



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

Building the Future—One Child at a Time

Thank You, Reeves Private Foundation



Westernport Elementary School was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant from the J. Norman and Margaret J. Reeves Private Foundation, which is administered by First United Trust & Investments. This is the fourth year that the Reeves Foundation has awarded a grant to the school. The majority of the grant money (almost \$1,600.00) was used to allow each WES student to choose a "free" book from the November book fair. The remainder of the grant will be used to provide student reading incentives and prizes to support the Accelerated Reader program during the 2016-2017 school year.

The mission of the Reeves Private Foundation is to benefit non-profit

organizations in the vicinity of Westernport, Maryland; Keyser, West Virginia; Luke, Maryland and Piedmont, West Virginia. A committee of local representatives from those areas evaluates each grant request based on its merits and how the grant meets the desires of the foundation.

We are grateful to the Reeves Private Foundation for their support of the Accelerated Reader program at Westernport Elementary School. The online subscription provides unlimited access to over 170,000 Accelerated Reader quizzes and to the AR Bookfinder. Westernport Elementary has participated in the Accelerated Reader program since November 1991. Currently, students in grades two, three, four, and five participate in this reading incentive program.

We are also extremely grateful for the support for the One Student/One Book program. Mrs. Deborah Hendrickson, media specialist, applied for the grant in August and received the check just in time for the book fair. Shown above are Corbin Ravenscroft, Emma Wolford and Bryson Saville, holding some of the books selected by Mrs. Mallory Sechler's fifth grade class.

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A Title I School
Mrs. Deb Hendrickson, Editor

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From the Principal...Mrs. Fazenbaker

Happy New Year!

I would like to thank Mrs. Paty Zimmerman, Mr. Harold McClay and Mr. Jay Moon for the fantastic music, band, and orchestra programs that were presented in December. I really appreciate all of the work from our talented students and their dedicated teachers that goes into those programs. I also want to thank the parents, grandparents and the school community for support-

ing our students in their musical endeavors.

Students, parents and grandparents enjoyed Books Before Bedtime on Wednesday, December 7th. Special thanks to Mrs. Lisa Harris, "Miss Kim" Aikman, and Mr. Eric Follett for coming back to school at night for the event.

Thank you to our P.T.A. for having a Santa's Secret Shop in early December. The children loved to shop for their loved ones and I am sure that

the parents loved the presents that their children picked especially for them.

Thanks also to P.T.A. for getting in touch with Santa to schedule time for pictures here at WES. The children were very excited to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas!

It is hard to believe that we are almost through half of the school year. Please check the calendar in this newsletter to plan ahead for a scheduled

early dismissal (Teacher Work Time) on January 18th and scheduled whole day for Professional Development on January 25th.

Please remember that my door is always open and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. It is a privilege to work with your children every day and to be a part of this wonderful school.

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 \$1,027.46 to date.

Martin's has pledged to give away three million dollars to schools. So we still need YOUR BonusCard numbers! There is still time to register to support the school at <http://www.martinsaplus.com>.

Thanks to all who have supported this campaign by registering and then 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 had no yellow or red behaviors. Pictures of these students are displayed near the office. The most recent Peace Days winners include:

Week of November 29-December 2: Gabrielle Decker, Klarissa Paitsel, Violet Sowers and Emma Streets
Week of December 5: Mercedes Lewis, Gavin Ravenscroft, Bentlee Slaubaugh and Joella Wilkins
Week of December 12: Draven Harvey, Brandon Miller, Colton Shingler and Aiden Weimer

Several peace parties have been held since September. The parties have included extra play and a "stop and dance" day. What will be the theme of the next Peace Treat? Stay tuned...



WES School Calendar

- ☺ Jan. 3 (Tues.) SCHOOLS & OFFICES REOPEN
- ☺ Jan. 13 (Fri.) Arts in the Schools (Ms. Moran-'s class AM & Mrs. Llewellyn's class-PM)
- ☺ Jan. 16 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
- ☺ Jan. 17 (Tues.) End of First Semester -Close of Second Marking Period
- ☺ Jan. 18 (Wed.) THREE HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL-Teacher Work Time
- ☺ Jan. 25 (Wed.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Principals' Staff Development Day
- ☺ Jan. 27 (Fri.) Lions Club Vision Screenings for PreK @ 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.: Report Cards Distributed

Coming in February...

- ☺ Feb. 15 (Wed.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Elementary Parent Conferences (8:00 AM-3:30 PM)
- ☺ Feb. 20 (Mon.) SCHOOLS CLOSED-Presidents' Day

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 on WWES-TV. One "gold" coin is awarded to each grade level.

Week of November 21-23, 29-December 2: Peyton Cavey, Parker Rishel, Emma Kelley, Logan Robinson, Cole Ramsey, Hailey Durst and Alyssa Taylor

Week of December 5: Aaliyah Redman, Emily Ellifritz, Megan Carpenter, Jayden Paugh Lee, Alyssa Crossland, Owen

McGeady and Justin O'Haver
Week of December 12: Brayden Riker, Delaney White, Emma Kelley, Kealana Pua'auli, Nautika Turner, Layla Miller and Hailey Burdock

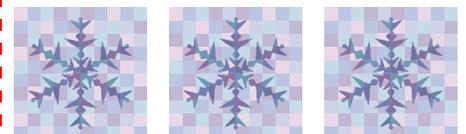
A NOTE from Mrs. Fazenbaker about ATTENDANCE at WES

I am always concerned about the number of tardies and early dismissals at WES. Your children are missing valuable instruction that cannot be made up. Our teachers are preparing your children for the PARCC Assessments, which will be given in mid April this year. I want our students to do their best, but if they continue to miss instruction, that may not happen. I realize that tardies and early dismissals cannot always be avoided, but please try to schedule appointments late in the day so that no school has to be missed. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Safety First

A NOTE from Mrs. Fazenbaker about SAFETY at WES

Parents, when you are in the lobby, please do not open the door to others who are coming into the school. Every person coming into the school needs to "buzz" the office for admittance. If you are at the door and have been "buzzed" in, please do not hold the door open for others who are behind you. They also need to push the button when they get to the door, and then they will be let into the lobby. Thank you for your cooperation with this important safety issue.



Fall 2016 Band/Orchestra Concert a Great Show



A band and orchestra concert was held at WES on Thursday, December 22, 2016. The concert was held for students, parents and community members at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the school gym. The band, directed by Mr. Harold McClay, played a variety of instrumental music and featured these songs: Hot Cross Buns, Rolling Along, Go Tell Aunt Rhodie, Mozart Melody, Good King Wenceslas, and Up On the Housetop. **Fourth Grade BAND members** included: Jenna Amoroso, John Arlott, Cailyn Broadwater, Landon Collins, Dawn Cook, Gabrielle Decker, Dade Kight, Owen McGeedy, Brady Moran, Zoe Pattison, Wyatt Riggleman, Mollee Slaubaugh, Harley Smith, Lindsey Stafford, Kaitlyn Todd, Marissa Trantum, Matthew Vasquez, Makaylyn Whetzel and Joella Wilkins. **Fifth grade BAND members** included Aidan Brathwaite, Christian Custer, Catelynn Davis, Kaden Davis, Connor Dayton, Abigail Decker, MacKenzie Derham, Anthony Dolly, Shaun Heeter, Rylee Moran, Austin Pattison, Tyler Quinn, Gracie Raines, Morgan Steckman, McKenna Swisher, Liberty Sweitzer, Jacy Tinsley, Jacob Van Pelt and Bruce Zamko.

The orchestra, directed by Mr. Jay Moon, played a variety of music arranged for strings, including the songs: On the Trail, Morning Dance, Walking Song, Rolling Along, What's For Lunch, Leftovers, Steps to Success and Bil'em Cabbage Down. **Fourth grade ORCHESTRA members** included Kierra Kaylor, Autumn Kerchner, Erin Kesner, Jonathon Lovell, Kadie Matthews, Maddox McKenzie, Alex Perry and Violet Sowers. **Fifth grade ORCHESTRA members** included Hailey Burdock, Clayton Davis, Laci Dolly, Marshall Jensen, Talen Kerchner, Emilee Lambert, Kira Ramos, Jessica Snyder and Emma Wolford. Both groups played arrangements of Jolly Old St. Nicholas and Jingle Bells.

Meet the Faculty and Staff

Mrs. Susan Burke is the reading instructional specialist at WES. She spends five days at Westernport Elementary and then spends five days at South Penn School on a rotating basis. Mrs. Burke has worked in the area of reading with teachers in every elementary school in the county during her career. Mrs. Burke has a B.S. in Early Childhood Education, a master's degree in Reading and a master's degree in Administration and Supervision, all from Frostburg State University. Mrs. Burke is a

native of Frostburg and lives there with her husband, Bruce. She has two grown daughters and a grandson, age 19. Mrs. Burke loves to read and travel. She worked at WES three years ago and is very glad to be back.

Mrs. Donna McMillan is a part-time custodian at WES. She is a native of Westernport and went to WES as a child. She is a graduate of Westmar High. Before working at WES, Mrs. MacMillan also works as a CNA/GNA in home care and at Egle Nursing Home. She lives in Westernport with

husband, John and has a son, John, a daughter, Skylynn and two dogs.

Mr. Richard Fitzgerald is a part-time custodian at WES. He is a native of Westernport and is a graduate of Bruce High. He has served in the U.S. Army, worked at Westvaco and recently retired from his job as a bus driver for the ACPS. Mr. Fitzgerald and his wife, Kathy, are the parents of Jim, David and Rhonda and have seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. They live in Barton with their two dogs and two cats.

Plastic "Film" Recycling Begins @WES



The third grade classes of Mrs. Sarah Llewellyn and Ms. Tiffany Moran will lead a new plastic "film" recycling program here at Westernport Elementary. This recycling project will begin in the new year. This will be a school-wide recycling effort, so all students, teachers and parents are asked to help. **If you wish to participate, please send in the following items: grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, ziplock & other re-sealable bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, salt bags, and cereal bags. Do not send in plastic bottles and plastic containers.** All materials must be clean, dry and free of food residue.

Books Before Bedtime (for PreK-2)



Books Before Bedtime was held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 for students in grades PreK through two. A total of 15 students wore their favorite pajamas and brought along their favorite blankets, pillows, and stuffed animals to be ready for a night of bedtime stories, snacks, and prizes. Many adult family members also participated in the evening's activities.

Adult winners of the door prizes, which were Wal-Mart gift cards, were Faye Baker and Vickie Fearon. Each of the students received a nonfiction book to take home to keep. WES teachers Kim Aikman, Eric Follett, and Lisa Harris directed the reading activities. A good time was had by one and all. (Please visit the school Dojo to see more pictures of those who attended.)



Resolutions for a Happy New Year

No one will ever get out of this world alive.
 Resolve therefore to maintain a reasonable sense of values.
 Take care of yourself. Good health is everyone's major source of wealth. Without it, happiness is almost impossible.
 Resolve to be cheerful & helpful. People will repay you in kind.
 Avoid angry, abrasive persons. They are generally vengeful.
 Avoid zealots. They are generally humorless.
 Resolve to listen more & to talk less.

No one ever learns anything by talking.
 Be chary of giving advice. Wise men don't need it, & fools won't heed it.
 Resolve to be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, & tolerant of the weak & the wrong. Sometime in life you will have been all of these.
 Do not equate money with success. There are many successful money-makers who are miserable failures as human beings. What counts most about success is how a person achieves it.

---Lloyd Shearer (1985)

WES Faculty and Staff wishes all of you a VERY Happy New Year!



PreK-2 Christmas Program



Primary grade students entertained family and friends during the annual Christmas program, which was held at WES on Tuesday, December 20, 2016. The first selection included rhythm sticks, which had PreK students moving to the tune of "Music, Music, Music." Then the Kindergarten and first grade classes sang a number of seasonal songs, including "I Want to Be an Elf." and

the favorite, "Must Be Santa." Student narrators shared Christmas jokes with the audience. Finally, grade two students took turns reciting lines from the well-known 1822 Clement Clarke Moore poem, "A Visit From St. Nicholas" and sang songs that helped to tell the story.

Happy Christmas to All, and to all a Good-Night!

Citizens of the Month

Students selected as "Citizens of the Month" exemplify the character trait for the month, as determined by the Allegany County Public Schools. The character trait for **November** was Citizenship. Those students selected for November took a trip to McDonald's for a treat. Students included: Grade K-Remington Mowbray & Americus Greene; Grade 1-Nick Freeman & Aiden Weimer; Grade 2-Destiny Studli & Leighton Johnson; Grade 3-Alysha Crossland & Nicole Youmans; Grade 4-Chloe Cole & Layla Miller; and Grade 5-Jessica Snyder and Connor Dayton. We hope that these students had a good time and enjoyed the treat provided by McDonald's of Westernport. Congratulations, students!



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.