

The Mammoth Mailing

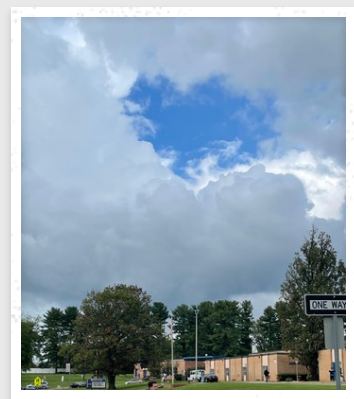
NOVEMBER 2021 ISSUE



TRUNK-OR-TREAT!



GO MAMMOTHS!



WE "HEART" WINFIELD ELEMENTARY

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES & FLYERS

- 11/5- Magnet Program Application Deadline
- 11/5- First Marking Period Ends School closes at 1 PM
- 11/10- PTA Meeting @ 5:30pm
- 11/11- Chat & Chew with Ms. Griffiths 9:30-10:30 in Cafeteria
- 11/15-11/19- American Education Week
- 11/18- School Picture Day
- 11/22- Book Character Day
- 11/22 & 23rd- Pre-K Conference Day
- 11/23-No School- Elementary Conference Day
- 11/24-11/26-Thanksgiving Holiday- School Closed

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL BISKER

We have so much to be thankful for here at Winfield Elementary! As I take a moment to reflect on my short time here at Winfield, I am truly thankful for the collaboration between our families and the school community. We have lots to be proud of here at Winfield! Last month, we welcomed our new School to Community Coordinator, Ms. Marissa Griffiths; through her leadership, we have begun to increase our amount of community outreach. As you read through the newsletter for this month, you will learn about what your child has been studying and topics for upcoming learning this month. You will also learn about a few resources available to our school community. We are continuing to search for community partners. If you know of any organizations that are interested in partnering with our school, please reach out to Ms. Griffiths. We are excited about the endless possibilities that we can make available to our students and families.

For American Education Week, all events will be celebrated centrally this year; however, I will be hosting an informal Q&A session on Monday, November 15th, outside of the school. I invite you to "POP BY AND SAY HI!" During this time, the administration will be available for questions. We will also have resources available to families to check out for at-home use with their children. If you are interested in attending this very informal event, please complete the survey that was sent out on Sunday, November 7th. We will use this information to plan for some grab-and-go light refreshments for parents and guardians.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK: NOVEMBER 15TH-19TH

In a typical year, our schools welcome families during American Education Week. As a part of our continued commitment to protecting and preserving in-person learning during the pandemic, we are unable to host family visits. Similar to last year, our students and staff have reimaged how we will celebrate the 2021 American Education Week. We will use this week (Nov. 15-19) as an opportunity to recognize staff and families as "Education Heroes" for their unwavering commitment to Team BCPS.

All virtual American Education Week activities will take place centrally. Winfield Elementary will join in the celebration by posting related activities during the week on twitter using the hashtag #bcpsAEW.

Events during the week will include:

Parent University workshops

- **NAMI: Ending the Silence** (mental health information), Monday, November 15, 2021, from 7 - 8 p.m. [Register online.](#)
- **Virtual Lunch & Learn: Rising Up – Overcoming Adverse Childhood Experiences and Enhancing Resilience**, Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. [Register online.](#)
- **Virtual Lunch & Learn: Supporting the Social-Emotional Needs of Your Child and Yourself**, Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. [Register online.](#)
- **Virtual Lunch & Learn: Internet Crimes Against Children**, Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. [Register online.](#)

- **Review of Policy and Rule 1270: Parent and Family Engagement and Review of the Title I District Level Family Engagement Plan.** [Register online](#) for one of following virtual meetings: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. OR Friday, November 19, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.

World Culture in Context performance and conversation

Featuring [Rebolu](#), an Afro-Colombian musical group, Friday, November 19, 2021, at 9:45 a.m., on [Zoom](#). Open to all.

Celebrate Your School Day

Friday, November 19, 2021. Students, staff, and even graduates are invited to wear school colors and share messages of school pride.

BOOK CHARACTER DAY ON NOVEMBER 22ND

We would like to celebrate "Book Character Day" on Monday, November 22nd. Students and teachers will be invited to dress up as their favorite book characters. Weather permitting, we will hold a costume parade. If the weather cooperates, we will send out a connect-ed message the night before the event with a time for a possible outdoor parade for families to view all our Winfield characters.

We will also pair an intermediate class with a primary class for Buddy Reading opportunity for students throughout the day on November 22nd

CONFERENCE DAY ON NOVEMBER 23RD

On Monday, November 22nd and Tuesday, November 23, 2021, there will be no Pre-School-3 and Pre-K sessions so parent conferences can be held. Ms. Acie will conduct their parent conferences virtually.

On Tuesday, November 23, 2021, elementary schools will be closed for students. Winfield Elementary School will conduct conferences virtually.

Wednesday, November 24th through Friday, November 26th schools and offices are closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

COVID-19 AND MASK REQUIREMENTS

We have been doing an excellent job keeping our school healthy throughout these challenging times. The faculty and staff would like to thank you for your commitment in ensuring students remain home when they are displaying flu-like symptoms. To this date, Winfield has experienced very low numbers of positive COVID-19 cases. It truly does take a village to keep our school community safe. We thank all members for their vigilance throughout the first few months of school.

Please make sure your child is coming to school each day with a mask. There are many students that continue to come to school each day without a mask. We do have additional

masks for students that forget or need to change their mask.

Please see the mask protocol for students that refuse to wear their mask appropriately:

Level I Response I- Initial Intervention:

- ☐ Discuss rationale for non-compliance with student.
- ☐ Re-direct student to wear face covering and/or wear it appropriately.
- ☐ Review face covering protocol with student.
- ☐ Provide face covering FAQ

Level II Response-Repeated or Persistent Violation:

- ☐ Provide written warning to student as appropriate.
- ☐ Contact parent/guardian. Discuss concerns regarding face covering policy.

Level III Response III-Repeated Violation:

- ☐ Required parent conference (in-person or virtual) to discuss safety and discipline concern of student.
- ☐ Review face covering protocols with student.
- ☐ Provide Face Covering FAQ Students may be subject to short-term suspension for direct and deliberate disruption and refusal to wear a mask based on the given school protocol after repeatedly disregarding Step I-III.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY FOR FAMILIES

A Virtual Workshop for Baltimore County Families

November 18, 2021

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Presented by Aggie Callahan

Associate Administrator & Director of Education for Villa Maria School

This workshop provides an overview of your parental rights and how to get access to Special Education Services. There will be parent to parent tip sharing...share your stories, your struggles and your successes with each other - everyone can learn from these experiences!

The workshop is FREE!

To register go to this website:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VQ2W3LL>

Questions? call 667-600-3074 or email FamilyNavigator@cc-md.org

Link to workshop will be sent out the day of the workshop

In partnership with professional child development specialists and veteran family members, the Family Resource Academy has designed a series of FREE workshops just for you. The Family Resource Academy may be just what you need for support, strength, and understanding that can enhance your ability to parent a child with intensive behavioral health needs and to understand and reduce the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

CULTURE DIVERSITY SURVEY

Our new School to Community Coordinator, Ms. Marissa Griffiths, has designed a cultural diversity survey for families to complete. The goal of this survey will be to showcase the varying cultures that make up our school community. We will plan family engagement events and design display showcases throughout the school that highlight our diverse school from the information gathered. This survey is optional, but we hope you will complete this form to help us capture the many different cultures within our school community! Please click on the link below.

CLICK HERE TO BE REDIRECTED TO OUR CULTURAL DIVERSITY SURVEY

COGAT TESTING

Third Grade students will participate in CogAt testing. The data from this assessment will be used as a universal screening to identify students for gifted and talented. The testing window is November 29th through December 17th. Parents will be informed via messenger when their child's class will be tested.

MESSAGE FROM PRE-K

Happy November, PreK Families!

We have begun Math Theme 3 Counting and the Number System and Patterning. The students will learn that a pattern is a recognizable arrangement of features, actions, or designs that repeats or grows. They will describe, copy, extend, and predict repeating patterns and create and describe their own patterns. Students will build and count sets to five, begin to recognize the numerals 1 through 5, and compare groups of objects to tell which set has more or fewer objects.

This week we also started our second unit in ELA called All About Me. We will focus on the following Essential Questions:

Who am I?

What are my feelings?

What do the parts of my body do?

What is a family?

We will work on the letters P, F, O, L and identifying, clapping, and blending syllables during this unit.

Finally, please send in 2 extra masks daily for your child to have as a backup and label all clothing sent to school.

MESSAGE FORM KINDERGARTEN

In ELA, our scholars are on Unit 2 in "Reading Wonders" the listening comprehension lessons focused was on a few informational texts. Students learned that an informational text gives

information or tells facts about people, places, and things. We will begin Week 3 in Reading Wonders soon. We will read a few informational and fiction texts about bugs and focus on the strategies: ask and answer questions and key details.

In Phonics, our scholars have been working on blending syllables in spoken words, recognizing the order or specific letters in words, and practicing writing vertical, horizontal, and curved lines in order to write letters. We have been learning to read in our pre-decodable books. We have learned many new sight words. We have learned sight words so far: a, the, and, go, had, he, I, see, has, and you. In November, the next five sight words will be we, of, am, at, and to. We will begin listening for the initial and final sounds of words.

In Math, our scholars have been working on building sets to 10 using the 10 frames and number rack. We had fun making our own number racks with pipe cleaners and beads that help us count, add, and subtract. We also are learning about making tally marks. The children enjoyed using popsicles sticks to represent their tally marks. We will continue working on representing and writing numbers through 10.

In science, we are finishing up our Checkerspot Butterfly unit. In the unit, the students will learn how we can help protect the Checkerspot Butterfly. The students will learn about the needs of animals and plants and how different animals and plants affect each other.

We will begin our health unit soon. Students will learn to identify when they need help, what they need help with, and who can help them in this unit. There are two areas of focus in this unit, people and places. Students will learn who they can trust and how to ask trusted adults for help in making good health decisions, along with places they can go to get help. Accessing health information at an early age will build a foundation of health resources and empower students to make healthy decisions.

We wish everybody a very Happy Thanksgiving! We are thankful to teach your amazing children and have such supportive parents!

MESSAGE FROM 1ST GRADE

We have been working hard in First Grade for quarter 1. See what we have been working on in class:

Phonics

Unit 2

High-Frequency Words:

call, look, was, what, got, big, all, if, to, get, his, just

Letters:

/k/ (spelled c,k,ck), al/all, r, f/ff, ss, z/zz, z (spelled _s), j/_dge, short u, g

Reading

Unit 2: Amazing World! Exploring Elements of Non-fiction

Objective: Students will identify the main topic of a text and use text features to locate key details.

Writing

Objective: Students will write about a topic using non-fiction texts to share key details about the topic.

Math

Unit 2: Developing Strategies with Dice and Dominoes.

In this unit, your child will:

- Instantly recognize dots on dominoes or dice
- Practice addition and subtraction strategies, like counting on, doubles, and make 10 within 12
- Use dominoes and picture cards to write a fact family of equations
- Solve and write story problems
- Count by 5s and 10s

Social Studies

Unit 1: Geography Basics

Using basic geography skills, students will locate places, including reading map elements, identifying landforms, man-made features, and relative locations.

- Please continue to send extra masks.
- Devices should be charged each evening and brought to school daily.
- Please practice logging in on the device so that your child can do so independently in class.

A MESSAGE FROM 2ND GRADE

In math your child will: identify the place and value of a 3-digit number, read, write, model, and compare 2- and 3-digit numbers, measure and compare the lengths of objects, model problem-solving strategies on a number line, and practice math strategies to add and subtract fluently. ELA unit 2 will provide the foundation necessary for students to comprehend informational texts of increasing complexity. Students will deepen their understanding of the organization of informational text as they use various print and text features such as: images, charts, diagrams, and captions. They will also ask questions to demonstrate an understanding of key details, ideas, and connections between scientific ideas and concepts in a text. After the unit is taught, students will complete the units 1 and 2 periodic assessment.

Conferences will begin the week of November 15. Look for information from your child's homeroom teacher.

Please send in crayons and replenish personal tissues for your child.

A MESSAGE FROM 3RD GRADE

Hey Third Grade, we have been busy learning about fables and folktales in ELA and working on multiplication facts in math. We are also getting ready to begin our new unit in science. Just a reminder that homework is sent home weekly every Monday. We should be doing one math and an ELA page each night and reading for 15 minutes. Please remind students how important it is to wear their masks properly, covering their nose and mouth. It would be very helpful if parents could send an extra mask as a backup in their backpack.

A MESSAGE FROM 4TH GRADE

As we move into the second quarter, we want to remind students to check their grades on Schoology daily. Students can always repair and return assignments for a better grade. In ELA, students will complete an author study on Kate DiCamillo and learn about her writing style by listening to one of her Newberry Award-winning books, *Because of Winn Dixie*. Students will also learn about the power of information through the development of an infographic. They will select a topic related to a social issue and conduct research to develop an infographic to inform others about both sides of the selected topic.

In math, students will continue to solve multistep problems and explore fractions. Please make sure your child is reviewing their math facts daily, and any information learned in class. In health, we will begin to talk about taking care of our bodies and developing healthy relationships. In Social Studies, we will talk about the Earliest Americans, and in science, we will learn about electricity is used to make certain objects move.

Please talk to your child about the importance of respecting other students and adults in our building and keeping hands to themselves.

A MESSAGE FROM 5TH GRADE

During November 5th grade, students will practice informational text skills by reading about the American Revolution. In math, adding and subtracting fractions will be explored. Our newest Science unit examines matter and interactions. Be on the lookout for information about the next Health unit that includes lessons teaching students about puberty and changes in their bodies. Parents may choose for their children to opt-out of certain lessons. Also, your child's teacher will be reaching out to you this week to schedule a time for a fall conference. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about 5th grade. Finally, regularly ask students if they need replenishing school supplies. Examples of supplies that will run out are pencils, highlighters, glue sticks, and scissors.

A MESSAGE MS. HAMPT THE VOCAL MUSIC TEACHER

For November, we are listening to music from American Indian culture in honor of American Indian Heritage Month. Second graders are listening to, writing, and reading music to learn about AB and Verse and Refrain forms. First graders are learning about the quarter and eighth notes and how to read them in notation. Kindergarteners are learning about different opposites such as fast and slow that affect the steady beat we learned earlier in the year.

A MESSAGE FROM MS. PRECHT OUR LIBRARIAN

SAVE THE DATE! December 13-17

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Winfield Elementary!

Your student will have the opportunity to visit the book fair during class for both a preview day and a purchase day. More details are coming soon!

Calling all volunteers to help with the Scholastic Book Fair!

Our students LOVE coming to the book fair! They'll need a little help finding the titles they want and figuring out how much the books cost. Can *you* lend a helping hand?

We're looking for volunteers to work either a morning shift (9:15 to 12:30) or an afternoon shift (1:00 to 4:00). You can come for just one day or several days. The book fair dates are Monday, December 13 through Friday, December 17.

If you want to be a part of this very special event, please email our school librarian, Ms. Precht, at lprecht@bcps.org, and THANK YOU!

A MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE

INFORMATION ON PEDIATRIC COVID VACCINES

November 4, 2021

Where can I get COVID vaccine for my 5-11 year old child?

- Check with your child's pediatrician. If they have COVID vaccine, please register for an appointment with their office.
- If your child's pediatrician does not have COVID vaccine, please sign up for an appointment on the Baltimore County COVID Vaccine website.

What if I only see a few appointments on the website? Don't worry. Additional clinics for the week of November 8 will be added to the website soon.

Where is Baltimore County offering COVID vaccines for 5-11 year olds? Baltimore County is holding clinics at the following locations in the next week:

- White Marsh Mall in the old Sears store;
- Sollers Point Community Center;
- Randallstown Community Center;
- Lansdowne Elementary School.

How can I get more information?

- Talk with your child's pediatrician about COVID vaccine; both the risks and benefits as well as ways to get an appointment.
- Call the Baltimore County COVID Hotline at 410-887-3816

A MESSAGE FROM MS. GRIFFITHS OUR SCHOOL TO COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

Hello, Winfield families; my name is Marissa Griffiths; I am the School to Community Coordinator. It is my job to serve as a liaison between the school and the local community. My role also focuses on organizing events for parents, families, and community members. I will be planning a few events to kick off at the end of this year. I will also be planning virtual/in-person educational workshops and family fun game nights, a cultural night, and a sip in paint, to name a few, for next year! I look forward to getting to know the parents and families at Winfield! If there is anything I could be of assistance with or if you have any ideas, please feel free to contact me at the school or email me at mgriffiths@bcps.org. Happy November!

INTERESTED IN BEING A PARENT VOLUNTEER?

Would you like to become a Parent Volunteer?

Dear Parents,

A few of our teachers are looking for some parent volunteers. That could be you!

To become a volunteer, here is what you have to do:

- Go on the BCPS website
- Under the orange Student & Families tab, click family community engagement
- On the blue tabs on the left-hand side, you are going to click BCPS volunteers.
- From there, click on the "Complete the BCPS Volunteer Application" You can send your Application to Ms. Griffiths at mgriffiths@bcps.org
- Then complete both the online Volunteer Orientation and the Health & Safety- Mitigation 2021 training. You can send both training certificates to Ms. Griffiths.
- Once Ms. Griffiths receives all the paperwork, she will contact the potential volunteer with the next steps.

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Maryland Legal Aid lawyers are offering free legal advice for eligible individuals in cases related to [Bankruptcy](#); Child Custody & Support; [Debt Collection](#); Foreclosure; Eviction; Landlord/Tenant; and other areas. For more information about Maryland Legal Aid and eligibility requirements, visit mdlab.org or call 888-213-3320.

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 zipcode to 898-211 **OR** call 2-1-1

Homework help

Get expert help from tutors at Brainfuse! Brainfuse is a free homework resource through the Baltimore county public library. You can find it on the county website

<https://www.bcpl.info/youth/homework-help.html> All you need is your library card number and password. In Brainfuse you can:

- **Chat live** from 2 p.m. to midnight, seven days a week. Spanish-speaking tutors are available
- **Send a Question** and get an answer within 24 hours
- Use **SkillSurfer** to practice long division, improve reading comprehension and learn other key skills
- Submit a writing sample to the **Writing Lab** and get feedback on structure, grammar, style and content to help you better organize and present your thoughts and information

GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts are inviting the girls of Winfield Elementary school in grades K-5 to join troop 04140!

Girl Scouts is an organization that focuses on building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. In Girl Scouts, girls have an opportunity to build healthy relationships, explore the outdoors, have hands-on experiences in STEM, learn life skills, participate in creative arts, and so much more. They are expanding their horizons and reaching higher heights, as well as, unleashing the power of the inner G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)™. Through the Girl Scouts Leadership Experience, girls are discovering about themselves and the world around them, connecting with others, and taking action in their communities. Many girls are participating in Girl Scout troops with girls of their grade level, to learn progressive skills in STEM, outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship.



**"THE
KINDNESS
TREE"**



**"THE
PUMPKIN
PATCH"**



**"THE CREEPY
COVEN"**

TIPS FOR BUILDING READING STAMINA

When children develop reading stamina, they learn to create habits that will assist them in taking ownership of their learning- whether for an assignment, for research, or when reading long passages during testing. The Children's Literacy Initiative defines reading stamina as "a child's ability to focus and read independently for a period of time and is something that ideally grows over the course of time." Building reading stamina will help your child develop the endurance to keep reading challenging texts and make deeper connections with the text. This will not only help them in ELA classes but in other classes and in their daily lives as well. Some ways to help build your child's reading stamina at home include:

1. Always have books available. Visit the local library to discover new books to read and make "wish lists" of what to read next.
2. Set a purpose for reading. Is your child reading for pleasure, to locate information, or to find out how to do something new?
3. Vary how reading is done- have your child read independently, have your child read to you, and read to your child.
4. Make reading a family event. Model sustained reading at home. Take time for everyone to read together, whether it is the same book or a book at everyone's level.

For more ways to help build your child's reading stamina at home, look into the following articles:

- Reading Rockets- "[Building Reading Stamina](#)" (English) | "[Fomento del aguante para leer](#)" (Spanish)
- Children's Literacy Initiative- "[Building Literacy Muscles](#)"

MATH AT HOME

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/5-ways-build-math-your-childs-day>

[5 Ways to Build Math into Your Child's Day | NAEYC](#)

Math is everywhere. That's great news for parents, because we can talk with our kids about math in fun, natural ways. And that kind of math-talk is really important.

www.naeyc.org

1. **Bake something together**

You can't help but use math when you're baking. Doubling recipes requires multiplying, halving a recipe requires dividing, and measuring a $\frac{1}{2}$ cup or a $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon gets you working with easy fractions. At a more basic level, kids love counting out chocolate chips. (And so do the parents; we speak from experience!)

Ask your child: *How many chocolate chips do you think it will take to fill one cup? How many for $\frac{1}{2}$ cup? Count together and see how close you came to the right answer!*

2. **Measure, count, and record**

Most kids love stopwatches, and watching the seconds tick by gives them opportunities to practice counting. Measure distances and heights. Count jumping jacks, push-ups, or consecutive kicks of a soccer ball.

Ask your child: *How far can you throw a ball? Take a guess, then throw the ball as far as you can and measure the distance.*

How many jumping jacks can you do in a minute? Try it!

How many times can you jump rope or bounce a ball without missing? Count and see.

3. **Build something together**

Big or small, any project that involves measuring includes counting, adding, and multiplying. It doesn't matter whether you're making a clubhouse out of shoeboxes or building a genuine tree house. Legos and other building toys are wonderful tools for incorporating both numbers and spatial thinking into playtime.

Ask your child: *How high can you build that stack of Legos?*

How many Legos do you need to stack to reach as high as the coffee table?

Can you make a square? A rectangle? Other shapes? Talk about the shapes of whatever your child has created.

4. **Plan dinner or a party**

Whether you're planning a party or just getting ready for a family dinner, there are plenty of math concepts involved. Have your child help set the table and count out the plates, napkins, and silverware. For a party, have your child help with the shopping. You know you're going to have to do some math since all of those plates, balloons, and party favors are packaged in different quantities!

Ask your child: *How many plates, napkins, and forks do you need for dinner?*

If you're inviting 10 guests to a party, and the plates come 8 to a pack, how many packs are you going to need? How many are going to be left over?

If you're not planning a party in the near future, get creative. Why not host a tea party for your child's favorite stuffed animals?

5. Mix in math to your bedtime reading

Most families read to their children at night. Why not add a math problem to the mix? Here's one to try.

Melt in Your Mouth

No matter how much you love your favorite snack (apples, marshmallows, pound cake), it probably tastes even better dipped in something warm and gooey. That's what you do when you eat fondue. You fill the fondue pot with cheese or chocolate, put it over a hot flame, and then dip pieces of food into the yummy meltedness using long skinny fondue forks.

It all started with cheese fondue in a Swiss recipe in 1699, but since then we've added meat fondue (where you carefully cook chunks of steak in hot oil) and, of course, chocolate fondue. But you have to pay attention while dipping: Some say that if you drop your apple slice in the pot, you have to kiss the person to your left.

Ask your 3 or 4-year old: *If you dip 2 apple slices and 3 banana slices into your fondue, how many pieces did you dip?*

Ask your older child: *If there are 2 people sharing cheese fondue and everyone wants 3 apple slices, how many apple slices do you need to serve?*

There are plenty of other ways to keep kids thinking about math—board games, stickers, and stargazing, to name a few. The important thing is just to encourage your child to see the numbers all around us and to keep things fun. This is how we'll raise a next generation that thinks math is cool!



CONTACT INFORMATION

 @WinfieldESBCPS

Need to talk with Principal Bisker?

Please contact the office to schedule an appointment.

Preferred days and times are on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30-9:00 am or 4:15-4:45 pm

 8300 Carlson Lane, Windsor M...  410-887-0766

 winfieldes.bcps.org/