

Woodbridge Elementary Oct.. '23 Newsletter

Lori A. Phelps, Principal
Lori Davenport, Administrative Secretary
Call Us @ 443-809-0857

Kimberly G. Fields, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Lee, Registration Secretary



Principal's Corner

September is over, it has started getting dark sooner and the leaves will soon begin to fall. The excitement of the new school year has dwindled, and the real work of learning has begun. October is a month of serious schoolwork. We have all of our beginning of the year data so we know what students need intervention lessons to rise to grade level standards and we know what students are already working above grade level and need to be challenged. Teachers have passed out novels that students will be reading and discussing, and the routines of strong instruction have been established. Students have gotten to know new classmates and made new friends, and sometimes, have experienced conflict. Disagreements are normal; adults have them and so do children. Our school behavior team works with students to help them develop problem-solving skills that will benefit them throughout school and the rest of their lives for resolving peer conflict. If your child is reporting conflict with a classmate, please give school counselor Colleen Boyer or Assistant Principal Kim Fields a call at school to assist him or her in resolving it. It is important that we address issues quickly so that everyone's attention can stay focused on academic achievement.



WES Calendar Dates

October Dates

Mon., Oct. 9 – 5th gr BioBlitz Field Trip
Fri., Oct. 13 – Woody's FunRunRaiser
Tues., Oct. 17 – School Picture Day
Fri., Oct. 20 – School Closed
Fri., Oct. 27 – PreK & Kdg Field Trip to the Farm
Mon., Oct. 30 – Halloween Fun Night (Tickets Req'd)

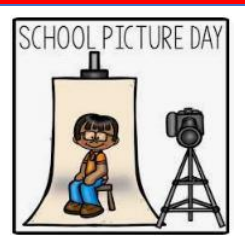
Upcoming Nov. Dates

Thurs., Nov. 2 – 1st Gr. Field Trip to Aquarium
Fri., Nov. 3 – EARLY DISMISSAL @ 12:25; end of 1st Qtr
Wed., Nov. 8 – 4th Gr. Field Trip to BMI
Thurs., Nov. 9 – 2nd & 3rd Gr. Field Trip to Goucher Auditorium
Mon., Nov. 13 – No School for Students
Tues., Nov. 14 – American Education Week begins
-- Report cards go home
-- Climbing Equipment & Book Fair Family Fun
Mon., Nov. 20-- No School for PreK
Tues., Nov. 21--Conference Day; No School for Students
Wed., Nov. 22 – Fri. Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Break
Tues., Nov. 28 -- PTA Mtg @ 6:30 pm



School Picture Day

Tues., Oct. 17
Information Packets
will be sent home
with your child soon





Congratulations

To our September Students of the Month for showing the virtue of *KINDNESS!*

Danna Mejia Medina
Alise Gray
Kehs Spruill
Abdullah Gadzhailiev
Christian Stuckey
Dah'Layha McLean
Eva Ortiz-Ayala

Rayan Dhakal
Dylan Rivera Bernal
Gavin Anonuevo
Emily Beltran Bonilla
Sitara Kaur
Katherine Lopez Garcia
Mia Hernandez Robelo

Aman Memon
Noah Zoker-Cisse
Anuja Guatam
Kevin Ramirez Molina
Samuel Ramirez Ochoa
CiNiyah Williams
Cammie Munroe

LOTS OF INFORMATION AT THE 1ST PTA MTG

PTA will be held the last Tuesday of the month beginning at 6:30 pm. The first meeting of the year was Sept. 26th. Over 25 parents attended and the Annual Title 1 meeting was conducted immediately following PTA. Parents learned how an extra \$329,000 would be spent to support our students! Beginning of the year testing results were shared and parent input was solicited on the events planned for the year by both the school and the PTA. Please plan on joining us at a future meeting!



October PTA Mtg CANCELLED

(Because the last Tues of the Month is Halloween)

**Next PTA Meeting:
Tues., Nov. 28th @ 6:30**

23-24 National Elementary Honor Society Announced



Semi Adejuwon
Anabia Ateeq
Merwa Bajwah
Jackson Gomez
Azeen Iqbal
Kaseeb Khalil
Rose Kimi

Jayden Nguyen
Blake Ragin
Shaheer Raja
Jordyn Rhoney
Coral Sachse
Samya Shareef
Raminderpal Singh

Selection into the National Elementary Honor Society is a competitive process based on the 4 pillars of Scholarship, Responsibility, Service and Leadership and is limited to a small percentage of the 5th grade cohort. The induction ceremony includes a candlelight pledge and dinner on October 18th. Congratulations to our new members!

FunRunRaiser – Pie a Teacher!



If your child came home excited about participating in the FunRunRaiser to earn the prize of “throwing a pie at a teacher” that’s because school counselor Colleen Boyer and student Aamilah Habib demonstrated how that would look at our FunRunRaiser kick-off assembly on Friday, Sept. 22nd. Due to COVID, we still are not gathering the entire school together for an assembly so grades K-2 saw Mr. Garmer getting the pie in the face!

Our FunRunRaiser raises money to spend on school supplies and equipment. Last year, we purchased many new event chairs, the nice comfortable ones with padded seats for adults when you come to school events! Parents are welcome to attend our finale of FunRunRaiser events that begin at 2:00 pm on Friday, Oct. 13th with our Staff vs. Students soccer game. Students are invited to play on the team if they raise \$75.

Students who raise \$150 can invite a parent to play with them in the soccer game as well as earning the right to “pie a teacher.” There will be one trophy awarded to the student who is the top fundraiser. All of these things happen from 2 – 3 pm on Friday. Parents that would like to attend will need to check in at the office for a Raptor badge prior to joining us on the field. *Please remember that younger children cannot attend school events with parents during the day.* Only events labeled as “family fun” events allow for sibling participation. If you have any questions about the FunRunRaiser or the prizes, please contact FunRunRaiser Chair, Mr. Garmer.

Field Trip Season

Just a reminder that all grade levels will be taking their first field trip of the year before Thanksgiving! Field trips are an exciting event for students and parents often enjoy going along as a chaperone.



Space on the buses is sometimes limited so please do not take off work to attend a field trip unless the teacher CONFIRMS that you have been appointed as a chaperone. You cannot be appointed as a chaperone until you have completed the required BCPS paperwork which includes a volunteer application, the chaperone form, the certificate that you have finished the on-line training and have paid the cost. Once Ms. Jen has cleared you to attend, the teacher will confirm with you that you are going. It is very disappointing to your child (and to you) if you show up the day of the field trip but were not officially appointed as a chaperone. The above steps are BCPS requirements, not Woodbridge, and as such, we do not have the ability to waive them. Thank you for your interest and cooperation in chaperoning field trips!

Halloween Family Fun Night – Oct. 30th

The biggest Family Fun event of the year is the PTA sponsored Halloween Fun Night! If you attended last year, this year’s event will be very similar. We will use a staggered entrance time because the crowd is simply too big to manage otherwise. This requires a ticket! The tickets are free, but you need to reserve your spot so we know how many treat bags to make, how many books to buy to give away and how many people can fit into the gym and cafeteria for the magic show and costume contest! Watch for the flyer to come home.

Also coming home will be a flyer requesting candy donations. The PTA supports this event, but still needs support from parents to purchase the amount of candy needed for kids to be able to take candy home. Treat bags will be pre-made this year so no individual trick or treating bags are needed. We can’t wait to see who will win the costume contest!



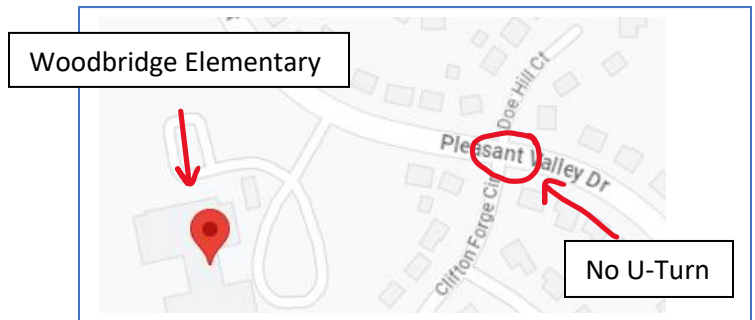
Woodbridge is Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month



Woodbridge has been celebrating our Hispanic Heritage all month long! Led by our school Equity Team with input from our Parent Equity Team, the staff prepared booklets about famous individuals of Hispanic origin. Students have been reading and discussing them, watching videos and completing short activities. We are proud of our staff diversity with Special Educator Rafael Serra-Flayhan and 4th grade teacher Daniela Montano and our two Towson interns, Vanessa Novoa and Tatiana Utia, celebrating their Hispanic heritage as well!

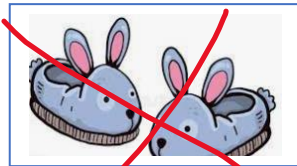
No U-Turns at Dismissal

Unfortunately, there was an accident on Pleasant Valley Drive during dismissal earlier this month. Thankfully, no one was seriously injured, but that may not always be the case. To avoid further accidents, please DO NOT make U-Turns at the Clifton Forge/Doe Hill Ct/Pleasant Valley intersection. It is a dangerous maneuver. Safety is often inconvenient – we know it can be inconvenient to drive around Upper Mills Circle or take Collinsway or Chesworth to turn left onto Rolling Road to get back to where you want to go, but it is necessary in order to have a smooth, safe and timely dismissal. We are working with our School Safety Officer to examine dismissal practices and potential traffic devices (ie., a barrier at the intersection) and will report back regarding recommendations at the next PTA meeting.



Please, No Slippers At School

We know that sometimes, a slipper can make a fashion statement, but unfortunately, it can also be a less than safe piece of footwear, particularly in any type of emergency situation. Please avoid anything that resembles a “slipper,”



especially now that the weather is changing. Items that could be considered “slippers” include things like open toes, open heels, furry characters or flimsy soles.



PTA Early Dismissal After School Program

Attendance is often low on Early Dismissal days because parents struggle with how to pick up and supervise children on these ½ days. It is *critical* for your child’s good attendance record that they come to school as the “half” days actually count as “full” attendance days. In order to support parents in sending students to school, the PTA will keep your child in school until the regular dismissal time of 3:40 pm for the minimal fee of \$15. Watch for the separate flyers to be sent home to sign up for this service. Homework Club parents can be billed for the extra \$15 and students can stay until 5:30 pm as usual.