

Mammoth Mailing

MARCH ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL BISKER

Testing Reminders

Starting on March 9th, the **MCAP- Science** Assessment will be given to every Baltimore County student in grade 5. Additionally, beginning on **April 18th, the MCAP-ELA & Math** assessment will be given to every Baltimore County Student in grades 3-5. The MCAP Assessment is designed to measure a student's progress toward mastering the Common Core State Standards. Teachers use the results of this and other assessments to help tailor instruction to your child's specific learning needs and help prepare students for college and careers later in life. School administrators have developed testing schedules to meet the needs of their individual buildings. This year, MCAP will consist of four units of Math, English/Language Arts, and Science (5th grade only). No more than two testing units will be given on any individual day. Please rest assured that students with identified learning needs will be provided necessary accommodations per their individual plans (IEP, ESOL, 504). We plan to complete most testing by the first week of June. Make-up tests will be administered as needed.

We will inform you of the specific dates your child's class will be testing.

Parents can help their students by:

- Encouraging students to stay positive and do their best on these assessments.
- Making sure students get a good night's sleep before testing
- Eating a good breakfast each morning.
- **Ensuring that students arrive on time (9:05 am) and remain in school the entire day. Testing will begin promptly every day at 9:30. Students who do not arrive in time for their assigned testing session will be required to make up the session. This is very disruptive to your student's schedule and could result in the loss of instructional time.**

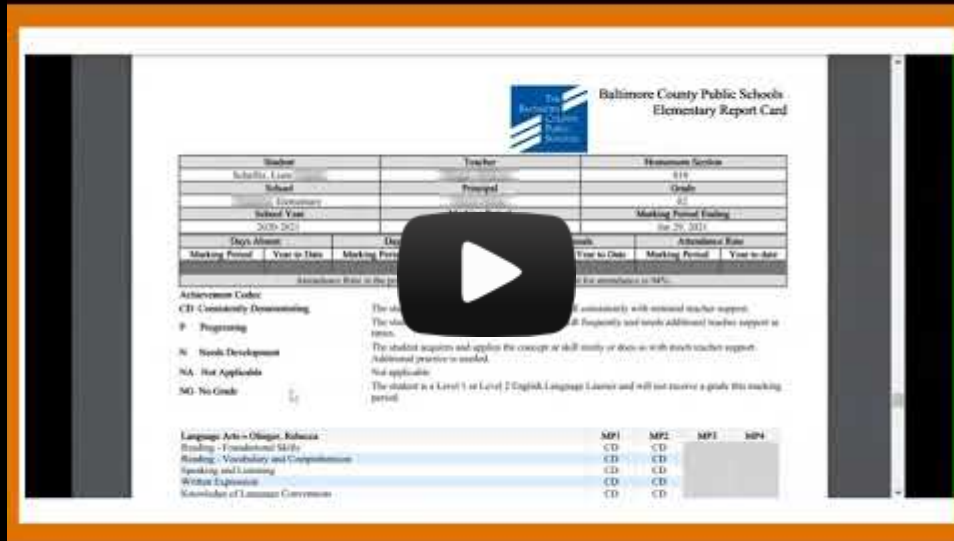
All public schools in Maryland are required by state and federal laws to administer the MCAP assessment.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff.

Grades and Report Card Reminders

The third quarter will close on March 24th. Report cards will be distributed one day after we return from Spring Break on April 12th. Please ensure you regularly view your child's grades leading up to the March 24th closing of quarter three. All fourth and fifth-grade students earning all A's or B's or improving a core letter grade from quarter 2 to quarter 3 will be invited to the Third Quarter Principal Pizza Party! Let's see how many students we can increase at the third quarter celebration!

Viewing Student Report Cards in the BCPS system FOCUS



MARCH EVENTS

March 4th- Food Giveaway Union Bethel 10-12pm

March 14th- Parent Listening Session @ 5:30pm

March 15th & 16th- Picture Day

March 16th- Multicultural Night 5-7pm

March 17th- Schools Close 3 hours early

March 21st- Music Field Trip for 4th and 5th Grade to Gordon Center & Parent Listening Session at 5:30pm

March 23rd- Second Grade Field Trip to Goucher College & Fifth Grade Field Trip to Biz Town

March 24th- Third Marking Period Ends/ Schools Close 3 hours early

March 31st-April 9th Spring Break (Spring Break Begins at the end of the day on March 31st)



Parent-Viewing-Report-Cards.pdf

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387.1 KB

A MESSAGE FROM ESOL

The ESOL students have completed the annual WIDA ACCESS Test for 2023. Educators use ACCESS results, along with other WIDA resources, to make decisions about students' proficiency with English in academic contexts and to facilitate their language development. Results will be released to schools in Spring. Individual students' reports will be mailed to their families subsequently. Students were tested in all four domains of English language learning: Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing. Their scores reflect proficiency levels ranging from Level 1 (Entering) to Level 6 (Reaching). The usual ESOL classes will commence after the testing window closes on March 3rd, 2023. The following topics will be covered this semester:

Kindergarten: **From the Farm to the Table**

Elementary: **What's the weather?**

NOTE FROM NURSE NEWMARK:

Hearing and Vision Screenings will take place during the week of March 27th-31st. Please look out for information regarding Hearing and Vision Screenings which will go home or will be sent out during the week of March 13th.

Students in PreK, 1st and 4th grades (as well as Kindergarteners who were not screened in PreK) are routinely screened.

If you have any questions regarding Hearing and Vision Screenings, please contact Nurse Newmark at 443-809-4711 or lnemark@bcps.org

A MESSAGE FROM PRE-K

Hello PreK families,

This month we begin Unit 6: Amazing Animals in ELA. The focus questions for this unit are:

- ~ What are animals like?
- ~ Where do animals live, and what do they eat?
- ~ How are animals the same and different?
- ~ How do animals move?

During this unit, we will identify the letters Cc, Uu, Vv, Xx, and the associated sounds and write and compare the letters.

We will continue to work on Theme 6: Measurement in math, where students will directly compare objects' length or height and use comparative vocabulary such as longer, taller, and shorter. They will also order sets of objects by length, height, or size and use comparative vocabulary such as long, longer, and longest.

Please remember to:

- check your child's yellow folder daily for important information about school and classroom events.
- send in a note when your child's is absent (including your name, your child's name, dates absent, and the reason)
- update contact information with the school if you have a change in address or phone number

A MESSAGE FROM KINDERGARTEN

- In phonics, we have learned all our short vowel sounds and most of our consonant sounds. The students are putting CVC words together, such as cat, hot, and lip. We have learned 30 of our 50 high-frequency sight words so far. Please make sure your child is practicing these words daily.
- In math, we are learning to identify different shapes. Students are sorting 2-D and 3-D shapes by different attributes, such as color, number of sides/corners, and size. They are learning to skip-count by 5's and to count backward from 20. We are also learning to compare numbers and quantities using the greater than and less than symbols.
- In social studies, we are beginning our new unit on Personal Financial Literacy. Students will learn about wants and needs to understand why people make economic decisions. Students will learn that people work to earn money, goods, and services they need sometimes cost money and that people must decide whether they will spend or save their money. These concepts will lay the foundation for Financial Literacy and be built on in grade one.

Please continue to send in homework every Friday. Please send in a change of clothes that fits your child.

A MESSAGE FROM FIRST GRADE

Dear First Grade Families,

- Phonics: Unit 5 long vowel patterns
- Reading: Unit 4 Unique Animals Everywhere Objective: students will explore the distinct features of different animals, examine how animals work together in teams, develop an understanding of how animals survive in nature, and learn about people who train animals and work to preserve their habitats.
- Writing: Small Moment about a lesson learned Objective: Students will write a "small moment" narrative about a lesson learned from a personal experience.
- Math: Unit 5 Geometry Objective: I can organize data with up to 3 categories (1.MD.4)
- I can identify, name, describe, and compare two-dimensional shapes, including triangles, rectangles, hexagons, and trapezoids (supports 1. G)
- I can demonstrate an understanding of the difference between the defining and non-defining attributes of a two-dimensional shape (1.G.1)
- I can draw a two-dimensional shape with specific defining attributes (1.G.1)
- Science: Unit 2 Creeper and creature features Objective: Students will be able to improve a design by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts so they can find a solution to a human problem.

Reminders:

- We are in the height of cold and flu season. We welcome any donations of Kleenex and hand sanitizer.
- As the school year marches on, school supplies are starting to dwindle. We welcome any donations of dry-erase markers, pencils, and glue sticks.

Thank you for being so supportive at home!

MESSAGE FROM SECOND GRADE

In math, students continued solidifying their understanding of place value to 1,000. Students calculated the value of a set of coins. We will continue to practice strategies to solve 2 and 3-digit addition and subtraction problems.

During phonics, students continued to read and write words with long vowels. Students will learn about and identify compound words, synonyms, antonyms, homophones, and multiple-meaning words. Students are encouraged to read and respond to a text each night.

Our field trip to Goucher College to see Tales as Tall as the Sky is Thursday, March 23, 2023. Please check your child's supplies, replenish them as needed (pencils and tissue), and review the contents of your child's homework folder each night. We try to have outdoor recess as much as possible. Please be sure your child has dressed appropriately for the weather. Thank you for your support! Email the homeroom teacher with any questions or concerns. We will respond within 48 hours.

A MESSAGE FROM THIRD GRADE

The 3rd graders really enjoyed their first field trip, and we look forward to going on another before the end of the school year.

During this quarter in math, this unit returns to the study of multiplication, especially regarding division. Students again build arrays but use them to model and solve division and multiplication problems. Story problems play a significant role in the first two modules, helping students to connect their everyday experiences with division to more formal mathematical concepts. As they solve and pose story problems, students encounter two different interpretations of division—sharing and grouping—and have numerous opportunities to build an understanding of both.

During this quarter in Language arts, Unit 4, students will read primary and secondary sources, expository texts, and pieces of literature revolving around the Age of Exploration. The unit focuses on understanding the motivations of exploration and determining whether the rewards outweigh the risks.

A MESSAGE FROM FOURTH GRADE

Fourth-grade teachers are focusing on preparing students for fifth grade. In doing so, we are holding them more accountable for completing and keeping up with assignments. We encourage students to check their grade reports weekly and take the opportunity to repair and

return assignments they could have done better on. Students should complete their homework each night and review concepts and skills learned in class daily. This includes reading each night to build stamina and practicing math facts to build math fluency. Morning meetings have centered around making better choices when confronting peers and seeking help from an adult before the situation escalates. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact us via email. As always, we thank you for your support and partnership in helping your child achieve success this year.

A MESSAGE FROM FIFTH GRADE

- Fifth graders focused on learning to multiply multi-digit numbers using the standard algorithm and area models in math. Students also learned how to multiply a fraction by a whole number. Lastly, division with two-digit divisors was taught using partial products.
- In March, the 5th grade will be busy testing and preparing for the last quarter of the school year. Students will be taking the MCAP test and MISA. This assessment measures students' progress toward Science literacy. Also, this month, we will finish a Reading unit for Literature and a fraction math unit. We will begin to review Informational text to enhance the students' reading comprehension in Social Studies and Science.
- Two field trips are coming up in March. On March 21st, students go to the Gordon Music Center in Owings Mills to see an orchestra perform. On March 23rd, students will go to Biztown.

READING CORNER: MULTISENSORY LEARNING AT HOME

[Multisensory](#) Learning at Home.

Suggestions for Parents:

- Writing words: Activities include finger painting, clay sculpting, writing in sand trays, and [shaving cream](#). For example, you could model the alphabet out of clay so that your child can run her fingers over each letter. This stimulates thousands of nerve endings in her fingers, which adds to the experience. Meanwhile, older children might find they focus better if they're allowed to doodle.
- Play charades: Kinaesthetic learners love moving around, so have them learn through games and dance. For example, you could [play charades](#) to teach your child grammar.
- Listen and Questions: Try and get your child audio versions of her or his favorite books from Audible, YouTube, etc. Or read them aloud and ask her or him questions as you go.
- Scavenger hunt: Help your child enhance his or her vocabulary with a word [scavenger hunt](#). Hunt for words at home, cooking dinner, in the grocery store, etc.

A MESSAGE FROM MR. DICKERSON IN P.E.

- Parents, please ensure your child wears or brings comfortable tennis shoes on their physical education days. Also, students are encouraged to bring a bottle of water with them.
- Our next unit will be focused on overall fitness and how to better it, so students must wear shoes and clothes that are comfortable and easy to move in.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Save the date! The Winfield 3rd and 4th grades will perform in the spring concert and the Band and Orchestra Concert on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

A MESSAGE FROM MS. TRENT IN ART

- Our next unit will focus on collage.
- Students will learn various collaging techniques.
- Students will work on such projects as "My Favorite Way to GO," "Serve the Table," and "Architectural Ducks."

COUNSELING CORNER

As part of our School Counseling Program, students will have the opportunity to engage in a counseling core curriculum lesson during March. The theme for this month is Mindfulness. Students in both primary and intermediate grades will be invited to participate in experiential learning around sensory awareness, attention, and relaxation with the hope that they can then utilize these mindfulness strategies as positive coping skills.


The primary grades incorporate movement and sensory exercises to support motor development and awareness. 3rd graders will learn test-taking strategies, including mindfulness, to help reduce test anxiety. 4th and 5th graders will learn about the structures of the brain that regulate physical and emotional responses to stressful events. We desire the core curriculum counseling lessons to help promote our students' social, emotional, academic, and career development.

MATH CORNER

- **BY: [Margaret Caspe](#)**
- **Suggestions for Parents**
- **Read books that highlight mathematical themes.** Herb Ginsburg and colleagues from Teachers College, Columbia University, stress the importance of reading books with mathematical themes together. While reading, parents can ask questions that get children to count, identify shapes, and explain their thinking. Early-childhood educators and

librarians are good resources to talk to about books and digital media with mathematical content, and many libraries offer story times and playful activities with math content.

- **Let children wrangle with math questions and derive their own solutions.** Laura Overdeck, the founder of [Bedtime Math](#), reminds families that it's sometimes good to let children struggle with math problems. Students of all ages need time to figure out why answers are what they are. Don't just jump right in and give them the solutions. She also reminds parents to be aware of how you talk about math. It's important to avoid saying you hate it.
- **Use "math talk."** Taniesha Woods, co-editor of [Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood](#) stresses that families are perfectly situated to talk about quantity, counting, and shapes anywhere children and families are – at home, in the park, or in the grocery store. For example, when you are eating cookies, count how many you have, talk about their shape, and ask what happens when you break them apart, eat them up, or ask for more.
- <https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/18/01/making-math-family-thing>



"If I Were Mayor, I Would..."
Digital Essay Contest

Attention School Superintendent...

We'd appreciate your support. Please encourage your 4th grade teachers & students to participate. It's a great way to teach students about city/town government. 11 Winners selected statewide!

Over 46,000 students have participated in this contest over the past 22 years!


For Your Information

- Open to all Maryland 4th grade students enrolled during current school year
- Contest is designed to increase a student's knowledge of municipal government and the role of the mayor
- Elected officials, in your area, are available for school visits
- Fourth grade teachers were mailed instructions mid-January
- Winners and their teacher are invited to participate in a virtual ceremony
- Winners receive a small cash prize & a Governor's Citation
- All submission guidelines, study guide and digital entry form posted at mdmunicipal.org/Essay
- Use of the study guide enhances knowledge of municipal government and may strengthen a student's essay
- Many teachers have successfully gotten participation by assigning essay as homework or extra-curricular activity
- This year's theme: "Preserving the Past to Power the Future"

Important Contest Information

- Contest is digital, no mail-in forms accepted
- Digital entry form available only at mdmunicipal.org/Essay
- Essays must be received by MML by **March 31, 2023**
- Essays must be teacher-sponsored with a completed entry form.
- Winners will be notified by the end of April 2023

If you have questions, contact Paula Chase Hyman or Sharon Easton at the Maryland Municipal League at 410-268-5514



THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES:

We are looking for stakeholders to become a member of the Community School Shared Decision-Making Team for Winfield Elementary School. Let your voice be heard regarding the programming, resources, support, and wrap-around services you would like to see implemented at Winfield Elementary School. The Shared Decision meets once per month on

the last Tuesday at 5:30pm. Please contact Monique Banks, Community School Facilitator, if you are interested in joining at mbanks@bcps.org.

Today is the last day to complete the BCPS Stakeholder Climate Survey. Your feedback guides our school budget, staffing, and programs. If you have not completed the survey already, please do so today.

Community School Parent Listening Sessions:

Attend a Parent Listening Session. This is an opportunity for families to provide helpful feedback about Winfield ES and engage in meaningful discussions. The next Parent Listening Session will be held on Tuesday, March 14th at 9:00am and Tuesday, March 21st at 5:30pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact Mrs. Banks, Community School Facilitator at mbanks@bcps.org or 667-251-3533.

Community Resources and Support:

If your family or a family you know could benefit from support or resources, either now or during the holiday season, please reach out to Kerriann Murray (School Social Worker) at kmurray6@bcps.org or Monique Banks (Community School Facilitator) mbanks@bcps.org at 443-809-0766.

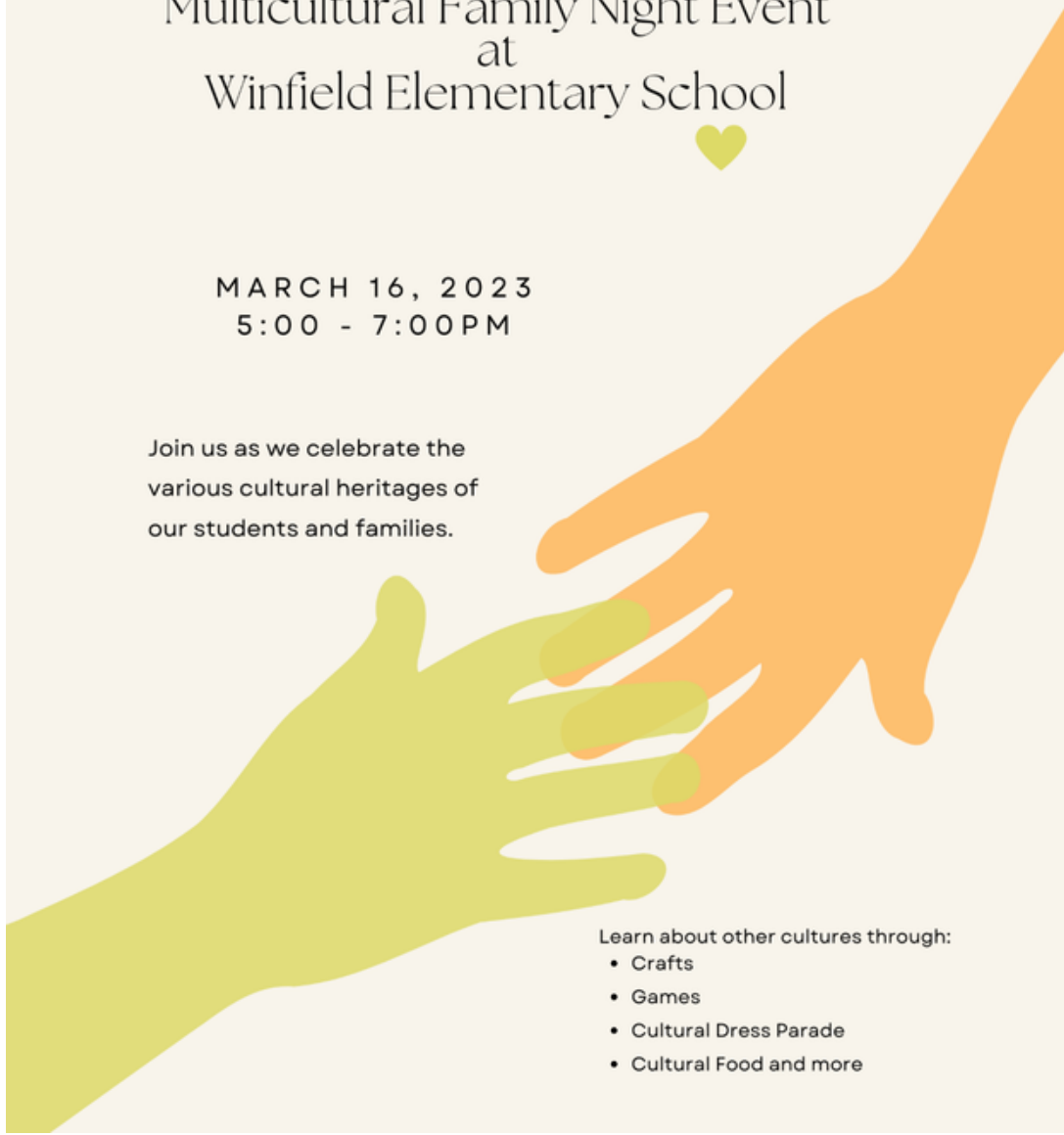
-2-1-1 Maryland: Provides local resources for families in need of assistance with food, housing/shelter, utility assistance, mental or physical health, etc. Contact information: Visit <https://211md.org/>, text your zip code to 898-211 OR call 2-1-

Multicultural Family Night Event at Winfield Elementary School



MARCH 16, 2023
5:00 - 7:00PM

Join us as we celebrate the
various cultural heritages of
our students and families.



Learn about other cultures through:

- Crafts
- Games
- Cultural Dress Parade
- Cultural Food and more



Union Bethle March Food Giveaway Flyer.pdf

[Download](#)

122.5 KB



CONTACT US

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winfieldes.bcps.org/

