

The *SKIPPER*



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News from our Principal

Dear Fruitland Families,
Welcome to a new school year at Fruitland Primary School. This is the first of nine monthly editions of the Skipper. This newsletter is a critical link to keeping our school community informed. Look for a copy to be sent home on the last day of each month.

There have been several staff changes at Fruitland Primary for the 2009-2010 school year. I enthusiastically joined the staff in July as principal. During my 15 years in the county, I have worked at East Salisbury, Fruitland Intermediate, Westside Intermediate, and most recently at Westside Primary School. I have enjoyed meeting many of you already and look forward to meeting all of you as the year unfolds.

There have been several other additions to our staff. Please join me in welcoming the following new faculty and staff members: **Martha Hollenbach**, first grade teacher; **Jessica Hanes**, kindergarten teacher; **Mary Taylor**, kindergarten instructional assistant; **John Parker**, second grade instructional assistant; **Barbara Israel**, in school Suspension assistant; and **Samantha Miles**, home school liaison. **We have had two other changes, Carolyn Check**, our former second grade teacher has moved to our first grade team and **Denise Collins**, our former kindergarten teacher has joined our second grade team.

There are many opportunities to help out and be a part of your child's edu-



A Message from our school Principal, Mrs. Ellen Bradshaw

cational experience. We encourage you to be involved at the school. Volunteers are welcome at all times to assist students and teachers.

We are excited about working with you as we provide "success for every student, everyday!"

Respectfully,
Ellen Bradford Harlan

School Hours

School hours are from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. This is when adult supervision is available. For this reason students are not permitted on school grounds without a parent prior to 8:30 AM and must be picked up no later than 4:00 PM. Classes begin daily at 9:00 AM and students should be in their rooms by this time. Dismissal will begin promptly at 3:25 PM. Thank you in advance for adhering to this schedule.

**INCLEMENT
WEATHER?**

410-677-5100

WWW.WCBOE.ORG

Health Concerns

This year, we are all concerned about the possible effects of the H1N1 virus on our students and their families. The center for Disease Control and Prevention has provided the following information to assist parents in protecting their children:

ACTION STEPS TO HELP FROM H1N1 (Information from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention)

- Educate and encourage children and family members to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not into your hand.
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing hands often with soap and water. Hand sanitizers with 60% alcohol are also effective.
- Be a good role model by practicing good hand hygiene and covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- If you or your child is sick, stay home until you have no fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Clean surfaces and items that are more likely to have frequent hand contact, such as doorknobs and cupboard handles.
- Get your family vaccinated against seasonal flu AND H1N1 flu when vaccine is available.
- Plan ahead for child care if your child gets sick or if his or her school is dismissed.
- If more severe H1N1 conditions appear, the Centers for Disease Control recommends keeping a sick child or adult at home for 7 days, and keeping a school-age child in a household where another family member is sick at home for 5 days.)
- Try to isolate a sick person in a separate room in the house away from the family.

Captain's Cafe

* Breakfast is available to all students from 8:30 AM to 8:50 AM. The cost of breakfast is \$1.00 for elementary students.

* Lunch is served daily and costs \$2.00 for elementary students.

* Menus will be sent home each month.

* The cafe also sells milk and ice cream for \$0.50. Our kindergarten students will be permitted to purchase ice cream this year starting 9/14/09.

* Parents are able to put money on student accounts or send it in daily. Please keep all accounts current.

* Students use an account number daily. Please assist your child in memorizing this number.

* Our school provides free and reduced breakfast and lunch for all of our students whose families meet the Federal Guidelines established for the program. Applications will be sent home later this month. A new form must be completed each year and returned to the school. Staff at the Board Of Education will process these and notify you upon completion.

* **No carbonated beverages are permitted in the cafe.**

Visitors

One of our primary goals is to provide a safe and effective learning environment everyday for all students. The U.S. Department of Education's guidelines for school security recommend limiting school access points and implementing a visitor control system. For this reason, new doors have been added to the foyer. All visitors wishing to visit must enter through the office and sign in. We use a visitor sign-in monitoring system called the Complete Campus Security System. This easy-to-use system includes custom software donated by the Ident-A-Kid National Child Safety Program..

When you visit our school, go to the "Visitor Sign-In Computer", click on the correct badge and type your first and last name. Then, simply click the "Check-in" button and the system will quickly take your photo, log in the time of your visit and print a personalized visitor badge. Please wear the badge at all times while you are in the school. When you leave, simply click the "Check-out" box and then click on your name. Should you need assistance with the process feel free to ask our office staff and they will be glad to help. Thank you in advance for helping us make our school a safer place for our children.

Fruitland Primary School Dismissal Procedures

Only buses are permitted in the front loop from 8:15 to 9:00 and from 3:00 to 4:00. Dismissal will begin at 3:25 daily. Please follow all traffic laws.

Everyday Car Riders

- Please be reminded a form must be completed each year for students to be designated as everyday car riders.
- These students will wait at the second grade end of the hallway.
- Parents and students will have an assigned number. Please display your assigned number in the windshield.
- We are encouraging parents to remain in their vehicles. Do not leave your vehicle unattended in the line.
- No parents are to enter the south wing doors. Parents must use the front entrance.

Occasional Car Riders

- Whenever a change in transportation is required, please send a note in your child's agenda. If this is an every week change- one note will be sufficient.
- Parents will need to use the front door, sign students out in the office, and wait in the foyer.
- Students will be called on the announcements and wait in line in front of the office windows to be released to their parent/guardian.

Bus Riders & Walkers

- All bus riders and walkers will be dismissed from the cafeteria.
- Walkers will be led off site by a designated school personnel.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at (410)677-5171. Safety must always be our top priority!

Student Absences:

Please return a note to your child's homeroom teacher if it is necessary for your child to be absent from school. Without a note of excuse, students will be recorded as unexcused.

If it is necessary for a student to be dismissed early, a morning note will help teachers prepare your child for leaving early. Likewise any change of afternoon transportation, please send a morning note if possible.

Fruitland Fundraiser

Our fall fundraiser will be Yankee Candle products and Otis Spunkmeyer cookies. We think you will be pleased with the improved quality and product selection. It began on September 4th and will conclude on September 23rd. Profits will be used to enhance our instructional program. This year all students that sell 15 or more items will have the opportunity to participate in an exciting activity at Crown Sports.

Please share these products with your family and friends, and help support our school. We do not wish students to go door to door for safety reasons. Thank you for your assistance.

Cub Scout Pack 184,

Registration Night for boys in 1st through 5th grade, Wednesday September 16, 2009, 7pm-8pm, Fruitland Primary school, in the cafeteria.

Registration Fees:

- \$23 for Tiger Scouts (first grade) includes Handbook
 - \$16 for Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scouts (grades 2nd thru 5th)
 - Subscription to Boy's Life Magazine \$12
- Checks made payable to Pack 184
Any questions call Stephanie Giarratano at 410-860-8739

Meeting Friday, September 25th, 7pm-8:30pm, Fruitland Primary school, in the cafeteria.

PTA:

Ms. Michelle Mezick will serve as PTA president for this year.

Your help is needed in volunteering for at least one of the special activities scheduled for this year.

Please join our PTA and become an active participant in the special events of the school year! Children love to see their parents working in school for them. Everyone is welcome.

**FRUITLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

301 North Division Street

Phone: 410-677-5171

Fax: 410-677-5176

E-mail: Link from Administration
page at <http://fps.wcboe.org>

We're on the Web!
<http://fps.wcboe.org>



From the Cafeteria

BREAKFAST

(Served with fruit or fruit juice)

Student \$1.00 Adult \$1.50

LUNCH

(1/2 pint of milk served with each meal)

Student \$2.00 Adult \$3.30
Milk \$.50

**Cafeteria Breakfast/Lunch
Accounts**

**Mrs. Watson, Cafeteria
Manager ask us to remind parents
to bring their child's account up to
date. Please check with her at your
earliest convenience to see what
your balance is. You may reach
her by calling the school office and
asking for the cafeteria manager.**

**WICOMICO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

The Wicomico County Board of Education has adopted the following definition of directory information by the Final Rule on Education Records, Section 93.3, provided by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare:

Directory information may only include the student's name, address, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous local school system or educational institution attended by the student.

The Wicomico County school system will release directory information only for legitimate educational purposes. If a parent/guardian, or student over 18, is unwilling to have a school provide any or all categories of what is defined above as "directory information" for legitimate educational purposes, the parent or student should notify the principal of his/her school by October 15, 2009.

Dr. John Fredericksen
Superintendent of Schools

Opening Day Packet

Each student took home an opening day packet on their first day of school. The following items were included:

- Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act
- Right of Access to Student Records
- Integrated Pest Management Program
- Student Media Release Agreement
- Positive Behavior Intervention & Support
- FPS Behavioral Expectations
- Student Insurance
- Personal Data Forms with Emergency Record
- New WCBOE Code of Conduct
- New WCBOE Bullying /Harassment Policy

We hope you have had time to review all of this information. If you have any questions please contact the office. Please note the WCBOE Code of Conduct and Bullying/Harassment Policies are new to all Wicomico County Schools this year.

If you have not done so, please return the following items to school:

Personal Data & Emergency Form:

- All parents need to update this sheet yearly to ensure the school has the correct emergency contact numbers.

Student Media Release:

- Throughout the year, the local media visits us to photograph and interview students during special activities or in the regular school program. Parents need to indicate whether or not they give permission for their child to be involved in publicity.