

WOODBIDGE ELEMENTARY WHISTLER

Proud to be a BCPS Passport School!



Lori Phelps
Principal

Kim Fields
Assistant Principal

April 2020 Newsletter

The Principal's Corner

April Calendar



- Apr. 6 -- Continuity of Learning Plan begins
- March 13- Apr. 24 – Current School Closure Dates

Wow. What a headline. We went from starting to talk about preparing for the upcoming state tests, to postponing the Diversity Day Assembly, to canceling schools for 2 weeks to an extended closure through April 24 ... and no one has made any promises that schools will reopen then. Life as we know it has changed drastically.

As we live through this uncertainty with parents struggling to work from home while caring for children or struggling to provide for families while out of work, or, in the worst case, caring for someone who has contracted the virus or suffering from it yourself, please know that your school family is here to support you and your children in any way that we can. Our main office is responding to phone messages, Ms. Fields and I return emails as quickly as we get them and our school counselor and social worker are available as well. Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Stay Strong! This too shall pass.

Website: <https://woodbridgees.bcps.org>

When living in a virtual world, information, and knowing where to find it, becomes even more critical. We are trying to provide all of the information you need to navigate continued learning for your child in several different places. Our school website now has a special page Titled, "Continuity of Learning." You can access it by opening the website, then clicking into the title or finding the icon below in the center of the page and clicking there. We are posting all of the information that is sent out via the automated phone system there as well as other helpful hints, such as instructions for loading the Google Meets platform (how students will connect with teachers) to your computer or phone.



Click here for Continuity of Learning Resources



If you have not updated your email or telephone information to receive the automated phone calls, please contact us to provide it. We are also posting to our new YouTube Channel. For many of you, the information may be repetitive but we need to provide multiple sources so everyone can access it.

ALL FIELD TRIPS



Even though it remains possible we will be returning to school before some of the planned field trips would occur, not knowing the situation about the virus throughout those field trip areas requires us to cancel them. The only trip that could possibly still occur is the 5th grade picnic at Meadowood. For those of you who had already made payments for the planned trips, you WILL receive a refund. Unfortunately, because we do not have access to the building, those refunds will be slow in arriving. They are being done from the central office, but they are coming.



Watch for a PTA meeting update. A virtual meeting may be scheduled. If you haven't been able to make the "normal" meetings, perhaps this will be an opportunity for you to participate!



Ms. Schultz would still like to provide the Square One Art experience for students and families this school year. But if not, children can use their designs they already made and we will run the program in the fall.

Students of the Month

Will Return when school re-opens

UNITY.

In the meantime, our Virtue of the Month for April will be

Unity means coming together while showing kindness and peace. When you practice unity, you are connecting with everyone and everything. Woodbridge Elementary School is showing UNITY this month by coming together as a school community during this time- making sure that everyone is safe and healthy. Our teachers, our faculty, and our families are ALL working together to give our students the best support we possibly can. At home, we can practice UNITY by treating all people in our home with kindness, working together to get chores done, and making sure everyone completes their schoolwork. How are YOU going to practice UNITY this month? Send Ms. Boyer (cboyer@bcps.org) an email and/or a picture describing how you are practicing UNITY!

New YouTube Channel!!



Welcome to our YouTube Channel!!!

Click on

<https://www.youtube.com/c/woodbridgeelementary>

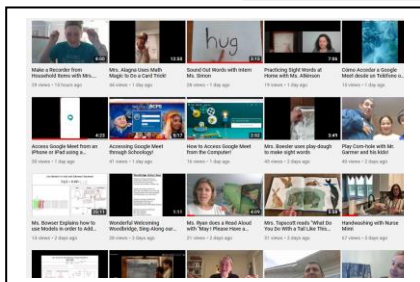
and subscribe to the school YouTube Channel. There are already close to 50 videos posted and more are being uploaded every day. Check out how you can make bowling pins from water bottles with Mr. Garmer and his daughter or watch a video how to load Google Meet onto your cellphone so your child can connect with his or her teacher and classmates. Ms. Alagna demonstrates how to use Math to do a cool magic card trick and several teachers are doing read aloud stories and/or sightword practice. There is something for all grades, as well as parents, on the channel so please check it out! Ms. Boyer's video on the importance of routines while home has been very useful for parents!



Mrs. Alagna Uses Math Magic to Do a Card Trick!



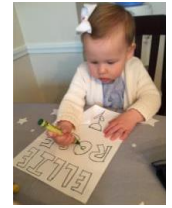
Schedules, Routines, and Structure with Mrs. Boyer!



Updates and Pictures From Your Teachers

Hello English Language Learners! Mrs. Abercrombie and Mrs. Schneider hope you and your families are staying healthy and safe. Please remember to practice your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills during this time. We both miss all of you very much! Parents please do not hesitate to email Mrs. Abercrombie

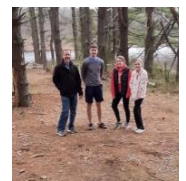
mkruse@bcps.org or Mrs. Schneider lschneider2@bcps.org for learning ideas/activities for your child. Here are pics of Ms. Abercrombie's dog Gucci practicing social distancing and Ms. Schneider's daughter Ellie getting a jump on writing her name.



Hey First Graders!

We miss you so much! We hope you are working hard while at home. To keep your skills sharp, please continue to practice your addition and subtraction facts. There are plenty of games online or you can use the flashcards we sent home earlier this year. Remember, we are hoping to get to 25 facts in two minutes. Set a timer to see where you are. Remember how much we care about you and how much we miss you. We cannot wait to see you again!

Mrs. O'Donnell
Mrs. Tapscott
Mrs. Smith



Here are pictures of Mrs. Tapscott's girls and Ms. Simon (intern) and her family.

Read Across America Spirit Week



One of our last activities we were able to do before school closed was our annual Read Across America Spirit Week to celebrate children's author Dr. Seuss' birthday. Our "favorite Dr. Seuss character" day is always a big hit for Cat in the Hat costumes!!



Twin day was a staff favorite with lots of creativity!



Special Area Live Google Meet Schedule

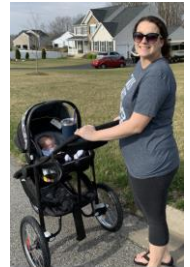
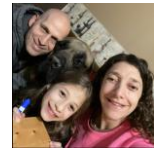
Every day at 2:00 pm, our Art, Gym and Music teachers will provide a live, on-line special area activity for specific grade levels. The schedule is below. The google meet link can be found on the teacher office hours list on the website. Google Meet is undergoing revisions and the Meet link may need to be updated. Please check close to the 2 pm time daily for a correct link to join the activity!

| | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. |
|------------------|--------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| Art w/ Schultz | Gr K&1 | Gr 2 | Gr 3 | Gr 4 | Gr 5 |
| Gym w/ Garmer | Gr 2 | Gr 3 | Gr 4 | Gr 5 | Gr K&1 |
| Music w/ Ciganek | Gr 3 | Gr 4 | Gr 5 | Gr K&1 | Gr 2 |

More Teacher Pics & Updates

From the 3rd Grade Teachers:

We hope you are all safe and healthy. The third-grade teachers are doing well. We miss you all very much. Here is Ms. Kline and her new baby and Ms. Schweiger with her husband and daughter.



Here is Ms. Ryan with her dog! Please see Prek and K updates attached as a separate page.



Mrs. Ammad sent a picture with her husband and wants to tell her students that she misses you all and to stay safe!

Dear 2nd grade Friends,

Hello from Mrs. Steindl, Mrs. Kensinger and Mrs. Alagna! We sure do miss each and every one of you! We hope you are managing your time wisely at home. We know your routine is quite different than your regular school day. Here are a few suggestions for a productive day:

- Silent reading
- Practice Math Facts
- Go on Schoology and complete some of the work uploaded by your teacher
- Tidy your room
- Do some Phonics activities
- End the day reading for 15-20 minutes

We look forward to learning, sharing and smiling with all of you very soon!