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**Winfield Elementary School**

**Mammoth News**

“Taking Mammoth Steps Toward Success”

**October 2016**

**Principal’s Message**

**NEW PHONE SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION**

**As a part of the new phone system implementation, the School Status Information Line (410-887-5555) has been changed to 443-809-5555.**

**SUPER SATURDAY - FREE FLU SHOT VACCINATIONS**

**The Baltimore County Health Department will host its annual Super Saturday flu vaccinations clinics to the public on Saturday, October 22, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the following locations: Drumcastle Government Center, Dundalk Middle School, Hereford Middle School, Lansdowne Middle School, Liberty Family Resource Center, Middle River Middle School and Pikesville Middle School. Everyone six months and older is encouraged to get a free flu shot (injectable only) during this one-day clinic. The vaccines will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last. No appointment is needed. More information about the vaccinations can be found at** [**www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/resources/flu.html**](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/resources/flu.html)**. Flu shots are also available at numerous private pharmacies (e.g., CVS, Target, Giant, Rite Aid, etc.) at no cost to employees who are covered by CIGNA health insurance plan. Employees covered by Kaiser Permanente may go to any Kaiser center for the flu shot at no cost. Questions regarding this information should be directed to the following individual(s): Richard Muth, Manager 443-809-4360**

**Parent Service Coordinator’s Message**

#### **How to Help Your Child Succeed in School**

#### **· Talk to your child about the importance of a good education.**

 **· Be aware of your child’s academic strengths and weaknesses.**

**· Provide your child with a nutritious meal and a good night’s sleep.**

 **· Monitor your child’s homework completion.**

 **· Monitor your child’s progress in all subjects.**

 **· Sign up for volunteer activities at Winfield**

 **· Join the Winfield PTA**

**Snapshot of October Activities at Winfield**

**Oct 6, 5:30-6:30 – Magnet Night**

**Oct 5, 19, 26, 4:00-5:30, Good News Club**

**Oct 10 – Picture Day**

**Oct 11, 18, 25, 4:00-5:00, 30/30 Mentoring Program**

**Oct 11, 6:30 – PTA Meeting**

**Oct 12 – School Closed**

**Oct 18 – Voter Registration Deadline**

**Oct 21 – School Closed for Students**

**Grade Level General Information**

**Pre-K**

**We are all feeling welcomed in our new classroom setting and ready to move forward into our next theme, “All About Me”. We will be learning about ourselves and understanding why we have different feelings. We will work on letters: Ff, Ll, Oo, Pp. In math we are using positional words (in front, behind, first, second, last, under) and comparing number sets. We have learned the letter and letter sounds of Aa, Dd, Mm, and Ss. Please continue to review these letter sounds with your child by drawing pictures, and writing words that begin with these letters.**

**3rd Grade**

**Third grade students are working hard! In 3rd grade math classes, students are continuing to work on the foundations of multiplication and division. In October, we will start learning the facts for 0 to 12 and the multiplication properties. Please start to review math fact flash cards with your child. In 3rd grade ELA classes, students are working on strategies to determine main idea. They will continue to work on researching an endangered species. Since your child has a monthly reading log, a good strategy to use at home is to ask your child what was the main idea when they are finished reading something. In 3rd grade science classes, students are learning about “Saving the Chesapeake Bay”. We are looking at the human impact on living things and their basic needs to survive. We are proud of the effort they have shown in class so far. Keep up the good work!**

**Social/Emotional Information**

**October is Bully Prevention Month. Bullying is negative actions carried out by physical contact, words, making faces, gestures, rumors, and intentional exclusion. There are 3 Criteria for an incident to be considered bullying. 1.) Intentional harm which means the person did it on purpose. 2.) It is carried out repeatedly which means it happens again and again. 3.) It is a relationship where there is an imbalance of power which means one person is calling all the shots. There are two Kinds of Bullying. DIRECT bullying is when direct contact is made. This can be physical (punching, kicking, stealing) or verbal (name-calling, threatening). INDIRECT bullying is more hidden and involves rumors, exclusion and manipulation. It can be relational or social (excluding, gossiping, mean looks) or cyber bullying (messages, posts, texts).**

**Here are strategies to teach your child that will help them if they are being bullied. Teach your child to use Self Talk and to say to him/herself things like, “I can walk away”, “This isn’t true”, and “I am a good person”. Tell your child to ignore the bully. Teach your child to not look at the bully and walk away. Teach your child to use I- Messages such as I feel \_\_\_\_ (emotion) when \_\_\_\_ (action) because \_\_\_\_ (reason). I wish you would \_\_\_\_ (tell what you would rather them do instead). This allows your child to assertively and effectively express their feelings. Teach your child to Give a Standard Answer in the moment so they are not caught off guard. For example, “Thanks for your opinion”, or Smile and shrug shoulders without making a comment at all. Teach your child how to ask For Help. At times, seeking help from an adult is the only thing that can and should be done. Talk with your child about who is a safe person they can talk to at school. Bullying is NOT a normal childhood activity, a rite of passage, or anyone’s fault.**

**Special Areas (Physical Ed, Art, Music, Library)**

**On September 21st, all the students participated in a celebration of “International Day of Peace” by creating a pinwheel.  All 500 pinwheels were displayed on the front lawn of our school and a ceremony took place at the end of the day with special guests Councilman Jones and the color guard from Milford Mill High School.  Students read several quotes promoting peace.  Also, 5th graders revealed our new school spirit song with lyrics written by Mr. Mercury Morris, our vocal music teacher.  The day was quite a success and enjoyed by all.**

**In physical education class, our primary students (K-2) covered a large amount of skills including:  jump ropes, dribbling/passing a soccer ball, tag games, and discussing the important of fitness/staying active.  The intermediate students’ (3-5) focus was on teambuilding and soccer related skills.  In vocal music, students are learning the very basics of both general music (reading and writing music notes) and Vocal Music learning how to sing and perform in a group and as individuals.  It has been a joy getting to know your students over the course of my first month at Winfield.**

**Our library teacher, Ms. Precht, asks all parents and guardians to please check their students’ grades on BCPS One every week. Ms. Precht enters new library grades on Sundays. Your student can log in from any computer at home or at the public library. Questions? Please email** lprecht@bcps.org**.**

**Academic Resources Team Information**

**From the Reading Team:**

**We want to encourage our students to read at home as well as at school in order to become lifelong**

**learners and readers. We have a reading incentive program here at Winfield that highlights students who are filling out monthly reading logs for time spent reading outside of school. We want to encourage our children to read at least 20 minutes each day. Reading for enjoyment outside of the school environment can boost your child’s confidence in reading and help to raise his/her reading level as well. Here are some ways to support your child with at home reading: Encourage your child to read books of interest to him/her. Spend ‘quality time’ by reading with your child. Take a trip to the library!**

**From the Math Team:**

**This month, please continue to help your child understand and also memorize their basic math facts for their specific grade. You might notice that today’s math looks different from what you remember when you were a student. Students are taught the traditional way (the way you were taught) and also the common core way to solve problems. In order to help students at home, students are provided with textbooks and also have access to online resources they can use at home. You can refer to the examples in the textbooks and also use the online resources in order to help your child at home.**

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|   http://files.constantcontact.com/981cfb88401/687ce406-e8d6-4451-af50-f371a5dad5be.png?a=1125384445666  | **BCPS ONE PARENT VERIFICATION CODES****2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR** |

Parents, please note that you have the ability to view your child’s grades on the Baltimore County Public School website, by way of the BCPS One link, with your activated parent verification code. New parent verification codes are not required and will not be generated for parents who have previously accessed BCPS One. Parents with existing BCPS One accounts should continue to use the same account for the 2016-2017 school year. Parent accounts remain valid as student(s) transition from one BCPS school to another.

 Parents with newly enrolled students and parents who have not previously accessed BCPS One will require a parent verification code for each student in order to access BCPS One. You should have already received your codes, by way of your child’s yellow take home folder. If you have not registered and activated your parent verification code, please note that it will expire on Wednesday, November 30, 2016, if it not used.

Questions regarding access to parent verification codes should be directed to your child’s homeroom teacher.