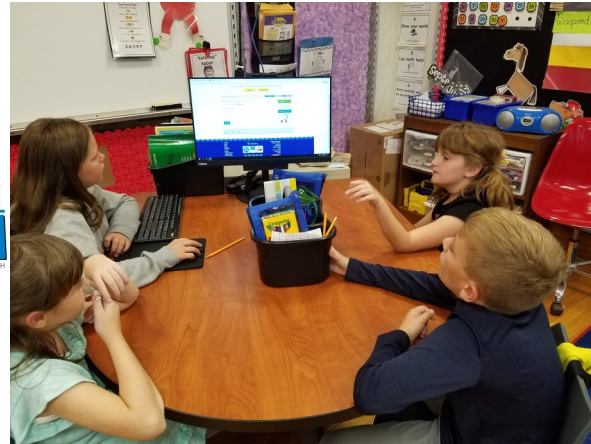
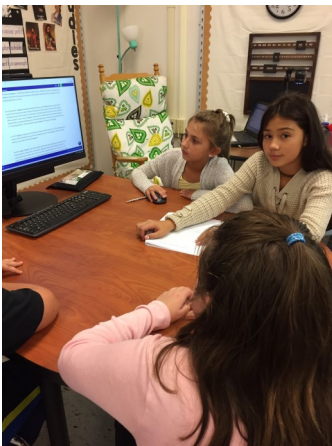




# W.E.S...It's Elementary2

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

## Active Learning Labs @WES



Active Learning Labs were recently installed in the fourth and fifth grade classrooms of Mrs. Jennifer Hughes and Mrs. Janice Raines, Mrs. Sarah Llewellyn and Ms. Brittany McMahon. Active Learning Labs allow for high levels of student engagement. Lessons have a clear, focused and purposeful instructional design, and learning experiences are enhanced by access to technology. In Active Learning Labs, students strengthen their skills in analysis, synthesis and evaluation; learn to think about tasks and problems from a variety of viewpoints; work together as a team to accomplish a task; and use discussions to build respectful discourse, connect prior learning and empower rigorous thinking. The ultimate goal of learning is that students are able to independently apply information, ideas, content, skills and strategies in new and different situations. This process helps students take ownership of their learning while allowing teachers to move from teaching facts to teaching thinking. In ALL classrooms, students work collaboratively with the teacher, who serves as a facilitator. The technology-enhanced classrooms incorporate inquiry based, student-centered, collaborative workgroup environments where students are grouped around a centralized interactive workstation. The workstation is multipurpose - it serves as a traditional workstation and also as a science lab station - and enables the ACPs to combine the instructional environment and the laboratory setting.

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

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### Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
Good Choices/Peace	2
Title I Tips Safety Matters Text 2B Healthy	2
AR News Travel Safely	3
Support WES	3
Red Ribbon Week	3
Citizens of the Month National Principals Month	4
PTA Calendar	4
Halloween Pictures	



## From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker



It's so hard to believe that October is over and November is here! It has been a busy October here at WES. Thanks to all parents who attended the first Parent Conference Day to meet with our teachers. Thanks to our own Potomac Fire Company #22 who came to present information to our students during Fire Prevention Week. Finally, thanks to everyone who came to view our annual parade of costumes on Halloween. The costumes were great and the students and staff had such a

great time. We were very fortunate that the rain held off and we were able to have the parade outdoors. WES sold a total of 1,056 dozen doughnuts for our first school fundraiser of the year. Congratulations to the top doughnut sellers, who are listed on page 3. I would also like to thank everyone who supported our Krispy Kreme Fundraiser. All proceeds from the fundraiser are spent on the students. Upcoming events include a DARE Celebration in the gymnasium for

the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. A Veterans Day Program will be presented for parents and community by grade K, 1 & 2 students on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:45 PM. All veterans and service men and service women are invited to attend. I do want to thank all parents/guardians for their support and cooperation on October 25<sup>th</sup>, the day of the lock-in. Please know that I take the safety and security of the students and staff

very seriously. Decisions are made with the help of ACPs safety personnel and local law enforcement. The staff at Westernport is committed to the safety of your children. At the end of each day, if I can say that all children got home to their families and are safe, then it has been a good day. And on October 25<sup>th</sup>, all students and staff made it home safely! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

## Safety Matters

*There are lots of children,  
but none to spare.  
Watch out for us  
on the bus and at the crosswalk!*

Children at Westernport Elementary School need to cross the parking lot when going out to play. They have been taught to "wait for the teacher" to assist them to cross at the crosswalk. Please help us to keep our children safe (as well as keep faculty, staff, parents and grandparents safe) by STOPPING at the stop signs on either side of the crosswalk. Please look for children crossing the parking lot in other places during student drop off and pick up as well (morning, lunchtime and at dismissal time). Thank you for your help.



**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 token 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. Some of our latest peaceful students are:

Week of September 30–October 4: Karaliah Griffin, Eli Karalewitz, Addison Hensley, Adrian Ketterman, Josiah Alt and Damon Sarfino.

Week of October 7–11: Kaiden Wilt, Skylar Crites, Izaiah Clark, Klarissa Paitsel, Alivia Warnick, Lillian Thrasher and Evelyn Steiding.

Week of October 14–18: Ryder Hanlin, Jacob Whetstone, Adrianna Stuart, Dakota Paugh, Charlie Spiker, Nicholas Freeman, and Caden White

Week of October 21–25: Trinitee Hummer, Chaney Butler, Willow Guinn, Bella Peck, Georgia Kight, Kristen Paitsel and Kambria Spalding.

**Excellent attendance and peaceful behavior will help your child to have success each day in school.** Please try to make sure that your child spends a full day in school, each and every day and that he/she works hard each and every day to be a peaceful student.

## November Calendar

- ◆ Nov. 5 (Tues.) Kindergarten trip to Moran Manor
- ◆ Nov. 7 (Thurs.) ACPLS Storycorps reading to grades PreK, K and grade 1
- ◆ Nov. 8 (Fri.) Report Cards Released; Grade 5 DARE Graduation @2:00 PM; Fall Fun Night @5:00-7:00 PM
- ◆ Nov. 11 (Mon.) Veterans Day program presented by grades K, 1 & 2 @1:45 PM
- ◆ Nov. 12 (Tues.) PTA Meeting @6:00 PM; Kindergarten will present entertainment
- ◆ Nov. 15 (Fri.) Fourth grade trip to Oldtown
- ◆ Nov. 18 (Mon.) Harlem Wizards Assembly @ 2:20 PM
- ◆ Nov. 19 (Tues.) Fifth Grade trip to Paw Paw tunnel
- ◆ Nov. 21-22 (Thurs./Fri.) Book Fair Preview during Library Media classes
- ◆ Nov. 25-26 (Mon.) Book Fair Shopping
- ◆ Nov. 26 (Tues.) Book Fair Final Shopping; Makeup Picture Day
- ◆ Nov. 27 (Wed.) 3-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL (SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED Nov. 28 & 29 and Dec 2 for Thanksgiving break); SCHOOLS REOPEN on Dec. 3rd



## Making Good Choices

Here is a message from the University of Maryland Extension Educator Tammy Humberson, who visits Westernport Elementary to provide nutrition experiences for our children.

"Do you know about our "Text 2B Healthy" program? Parents may sign up for this FREE text messaging service and then will receive a text whenever your child participates in a University of Maryland Extension healthy living program. The text will tell you what your child did that day and it might include helpful information about local food giveaways or supermarket discounts."

To register, text "West" to 30644 and begin receiving texts personalized to your school!



During Red Ribbon Week, Master Rick Rando, of Kickmasters, spoke to students about making good choices when making friends. He emphasized that children (and all of us) should surround ourselves with people who are "firestarters", not "energysuckers." Later that day, students, faculty and staff formed the word "HOPE" on the front lawn of the school. A WES Parent, Marcus Stuart, used his drone to film the participants. Thanks to Mrs. Barbara Amtower, who designed the activity, created the letter template and helped students to practice for the very first WES photo from a drone.

## Title I Tips

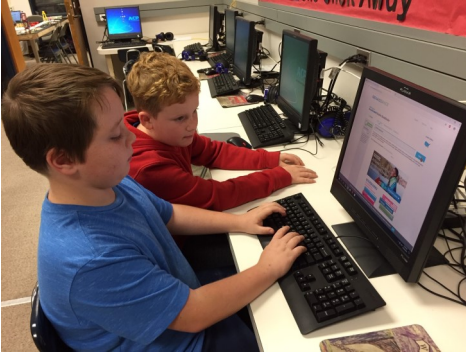


The Home School Compact outlines what the school staff, parent and child will do to increase learning for our students. Parents and school staff help

to write or revise the agreement. We review the compact each spring and ask for parents to comment on the compact each year. The compacts are signed and parents receive a copy to keep at home. The Home School Compact is a tool to be used during the year to help everyone remember how important it is for all of us to work together to help our students learn. Please review the Home School Compact throughout the year and use it to help your child to succeed in school.



## Accelerated Reader Tips: Parent Link and AR Bookfinder



Did you know that you can follow your fourth or fifth grade child's progress in the Accelerated Reader program by signing up online?

With a few clicks of the mouse, you can go to the Renaissance Learning website, log in using the **Parent Link** and then view **School-to-Home Report**. You can also see how your child has done on AR

quizzes taken throughout the school year by viewing the *Goals and Points* and *Student Record* reports. The **Parent link** is found on our school home page or <https://hosted334.renlearn.com/30757/> Please e-mail or send a note with your e-mail address to Mrs. Hendrickson ([Deborah.Hendrickson@acpsmd.org](mailto:Deborah.Hendrickson@acpsmd.org)) so that she may send you a secure log-in and password.

In addition, the names of the **"Top Five"** readers in fourth and fifth grade classrooms and the monthly **"Schoolwide Stars"** are displayed on the bulletin board near the school office.

The online version of the AR program allows almost unlimited selection of books and quizzes, but a few older titles are not represented. You may use the **AR Bookfinder** to help your child select books of personal interest and books that support your child's reading

skills. It is a great way for your child to select AR books from the school and public libraries and from his/her classroom.

<http://www.arbookfind.com/UserType.aspx>

Both the Accelerated Reader Parent Link and the link to the AR Bookfinder are located on the Westernport Home Page.



(Shown above looking up a book in the AR Bookfinder are fourth grade students Mathew Alt and Mason Weimer.)

## Travel Safely with Kids

Please have your children in the appropriate child restraint when bringing your children to school in your vehicle. The current law requires that children under eight years old or 80 pounds in weight are to be in a child restraint unless the child is 4'9" or taller. Every child from 8 to 16 years old who is not secured in a child restraint must be secured in the vehicle's seat belt, in every sitting position in the vehicle. The fine for not having a child secured is \$83.00, which includes court costs. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

## Red Ribbon Week

Westernport Elementary School celebrated Red Ribbon Week from Monday, October 21st through Friday, October 25th. Red Ribbon Week began in 1985 as a means of honoring D.E.A. agent Enrique Camarena, who gave his life fighting the war against drugs. Red Ribbon Week reminds students how to make healthy choices. Students learn why drugs are dangerous and how to say no to drugs. This year's national theme is: "Send A Message. Stay Drug Free."

Student activities during the week used the themes of "Red"-Y to Live A Drug-Free Life;

*Smile and Stay Drug-Free; Unity Day-We're All In This Together; I'm a Jean-ius, I'm Drug-Free; and I'm Too Bright for Drugs.* Mrs. Barbara Amtower, guidance counselor, led the school wide activities. Mrs. Amtower suggests that Red Ribbon Week is a great time to open a dialogue with your child at home and discuss issues like peer pressure and making the right choices for a healthy future.



## Ways to Support WES/Congratulations

If you want to help WES raise money for the "extras" that every school needs, there are several ways to do it! You can

- sign up online to share your Martin's BonusCard number with the school. WES will receive one point for every dollar that you spend at the supermarket, and those points will become dollars for the school. You will not lose your own points!

- send in Box Tops for Education. Each box top is worth 10 cents. The money will directly help your child's classroom.

- support school and PTA fundraisers when you are able to do so. Congratulations to all who helped the

school by selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts and special congratulations to the winners! The top winner, who sold 89 dozen doughnuts, was Nick Dawson in grade three. He won the \$75.00 prize. The second place winner, who sold 43 dozen doughnuts, was Mya Kolberg, first grade. Mya earned \$50.00. The third place winner, who sold 41 dozen doughnuts, and who earned \$25.00 was fourth grade student, Max Cole.



Finally, congratulations to all students who brought in completed Reading for Educa-

tion booklets. 1,800 names were submitted. Students who completed their booklets received a small Backpack Pet prize or Fitness Band. The Glow-In-The-Dark t-shirts and Super Sponsor Prizes will be arriving soon! These prizes will be for those students whose friends or families purchased two magazine subscriptions. The winner of the \$100.00 Golden Ticket prize was Kindergarten student, Nathan Wade.

You can find information about our school and the ACPS by using the Westernport Elementary Home Page, which is found at <http://acpsmd.org/wt>

## 2019-2020 PTA Meetings

## National Principals Month

**Open Parent Meetings** will be held on Tuesdays. Upcoming meeting dates are November 12, 2019 @ 6:00 PM, February 11th, 2020 @ 6:00 PM & May 12, 2020 @ 6:00 PM, which is election of officers for 2020-2021.

**The PTA Officers** will meet on as needed. Days and times may vary.

**2019-2020 PTA Activities for families and children** will include:

November 8, 2019: Fall Fun Night (postponed from October)

December 9-11 2019: Santa's Secret Shop

December 18, 2019: Pictures with Santa

February 14, 2020: Ice Cream Social (for students)

March 16, 2020: Founder's Day Dinner

April 7, 2020: Easter Bunny Pictures

### PTA Sales

February 3-18, 2020: PTA Hoagie Sale (Hoagies will be delivered on Monday, March 9th)

Support your PTA by becoming an active member. Dues are \$5.00 per person. **Join us on Facebook, too!**



Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, principal, was recently honored during National Principals Month. Students, faculty and staff at Westernport Elementary School surprised Mrs. Fazenbaker by creating a special bulletin board. The board was decorated with post-it notes which explained what made Mrs. Fazenbaker special. Amazing, sparkly, brilliant, funny, awesome, fabulous, fair, intelligent, beautiful, fun, hard-working, unique, special, kind, loving and helpful are some of the kind words which were used by the school community to describe Mrs. Fazenbaker.

## Halloween @ WES



## Citizens of the Month

## Book Fair...Coming in November

Student "Citizens of the Month" were recently chosen. Students who were selected earned a trip to McDonald's for a treat.

The character trait for October was trustworthiness.

- Grade PreK-Danica Miller and Ava Morgan
- Grade K-Brooklyn Edwards and Jacob Mayhew
- Grade 1-Willow Guinn and Taylor Schramm
- Grade 2-Bailey Cavey and Colin Stafford
- Grade 3-Savanna Crites and Ethan Mauck
- Grade 4-Kristen Paitzel and Makenna Turner
- Grade 5-Amberlea Sweitzer and Max Kalbaugh



The annual Westernport Elementary School Book Fair will be held at the end of November. The Book Fair will be open for student browsing on Thursday, November 21st and Friday, November 22nd. Students will pick their "free" book, courtesy of a grant from the Reeves Private Foundation and support from our PTA, during library classes.

Students will also be able to shop at school on Monday, November 25th and Tuesday, November 26th. Parents are welcome to sign in at the office and shop on Monday or Tuesday, too. Profit from all sales will be used by Westernport Elementary School to provide materials for the library and to support library-related programs in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Please mark your calendars! Books make great holiday gifts!

