definition of a robot, a machine that is programmed to perform a task. They also learned the difference between hardware, the pieces that the students can touch and what the robot is made from, and software, which are the directions which control the hardware. The students worked with partners to build and program the robots. Then the students were given mini-challenges to solve, which gave them a

chance to try coding and provided them with an introduction to computer science. Sensors were introduced in hour five. The final hour involved a challenge that required a modification of the hardware and a modification of the computer program. Ms. Jessica Mellon, from the University of Maryland Extension Services, presented the lessons, assisted by teachers, Mr. Benson and Ms. Carr. Students really loved building the robots and were very sorry to take them apart so that the robotics kits could move on to the next school!

Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 also had a chance to explore robotics this year using eight library robots from Wonder Workshop, and by working through several levels of the school-purchased program called Kodable. Dash and seven dashing friends, complete with iPads, also made an appearance at STEAM Night on Thursday, May 9th and were enjoyed by students and their families.

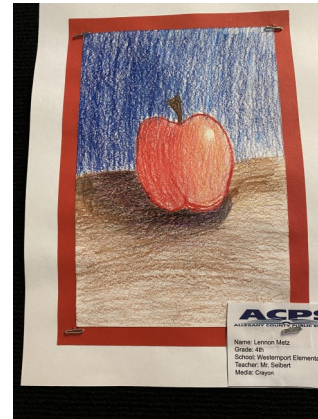




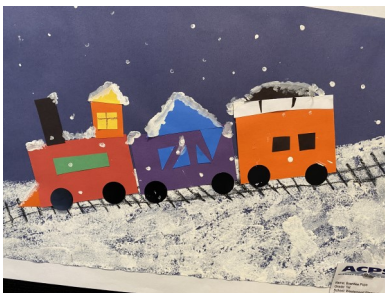
## In the Arts...



Students from Westernport Elementary had artwork displayed at the annual "Allegany County Student Art Showcase" which was held at the City Place in Frostburg from April 16-20, 2024. Students who had work on display were: Weston Burrell, Aurora Cifuentes, Peyton Davis, Brooklyn Edwards, Brienne Figueroa, Adalynn Gregory, Karaliah Griffin, Easton Guinn, Slate Guinn, Willow Guinn, Kiya Chojar, Jayden Larue, Payton Lattanzia, Vayda Marsh, Katalina McGeady, Lennon Metz, Stella Metz, Brantlee Pope, Aaliyah Spiker and Kaiden Wilt.



great job



Makerspace Art in the Library!

**A child is a person who is going to carry on what you have started.**

He or she is going to sit where you are sitting, and when you are gone, attend to those things which you think are important. You may adopt all the policies you please, but how they are carried out depends on him or her. They will assume control of your cities, states, and nations. They are going to move in to take control of your churches, schools, universities and corporations. All your books are going to be judged, praised, or condemned by them. The fate of humanity is in their hands.

—Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.

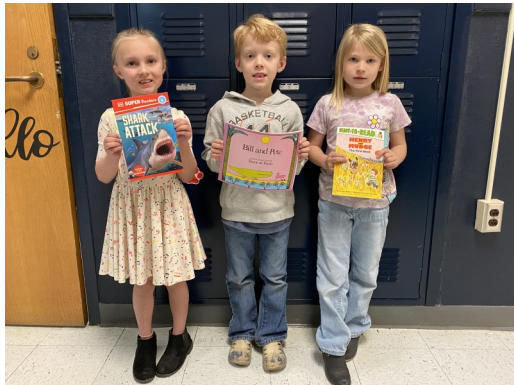
## The Food, Fiber, and You Experience



Westernport students recently participated in Maryland Agriculture in the Classroom. Students were given a series of 25-minute mini-lessons by the lab instructor who spent the week of March 11-15, 2024 at Westernport Elementary. This year, students in grades K-5 attended classes in the trailer supplied by the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, which was parked for a week on the front lawn of the school. The activities included "Sticky Bean", "Take Me Out to the Ballgame", "Sheep Surprise", "The Art of Making Cheese", "Beanie Baby", and "Fiber Up for a Clean Sweep."



## Thanks, Reeves Private Foundation



Westernport Elementary School was recently awarded a **\$1,750.00 grant** from the J. Norman and Margaret J. Reeves Private Foundation, which is administrated by First United Trust & Investments. The grant money was used to support the One Student/One Book program that was held in conjunction with the March 2024 Book Fair. Each of our 223 students was allowed to choose one book of personal interest from a selection of books at their grade level. The Thanks again to the Reeves Private Foundation for the grant funds and to Main Street Books in Frostburg for their help in creating the student choice sheets and ordering the sample books, which will be placed in the school library. Shown are first grade students Oakley Ray, Cyder Flanagan and Jaclyn Taylor with their new books called Shark Attack, Bill and Pete, and Henry and Mudge: The First Book.

## Citizens of the Month 2024

Students selected as "**Citizens of the Month**" exemplify the character trait for the month. They took a trip to McDonald's to recognize their achievement.

The character trait for **March** was having a **Positive Attitude**, which means **trying to find the best in any situation**. Those students who showed a positive attitude included Grade K-Jasper Broadwater & Elizabeth Paitsel; Grade One-Oakley Ray, Izayah Hannum & Brayden Moon; Grade Two-Ryder Morgan & Logan Rice; Grade Three-Aurora Cifuentes & Ryler Wilson; Grade Four-Weston Burrell & Owen Brashear; and Grade Five-Johnathon Fasching & Lila Rivera-Constable.

The character trait for **April** was **Self-Control**, which means having **control of one's actions and emotions and being aware of thoughts and feelings, then making an appropriate choice on how to behave**. Those students showing self-control include Grade K-Deven Durst & Isaiah Warnick; Grade 1-Priscilla Mborogo, Kaden Twyman & Tacy Lewis; Grade 2-Jayme Greenwald & Stella Metz; Grade 3-Weston Reed & Jacob Hull; Grade 4-Nathan Wade & Aveona Durst; and Grade 5-Isabella Dolly & Addison Shingler.

The character trait for **May/June** was **Perseverance**, which means **never giving up, even when things get difficult**. Those students who never give up include Grade K-Emma Fasching & Makayla Ross; Grade 1-Ben Smith, Mylo Zacari & Quinton Wade; Grade 2-Hudson Placka & Luke Richards; Grade 3-William Wade & Riley Kindle; Grade 4-Jacob Whetstone & Ella Aronhalt; and Grade 5-Addison Hensley & Cameron Hamilton.

Thanks again to McDonald's for their support of the Citizens of the Month program in 2023-2024.

