

The Mammoth Mailing

October 2021 Issue



Hello! From your administrative team- Ms. Berger & Ms. Bisker



Popsicles with the Principal Bisker & Staff!



Welcome to Kindergarten!

A message from Principal Bisker

Happy Fall, Everyone!

Can you believe we have completed one month of school? We are so very proud of all the hard work our students are doing at Winfield Elementary. As I walk through the halls and visit classrooms, I have seen our students demonstrate a strong understanding of the routines and procedures of our school. They are also persevering through rigorous work that challenges them each and every day. I look forward to our next month of school, and all the exciting things are students will learn. As you read through the newsletter, you will learn what your child has learned in the last few weeks or what they are gearing up to learn soon! We hope this information will help you to assist your children at home better. You will also find contact information and preferred times to reach out to your child's teacher. As always, we thank you for your partnership with us today, tomorrow, and every day!

In partnership with you,
Ms. Bisker




About Us

 @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 Mi...

 410-887-0766

 winfieldes.bcps.org/

Important Calendar Dates & Flyers

10/15- No School- Maryland Teachers' Conference
10/13/ PTA Meeting: Virtual Google Meet Code: WESPTA
10/28 Trunk-or-Treat at Northwest Hospital
11/5 Magnet Program Application Deadline



Winfield_Elementary_Trunk_or_Treat.pdf

Northwest Hospital will host trunk-or-treat on October 28th!

 Download

722.5 KB



Magnet Program Information.pdf

Magnet Program Information- Deadline November 5, 2021

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322.4 KB

Community Events and Resources

- 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 410-887-0766.

-Free flu shots at Owings Mills High School on 10/23 from 9 am to 12 pm! Questions? Please visit umstjoseph.org/flu or call 410-337-1337.

-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

Shout-Out to Our Building Service Workers

On October 2nd, we celebrated our building service workers who keep our classrooms, hallways, restrooms, and grounds maintained, cleaned, and sanitized daily. Mr. Chittams, Ms. Carter, and Ms. Jacks- A very special thank you to all you do for Winfield Elementary!

Winfield Kindness Week

Winfield Kindness Week will be held the week of October 18th through October 22nd. Each day, we will celebrate a community value; if your student would like to wear an accessory to represent the value + color of the day, please do so!

Monday: Wear blue to show civility! We show civility at Winfield by being kind and courteous to everyone.

Tuesday: Wear green to show empathy! We show empathy at Winfield by listening to our friends and showing that we care about their feelings.

Wednesday: Wear orange to show unity! We are unified as one Winfield family to say no to bullying and yes to being a peaceful person.

Thursday: Wear red to show respect! We show respect at Winfield by accepting everyone, even if they are different than us.

Friday: Wear purple to show positivity! We show positivity at Winfield by choosing to be a bucket-filler every day!

A Message from Nurse Newmark

Covid is still upon us as much as we all wish it to be gone already...

- Please make sure not to send your child to school with any symptoms related to COVID, such as FEVER (100°F or higher), cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, bad headache, vomiting/diarrhea, loss of taste or smell.
- If they have any symptoms, please check with their PCP if testing is warranted.
- If they are sent home from school due to symptoms related to COVID, please follow the directions that another health services member or I give you, such as testing for COVID and if the result is negative, to make sure to receive documentation of the result/alternate diagnosis and for your child to stay home as long as they have symptoms.
- If they have had an exposure to COVID-19 and need to be in quarantine, please make sure they stay in quarantine for the entire length of time that is recommended by their HCP and at least ten days from their last exposure to COVID.
- If they have tested positive for COVID, please let me/the school know ASAP.
- If one of your children tests positive, then other children in the family also have to stay home from school in quarantine. (Unless they are older than 12 and are fully vaccinated, then they may not need to quarantine, but ask first before sending them to school.)

If you have any questions about if you should send your child to school or not, please don't hesitate to call me at 410-887-4711.

A Message from Dr. LaFountain, our School Psychologist: Good Sleep is Essential for Good Learning!

Did you know? 11 to 14 hours of sleep are recommended for toddlers and preschoolers; 9 to 12 hours of sleep are recommended for grade schoolers. Here are some suggestions to promote healthy sleep:

- Establish a consistent bedtime to keep young bodies on schedule; bedtime should be early enough to include the time it takes a child to settle themselves and fall asleep.
- Develop a relaxing, consistent bedtime routine, which will cue a child's mind and body to relax and settle in preparation for sleep.

- Every family has different demands on their time across a week so even if a bedtime is a little later on some days, going through the same routine as much as possible is still really helpful in preparing for sleep.
- An example of a bedtime routine might be bath/shower, dimming lights, talking quietly with a parent, adult, or older sibling about the day, reading with a parent, adult or older sibling, perhaps a special song, and lights out.
- To whatever extent possible, remove screens and devices from the bedroom.
- The lighting of screens on monitors, phones, televisions, and tablets mimic sunlight and interfere with a brain's ability to move into sleep.
- Being on the phone, social media, games, etc. keeps the mind alert, and may create stress (especially social media) which not only interferes with falling asleep but the quality of sleep overall.
- It is recommended that children and adolescents be off ALL screens an hour before they need to fall asleep.
- Eliminate (or do not introduce) caffeine.
- Encourage daily, sustained physical activity for thirty to sixty minutes a day, but earlier in the day, not right before bedtime.
- If your child is having trouble falling or staying asleep, your pediatrician is a great resource in addressing sleep problems.

Mathematics Improvement Strategies

Provide activities that enrich and relate mathematics to daily life:

- Talk about how many bowls to put out for dinner
- Fold napkins in different shapes
- Have your child count similar items as you put away groceries
- Have your child help measure ingredients for recipes
- Give your child change to count out to pay for small purchases at the store; have older children calculate the change
- Ask your child to compare prices of items by asking things like, "Which can of beans costs more?"
- Allow your child to weigh the fresh produce; have older children calculate the price by multiplying the price per pound by the number of pounds
- Read the days and dates on a calendar, talk about the number of days in the month, the number of days remaining until a special event, etc.
- Draw a scale map of your home and determine the best escape route in case of an emergency
- When traveling, write numbers on a grid and have your child color in the box as they see the numbers on signs or license plate

Provide some math activities at home:

- Each person rolls the dice and adds, subtracts, or multiplies the numbers.
- Dice and Money- Each person rolls a die and gets the number of pennies as dots shown. When someone gets five pennies, they trade it in for a nickel, dime, and so forth until they're trading for a dollar.
- For two people, give each person 13 cards from a deck of cards, have each person flip a card, then have your child decide whose card has the higher value to determine who wins the set of cards. In a tie, place three additional cards face-down, then turn the last card up; the higher card on that turn wins all the cards. Play until one person has all the cards in the deck
- Newspapers and Magazines- Find numbers in print and cut them out, then glue them in the correct order onto a larger sheet of paper.
- Keep empty containers, write different prices on them, then play Store by using a calculator to



 Parent strategies for i...

www.nwea.org



**Dr. Williams Visits
Winfield Elementary!**



Meet WES Lawn Crew



**Meet Mr. Chittams,
our Lead Building
Service Worker**

A message from Pre-K

Happy Fall PreK Families!

We had a very busy first month of school! The children have been practicing following our classroom rules and routines. We are finishing up our geometry unit in math and will begin the unit on counting and the number system next week. We started our first unit in ELA, All About PreK, and the students will be learning their letters and sounds. Additionally, the students have been learning about the role of author and illustrator and the parts of a book. Finally, please consider sending in 2 extra masks daily for your child to have as a backup. Please also check to see that the masks correctly fit your child so that it does not require constant adjusting during the day. Safety is our number one priority!

Thank you so much for being so supportive!

Ms. Acie

A message from Kindergarten

The students in Mrs. Campbell's, Mrs. Schwartz's, Ms. Northern's, and Mrs. Katenkamp's classes are doing an excellent job learning the daily routines! We are so happy to have your children in our classes and are looking forward to a great year of learning!

In ELA, the students have been working on asking and answering questions about key details in a text, identifying the characters and setting in a story, and staying actively engaged in group reading activities with purpose and understanding. Students have been demonstrating an understanding of the organization and basic features of print, including how to follow print from left to right, top to

bottom, and page by page. Finally, they have been participating in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups. During the month of October, we will continue working on these skills and standards. We will also begin identifying the main topic and key details in a text, identifying the relationship between the illustrations and the text, using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or compose an opinion piece in which they tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book (e.g., My favorite book is).

Last month in Math, students worked on identifying and writing the numbers 0-5, building sets of 0-10 on five frames and ten frames using manipulatives, as well as, creating and extending simple patterns. We are beginning Unit 2 in Math. The topics we will be covering in this unit are comparing sets of objects using the words more and less, showing different ways to make 5 and 10, counting objects, and writing the numeral to match and two-dimensional shapes. Please see the parent letter that went home in your child's take-home folder to show you ideas of how you can help your child with these skills.

Homework began on October 4th. Please see the inside cover of your child's homework notebook for the daily homework assignments. We are also asking that children read or be read to for at least 10 minutes every night. Your child will complete homework on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. They will turn in their homework book every Friday to be checked. It will be returned to you by the following Monday.

Important Reminders:

- *label all belongings
- *bring yellow folder daily and check/remove papers every night!
- *bring your fully charged computer every day with the charger cord
- *bring a water bottle daily!

A message from the 1st grade team

First grade just started science and are already having a blast being scientists. This unit includes observing patterns in the sky by using their shadows and the height of the sun.

In ELA, students identify characters, settings, and major events in fiction texts to retell the story.

In math, students have been solving equations and story problems by adding and subtracting within 20, skip counting by 2, 5 and 10, measuring with non-standard units, analyzing data, and much more!

Homework is assigned Monday-Friday. It is handed out Monday and due back on Friday for a completion grade. Children should also be reading 15-20 minutes every day to help with fluency and comprehension. This includes parents reading to their children.

A message from the 2nd grade team

In math, we are identifying numbers as odd and even, compare numbers, and solve word problems. In ELA, we are identifying story elements and explaining characters' responses to challenges. Students are encouraged to practice addition and subtraction facts within 20 to build fluency. They're also encouraged to read nightly. She/he should ask and answer questions about what is being read.

Homework should be completed nightly. Please check your child's yellow folder. Teachers can be reached via email. Please allow 24-48 hours for a response.

A message from the 3rd grade team

In math, we are practicing addition and subtraction strategies, including problem-solving using 2-digit by 2-digit calculations. Students are encouraged to practice addition and subtraction facts to increase fact fluency. Students can log into their First In Math accounts at home to practice.

In ELA, we are identifying the main idea and key details while learning about the connection between humans and nature. Students should read 15-20 minutes nightly to help increase fluency. Students have access to Raz Kids and Tumble Books to access extra reading materials if needed!

Please check your child's yellow folder daily. Homework is assigned weekly on Monday and is due on Friday. They should also be completing their reading logs that are sent home.

The third-grade team is available to conference via telephone on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 2:55 - 3:45 pm. We can also be reached via email throughout the day and plan to respond within 24-48 hours.

A message from the 4th grade team

Students are adjusting to being back in the building and getting back into the swing of learning. Please encourage your child to keep the mask entirely on the face, covering the mouth and nose. Some students wear them on their chin and must be reminded several times a day to put it on properly. Homework is being assigned Monday-Friday. It is handed out Monday and due back on Friday for a completion grade. Since we don't eat lunch until 1:30, please encourage your child to eat breakfast at school or bring something that they like to eat so that they are able to hold off until lunchtime. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our team. We are available by phone during planning from 9:30-10:20 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and after school from 4:15-4:30. We are also available throughout the day by email. Please allow 24hrs to respond.

A message from the 5th grade team

The 5th-grade students are off to an excellent start for the new school year. We have been learning about the area of a polygon and the volume of solid figures. In reading and writing, we are focusing on informational text. In the last couple of weeks, we have learned about the American colonies so that students have a greater understanding of our country and government.

To help your child at home, please be sure that he/she spends at least 20 minutes a day of uninterrupted reading. Students could also use practice memorizing multiplication facts. This will also be in addition to any homework assigned for reading and math. Please make sure that every night your child fully charges his/her device so that it is charged for an entire day of learning. A full water bottle would help a lot since we do not have water fountains at the school.

The application deadline for middle school Magnet programs is November 5. Please visit https://dci.bcps.org/departments/educational_options/educational_opportunities/magnet_programs for all the relevant details.

If you need to contact a 5th-grade teacher, please call the school between 1:50 and 2:50 PM. The best way to contact teachers is digitally. Teacher emails are as follows: Ms. Gerald (fgerald@bcps.org), Dr. Shell (mshell2@bcps.org), and Mrs. Hixon (shixon@bcps.org).

A message from Ms. Precht, our school librarian

Your student is invited to check out one book from our school library each week. If your student is bringing a library book home, please keep it in a safe place away from food, drinks, and pets. Library

books need to be returned to our book drop within fourteen days. Also, students can access Destiny to read eBooks on a device! Go to baltimore.follettdestiny.com and click "Winfield Elementary School." Click "Login" and then click "BCPS Log In." Happy reading!

A message from Ms. Aiken, our instrumental music teacher

4th Grade musicians experimented using water and glass bottles to learn about the pitch. They discovered that adding water to the bottle lowered the pitch. Instrument masks have arrived, and 5th-grade musicians sound great!

Additional Resources



Creating a Parent Account in B2C.pdf

Please create an account to access your child's grades!

[Download](#)

676.3 KB



Building_Reading_Stamina.pdf

[Download](#)

170.7 KB