



# Bobcat Bulletin

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December 1, 2018

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*811 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street*

*Delmar, MD 21875*



From the Principal...

## 7 Steps to Making Peace

"Children who learn how to think about their relationships with other people do better in life in general," says Myrna B. Shure, Ph.D., a developmental psychologist. Shure created the I Can Problem Solve (ICPS) program, which focuses on the thinking skills needed for young people to resolve conflicts peacefully.

Shure suggests that before young people begin discussing a specific conflict, they find out if the time and place are good for the discussion. If so, they can begin the seven-step process. If not, they should identify a time and place that works for everyone involved.

Next:

1. Identify the conflict. Have each person talk about what happened.

Each person's account is equally important.

2. Talk about the events that led to the conflict. What happened first? Second? What increased the conflict?

3. Name how you feel. Ask others involved to identify how they feel. Encourage people to be honest about how they feel without blaming others.

4. Listen carefully to each person's feelings and accounts of the conflict. Use empathy skills. Try to understand each person's point of view.

5. Brainstorm solutions. Be creative. Affirm each person's ideas but keep encouraging people to think of different solutions.

6. Evaluate each solution. Choose one solution that everyone agrees on.

7. Monitor how the solution works. If something needs to change, start again.

"If children can learn to solve typical everyday problems, they are less likely to become impulsive, insensitive, withdrawn, aggressive, or antisocial," Shure says. "In the long run it is important for children to learn how to think about the problems they encounter in their dealings with other people."

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## **Wicomico County Teacher of the Year**

Now is the time to nominate that deserving teacher for some special recognition. Nominations for 2019-2020 Wicomico Teacher of the Year will be taken now through Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone in the community is invited to seek recognition for a current teacher in Wicomico County Public Schools who has taught full-time for at least five full years.



Nomination forms are conveniently available to fill out and submit online. The form is easily accessible on mobile devices, too. Go to [www.wcboe.org](http://www.wcboe.org) and look for the Teacher of the Year button on the home page or follow this link: <https://tinyurl.com/TOYWCBOE2019>. A paper form is included in this edition of the Bobcat Bulletin, also is available to be picked up in our office or available to download from the Teacher of the Year page on the WCBOE website.

The Wicomico County Teacher of the Year Program annually solicits nominations from parents, students, the community and fellow educators to recognize Wicomico teachers with exceptional qualities and characteristics that make them shining examples of teaching in Wicomico County. Nominations can come from a student who treasures a special teacher, a parent who sees the benefits of all that a teacher does, someone who recalls an outstanding experience in the classroom of a teacher who is still teaching, or a coworker who sees the value of a fellow teacher's work every day.

We have outstanding teachers at Delmar Elementary School who are deserving of this honor. Please consider nominating those you feel are worthy of this distinction.

## **Cold Weather Ahead**

As we approach colder weather, please note that it is our policy to allow students to have outdoor recess if the temperature or wind chill temperature is 32 degrees or greater. Decisions will be made prior to each recess period. With that in mind, please prepare your child each day by having them wear a coat to school. During cold weather days, students not having a coat will be required to remain indoors.

## **Midterm Progress Reports**

Midterm progress reports will be distributed to students on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

## **Holiday Programs**

Please join us on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> for our Delmar Elementary Winter Concert for Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade or on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> for Grade 2 and our Singing Bobcats. Both concerts will be at 6:00 PM in the cafeteria. Doors open at 5:30 PM.

## **McDonald's Spirit Night**

Save the date!!! McDonald's Spirit Night will be held on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30 PM at the Delmar location on Rt. 13. Come out to have a great meal and see our staff work as servers, cooks, and cashiers. This is always a great event each year so don't miss out!



## **Crown Sports Fundraiser Party**

Our annual Crown Sports Fundraiser Party will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. This reward is given to all students that sold at least 15 items during our recent fundraiser or collected at least \$75 in donations. Permission slips will be sent out soon.

## **Work Out Wednesday Program**

This past fall Mrs. Bradford held our Work Out Wednesday program with a few select 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The program had great success and will expand this spring. If you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade student that is interested in joining our program please contact Mrs. Bradford at [jbradford@wcboe.org](mailto:jbradford@wcboe.org). The program will meet once a week on Wednesdays during the months of April and May. During our weekly practices our students will participate in fun and engaging exercises that teach children that exercise and physical activity isn't always going to a gym or running on a treadmill. We will play fun cardio games, work out to kid friendly exercise videos, and lastly we will work up to being able to jog an entire mile. If this program is something you'd like your 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade child to participate in please contact Mrs. Bradford and look for information going home during the month of March.

## **Honor Society Inductees**

We are pleased to announce our Honor Society for 2018-2019. We had our induction ceremony on November 27<sup>th</sup> and were honored to have Dr. Rick Briggs, WCBOE Chief Academic Officer as our keynote speaker. We are so pleased with the accomplishments of our 4<sup>th</sup> graders so far this year. We are happy to announce these students as the newest members of the Delmar Elementary School Honor Society: Brice Beach, Riley Bender, Connor Bennett, Annabelle Bostic, Lhoriya Bratten, Uriyah Brown, Elizabeth Burt, Garrett Cushman, Ava DiPietro, Nevaeh Ellis, Praneeth Galigutte, Kylie Haynes, Bella Leo, Averi Naugle, Cameron Pete, Aiden Rementer, Hailey Ritchey, Addison Throm, and Meredith Timmons. We are so proud of all of you. Remember to keep up the good work and practice the four qualities of Honor Society -> scholarship, responsibility, service and leadership.

## **Winter Break Date Change**

We are delighted with all the improvements being made to our school through the renovation project and are looking forward to transitioning to the next phase of construction later this month.

During the winter break, the project will enter a new phase and it will be time to move some classrooms between our main building and portable building. The classrooms currently housed in our large portable building will move back to their new classrooms, while our Kindergarten classes will transition to the large portable.

To do this, we must provide time for our staff to relocate materials and furniture. Therefore, our students will begin their holiday break on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, (last day Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>) one day earlier than other Wicomico County students. They will also return one day later than other Wicomico students, returning from the winter break on Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Winter Break**



**Student Government Association (SGA)**

**PENCIL-GRAMS**

The Delmar SGA is selling Holiday Pencil Grams. They are only 50¢ each. You can send them to your child’s friends, your child, teachers, staff or administration at Delmar Elementary School. Please send in the form filled out with 50¢ cash. We will have the pencil grams delivered December 17-18. If you need additional forms, please send a note to school or feel free to copy the form that came home in Friday Folders. The pencil grams are on sale from December 3-7 in the cafeteria from 7:45 – 8:15 am.

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**PAJAMA DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS!!**

The SGA wants to thank all our Delmar Families for making our pajama drive such a success. We collected soooo many warm jammies for children who will need them this winter. Scholastic will also be donating 1 free book with the pajamas!!! You rock Delmar!

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**FOOD DRIVE THANKS YOU**

We are so happy with the outcome of the food drive this year. We were able to fill up and overflow two gigantic barrels from the food bank. We are so proud of everyone for helping make a nice holiday meal for a family in need.

**Make-Up Picture Day**

Make-up Picture Day is Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. If your child was absent, new to school, or you would like for them to retake their photo, you must pick up a form in the office. For your child to receive a retake, you must return their original packet.

**From the Music Dept.--Important December Dates:**

Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

- Delmar Christmas Parade. (Singing Bobcats 4th grade ONLY)
- Football date of Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Parade decorating date TBD.

Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

- DES Kindergarten and 1st grade winter program. The program begins at 6 pm and will be no longer than an hour. Please plan to arrive no later than 5:40 pm

Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

- The Community Carol Sing is on 4 pm on Dec. 9 at St. Stephen’s United Methodist Church on State Street here in Delmar. (Singing Bobcats 4th grade ONLY) Please arrive to the church no later than 3:30 PM.

Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

- DES 2nd grade and Singing Bobcats (4th grade chorus) winter program. The program begins at 6 pm and will be no longer than an hour. Please plan to arrive no later than 5:40 pm



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**Did you know?** Sending a child to school without breakfast is like expecting your car to function without gas. Many morning visits to the nurse with complaints of stomach or headaches are simply the result of a child not eating breakfast. Please encourage your child to eat breakfast either at home or school. Plan ahead for those busy mornings by keeping granola bars, pop-tarts, PB&J sandwiches and other quick on-the-go foods on hand so they can be grabbed and eaten on the way to school. Thank you for helping our students be successful and healthy!

## Beat the Flu Bug this Year!

Here are some ways to stay healthy this holiday season:

- Wash hands frequently
- Get plenty of sleep
- Eat lots of fruits and vegetables and drink plenty of water
- Cover your cough/sneeze
- Exercise
- Get your flu shot



## CONTAGIOUS?

**If your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease** (*Fifth's Disease, ringworm, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), strep throat, chicken pox, impetigo, scabies, Whooping Cough, hand/foot/mouth disease, Scarlet Fever, etc.,* **please contact your school nurse.**

When your child returns to school, **provide the nurse with a diagnosis from the doctor (letter from the Dr.)** The information is used to facilitate a thorough, detailed cleaning of the room. Additionally, many diseases may negatively affect pregnant women, so awareness is helpful for any pregnant staff members. Thank you for your help!

## MEDICINE AT SCHOOL



- Over-the-counter and prescription medicines **MUST** have a doctor's order. You can pick up an order form in the nurse's office.
- An adult must sign in the medication in at the nurse's office.
- The medication label must match the doctor's order.
- No child can carry medication at school without a doctor's order.

# Our Character Corner

## 25 Totally Cool Random Acts of Kindness Your Kids Will Love









1. Say thanks—just thanks—to your parents, for no particular reason.
2. Leave a kind, funny, or inspiring note in a library book you've read.
3. Make a friend laugh: Wrap up a roll of bubble wrap and "surprise leave it" for a buddy.
4. Tell a joke. Credit the person who told it to you.
5. Be a study buddy—or help a younger kid with homework.
6. Clear your own dishes. Then surprise your parents and clear theirs, too.
7. Let your brother go first.
8. Leave a dollar in a vending machine slot.
9. Start a jeans drive. Toss in your favorite pair.
10. Collect toiletries for service members. Add a card that says, "Enjoy my favorite shampoo."
11. Return carts at big box stores (yours and ones other shoppers left behind).
12. Make your sister's bed one morning. Turn it down that night.
13. Pay for an extra ticket or bottle of water at the movies. Hand it to the kid who's next in line.
14. Let someone board the bus ahead of you.
15. Clip coupons for mom. Help her find those items at the market.
16. Pitch in: Take out the garbage after a giant family dinner, BBQ, or holiday celebration. Do it without complaining.
17. Help a senior citizen pack and load groceries.
18. Make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for a local shelter.
19. Invite someone outside your crowd to sit at your table at lunchtime or explore the library shelves with you after school.
20. Collect food and canned goods for a local food bank. Invite your friends to help you so you can double, triple, or quadruple the amount.
21. Be kind to a classmate you don't know.
22. Clean your room—without being asked to.
23. Deliver a compliment a day—and mean it. Deliver two if you see it makes friends and family happy.
24. Donate musical instruments, sports equipment, and electronics you are no longer using.
25. High-five a friend who gets the answer right at school.

By: Nancy Josephson Liff

## **KINDNESS:**

Helping others without  
expecting anything in return

## Attendance Counts! October 2018

Grade Level	Average Daily Attendance
	94 % Required
Pre Kindergarten - AM	93.87% 
Pre-Kindergarten - PM	96.32% 
Kindergarten	95.73% 
First Grade	95.49% 
Second Grade	96.67% 
Third Grade	95.43% 
Fourth Grade	96.63% 
Overall Attendance	95.94% 

### Schools Closed

Delmar Elementary School will be closed for all students from December 20<sup>th</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Winter Holiday Break. School will reopen for instruction on Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Special Dates December

December 4	Kindergarten Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 5	Pre-K Field Trip—Fire House
December 6	Holiday Program, Kindergarten & Grade 1, 6:00 PM
December 7	Make-up Picture Day
December 7	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 7	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 11	McDonald's Spirit Night, 4:30-6:30 PM
December 12	Midterms sent home
December 12	Holiday Program, Grade 2 & Singing Bobcats, 6:00 PM
December 14	Crown Sports Fundraiser Party
December 20	Winter Break Begins for Students



**Casual Days**

**December 7 & 14**

## Grade Levels at A Glance

### Pre-Kindergarten:

Our Pre-Kindergarten students are enjoying school and are very enthusiastic learners. This month we will visit the Salisbury Fire Department, continue with our unit on the Environment, and we will be doing holiday activities as well. In addition, we will continue to learn more sight words, letters of the alphabet, the sounds they make, and how to write them correctly. For math, we will be working on shapes and numbers 10. We will count sets of numbers to 10, create sets to 10, compare sets, and identify 2D and 3D shapes.

### Kindergarten

The Kindergarten teachers and students would like to thank all the families that were able to attend American Education Week. The students enjoyed modeling their school day routines and showing off how much they have learned!

In reading, students will continue to explore a variety of texts that discuss family, kindness, color, and folktales. Students will continue to master letter recognition, identify beginning and ending sounds, identify rhyming words, and practice writing their first name correctly. Please focus on identifying all letters and sounds at home with your child. Students are also responsible for blending and segmenting short words such as the “at” and “an” word families to assist them when reading and writing. We will continue to work hard mastering the following sight words: a, am, an, and, at, can, come, do, go, he, I, in, is, it, like, me, my, no, see, so, the, to, up, and we.

In math, students will be exploring different ways of composing and decomposing numbers through ten. Students will practice comparing sets of objects and different counting strategies. Please count daily with your child. Our goal is for each student to reach 100 this year! Students will also be working with 2D and 3D shapes.

### First Grade

What a wonderful job our first graders are doing in school! We have many upcoming activities to look forward to this month including a field trip to Stephen Decatur High School. We will see a play performed by the students of the high school. In addition, look for information coming home about our holiday happenings in first grade.

**PLEASE** make every effort to have your child read independently at home each evening. Any time your child reads don't forget to sign the Reading Incentive calendar which is in the front of the agenda. As we read in school, students continue to apply key vocabulary and reading strategies such as identifying the main topic and key details of texts. Throughout each subject area students will continue to strengthen their writing skills through writing complete sentences, capitalization where appropriate, and ending with the correct punctuation.

In math, students are continuing to work to demonstrate fluency of addition and subtraction equations. Our first graders will also begin solving story problems with change unknown, for example: **Sam has 9 pieces of candy. His mom gives him some more. Now Sam has 14 pieces of candy. How many did his mom give him?** Students are learning to solve this type of problem two ways:  $14 - 9 = 5$  OR  $9 + 5 = 14$ . Have your child show you the part-part-total/whole which helps them identify the number missing in story problems.



Remember to have your student practice their spelling words throughout the week. <https://spellingtraining.com/> is a wonderful website for students to practice their words and have fun! Please continue to check over your child's completed work that is in his/her folders. We appreciate your support at home! We hope that our first-grade families have a safe and wonderful holiday season.

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[Free Online Spelling Training & Games for Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4](https://spellingtraining.com/)

spellingtraining.com

Fun interactive spelling games for kids in early elementary years (grades 1, 2, 3 and 4). Type, listen and learn English – preparing to your spelling test can be as simple as that!

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**Second Grade:**

Second grade had another busy month! Along with working daily on our PAWS behavior and positive character traits, we have accomplished many other learning activities. Our field trip to the Ward Museum and Salisbury Zoo was fun and engaging. We learned about how birds build their nests and the frog life cycle. The highlight of our field trip was trying out soap carving by carving a Mallard duck! We also enjoyed our trip to Stephen Decatur High School to see the theatrical production, "Lost & Found".

We would like to thank all the families that were able to come out and visit during American Education Week. The children were especially happy to see so many family and friends visit our classrooms.

Our students are continuing to work on building their stamina during our Writing Workshop time. They are always excited to share their newest stories with their writing buddies! Each week during reading, students are continuing to be exposed to interactive read alouds. These books are a great way for students to have in-depth discussions about the story elements, character traits, and author's craft. Students are also exposed to various grade level appropriate literary and informational texts.

Please continue to support your child in reading at home with their monthly reading incentive. Students should be recording their minutes read each night on the monthly calendar at the front of their agenda.

In our math instruction, we are continuing to make great strides with our addition and subtraction strategies. Our daily instruction also includes solving word problems, place value, fact fluency, and counting groups of mixed coins.

We wish all our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade families a healthy and safe holiday season and we look forward to a new year of learning!

**Third Grade:**

The month of December is going to be extremely busy and full of learning for our third-grade students. Our field trip to see the play "Lost and Found" at Stephen Decatur High School is quickly approaching. All classes will be attending the morning performance on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

In reading, we will continue to learn about traditions and how they were passed down and shared across generations. In math we will wrap up Unit 3 and begin Unit 4: Measurement and Geometry. In this unit, we will learn to make more precise measurements as we measure lengths, including perimeters, to the nearest half inch. We will also build on our experiences from second grade as we further explore attributes of polygons that help define shape categories such as quadrilaterals. Look for the Unit 4 Family Letter coming home soon in your child's Friday Folder for Do-Anytime Activities you can complete with your child at home.

We will be starting out next writing unit on informational writing where your child will become experts on a subject and produce an informational piece on that subject.

In social studies, we will continue to learn about different Native American Tribes and we look forward to learning about Christmas traditions and customs from around the world as we integrate the reading theme into our classes.

Throughout all subject areas we will continue to practice our speaking and listening skills as we explain our own ideas and understanding through classroom discussions, small group activities and presentations. December's reading goal is to read 240 minutes. Please sign your child's reading log as an indication they have read the required minutes; reading logs are due at the end of the month. Additionally, please continue to practice multiplication fact triangles with your child to improve fact fluency.

**Fourth Grade**

The fourth grade is busy as usual around DES! Students researched an invention and created projects to go along with the invention. There were impressive! A few were chosen to go on display at the Centre at Salisbury for the anniversary celebration.

Myths will be studied more in depth this month. Please remember to turn in your reading incentive at the conclusion of each month.

In math, students are learning various strategies to solve problems and are processing these strategies quickly. If you have any questions regarding the strategies used in math, please make sure to contact your child's math teacher. In addition, all students should have a username and password to log on to the math curriculum. This site is filled with lessons, games, and other learning opportunities.

As always, please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns that you have throughout the year. The fourth-grade team would like to wish each family a safe and happy holiday!



## PTA News

Thank you to all the PTA members that came out for the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting and parent appreciation dinner. The pizza was generously donated by Pizza Pi in Delmar. Sam's Club and Food Lion each donated a \$25 gift certificate to help purchase food and supplies for the dinner. We also want to give a special thank you Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Alexander and Mrs. Short for volunteering to help at the dinner!

Family Movie Night, previously scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>, is being rescheduled to December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Art to Remember orders are scheduled to arrive December 11<sup>th</sup>. Mugs and bobcat paw decals are available for purchase in the office. Our Chipotle Fundraiser is December 5<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 8pm at the Chipotle at 2048-B N. Salisbury Blvd. in Salisbury.

### Upcoming events:

December 5<sup>th</sup>: Chipotle Fundraiser

December 11<sup>th</sup>: Art to Remember orders arrive

December 14<sup>th</sup>: Family Movie Night

January 7<sup>th</sup>: PTA Meeting, 5:30 to 7:30 pm with teacher visitation

We wish everyone safe and happy holidays!!!

Sincerely,

Your PTA Officers

[www.facebook.com/delmarbobcatspta](http://www.facebook.com/delmarbobcatspta)



**Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!!!**



**Wicomico County Public Schools**  
**Nomination Form**  
**2019-2020 Wicomico Teacher of the Year**



**Nominations:** Students, parents, colleagues, and community members are encouraged to nominate a teacher who truly reflects the best of the teaching profession.

**Eligibility:** Nominees must be Wicomico County certified teachers who are eligible as potential nominees for recognition as Teacher of the Year if they have been granted tenured status by the Wicomico County Board of Education, **be in at least their current 5<sup>th</sup> year of teaching**, and plan to continue to teach in Wicomico County through the 2019-2020 school year.

**Qualifications:** Teachers considered as nominees for recognition as Teacher of the Year should exemplify those traits associated with master teachers. They should be skillful and dedicated teachers who plan to continue their teaching careers. A demonstration of competencies in the professional area(s) assigned and evidence of successful professional experiences are basic criteria in determining the qualifications of an individual to be nominated. The nominees should be persons who demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively, openly and positively with other teachers, administrators, students, parents and the community. In addition, they should demonstrate a positive attitude toward their professional responsibilities and support the county and school policies and procedures.

**Timetable:** All nomination forms must be submitted to the teacher's principal by the close of school on **Friday, December 14, 2018**.

Semifinalist Fishbowl.....	February 13 <sup>th</sup>
Interviews of the Semifinalists.....	February 20- 21
Celebration & Announcement.....	March 28

**Awards:** All **qualified** nominees for the 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year will be recognized on March 28, 2019. The finalists and Teacher of the Year will be announced at the banquet. Our recipient will then proceed to the Maryland Teacher of the Year competition.

**Questions:** Please contact Laura Bounds at 410-677-5287 or [lbounds@wcboe.org](mailto:lbounds@wcboe.org)

**The nomination form is on the reverse side.**



# Wicomico County Public Schools



## Nomination Form 2019-2020 Wicomico Teacher of the Year

### NOMINEE

Teacher's name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How does this teacher inspire students to learn?

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2. List the qualities that make this teacher outstanding.

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3. Describe a special event/occasion that best illustrates the nominee's impact on students and education. Please reference the teacher's current school for which they are being nominated.

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(Please attach another sheet for any additional comments.)