

WOODBIDGE ELEMENTARY WHISTLER

Proud to be a BCPS Passport School!




Lori Phelps
Principal

Kim Fields
Assistant Principal

January 2020 Newsletter

The Principal's Corner



END OF 1ST
SEMESTER ✓

Believe it or not, the school year will be half over on January 24th. It feels like just last month we were holding Back to School Night! Beginning this month, each grade level team of teachers will be offering a "Parent Night" for you to come to school and learn more about the academic requirements that children are expected to master at each grade level. Students are welcome to attend and will complete fun activities with other staff members while parents are meeting with the teachers. If you ever looked at your child's math homework and asked, "what the heck is that?" these parent nights are for you! Teachers will explain what students are doing and help you learn how to help them. If you are not able to attend your parent night, you can still help your child at home by working on the "Math Facts" with them. Children *must* know their addition/subtraction and multiplication/division facts in order to be successful as they progress through math classes. Flash cards can be purchased at the dollar store or borrowed from the school. We hope to see many of you at our upcoming parent nights.



January Calendar

- Jan. 9 -- BCPS Blue Day
 - Kdg Parent Night @ 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- Jan. 13 -- PTA Mtg @ 6:30 pm (Use Rec Rm Doors)
- Jan. 24 -- End of 2nd Qtr; Early Dismissal @ 12:15
- Jan. 30 -- Family Fun Night @ 6:00 pm

Upcoming Dates:

- Feb. 4 -- NEW!! School Closed Today
- Feb. 6 -- Report Cards Distributed
- Feb. 11 -- 3rd Grade Parent Night
- Feb. 14-- PTA Muffins for Moms @ 7:45 am
- Feb. 17-- YES WE HAVE SCHOOL TODAY
- Feb. 18 -- Primary Awards Assembly
- Feb. 19 -- 2nd Grade Parent Night
 - Intermediate Awards Assembly
- Feb. 20 -- 1st Grade Parent Night

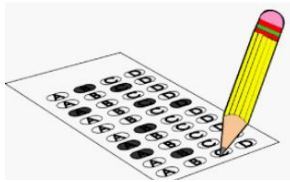


Tuesday, Feb. 4 School is CLOSED (for the Special Election to fill Congressman Cummings seat)

Monday, Feb. 17 School is OPEN as a Make-Up Snow Day from December 16th.

Wear BLUE on Thursday, Jan. 9th!





UPCOMING TESTING

January is always the beginning of winter benchmark testing. Students in grades K-3 will complete DIBELS testing to identify their foundations skill level in reading, ESOL students will complete standardized WIDA testing (to determine progress made in learning to read, write and speak English), 4th and 5th grade students will be tested to see if their oral reading fluency has increased (how many words they can read at grade level in one minute), all grades will complete winter MAP testing in both reading and math (to determine grade level achievement in these two content areas) and all students will also complete F & P (Fountas and Pinnell) reading level testing to determine their reading comprehension skill level. Consistently monitoring student progress is critical to making sure teachers target skills students have not yet mastered or plan for enrichment lessons for students who are ready to move on. Testing starts the second week of January and runs through the end of February.



GRADE LEVEL PARENT NIGHTS

Each grade level is currently planning a “Curriculum Night” for parents to learn more about what abilities and skills students are expected to master at each grade level. All grade level nights will be held from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Below are the dates for each grade level. These are being held individually so for the many families with more than one child at Woodbridge, you do not have to divide up or choose which grade level to attend – you can now attend both! Additional information flyers will come home from grade level teachers as the time approaches for each curriculum night. We hope you will mark your calendar to join us for this important informational evening.

Kdg – January 9
 1st -- February 20
 2nd -- February 19
 3rd -- February 11
 4th -- March 10
 5th -- April 1

Congratulations to our December Students of the Month

Arianna S.
 Jaydon T.
 Daphne E-A
 Anuja G.
 Fatima A.
 Anabia A.
 Domingo R-B.

Ly N.
 Alex M-S.
 Talha B.
 Katelyn H.
 Anushka B.
 David M.
 Sarah S.

Dasan B.
 Daniel S.
 Aiden S.
 Ethan V.
 Andrea B.
 Samantha R.

These students have been selected by their homeroom teachers as displaying the traits of our School Virtues Education program. Please help us congratulate them for demonstrating the December character trait of Generosity and check out our Student of the Month bulletin board in the lobby.

Rave Reviews for the Winter Concert



Congratulations to our 5th grade students as well as our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade Dance Team members for excellent performances during the Winter Concert! Special Thanks to Vocal Music Teacher Elizabeth Ciganek, Instrumental Music Teacher Sarah Urquhart and Dance Team Sponsor Megan Dexter for all of the hard work and effort they contribute to helping our young students develop their musical talents!



**Next Meeting
Mon., Jan. 13
6:30 pm**

Plan to attend and review the year's activities to date: Trunk or Treat, World's Finest Chocolate Sale, Donuts for Dads, the Winter Snowflake Family Dinner & Dance and the Holiday Shop. Activities still to come include: Muffins for Moms, the School Play and Talent Show, Teacher Appreciation Week, the 5th Grade Picnic and 5th Grade Farewell. If you have ideas or can help with any of these events, please attend or contact President Lindsay Bossi.

PTA Snowflake Family Dinner & Dance



More than 70 people danced the night away (OK, maybe 45 or so danced while the others enjoyed dinner and dessert and watched) at the PTA sponsored Snowflake Dance.

Thank you PTA and co-chairs Mr. Beck and Ms. Mileto for hosting this event!

New Clubs for January-February

First Semester after school clubs have ended and year long clubs are on a break until the week of February 17th. During January and February, faculty committees offer a Reading Club, a Science Club and a Board Games Club. Watch for the flyers to sign up for these special 4-week opportunities!!

Clubs are designed to allow students and teachers to spend time together having fun ... not just working hard all day. We hope many of our students can participate.



Family Fun Night

January 30th 6:00-7:30



The Whittle Climbing equipment has arrived and will be here for students to enjoy all month. Parents are invited to share in the experience while shopping at the Scholastic Book Fair and/or playing volleyball and board games during our annual Family Fun Night. Mark your calendar to join us for this family fun event!



TRIP TO THE STATE HOUSE

Students in grades 3, 4 & 5 will soon be receiving information on how to participate in our annual trip to the Maryland State House. There is a competitive process to be selected to attend this prestigious field trip. Students are asked to write a persuasive essay on a current piece of legislation this year's General Assembly will be considering. This year, the topic is HB2, the Kirwan Commission recommendations and funding.

**Congratulations Delegate
now
SENATOR SYDNOR**

Delegate Sydnor was selected by Governor Hogan to fill the District 44 Senate vacancy created by the the resignation of Shirley Nathan Pulliam.



We congratulate Senator Sydnor and look forward to working with him.



Woodbridge Vision

Woodbridge Elementary School will be among the highest performing schools in the state of Maryland, prepare students for college and career success, inspire students to become life-long learners and reinforce strong foundational skills. We value:

- Academic achievement delivered in a warm, welcoming and safe environment that prepares students to be globally competitive;
- Instruction that results in responsible students who will develop into productive community members;
- Partnerships with students, families, staff and community, and invite them to participate in creating a positive educational experience;
- Respectful interactions that result in a collaborative environment where individual differences are celebrated and the needs of all students are met.

