

Delmar Elementary Bobcat News

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It is hard to imagine that we have come to the end of October and the close of the first marking term on November 3rd. What an exciting month it has been for the children and staff!

We began the month with Fire Prevention Week, focusing on this year's theme, "Practice Your Escape Plan". During the week, we had officials from the Delmar Fire Department visit with our children to speak with them about fire safety issues. The children had an opportunity to learn about the equipment a firefighter uses when battling a blaze and then to see some of the various trucks used and an opportunity to ride on the truck. For our older students the firemen shared information regarding Emergency Medical Technicians and various other roles in the field of Fire Safety personnel. After the presentations, teachers reinforced safety issues with the children on what to do in the event of a fire. Please take some time to speak with your child on fire safety procedures and the importance of having an escape route just in case a situation ever arises.

Recently, our Prekindergarten and Kindergarteners had the opportunity to visit Mr. Pepper's Pumpkin Patch for a fun filled day of learning. These trips were designed to support themes and concepts being studied in their class. Kindergarten has been studying math units that focused on size, shape and comparing objects. Our First Graders went to visit Pemberton Historical Park and worked with one of the county's naturalist on habits and their inhabitants. The students have been reading a unit entitled, Lets Look Around.

In Second Grade, the children have completed a unit of study entitled, Nature Walk. The study focused on the habits within the community. This unit coordinated very well with their Social Studies unit, Our Community. During the first part of

November they have a field trip planned to the Delmar Fire Department. The focus of the trip is to see how the fire department works with other agencies to provide the community with needed services.

Our Third Grade has a trip planned to the National Aquarium in the coming week which coincides with the reading theme on animal habits. They will also take part in the Agricultural Lab which will take place later in the month.

In the coming month our Fourth Grade will be involved with the Salisbury Zoological Park taking part in the LEAF (Local Ecology, Animal and Forest) Program. All fourth grade students in the county are provided with this opportunity to learn about local ecosystems and animal life on the Delmarva Peninsula. In addition, they will have an opportunity to take part in the Aquatic Lab study which will take place during the week of November 5th. In Fifth Grade, the students have just finished a literature study that focused on Tall Tales and will begin studying biographies shortly. In math students completed Data, Statistics and Graphs and will begin Number Theory and Fraction Concepts. Finally, they have a field trip planned to see the play Rumpelstiltskin

Mark your calendar for November 12th through 16th and plan to celebrate **American Education Week** with us. This year's theme is Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility. The hours to visit will be from 8:30 AM until 2:30 PM. This will provide the school ample time to prepare the children for our 3:00 PM dismissal. More information regarding AEW week will be coming home in the near future.



SPECIAL NOTES

VISITOR'S PASSES – We would like to thank all our families for their help in using visitor passes. For those of you who are not familiar with the pass, we ask all visitors to report to the office first to obtain a pass before going to a classroom.

MEDICATION– With the winter months approaching, we are beginning to see more sniffles, sneezes, and coughs. Remember that county policy states, all medications must be brought to school in their original container by an adult along with a physician's order. This policy also applies to all throat and cough lozenges. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pase (410-677-5178), the school nurse, for more information.

ATTENDANCE -At this time we are asking parents for their support to see that their children are in school every day. Each month, our school keeps a record of the overall student attendance, which is reported to the state monthly as well as annually. Under the federal mandate of No Child Left Behind, our school must obtain an annual attendance rate of 94% in order to meet the state's satisfactory level. In reviewing our current records, we presently have a yearly percentage rate of 95.75% which is great but we will need your assistance to keep this percentage from falling below the state mandate. Please help us by seeing that your child is in school every day so they can continue to grow academically. This is very important to our school and we appreciate your continued support and cooperation in this matter. Thanks

SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT - This year Delmar Elementary continues to implement a Safe Learning Environment as a component of the school's Action Plan. In this document, we have identified particular areas of need that if worked upon, will enhance the school's overall atmosphere. The goal of our school plan is to provide a safe and orderly environment that is conducive to learning for all students. One facet of the plan focuses on the need to be prepared in the event of an emergency. Delmar Elementary School has developed a Crisis Intervention Plan which has been in place for the past few years. The plan outlines procedures the school will follow if an emergency situation arises. Throughout this year, teachers have been and will continue to work with the children on safety drills. These drills are designated by a color code to assist the staff and children in knowing which procedures are to be followed. Soon, we will be moving to school-wide drill simulations to help in coordinating our efforts to foster a safe school environment. We just want to assure all parents that the safety and well being of our students is of the utmost importance to the faculty and staff at Delmar Elementary School.

PTA News:

On Saturday, October 19th, the Delmar PTA held its first Annual Bobcat Open Golf Tournament. The event was a huge success. We want to thank all our community partners for their sponsorships: The Bank of Delmar, Old Mill Crab House, Sherwood Ford, Spicer Brother/Mason Construction, Mid- Eastern Oil Co., Wicomico Heating and Air, Rotech Millwright services, Dunn's Tractor Supply and Don Richardson, PA. We would also like to thank the following civic organizations for sponsoring teams: Delmar Lions Club, Delmar Kiwanis & Delmar VFW. Huge thanks goes to Mrs. Hall, Ms. Hicks, the PTA Executive Committee and a number of volunteers for their dedication and hours of service that went into coordinating this event. It truly was a wonderful day and plans are already underway to make next year's Bobcat Open more spectacular!!!

SIMPLE STRATEGIES FOR CREATING A STRONG READER

Without a doubt, reading with children spells SUCCESS for early literacy. Putting a few simple strategies into action will make a significant difference in helping children develop into good readers and writers.

Through reading aloud, providing printed materials, and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on children's literacy and learning.

- Invite your child to read with you every day.
- When reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help your child learn that reading goes from left to right and understand that the word you are saying is the word they are seeing.
- Read your child's favorite book over and over again.

- Read many stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite your child to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as they read along with you.
- Discuss new words. For example, "This big house is called a palace. Who would live in a palace?"
- Stop and ask about pictures and about what is happening in the story. You can also have your child make predictions regarding the events in a story.
- Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, songbooks, poems, and information books.

Reading well is at the heart of all learning. Children, who can't read well, can't learn. Help make a difference for your child.

(Ed Publications Center /U.S. Department of Education, June 2002)

Asbestos Management Mandates – In October 1986, the US Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under the law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations required the Board of Education to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop asbestos management plans and address asbestos hazards in school buildings and to implement response actions in a timely manner.

These regulations assign schools many responsibilities. The Wicomico County Board of Education's program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in the asbestos management plan for each school. The plan contains information on the school's inspection results, reinspections, and related material to meet the requirements of AHERA. Management plans can be reviewed at individual schools during normal school hours. The plans will also be available at the Board of Education for review.

Sept. 2007

VIB's (Very Important Bobcats) for the Month of September

PreK - K

Mrs. Spicer - Belle Moore

Ms White - Olivia Paradis

1st grade

Mrs. Hudson - Kaleigh Layton

Mrs. Mason - Brendan M. Hughes

2nd grade

Mrs. Andrews - Bobbie-Rae Jones; Hunter Grachik

Ms Moore - Taylor Sargent; Megan Baker

3rd grade

Mrs. Lewis - Madison Hensley-Hill

Mrs. Smith - Jada Jackson

Miss Switalski - Alton (Tommy) White

4th grade

Ms Campbell - Taylor Reid

Ms Elliott - Kara Milewski

Mrs. Marine - Alexis Malone

5th grade

Mrs. Ferrell - Emmet Walling

Mrs. Moore - Tiffany Meadows

Mrs. Owens - Christiana Schilling; Hannah Mudge

Mrs. Rockwell - Justin Jones

