

# WESTSIDE'S PONY PAGES

*"Mustangs Ride with Pride"*

October 2021



Westside Primary School  
6046 Quantico Road  
Quantico, Maryland 21856  
410-677-5117

## Mission Statement:

The mission of Westside Primary School is to foster a caring and safe environment where all children have equal opportunities to be challenged with rigorous content and use that knowledge at the application level.

*"We Can... We Will"*

Mr. Glendon A. Jones, *Principal*

Mrs. Tawanda Small, *Lead Teacher*

## OCTOBER

- ◆ **4-8:**  
Family P.E.  
Week
- ◆ **5:**  
Bookmobile
- ◆ **6:**  
Progress  
Reports-**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Grade**  
**ONLY**  
available in  
the Parent  
Portal
- ◆ **6:** Walk MD  
Day
- ◆ **11:** Virtual  
Back to  
School  
Night
- ◆ **11:**  
Charleston  
Wrap  
Fundraiser  
begins
- ◆ **15:** School  
Closed-  
MSEA  
Convention
- ◆ **18:** Boy  
Scouts visit
- ◆ **22:** Fall  
Picture Day
- ◆ **22:**  
Charleston  
Wrap  
Fundraiser  
ends
- ◆ **29:** Fall  
Character  
Fest

It seems like just yesterday; we were ending the school year. Here we are in the new school year with lots of excitement to have our students in the building while still dealing with Covid-19 concerns. It seems to us at Westside Primary that classes began smoothly and that these first few weeks have been a fine beginning of what should be a productive school year. Our students and parents, as our partners, have been most cooperative in helping to make Westside Primary a wonderful school and educational place to learn and grow. I am asking for your ongoing assistance in helping us again this year as we make necessary changes as we move forward in the school year due to Covid regulations and guidance of the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and other agencies as we as a school system educate our students.

Many of you are probably decorating for the fall and getting in the mood for the upcoming holidays. Yes, fall and winter are upon us and preparations for the holidays take a lot of our time. Throughout the school year, I am asking you to please try to attend our virtual meetings and activities in support of our students. **On Monday, October 11, 2021.** We will hold our Back-to-School Night. Classroom teachers will be sending you an invitation through Class DO JO for you to join them for this event. To accommodate all parents, we have established a different time for each grade level should you have children at more than one grade level. Prekindergarten will begin at 5:00, kindergarten at 5:30, and Grade 1 at 6:00 p.m. During the Back-to-School Night, the presentation is the school's way of communicating with parents. For your child to achieve maximum success in daily class work, it is important for the teacher to communicate with parents their expectations for the school year. Research has proven that the more parents are involved in and informed about their child's educational process, the higher the level of success your child will show in school.

Again, this school year, administration at Westside Primary is dedicating our efforts in promoting school climate for students, faculty, and staff. We will practice fire drills, two lock down security drills, and an evacuation drill. After each drill, the faculty and staff will evaluate the efficiency and safety of techniques used. Other effective efforts to improve school climate are the Class DOJO System, and our Character Education Program. These programs are a part of our positive reinforcement and basic support systems for each student. In other words, each student is given support and an entire support system to help them build positive relationships based upon their individual strengths while learning rigorous academic curriculum. The faculty and staff will devote effort and time in developing personal relationships among ourselves and our community.

In the area of academics, Westside Primary is expecting another successful school year the same as we had prior to the Covid outbreak. The administration and teaching staff will be looking at and evaluating our current data, teaching strategies and assessments, and making instructional decisions based upon the data gathered during our professional learning Communities weekly meetings. We are proud to say with your help---Pre-kindergarten - grade 1 will be ranked number in the county this school year. To help us in this endeavor, Westside Primary teachers have this commitment: getting students to read at and above grade level expectations and improving mathematics computation and problems solving strategies. To assist us in this endeavor, we will need your help in continuing to talk with your child about their school day and what they are learning, staying in touch with your child's teacher and making certain homework assignments are completed.

Another one of our goals is to see that the parents and guardians of students—like the students themselves—feel at home at Westside Primary. To accomplish this, Parent Newsletters are sent home by all students the last Monday of the month throughout the school year, providing you with information about upcoming events and activities and what your children will be learning during the month.

We are glad to have you with us this year, and we want to make certain we will do our best to help your child experience academic, social, and emotional growth. With your help and cooperation, this should be an excellent school year.

# INSTRUCTION AT A GLANCE

## Pre-Kindergarten Team

We are continuing Unit 1 of our classroom program, Connect4Learning®. This unit will focus on helping your child get settled in the classroom with classmates, routines, and using the classroom environment. We will continue to explore the following topics and skills:

- ❖ Science:
  - The 5 senses
- ❖ Math:
  - Working with numbers
  - Counting from 0 to 10
- ❖ Literacy:
  - Hearing and using new words
  - Reading children's books
  - Learning about the parts of a book and about authors and illustrators
  - Learning about rules for print (spaces between words, punctuation marks, capital letters)
- ❖ Social and Emotional Skills:
  - Class expectations: Be safe, be kind, be a team player.

### What you can do:

- ✓ Check Class Dojo daily for messages and updates from your teacher.
- ✓ Talk about the 5 senses with your child: hearing, seeing, smelling, touching, and tasting.
- ✓ Check your homework calendar for activities to work on at home.
- ✓ Post one picture or video each week of your child on Dojo Portfolio of something you are working on at home. This can be an activity from the homework calendar.
- ✓ Read books and have conversations daily.
- ✓ Ask your child what he or she is learning about being safe, being kind, and being a team player.

## Kindergarten Team

Can you believe we have made it through the first month of school? The kindergarten team cannot thank you enough for all your support and cooperation as the children transitioned to meet the expectations and routines for their new classrooms.

Please remember that kindergarten will not receive midterms this month. We will begin midterms the second term. You child WILL receive report cards at the end of the first term. You will be able to access their report card through parent portal.



We will begin homework this month. The homework will be a monthly format to allow parents the ability to work ahead if they need to. Your child's teacher will check

homework on Friday each week to ensure your child has been completing assignments.

In math this month we will continue to focus on identify numbers, writing numbers, counting sets of objects, subitizing, counting on from a given number, and comparing sets of objects. Many of these skills will be taught using a variety of hands-on materials.

Rainbow Words - Student Sheet

like	has	with	look	some	saw
go	she	you	have	red	three
too	play	jump	me	of	put
will	is	be	two	blue	five
I	was	her	yes	my	over
see	he	no	said	green	pretty
not	can	and	come	to	want
do	a	one	are	what	six
the	out	for	it	yellow	this
we	little	big	here	from	four

In reading/language arts we will continue to focus on letter recognition, beginning sound recognition, rhyming words, and sight words. These skills will be reinforced through phonics activities and poems. At this point in this school year your child should be able to write his/her

first name. Their name should begin with an uppercase letter, followed by lowercase letters.

Please continue to check dojo and your child's folder daily. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns you may have.

# INSTRUCTION AT A GLANCE

## First Grade Team

As autumn arrives, first grade classes are in full swing. Routines and rules have been established and students have been assessed. October is the first full month of the first-grade curriculum but this year we also executed plenty of review for those students who may have missed instruction during virtual learning.

During Interactive Reading Time (IRA) students will be listening to lots of stories with rich rhythm and rhyme and then will make up their own rhyming words, even nonsense rhymes. These are books that allow students to anticipate what word comes next as they follow the pattern of rhyming.

Towards the end of the month, the read alouds will be more focused on stories about friendship and students will study the character, the character's feelings, and how those feelings often change in a story. Rich literature provides each child with colorful vocabulary and helps build a sense of how literature follows patterns.

Students are also listening and identifying rhyming words as they participate in the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness curriculum. Along with rhymes, students are practicing listening for beginning sounds, final sounds, and working on segmenting, deleting, and adding words (to construct and deconstruct compound words). As well, students will be finishing the 95% Phonic Booster Bundle which has focused on the concept of print, letter formation, letter-sound correspondence, writing and high frequency words.



This month, Writer's Workshop gives students an opportunity to think of a small moment in their life that they would like to write about. This is a fun time to reminisce with your child about silly, funny moments that have happened in the family. Fun things for kids to think about might be the time the dog ate the birthday cake, or the day you got your kite stuck in the tree. Those are small moments that lend themselves to short narrative stories that students can then bring to life by utilizing some author crafts.

In math, students will have their first math test in the middle of October and then begin Unit 2 Introducing Addition. During the unit students will represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction, and they will work with addition and subtraction equations, and they will add and subtract within 20. This is a fun time to make up silly word problems involving your child and the family. For example, Mr. Jones invited 3 students to eat lunch with him in his office and then he invited 4 more students. How many students will eat lunch with Mr. Jones?

Finally, October is the month that we observe fall changes in science and we learn about fire safety.



## Art

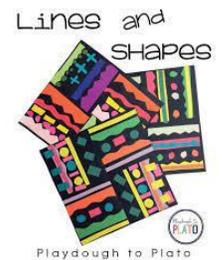
By: Ms. Sultana

Westside Primary students will make artwork that uses various elements of arts. Such as line, color, shape, space, form, value, and texture. We will also be learning about various artist around the world.



All grade levels will be learning the steps for water coloring.

Pre-K will be creating various projects using lines and shapes.



Kindergarten will be making Edvard Munch inspired artwork.

First grade will be making artwork inspired by the book *Love Monster*.



# INSTRUCTION AT A GLANCE

## Physical Education

By: Mrs. Noelte

I am so proud of how well our students have adjusted during the start of the school year. I hope they are proud of themselves.

A few PE reminders:

1. Please have your child wear athletic shoes on their PE days. Wearing Crocs, flip flops, sandals, dress shoes or any other shoe that may have open toes, a slippery bottom, a high heel, or an open back may limit their safe participation on class. First graders earn a grade in PE and their active engagement in class is necessary.
2. I will be joined by two Salisbury University interns during this school year. Ms. Tucker and Mr. Shreeves are names that you may start hearing your child refer to as one of their PE teachers. I am happy to work with SU and I know their interns value their experience at WPS.

Updates:

We have been working on learning the locomotor movements (walk, skip, gallop, jump, hop, and jog) and how to travel through our gym safely. We have also been learning many new exercises that help our heartbeat faster. Consider asking your child to show you or teach you one of the exercises.

Chase, flee, dodge games are our next theme. We will play many different chasing and feeling games as we also begin to understand that playing can also be a form of exercise that helps us improve our healthy fitness zone. Nutrition and healthy habits will be discussed during each class as a health tip of the day is shared. Consider asking your child if they would like to pick out a new healthy food next time you go food shopping.

### Special Dates:

**October 4-8** is Family PE Week. Look for more information coming soon!

**October 6<sup>th</sup>** is Walk Maryland Day. Students will be asked to wear their favorite Maryland gear to school that day.



Please contact me at [mnoelte@wcboc.org](mailto:mnoelte@wcboc.org) or by calling WPS if you have any physical education questions or concerns. Your support is always appreciated.

## Nurse's Nook

*Hello and Happy Fall to All of My Wonderful Westside Families!*

*We will be starting our annual hearing and vision screening for students that are entering the school system, all of first grade or any student who missed screening last year during virtual learning. You will be contacted if further evaluation is recommended during this process.*

*Please ensure that you are keeping your student(s) home if they are exhibiting any of the signs/symptoms outlined in the COVID parent/guardian notice and please communicate any illness that should arise during the school year.*

*Please feel free to contact me anytime and we will continue to work together to ensure the health of your student.*

Brooke Berezowski, BSN-RN, MACADR

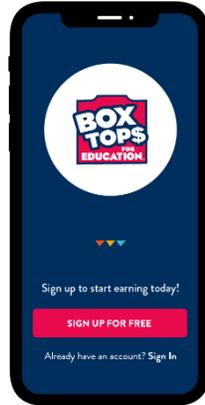


# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## Box Tops for Education

### ***DON'T HAVE THE APP YET?***

Once you download the Box Tops app, you'll be able to scan your store receipts and earn cash for your school. The app automatically finds participating products on your receipts and instantly adds cash to your school's earnings online. Plus, you can invite friends to earn, get reminders to scan, give credit for your earnings and more!



Great news! If you shop online for groceries, you can submit your email receipts to earn even more money for your school. Visit the website or app for details.

Scan the QR code for more details.



## SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

By: Mrs. Blevins



Westside Primary School begins its online fall fundraiser on October 11, 2021. It runs for two weeks ending on October 23, 2021.

We will be sending home with our students a fundraiser booklet which will highlight some of the 2500 item that you can select from.

Orders will be placed online and shipped to the home following payment to the vendor.

The profit that our school receives from the sales will be used for classroom materials, student activities, student recognition and staff appreciation days. We hope that as many families as are able will support our students and school in this fundraising effort.

We greatly appreciate all that you do to make this fundraiser successful.

Please feel free to browse the website prior to the start of the fundraiser. [www.charlestonwrap.com](http://www.charlestonwrap.com)

Booklets will be sent home shortly with directions for registering.





**Our value for the month of  
September was courtesy.**

Congratulations to our star students who  
have shown courtesy to others by using  
kind words and displaying good manners!

**Pre-Kindergarten**

**Mrs. Hammond**

Khalid Ansari  
Charlotte Howard

**Ms. Salazar**

Caleb Flumer  
Madi'Cynn Smith

**Kindergarten**

**Mrs. Bails**

Jonah Harris  
Josie Street

**Ms. Dennis**

Scarlett Johnson  
Landon Rodriquez

**Mrs. Rousseau**

Charlotte East  
Xavien Holden

**Mrs. Thompson**

Ellie Park  
Adonay Mota



**First Grade**

**Ms. Matthews**

Carter Gosseline  
Marceline Mitchell

**Mrs. Reed**

Erika Jung  
Maggie Musengwa

**Mrs. Tripp**

Layla Curtis  
Elliana Fisher

**Ms. Weldon**

Lacey Adkins  
Oliver D'Aquila

**Mrs. Wessels**

Andrea Palma  
Jean Carlos Perdomo-Portela



