



MUSTANG MESSENGER NOVEMBER 2009 ISSUE WESTSIDE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

DATES OF IMPORTANCE

NOVEMBER 2	BULLYING ASSEMBLY GRADES 2 AND 3 AM/GRADES 4 AND 5 PM READING BENCHMARK (GRADES 2-5)
NOVEMBER 3	MCDONALD'S FAMILY NIGHT 5:00-8:00 PM READING BENCHMARK (GRADES 2-5)
NOVEMBER 4	END OF FIRST MARKING PERIOD GRADE 4 RED CROSS DEMONSTRATION 10:15 AM
NOVEMBER 5	MATH BENCHMARK (GRADES 3-5) PTA LEGISLATIVE NIGHT DI TRY-OUTS IN MRS. SKEETER'S ROOM (C-29) 3:30 PM-4:30PM – PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE A TURNED IN A PERMISSION SLIP
NOVEMBER 6	MAKE UP PICTURE DAY MATH BENCHMARK (GRADES 3-5)
NOVEMBER 9	PTA EX. MEETING 4:15 PM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM MATH BENCHMARK (GRADE 2)
NOVEMBER 10	MATH BENCHMARK (GRADE 2) WATER SAFETY MRS. WILLING'S CLASS 9:00-12:00 PM
NOVEMBER 11	WATER SAFETY MRS. THOMAS AND MRS. BROWN'S CLASSES 9:00-12:00 PM
NOVEMBER 12	REPORT CARDS GO HOME WATER SAFETY MS. HARMON AND MR. IRETON'S CLASSES 9:00-12:00 PM
NOVEMBER 13	DOG TAG AWARDS DAY (these are approx. times) GRADE 2 10:30-11:10 AM GRADE 3 9:45-10:30 AM GRADE 4 1:30-2:15 GRADE 5 2:30-3:15
NOVEMBER 16-20	AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK
NOVEMBER 17 AND 18	COCO'S FAMILY NIGHT 5:30-7:30 PM
NOVEMBER 20	GRANDPARENT'S DAY AEW
NOVEMBER 25-29	SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING



AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

American Education Week will be celebrated during the week of November 16-20. We invite all our parents, grandparents, and friends to visit and see what happens at Westside five days a week. We are asking that all our visitors stop by the welcome table and sign in before going to visit classes. Please leave all small children at home, as this will interrupt instruction. Please turn cell phones off and gentlemen, please remove your hats. We ask our children to do this all the time and they sometimes don't understand why dad can keep his hat on in the building and they cannot. We ask that you not arrive before 9:00 A.M. and leave before 3:00 P.M. This is for safety reasons, buses entering and leaving school grounds, students walking to and from school and parents dropping and picking up students. The beginning and ending of the day can be very hectic sometimes. We want you to visit during the best time of day to see instruction taking place. A special day will be held on **Friday, November 20th** for our grandparents. We hope to see you all and stop by on your way out to enjoy refreshments. All grades will be having special events during the week in their classrooms. Information will be coming home with your child/ren regarding these events and activities.

School Counselor's Corner



The "Core Essential" for November is **Cooperation**, or working together to do more than you can do alone. In our classroom guidance lessons, we have been using the Second Step curriculum and focusing on empathy training.

To see more about what is going on with the empathy training, please visit my website at <http://westsideintcounseling.wicomico.wikispaces.net/>. You will also see "take home letters" about the curriculum that you can print off if you choose.

Scott Taylor
School Counselor

Westside Intermediate is very proud of our students' willingness to help those less fortunate than themselves. Our patrols have chosen collecting canned food for the Maryland Food Bank and for needy families between now and the holidays. Our student leadership team has decided to help coordinate gathering gifts for needy families with the Westside Angel Tree this year.

All of our school community is invited to take a star from our **Angel Tree**, sign the Angel Tree notebook for the star(s) chosen, and return the wrapped gift with the star attached. All gifts are needed **no later** than **December 18th**. The Angel Tree will be available during American Education Week. Students need written parent permission to sign up for a star from the tree.

We are very excited to sponsor these projects for service to those in need. We thank you for your support.



Notes from the Nurse:

Attention Parents:

You should have received the H1N1 packet that was sent home with your child, Tuesday, October 20th. Please read the permission form very carefully and complete it accurately. If your child has certain allergies or chronic illnesses, like asthma or diabetes, they are not able to receive the intranasal vaccine. If your child can't receive the intranasal according to the guidelines on the permission form you do not need to sign or return the form. You can contact their Pediatrician to see if they suggest that they receive the H1N1 shot instead.

The Health Department has asked that the forms be returned by Friday, Oct. 23rd but may accept them Monday, Oct. 26th also if you miss that deadline.

Mrs. Davis R.N.

School Nurse



Medication reminder for parents:

Parents of students who require any medications for school, i.e.: inhalers, epi-pens, etc... please bring them in to the nurse with the medication authorization form completed by the physician and parent as soon as possible. The medicine must be in its original container from the pharmacy with the student's name and instructions for administration. There are still students who need medication at school according to their emergency form filled out by the parent, but parents have not yet provided the medication and medical orders. Be advised that if the nurse does not have the medicine and order and your child has an emergency such as difficulty breathing or severe allergic reaction, she will have to send them via ambulance to the hospital. Also, medication **cannot** be brought to school by a student. It must be brought in by an adult for safety reasons. If you have a questions regarding medication administration at school please contact me at 410-677-5135 between the hours of 8:15am-3:45pm.

Mrs. Davis R.N.



THANK YOU!

WOW!! What a response to our nickel wars. I have been in education for over 30 years and have never witnessed children so excited about a fund raiser to help others. I am so proud of our boys and girls. By bringing in nickels and other coins our students raised **\$1,249.50** to help the United Way. Mrs. Catlin and Mrs. Curtis counted pennies and other small coins until their fingers were worn to the nubs and Mrs. Catlin needed a new manicure. I know their fingers were sore for a long while. Thank you, parents, for allowing your child to bring all the coins to school and thank some of you for bringing them in for them since they were brought in by the bags and containers. Parents **"THANK YOU"** for all your support and help with our Cinnamon Bun fund raiser. We made a profit of \$4,726.76. This money will be used to buy instructional materials for our students for the remainder of the school year. **Our top winners were: 1st place David Gillespie \$297.00, 2nd place Timmy Kerrigan \$275.00 and 3rd place Truston Smoot \$245.00.** Staff participation: Debra Karten, Wendy Catlin, Katie Fowlkes and Alison Soper.



WESTSIDE BOXTOPS

We're off and running. We had our October collection and are busily clipping away to get those Box Tops sent in. We have earned over \$500 this school year already. Hopefully some of you have checked out the website www.btf.com. It's full of information, including tracking our earnings updates. The numbers only get posted once a month, so don't get discouraged. We did submit over 1,000 coupons in October. The school receives 50 cents for each new person who joins the website. There you can also get lots of coupons and recipes and find out other ways you can earn money for the school.

Another way you can help earn money for our school is through the Marketplace on the Box Top website. Up to 8% of your purchases are donated automatically to the school. Stores like Eddie Bauer, Land's End, ProFlowers, Staples, and many more. So, as you start thinking of holiday shopping, look at the website and see if your favorite store is there. If you're going to shop there anyway, why not get a donation back to the school at the same time? Thanks for your participation!

Keep collecting those Box Tops. Don't forget to tell your family members to save them too! We'll collect again December.



FAMILY PORTAL INFORMATION

On November 16, 2009, Wicomico County will launch Family Portal, an online program which allows parents access to their child's school records. During American Education Week, an instructional video will be shown in the Westside lobby. Parents who wish to gain access to Family Portal can watch the video and obtain a brochure and login information from the school office. There will be additional information, along with a link to the instructional video, on the Board of Education website.



Our school has once again chosen to use the online program First in Math. This website is a great way for students to gain math skills and have fun! Our county has purchased a login for all of our students this year at Westside Intermediate, so that they may participate in the First in Math Online Program. Yes, our second graders are included this year!

Online games range from addition to multi-step algebra and are organized into Skill Sets. Each Skill Set is comprised of three 24 Games, labeled 1, 2 and 3. Each game builds upon the skills acquired in previous games. Bonus games become available for students to play. Workout Gyms help students build automaticity with their basic facts. There are other modules in the program that we are discovering each day.

Each student has received his/her own, personal User ID and Password. Children can proceed at their own pace - mastering facts and increasing problem-solving, computation critical thinking and pattern-recognition skills – as they advance through the levels of the program.

The program is easy to use at school or at home on any computer that has internet access. If you haven't seen it yet, ask your child to show you. We hope you will encourage your child to log on to firstinmath.com as often as possible.

Parents:

Log on as a VISITOR and browse the Parents section.www.firstinmath.com



WESTSIDE PTA

The school year is well under way and the PTA is busy. We had a slow start with so many new board members but we are on track and working hard to get everything in line for this school year.

- **November 3rd** is McDonald's Night at the Pemberton McDonald's. We still need a few slots filled for the 7:00-8:00pm times. If any parent is willing to help us out that would be great.
- **American Education Week** is almost here November 16th-20th. Please take some time and visit your child or grandchild in their classroom during this week. If you would like to volunteer at the school during this week please contact Kim Moreno ktmoreno5@hotmail.com for the intermediate school. Thank you for helping make this week special for our children and teachers.
- **November 17 and 18** CoCo's Fun House family night. See attached flyer.

Reflections program is under way the deadline for art projects is November 20th, we need a few volunteers to help in organizing and judge these great art projects the children have created. More information can be found at www.mdpta.org the Maryland State PTA website.

Can you say I'm a PTA member?!

Support our students! Make a difference!

If you haven't joined yet please do!

Please contact Debbie Yentsch at customblender@comcast.net or send a note to V.P. of Membership with your name, student name, teacher, contact number and \$5 dollars.

EXHIBIT 1

PUBLIC NOTICE

In October 1986, the U.S. 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 periodic surveillance results, re-inspections, response actions 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 Office for review.