



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Words of the Week

Westernport Elementary students in grades K to 5 are continuing to learn the "Words of the Week." These words are the critical verbs and critical nouns that each student should know and be able to explain. The "Words of the Week" are introduced on the morning announcements by Mrs. Fazenbaker. Teachers review the words in their classrooms and use the words and show examples of the words throughout the week. Posters showing the words are in hallways and classrooms. The definitions of the critical verbs and critical nouns on the posters were provided, with permission, from the book Teaching the Critical Vocabulary of the Common Core, by Marilee Sprenger.

The critical verbs are analyze, articulate, cite, compare, comprehend, contrast, delineate, demonstrate, describe, determine, develop, distinguish, draw, evaluate, explain, identify, infer, integrate, interpret, locate, organize, paraphrase, refer, retell, suggest, summarize, support, synthesize and trace.

The critical nouns are alliteration, analogy, argument, central idea/main idea, conclusions, connections, connotative language, details, evidence, figurative language, illustrations, interaction, metaphor, mood, point of view, rhetoric, simile, stanza, structure, theme and tone.



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A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
Attendance/Peace	2
Martin's Update	2
Title I Tips	2
Kindergarten Feast	3
Meet the Faculty	3
Thanks, Veterans!	3
D.A.R.E. Celebration	4
School Improvement Plan Review	4



WES students participated in a coloring and drawing contest during Fire Prevention Week, which was October 9-15, 2016. The contest was sponsored by Potomac Fire Company #2, which is located in the town of Westernport. The contest winners were presented bicycles and helmets. Shown are coloring contest winners, Owen Walker and Emily Gurtler, and drawing contest winner, Alex Haines. Missing from the picture is Abigail Cage, the other winner of the drawing contest, who is also enjoying her new bicycle. Congratulations, students!



From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker



I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

I want to say thank you to Mrs. Patty Zimmerman and the third, fourth and fifth grade students for the inspirational Veterans Day Program that was presented for students, parents and community members. 26 veterans attended the program. We appreciate the sacrifices veterans made to protect our country.

Thanks to all families who sent canned food and non-perishable items in for our food drive. 1,515 food items were taken to our local Food Pantry, which is located at the Piedmont Presbyterian Church on Ashfield Street.

December is a busy month at WES. Santa's Secret Shop will be held from December 12 - 14. Thanks to all parents who come to help our students shop to find

just the right gift for their families and friends. Books Before Bedtime will be held on Wednesday, December 7th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM for Pre-K through second grade students. A note has been sent home explaining the program. Please RSVP so that we will know how many to plan for. The annual Christmas Program will be held on Tuesday, December 20th. This year, Grades Pre-K, kindergarten, first and second

will be performing. There will be a dress rehearsal for students in the morning and an afternoon performance for family and friends at 1:45 PM. Parents are asked to stay for the entire program and not take students early so that students performing at the end of the program will have the same audience that was present for the beginning of the performance.

(Continued on page four.)

Martin's BonusCards



597 Martin's BonusCard numbers have been collected to date by Westernport Elementary students, faculty and staff. The points from those BonusCard numbers have earned the school cash to use for student activities, which totals \$516.77 to date (Martin's has pledged to give away three million dollars to schools.) There is still time to register to support the school at <http://www.martinsaplus.com>.

We need YOUR BonusCard numbers! Thanks to all who have supported this campaign by shopping for WES!

Peace Days Winners

A drawing is held each Monday to award a small prize 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. Our recent Peace Days winners include:

October 31-November 4: Ashlynn Durst, Autumn Kerchner, Dade Kight and Shayden Thierry

November 7-11: No drawing

November 14-18: Mikaili Fearon, Everlee McNeal, Corbin Ravenscroft and Rachel Wolford



WES School Calendar

Dec. 1 (Thurs.) Children's Librarians from public library to visit AM-PreK @ 9:00AM, Kindergarten @9:30 AM and PM-PreK @ 1:30 PM; Town of Westernport Christmas Parade @ 7:00 PM

Dec. 6 (Tues.) Melissa Nelson, guidance counselor, workshop for Parents @ 2:00 PM: Teaching Children Responsibility

Dec. 7 (Wed.) Books Before Bedtime (PreK-2) @ 6:00-7:30 PM

Dec. 12-14 (Mon-Wed.) Santa's Secret Shop

Dec. 13 (Tues.) Parent PTA Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Dec. 16 (Fri.) PTA Santa Pictures

Dec. 20 (Tues.) Christmas Program (PreK-2 only) @ 1:45 PM

Dec. 22 (Thurs.) Holiday Band/Orchestra Concert @ 10:00 AM for students/2:00 PM for Parents

December 23 (Fri.) Christmas Vacation Begins; SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED

January 3 (Tues.) SCHOOLS AND OFFICES REOPEN

Attendance Drawing Winners



Here are the results of the weekly attendance drawing, which is sponsored by Verso Corporation. The names of the students who are drawn from the "pot of gold" are checked against the attendance list from the previous week. If a student whose name is drawn is present at school each day for the previous week, he/she wins a silver or "gold" dollar. If a student is absent, tardy or leaves early on any day during the previous week, his/her name is not announced, but is put back in the bucket and a new name is drawn.

Drawings are held each Monday. One coin is awarded to each grade level.

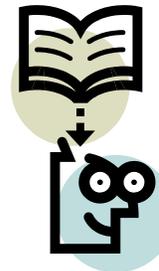
Week of October 31-November 4: Bentlee Slaubaugh, Gracie Cosner, Jeremiah Woolard, Logan Robinson, Kris Washington, Layla Pattison, Morgan Steckman

Week of November 7-11: Landon Iliff, Ben Broadwater, Megan Smith, Abigail Baker, Ashlynn Light, Chloe Cole and Anthony Dolly

Week of November 14-18: Nancy Cook, Charlie Spiker, Makenna Turner, Tawnya Lovell, Nicole Youmans, Jonathon Lovell and McKenna Zais

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Title I Tips



Have you ever wondered "What can I do to help my child?"

The website of the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium, which is found at <http://www.maec.org>, is a good resource for you to

use! You can find ideas about how to turn everyday activities into learning experiences for your child. You can find ideas about how to become involved at school and how parents can help each other.

You can ask a question and the resource center will provide a response. Webinars are offered as well as resources for Title I, helping young children, and parents as partner in education.

Citizens of the Month

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 K-Emily Ellifritz & Emrick Johnson
Grade 1-Rachel Wolford & Nathan Miller
Grade 2-Wade Barbe & Max Kalbaugh
Grade 3-Maddix Reed & Indiana McNeal
Grade 4-Violet Sowers & Joella Wilkins
Grade 5-Tyler Whetzel & Mackenzie Derham



Memorial Books



Have you ever considered donating money to purchase a book for Westernport Elementary School Library in memory or in honor of a loved one? With your donation, a library book may be purchased to encourage student reading for personal interest and/or to support the curriculum.

Memorial/honor donations may be made at any time during the school year. These books are generally ordered in June or when a sufficient amount is available to make up a book order. A minimum of \$20.00 is appreciated to cover the cost of the book, as well as library processing. A plaque is placed in the book and the family will be notified of your donation. Books donated recently include Amazing U.S. Navy Facts and Hunting Deer, in

memory of Joseph Davisson, given by Barry and Patricia Fitzgerald and family; The Boxcar Children and Raymie Nightingale, in memory of Miriam M. Beeman, given by Delsie Fazenbaker; Dogs (Meister) and Dogs (Murray), in memory of Blanche Felker, given by Sheila Golden; Draw 50 Baby Animals and Happy in our Skin, in memory of Betty Snyder, given by Barbara Davis; Itsy Bitsy Spider, in memory of June Rinard, given by Deb Hendrickson; Swimming, in memory of June Rinard, given by Sheila Golden; Who Wants Broccoli, in memory of Blanche Felker, given by Deb Hendrickson; and Draw 50 Dogs, in memory of her former (deceased) WES students, given by Deb Hendrickson.

Call 301-359-0511 for more details.

Giving Thanks With Our Families

The Kindergarten feast was held on Tuesday, November 22, 2016. To prepare for the feast, the students made tom toms, shakers, necklaces and vests. They also learned Native American songs. Kindergarten parents came to school on the day of the feast to prepare the food in crock pots. They cooked the turkeys at home ahead of time. Kindergarten students made iced pumpkin cookies on the day of the feast.

The annual feast began more than 10 years ago in Mrs. Judy Fogle's and Mrs. Lisa Har-

ris's classes. Mrs. Janice Raines, grade four, was a student teacher in Kindergarten about that time. The students who participated in the original feast are in high school or beyond. To this day, Grade K students invite their families to the feast, which is held in the school cafeteria. It is always a great event!!

Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Candice Smith want to thank Mrs. Leslie Cooper, Mrs. Robin Everline, Mrs. Shelly Fitzgerald, and the parents who helped students to prepare the feast.



Meet Our (New) Faculty and Staff

Mrs. Michelle Thompson is the interim cafeteria manager at Westernport Elementary due to the retirement of Mrs. Nancy Crowe. Mrs. Thompson has worked in the cafeteria at Cash Valley Elementary for the past eleven years. She is a native of Hyndman and lives there with Greg, her husband of 24 years. She has a puppy named Bo and enjoys cooking, reading and gardening. Mrs. Thompson travels to Westernport every day from the Hyndman area and

is hoping for good weather this winter! She is very happy for the warm welcome that she has received from faculty, staff and students.

Ms. Sue Ann Bittinger is a new cafeteria worker at Westernport Elementary School. Ms. Bittinger is from Keyser, West Virginia. Ms. Bittinger has a daughter named Cheyenne. She likes to cook and read and enjoys her two cats. We welcome Ms. Bittinger to WES.



Congratulations, Fifth Grade DARE Graduates!

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) Celebration was held at WES on Wednesday, October 26, 2016, in the school gym. Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, principal, opened the program. School Security/Safety Officer, Mr. Tim Stevens, who taught the D.A.R.E. lessons to the fifth grade class, told the audience that the DARE graduation "is all about the students and congratulating them for their hard work." Former WES student Noah DeMichele, now a senior at Mountain Ridge High School, spoke to the students about how participating in the DARE program helped him in school and in life. Students Morgan Steckman, Aidan Braithwaite, Jessica Snyder, Mackenzie Derham, McKenna Zais, McKenna Swisher and Rylee Moran, D.A.R.E. Essay Winners, represented the fifth grade and read their essays. In addition to the featured speakers, special guests included the fourth grade classes of Mrs. Jennifer Hughes and Mrs. Janice Raines; Board of Education Member, Dr. Ed Root; Sheriff Craig Robertson and Officer Darrell Wildesen of the Allegany County Sheriff's Office. At the end of the program, the fifth grade students took the pledge to be "Drug Free." Finally, fifth grade teachers, Mrs. Mallory Sechler and Mrs. Erica Swisher, Mrs. Fazenbaker and Mr. Stevens congratulated the students and presented the D.A.R.E. graduation certificates. Refreshments were served. Shown below are DARE graduates who are enjoying the celebration!

Define
Assess
Respond
Evaluate



D.A.R.E.
TO RESIST
DRUGS
AND
VIOLENCE

MRS FAZENBAKER (continued from page 1)

Please plan to attend the band/orchestra concert on Thursday, December 22nd. There will be a dress rehearsal for students in the morning and a performance for parents and friends at 2:00 PM. Because of scheduling conflicts, there will be no evening performance. December 22nd is the last day of school before Christmas vacation begins. Please remember that my door is always open. If you have any questions and concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at school. I would be happy to talk to you at any time. Enjoy your family over the holiday season. Tuesday, January 3rd is our first day back in 2017 and it will be here before you know it!



Thanks, Veterans!



Veterans were honored at the annual Westernport Elementary School Veterans Day program, which was held on Tuesday, November 7, 2016. This original program was written and directed by Ms. Patricia Zimmerman, vocal music teacher. One highlight of the program was the musical history of the song, Yankee Doodle. The official songs of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy were sung and veterans of each branch were asked to stand as their song was featured. The late David Lutes, a former WES student, was recognized for sacrificing his life in the service of our county. Army Specialist Lutes, of the 101st Airborne, was wounded in Afghanistan on November 8, 2010, and died three days later. Veterans shown with family members included John Gooding, Mark Whetzel, Jeff Ansel, Robert Wolford, John Pattison, Joe Sudine, Raymond Sterling, Curtis Smith, Charles Shugars III, Leonard Cosner, Glenn Shingler, Gary Fazenbaker, Harold Doolan, Vickie Fearon, Delia Ahern, Greg Hammond, William Shimer, Mark McNeal, Tim Jackson, Isaac Jackson, Joe Supinsky, Nancy Supinsky, Bob Trenum, Dewey Duckworth, Lewis Thomas and Bob Shockey. Thanks, veterans!



THE MISSION of Westernport Elementary School is to prepare and empower all students to successfully meet tomorrow's challenges. We will partner with family and community to nurture the whole child, intellectually, physically and emotionally, to build a better world — one child at a time.

The Westernport Elementary **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2016-2017** will soon be available for parents to view. The plan is available in the school office and will be found online @ <http://www.acpsmd.org/wt>
If you have any questions about the SIP plan or any other concerns, do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Alexa Fazenbaker, school principal.

