

October 2018



MILLBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WILDCAT MEWS

From the Principal's Desk

It's hard to believe the first quarter of school has come and gone!

Thank you to everyone that came out and supported the Bath County Fair. It was a wonderful, wet day and we had great attendance and everyone had lots of fun! Many of our students won ribbons and prize money with their entries in the fair. I am already looking forward to this event for next year!

As we look to the second quarter, we have many exciting events continuing to happen. The Halloween Parade and Trunk or Treat, the Academic Banquet and the next CFE movie night are just a few of the upcoming events. I encourage you to keep an eye on the school calendar and the MES website for details on these events.

In addition, we are starting to celebrate our students with perfect and excellent attendance. We have a classroom competition going on and each time a classroom has 2 weeks of perfect attendance, we will celebrate! Also, each nine weeks we are recognizing students with perfect and excellent attendance and inviting them to a celebration. Excellent attendance is earned when a student only misses one day within a nine week period. This includes late arrivals and early pickups. Perfect attendance is earned when a student is present every single day for the entire school day.

I look forward to seeing all of you at MES as the school year progresses. Working together, we can make sure all students grow academically and socially. MES is a wonderful place to be and I love watching the students learn and grow. As always, I am available if you need me. Please feel free to call or email me with any questions, concerns or comments.

Thanks for all that you do for our students and school!

Allison Hicklin

Preschool-Mrs. Brunner

Preschool is always busy! Since our last newsletter, we have added three children to our preschool family. Sadly, we also had one child move away. That makes our total enrollment 14. While most of the children are now very familiar with the school routine, some of our new children are still learning the names of classmates and school staff.

We continue to talk a lot about safety. Even Mrs. Brunner and Mrs. Lewis have rules to follow to keep them safe. Two of our classroom jobs are Safety Inspector and Germ Buster. The Safety Inspector helps Mrs. Brunner check the playground before we play to make sure it is dry and safe. The Germ Buster reminds any adult visitors to wash their hands when entering our classroom.

The children who do these jobs each week also give a "tip" to the classroom every morning. The Safety Inspector's tip is a way to be safe that day. The Germ Buster gives a tip on how to stay healthy. Let your child give you some safety and health tips! You might be impressed with how much they know!

We are also learning about letters and sounds, numbers and counting, social skills, and self-help skills. Of course, we play in preschool so much that the children don't even realize they are learning! Some of our less active times during the day are the two minutes we spend after breakfast brushing our own teeth and passing a bowl at lunchtime to serve food to ourselves. We spend a lot of our day doing movement activi-

ties as well. Conscious Discipline, which is used in Head Start classrooms, helps children learn how to calm when they are upset. Preschool is about more than learning shapes and colors, although we learn that too!

We enjoyed our October Roundtable meeting. The parents were able to learn a little bit about Conscious Discipline. Parents will have the opportunity to learn more at future Roundtable meetings. The next two dates are November 7th and December 12th. We hope even more parents will be able to attend these next Roundtables!

Dates to Remember for November

Daylight Saving Time Ends-Fall Back	4
No Preschool	6
School Board Meeting @ BCHS; 7 pm	
Preschool Roundtable; 6 pm	7
All Area Band Auditions	
Academic Banquet; 6 pm	8
CFE Pizza Delivered 3-6 pm	12
Board of Supervisor's Mtg.	13
Progress Reports Go Home	15
PBIS Day; Pay \$1 to Wear Camo/Tie Dye	16
Fall/Thanksgiving Break	19-23

Dates to Remember for December

School Board Meeting @ MES; 7 pm	4
Family Reading Night; 6 pm	6
No Preschool	7
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	11
Preschool Roundtable; 6 pm	12
PBIS Day; Pay \$1 to Dress in Your Holiday Sparkle	14
Winter Band Concert; 7 pm; BCHS	TBA
Early Release; 12:30 pm	21
End 2nd Marking Period	
Winter/Christmas Break	24-Jan. 2



Kindergarten-Mrs. Armstrong

We celebrated Patriot's Day in September. The entire school met in the lobby to discuss the Freedom Flag and its meaning in connection with the 911 attacks on our country in 2001. We returned to the room and talked about the USA flag and made flags with different materials. We made a flag with construction paper strips, playdough and unifix cubes. The class did a great job.



During the week of October 8-12, we discussed Fire Prevention and what to do in the event of a fire. The students were encouraged to go home and talk with their families about doing fire drills at home and

to have a place to meet outside to assure all family members were safe. We also practiced what to do if our clothes should catch on fire. They practiced how to stop, drop and roll. We ended our study by having the Millboro Fire Department visit us on Wednesday, Oct. 17th.



Fire Fighters Billy and Rhonda Grimm did a good job of showing the students their turnout gear for fighting fires. Firefighter Billy Grimm was great in explaining many of the duties of the fire department. The students also had a chance to spray water with the fire hose.

When asked what their favorite thing was about the trip, many responded spraying water. The fire department also gave students goodie bags filled with a football and other neat items. What a wonderful thing to do for our students. We thank the fire department for their constant support for our community and their generous hospitality in allowing us to visit them each year.

We also studied Monarch butterflies. Ms. Somers Knight came to school and set up a display in the school to show the stages of the caterpillar to a butterfly. Some classes had a chance to have their own caterpillars in the classrooms to feed and watch them change into a chrysalis and then come out as a beautiful butterfly. Your children can now identify the male monarch butterfly by looking to see if there are 2 black spots near the bottom of their wings.



First Grade-Miss Smolarek



We have kicked these first nine weeks off with a great start! The students have been learning all about their short vowels so we can become strong readers. We have been reading all about spiders, bats, Christopher Columbus, apples, and all things fall. Fall is such a special time of

year for first grade. We celebrated all things apple by trying out different apples, making applesauce, trying apple cider and eating some apple pie. YUM! We used our five senses and thought about which was our favorite. In math, we have been using different ways to add numbers. We love to use our ghost and spider erasers to help us! The next quarter is sure to bring lots of learning and new exploration!



Second Grade-Mrs. Madison

We learned so much about each other during this 9 weeks. We are settled into the routine and have very busy days! We enjoyed participating in a Lego Challenge. We were excited to release Belle and Rosy, our monarch butterflies. Each of us placed an entry in the Bath Co. Fair.



The 2nd 9 weeks will find us just as busy. In math we will be working on place value, addition, rounding, patterns, money, and time. In Language Arts we will

be writing in our journals, learning to spell more and more words, and working on grammar. We will continue to read in small groups, large group, and independently.



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

During the month of October, we have been celebrating Anti-Bullying Month! We have been focusing on kindness, tolerance, and appreciating one another during this month. In grades PK-4 we have been using Spookley the Square Pumpkin to learn and discuss bullying and how to appreciate one another for our unique differences! In grades 5-7 we have been exploring the topic of bullying through guided discussions and activities to promote a bully free school environment. We have been working on awareness posters and PSA's to get the word out! During the last week of October, we celebrate Red-Ribbon Week which is an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign celebrated nationally. At MES we are celebrating with a spirit week and special events throughout the week! Our students have lots of things going on and I am very excited to continue to move throughout the year with your students at MES!



Third Grade-Mrs. Sizemore

We have had a fantastic start to our year in third grade. We have been reading, reading, reading. We have delved into fiction books and learned about characters traits and making connections to what we read. We have practiced making predictions about what will happen next in our books. We have also read nonfiction books about sharks and all kinds of spiders, just in time for Halloween.

Students have really been enjoying selecting books from our classroom libraries. The best way to become a better reader is to practice! We have so much fun talking about what we are

reading independently and giving book recommendations to each other.

Students have stretched their math brains and have been rounding, estimating, adding and subtracting numbers. We will soon be jumping into multiplication. Third grade has been practicing math skills on IXL at home and in class.

In science, we reviewed the scientific method, learned about the states of matter and how matter changes, and discovered simple machines and how we use them in our daily lives. We even did a challenge in which we had to use simple machines

to deliver a pizza.

Keep up the great work as we move into the second nine weeks!



Fourth Grade-Ms. Manion

In math, fourth grade spent the first nine weeks working on place value. We worked on identifying the place and value of a digit in the number as well as writing and reading numbers in word, standard, and expanded form. Then we worked on comparing numbers and rounding whole numbers. We will work on decimals later in the year. Addition and subtraction also were a focus the first nine weeks. We are currently working on estimating and multiplication. We will continue working on both of those concepts during the second nine weeks. Elapsed time will also be something we will spend a lot of time on in the next couple of months.

In reading, we reviewed text features such as title, captions, and subheadings. We have worked on predicting what is going to happen in the story. We are working on figuring out what the author is telling us without saying it specifically. We infer what is happening. We started work-

ing on identifying the main idea and supporting details. We are also beginning to work on cause and effect as a comprehension skill. The most important thing for any of them to do is to spend time reading.

In writing, they have worked on an infographic (a page of information about a topic), a comic strip or book depending on their choice, and a couple of stories. We will be working on punctuation as the year progresses since that seemed to be missing in many pieces. We will continue to write.

In Virginia studies, we have learned the geography of Virginia. We have talked about different industries and products of Virginia. We also studied the Virginia Indians – their way of life before Europeans arrived in Virginia. The Bath County Historical Society paid for the fourth grade to have a live primary source program from the Virginia Museum of History and Culture once a month for eight

months of the school year. It is a live broadcast where one of their staff uses primary sources to teach the students about life in the past. The students learned about maps in this month's program and the Virginia Indians. We are currently starting to explore the New World and will start Jamestown and study colonial Virginia during the second nine weeks.

In science, we worked on science experiments, which we will continue to do as the year progresses. We also studied plants – their parts and their jobs or functions. We worked on learning how to classify things by learning about trees. They have a goal by the end of the year to accurately identify ten native Virginia trees. We also studied hurricanes and started learning about watersheds. They also attend a 4-H club meeting once a month where they study electricity.



Dates to Remember for January

Pupil Holiday-NO SCHOOL School Board Meeting @ VES; 7 pm	2
School Reopens	3
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	8
Report Cards Go Home	9
PBIS Day; Pay \$1 to Wear PJs and/or Bring Stuffed Animal	11
Preschool Roundtable; 6 pm	16
No Preschool	18
Pupil Holiday-No School	21

Dates to Remember for February

PBIS Day; Pay \$1 to Wear Your Favorite Sports Jersey	1
School Board Meeting at BCHS; 7 pm	5
No Preschool	8
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	12
Preschool Roundtable Meeting; 6 pm	13
Pupil Holiday-NO SCHOOL Parent Conferences 1-4 pm & 4:30-7 pm	21
Pupil Holiday-NO SCHOOL	22

Dates to Remember for March

School Board Meeting at MES; 7 pm	5
No Preschool	8
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	12
Spring Pictures Preschool Roundtable Meeting; 6 pm	13
PBIS Day; Pay \$1 to Don Crazy Hair, Wacky Dress (No Mirror Monday)	18
End 3rd Marking Period Early Release 12:30 pm	21
NO SCHOOL	22-25



6th Grade Science-Mrs. Secoy



We have spent the past 9 weeks working on reading non-fiction and developing our core writing skills. Students learned that reading nonfiction requires look-

ing at the external text features, determining how the author organized their writing, and taking notes to pull out the important information. We also explored our writing interests while practicing the skills we see author's use. Students wrote all kinds of excellent stories!

During the second quarter, we will continue to keep up our non-fiction skills as we develop research skills. I can't wait to see what everyone decides to learn about!



6th Grade Language Arts-Mrs. Secoy

We have spent the past 9 weeks working on reading non-fiction and developing our core writing skills. Students learned that reading nonfiction requires looking at the external text features, determining how the author or-

ganized their writing, and taking notes to pull out the important information. We also explored our writing interests while practicing the skills we see author's use. Students wrote all kinds of excellent stories!

During the second quarter, we will continue to keep up our non-fiction skills as we develop research skills. I can't wait to see what everyone decides to learn about!

7th Grade Life Science-Mrs. Secoy

What a great 1st quarter we had! We have already reviewed the scientific methods and learned all about how we classify living things. Students have begun learning many of the Latin terms that we use in science. Now

we're studying cells and all of their inner-workings!

Already this year, students have enjoyed several labs. We have mixed 2 liquids to see if 50mL + 50mL really does make 100mL. (It didn't!) We've also dissected

frogs and found out that their tongues are really interesting organs. Soon we'll explore one of the largest cells on earth and watch osmosis draw water across the cell member.



7th Grade Language Arts-Mrs. Secoy

We have spent the past 9 weeks working on reading non-fiction and developing our informative writing skills. Students learned that reading nonfiction requires looking at the external text features, determining how the author organized their writing, and

taking notes to pull out the important information. Students explored their own expertise as they wrote narrative nonfiction pieces about everything from running and archeological digs to art and video games.

During the second quarter, students will review nonfiction while developing research skills. They'll be using those skills to write persuasive essays in preparation for their debates in December!

Music Notes-Mrs. Lindsay

It is hard to believe that the first nine weeks is already over. Students have learned so much in Music over the past nine weeks. I am so proud of our students!

Kindergarten students have started to learn the names of many musical instruments. These instruments have been used to keep the beat of music. The students have been exploring their voices: speaking, shouting, whispering and singing. They have learned several fun songs already. Movement to music has been an important part of our music classes. Students have learned to listen to music and know how the music wants them to move. Kindergarteners have also explored fast and slow and loud and soft. The children's enthusiasm makes our classes lots of fun!

First Grade students have been very busy as well. These students are working hard to hear and respond to a steady beat. They have learned lots of fun songs! The children have learned to recognize music moving from soft to loud and slow to fast. They have learned to recognize pitch that is getting higher and lower. They are able to do this visually as well as aurally. They are excited to be learning some seasonal songs too.

The second graders have learned so much. They can recognize a music staff, a treble clef, a double

bar line and a repeat sign. Students are able to follow the words of a song too! Students have been learning about listening maps. Students have also learned about quarter notes, quarter rests and eighth notes. Students are beginning to understand how the rhythm fits the words of a song. Ask them what they mean! The students have learned so much but we still have lots and lots more to learn!

The third graders have started learning about the families of the Orchestra. Students have talked about the Brass family. They are currently learning about the String family. Students are learning about the instruments in each family as well as the characteristics of the instruments. Students are learning to recognize the instruments by sight and sound. The third graders are also continuing their study of musical signs and symbols.

Fourth grade students are learning about the music staff and the music alphabet. They are learning to identify notes as line or space notes and then figure out their letter names. Students are also learning to recognize and understand musical directions such as repeat signs and first and second endings. The students have learned so many great songs. They really enjoy singing.

Fifth graders have been busy as well! The students have been enjoying the study of different styles of music. We have talked about Patriotic, Jazz and Bluegrass so far. The students are enjoying singing too. These students are also learning about musical symbols and directions.

Sixth grade students have been talking music from other places. We have learned a couple of Caribbean songs. We also talked about the Steel Drums which originated in the Caribbean and are made from the lids of oil drums. We have listened to and sang songs from Japan. We learned about the Koto and the "Fat Drum". We also continue to talk about musical symbols and directions,

Seventh grade has also been busy. We have talked about "Music of the Generations". We have talked about performers from several generations. It was fun to see which performers the students had heard of! Students have written some parodies! That was a lot of fun! They have written letters to future students describing the "Music of Today!"

I am looking forward to the next nine weeks! We have a lot of neat things to explore. As soon as I know the date of the Christmas program, I will let everyone know. It



K/2-Mrs. Hepler

Kindergartners really are moving along nicely in Math. During fire safety week students enjoyed recognizing numbers while shooting water on the flames of numbers, they enjoyed making firetruck ladders out of toothpicks with the teen numbers and learning how to call 911. Students are practicing counting 1-100 and understanding the number of tens in each number like 50, 60, 70. We are looking forward to making our firetruck snack and the many activities the October season brings.

Second Graders learned many things about Johnny Appleseed and Christopher Columbus. They wrote an autobiography about themselves. Check them out in the hall. They also wrote biographs of Johnny Appleseed and Christopher Columbus. They are starting on long vowels and learning to decode them. They are learning how to spell short vowel words with blends and diagraphs. Students will be writing acrostic poems for the October month and will read non-fiction books on bats and spiders. Look in the hall in the future days for your child's work.

5, 6, 7 History/7 Math-Mr. Crawford

Halloween already?! Seriously? I can see it's going to be another one of those years that just zoom by. Fifth grade has been doing wonderfully! In fact, we've gotten to get much more involved in our content because they're doing so well. We've studied the Native Americans who lived on our continent long before we did as well as the European explorers who met those Natives some five hundred years ago. We're about to start on the 13 colonies and how they got their start. The Revolutionary War is right around the corner!

US History II has been equally as exciting! The sixth-graders really seem to be enjoying learning about the not-so-distant past (maybe as much as I enjoy teaching it). They've been catching on to how some sports teams get their names, as we've learned about the steel industry in Pittsburgh, the Gold Rush of '49, and the longhorn steers out west! Fun stuff! We've been learning about immigration and the atrocities of the Jim Crow

era. We're headed towards the 20th century and the "war to end all wars."

Seventh graders in Civics and Economics have really impressed me so far! I love their interest in our laws and how government works. I think their weekly current events assignment has really kept them on the ball, too, with what's going on outside of Millboro! Election season has been perfect for our content as they've been learning about the American political process. Next we're heading in to the three branches of government.

As far as math goes, these seventh graders are really moving along! They're doing great and working hard, too, making class awesome. We've covered a lot of material and I see no signs of slowing down. It's going to be Christmas before we know it!

Until next time...

Band-Mrs. Hooker

The MES Bands have been very busy, but are having a ball! The fifth grade band is all settled in and they are comfortable with many new notes and rhythms. The sixth and seventh grade bands are learning major scales, the chromatic scale, new repertoire for the Winter Concert, and some are even getting ready for All Area Band tryouts on Nov 7th. Area band participants are preparing scales and a piece for the auditions. Wish them luck!! I will have a date for the Winter Concert soon! Keep up the awesome work! Please free free to contact me with any questions at melindah@bath.k12.va.us



CAFETERIA CORNER

We have seen the Great Pumpkin and are now settling in to the crispy, cold season of Fall! Thanks go out to all of our parents who attended National School Lunch Week!

MySchoolBucks.com is a wonderful tool to watch a student's money account. Sign up is FREE. Getting updates on account balances is very helpful as well as watching exactly what your child is buying in the cafeteria. You can pay on the account on line through myschoolbucks.com or just check the current balance and pay at school.

We have been experimenting Second Chance breakfast with 5th, 6th and 7th grade. It is exactly what it says, a second chance for those students to get breakfast. The goal is to insure that every student eat breakfast every day. I have asked all students to share info at home about whether or not the 2nd chance is for them or is the current 1st round better. The prices are the same as is the reimbursable meal requirements. Drop me an email or give me a call with any questions you have concerning your students money and/or breakfast/lunch practices

Stacy Schumacher stacys@bath.k12.va.us 540 997-5452

Attendance Rewards

We celebrated many of our students' perfect and outstanding attendance for the first marking period.

To the right you will see pictures of those recipients. Students received their choice of available prizes, including toys, pencils, candy and/or cash.

We are very excited about this new program and hope it encourages good student attendance this year. We will honor those students with perfect and excellent attendance at the end of each marking period.



Excellent Attendance



Fall Word Search



ACORN
APPLE
AUTUMN
CHESTNUTS
CHILLY
CIDER
COBWEB
FALL
FOOTBALL
GOURD

HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAY BALE
HAYRIDE
LEAVES
MAIZE
NOVEMBER
NUTS
OCTOBER
PUMPKIN

QUILT
RAKE
SCARECROW
SEPTEMBER
SLEET
THANKSGIVING



Title I-Ms. Forbes

Hello from Title I!! Everything has gone very well so far this year! Please mark on your calendar that our Family Reading Night will be Thursday, December 6th at 6:00p.m. I look forward to see all there!

Don't forget to have your child read at least 20 minutes every night. If you have a young child that is not yet a reader, you can read to them or have them echo read. Model that we read left to right with your finger and have them pick out certain letters and tell you the sound it makes from the page. If your child is a reader, ask them questions about what they are reading. Questions that begin with who, what, when, where, and why are a good place to start! I have parent handouts full of ideas to give to you during conferences and you can always check out my website for more ideas! You can find that website on the Millboro Elementary School website. Have a wonderful autumn!

LeAnn F. Stout
Title I Reading Teacher
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