Dear Westernport Families,

It's amazing to see that the end of the school year arrived so quickly. 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 this 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 and a special shout out to our staff who are moving on from Westernport Elementary! Good luck with your next chapter! 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 this summer on Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00AM-4:00PM. We will contact families when yearbooks arrive.

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.

Again, have a great summer and I hope to see you again in the fall!

From the Principal...Mr. Horne
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.

EMS @ WES

The Tri-Towns EMS came to visit.

WES School Calendar

- June 7 (Tues.) LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS; Three-Hour Early Dismissal; Teacher Work Time; Close of Fourth Marking Period & End of Second Semester
- June 23 (Thurs.) Report Cards Released
- August 18 (Thurs.) Back to School Night, 5:00-6:30 PM

Summer Cleaning

Our custodians, Tim Martin, head custodian; David Parker 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. 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.

Memorial Books

Thanks to Ms. Sheila Golden, retired WES teacher, and Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson, media specialist, for making donations to purchase library books in memory of Mary Ann (Neely) Houser, a former Title I reading specialist, and Ms. Neely’s family members who donated money earlier in the year to purchase library books in memory of Tyler Miller, former WES student.

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. S. Wilson plans to relax with her family and do some reading. Ms. Haught plans to take a break and swim in her pool. Mrs. Rankin is going to the Outer Banks, fitting in some kayaking day trips in the area and will try to get some chores finished around the house. Mrs. Records is looking forward to a low-key summer, spending time with her family, taking care of house/yard projects, reading and relaxing! Mrs. Dolly plans to enjoy her kittens.

Ms. Lutton (Miss Tessa) plans to go camping, fishing, and continue working on her new house. Mr. McGregor is going to Scotland with his dad, sister, wife and kids.

Specialists: Mrs. D. Beeman is excited for summer break. She plans to spend time reading and enjoying summer nights around the backyard fire pit with her family and friends. Mrs. Pratt plans to spend her summer lying by the pool, camping and traveling with friends and family.

Cafeteria Ladies: Mrs. Lewis will be working in two high school cafeterias this summer, as well as spending time fishing and floating at her family camp. Mrs. Dayton will be spending time with her husband, playing in the dirt, and traveling to see family members. Mrs. D. Llewellyn will be working again at local schools to feed children over the summer. Mrs. Morgan plans to make an overdue trip to the beach, as well as do some camping, gardening, and maybe even go floating (for the first time ever!)

"Mr. Mike" Muir, our school resource officer, is going to work at summer school and go to the beach with his family.

Instructional Assistants: Mrs. Albright will be spending quality time with her daughter this summer before Bailey goes to California to begin college at San Diego State University. Mrs. Iser (Miss Megan) plans to vacation to Tennessee with her family and spend lots of time swimming and relaxing. Miss Marple (Miss Tammy) plans to spend time with her family and friends as she relaxes by the pool and at the beach, plus will do some reading. Ms. H. O’Neal (Miss Hannah) plans to relax at multiple beaches, go boating in Alabama, and visit family in Illinois. She is also looking forward to spending time with her new nephew. Mrs. V. O’Neal will be swimming, relaxing and playing with her son. She will end summer break with a family vacation to Ocean City. Mrs. Snyder will be celebrating her daughter’s 16th birthday in Disney World this summer and she and her family will be swimming with dolphins. Ms. B. Wilson will be doing some babysitting, taking some beach trips and spending time with family.

Mrs. D. Fazenbaker, plans to spend time at her pool, as well as go to Nashville to attend her daughter’s bat Mitzvah party.

Resource Teachers: Mrs. Hendrickson will be doing some traveling, reading (of course) and will be adopting two kittens! Mr. Moon will be helping his students get ready for teaching at WES and his other schools. He will miss working with the students, but will enjoy his good memories. He will continue to use his musical talents in many ways. Mr. McClay will be spending time with his family. Mr. Seibert plans to visit his family in Pennsylvania, stack firewood with his dad, complete some painting projects, and improve his guitar playing. Mr. Blowe will be spending most of his time off locally, but will be doing a few park trips, a zoo trip, and possibly spending a few days at Myrtle Beach. Ms. Hendrix plans to enjoy her time off. Have a great summer, everyone!
After School Fun, Earth Day, and the Stock Market Game

As an end-of-year celebration for After School Program students, the Joint Training Facility was invited to come to the school on April 27th for an evening of fun! Students participated in activities such as light battle, soccer darts, oversized connect 4, gaga ball, and box hockey. A great time was had by all students and after school teachers.

Citizens of the Month

Students selected as “Citizens of the Month” exemplify the character trait for the month. They took to trip to McDonald’s to celebrate and were given a yard sign to display during the month to recognize their achievement. The character trait for March was Positive Attitude, which means trying to find the best in any situation. Those students who showed a positive attitude included PreK3 - Phoenix Washington; PreK4 - Caysen Lafferty; Grade K - Alaina Rhodes, Rayla Sweitzer and Logan Rice; Grade One - Kylaha Heavener and Ryder Hanlin; Grade Two - Ella Aronhalt, Anastasia Roe and Jacob Whetstone; Grade Three - Ronan Snyder and Madson Lantz; Grade Four - Khloe Douglass and Bentlee Slabaugh; and Grade Five - Gabrielle Shingler and Nickolas Dawson.

The character trait for April was Self-Control, which means control of 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 PreK3 - Asher Madero; PreK4 - Slate Guinn; Grade K - Hudson Placka, Matthew Brashear and Olivia Van Pelt; Grade 1 - Demmie Alt and Ryler Wilson; Grade 2 - Katalina McGeady, Jacob Mayhew and Hilary Shapiro; Grade 3 - Addison Hensley and Jayden LaRue; Grade 4 - Kadence Ervin and Oliver Marsh; and Grade 5 - Emrick Johnson and Charlie Spiker.

The character trait for May/June was Perseverance, which means never giving up, even when things get difficult. Those students who showed perseverance included PreK3 - Rhoman Raines; PreK4 - Maverick Guinn; Grade K - Kaen Miller, Finn Taylor and Logan Shapiro; Grade 1 - Jace Fitzgerald and Harper Hensley; Grade 2 - Lennon Metz, Porter Beard and Colton Dawson; Grade 3 - Willow Guinn and Cameron Hamilton; Grade 4 - Bailey Cavey and Brayden Iliff; and Grade 5 - Savanna Crites and Hailee O’Haver.

Fifth Grade Awards

An outdoor assembly was held on Friday, June 3, 2022 to present completion awards, gift bags 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 Emily Ellifritz and Aubree Shaprio. Students and parents attending received a treat after the program.

President’s Award for Educational Excellence Winners
Maci Barbe, Aaliyah Davis, Ethan Mauck, Declan McGeady and Gabrielle Shingler

President’s Award for Educational Achievement Winners
Benjamin Broadwater, Americus Greene and Parker Rishel

Citizenship Award Winner: Remington Mowbray
The Spring Band and Orchestra Concert was held on May 13, 2022 in the Gym of Westernport Elementary School. Attending the concert were students in grades PreK-5. Both concerts were recorded and posted to Schoology.

**Fifth Grade band members** included Ben Broadwater (Flute); Cassidy Kyle, Mackenzie Raines, Gracie Shingler and Delaney White (Clarinet); Remington Mowbray (Trumpet); Ethan Mauck and Hailee O’Haver (Trombone); and Kaden Bruce, Georgia Kight and Aaron Marchante Powell (Drums).

**Fourth Grade band members** included Nancy Cook, Tayler Getson, Ashlynn Lafferty, Aaliyah Redman and Briella Robinson (Flute); Addison Hanlin and Adrianna Escobar Molina (Clarinet); Mathew Alt, Ashley Robertson and Bentlee Slaubaugh (Saxophone); Brody Hook, Brayden Iliff, Klarissa Paitsel, Colin Stafford and Grayson Wilson (Trumpet) and Oliver Marsh and Karson Oliverio (Drums).

**Song selections** included Rolling Along, Hot Cross Buns, Country Walk, Ode to Joy, Mozart Melody, Down By the Station, Lightly Row, Doodle All Day and Farm Out.

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

**Fifth grade orchestra members** included Savannah Baker, Maci Barbe, Aiden Buxenstein, Bryan Claycomb, Zarianna Griffin, Hayleigh Sanford, Taylor Saville and Annabell Taylor (Violin) and Aaliyah Davis (Cello).

**Fourth grade orchestra members** included Khloe Douglass and Landen Iliff (Violin) and Kahlan Chojar (Viola).

**Song selections** included Hot Cross Buns, Au Clair De La Lune, Old MacDonald Had a Farm, Chanson Populaire Francaise, Can Can, Theme New World, Turkey Toe Rock, Subatomic and Pepperoni Pizza Rock.

The orchestra was directed by Mr. Jay Moon, Strings instructor.

Note: To access concert from Schoology, have your child log into his/her classroom course. On the top of the page, under the name of the classroom teacher are the words/link to "Westernport Elementary". If you click on that link, you will see the concert postings.

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**Growing Our Own Food**

Staff from the Evergreen Heritage Center, a farm for education, conservation and preservation, located in Mt. Savage, Maryland, recently presented an in-school Elementary Edibles gardening program for K-5 students, with the goal of increasing student interest in healthy eating as well as food & nutrition literacy.

This in-school program was developed in partnership with the Western Maryland Health System and focuses on human wellness, teaching children where food comes from, how it grows, and the importance of healthy eating.

Classrooms at WES experimented with growing a variety of plants and vegetables.

Shown are planters of lettuce which were grown on the windowsill of Mrs. Beth Chapman’s room and the lettuce tasting party which was held after the crop was ready to eat!
In the Arts...

Students at Westernport Elementary participated in the "Allegany County Student Art Showcase: Emerging Artists" exhibit at the Allegany Arts Council's Saville Gallery in Cumberland, MD, which was held from March 5 - 26, 2022. Students who had work on display were Willow Guinn, grade 3, and Leah Kolberg, grade 1. Shown at left is artwork by Willow Guinn.

Students at Westernport Elementary also participated in the annual "Allegany County Student Art Showcase" at the C. William Gilchrist Museum of the Arts in Cumberland, MD, which was open to the public five Saturdays in April 2022. Students who had work on display were: Demmie Alt, grade 1; Kiya Chojar, grade 2; Kahlan Chojar, grade 4; Gracie Conner, grade 5; Savanna Crites, grade 5; Jade Greenwald, grade 3; Zachary Haggerty, grade 4; April Matthews, grade 5; Reylin Matias, grade 2; Lennon Metz, grade 2; Klarissa Paitsel, grade 4; and Dustlyn Rebar, grade 4. Shown below (left to right) is artwork by Kiya Chojar and April Matthews. The final row contains artwork by Dustlyn Rebar.

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.