

Bobcat Bulletin



December 2019

Mr. Kirby Bryson, Principal
Mrs. Shelly Hall, Asst. Principal
Mrs. Michele McGoogan, Asst. Principal

Delmar Elementary School
811 South 2nd 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"If children can learn to solve typical everyday problems, they are less likely to become impulsive, insensitive, withdrawn, aggressive, or antisocial," Shure says.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. 13th. 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 and look for the Teacher of the Year button on the home page or follow this link: <https://tinyurl.com/TOYWCBOE2020>. A paper form is included in this edition of the Bobcat Bulletin, and 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 without a coat will be required to remain indoors.

Midterm Progress Reports

Midterm progress reports will be distributed to students on Thursday, December 12th. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Holiday Program

Please join us on **Wednesday, December 11th** at 6:00 PM for our Delmar Elementary Winter Concert which will include students in grades 2 and 4. Doors open at 5:30 PM. This is a change from information shared last month due to a conflict with Delmar Middle School.

McDonald’s Spirit Night

Save the date!!! McDonald’s Spirit Night will be held on Wednesday, December 4th 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!



Honor Society Inductees

We are pleased to announce our Honor Society for 2018-2019. We had our induction ceremony on November 21st and were honored to have Mr. Michael Bleile, Principal of Delmar High School as our keynote speaker. We are so pleased with the accomplishments of our 4th graders so far this year. We are happy to announce these students as the newest members of the Delmar Elementary School Honor Society: Roy Brewington, Lucan Gilmore, William Kuczenski, Andrew Lankford, Caleb Melvin*, Madison Rose and Aiden Sparks. (*SGA member)

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.

Student Government Association (SGA)

PENCIL-GRAMS

The Delmar SGA is selling Holiday Pencil Grams. They are only 50¢ each. The pencil grams are on sale from December 9-13 in the cafeteria from 7:45 – 8:15 am. 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.

PAJAMA DRIVE

Monday, December 2nd is **Pajama Day** for our Pajama Drive (please make sure you have appropriate pajamas for school and no slipper please). Please bring in a pair of warm pajamas for any age child. They will be distributed to students here on Delmarva along with a book that will be donated by Scholastic Books. You can leave them in the cafeteria in the boxes that are labeled PAJAMA DRIVE. Thank you so much for your help.

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 many families in need.

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 1st grade classrooms currently housed in our large portable building will move back to their new classrooms, while our 2nd floor classrooms will transition to the large portable.

To do this, we must provide time for our staff to relocate materials and furniture. Therefore, our students last day before the holiday break will be on Thursday, December 19th, one day earlier than other Wicomico County students. They will return on Friday, January 3rd, one day later than other Wicomico County students.

Winter Break



From the Music Dept.--Important December Dates:

Saturday, December 7st

- Delmar Christmas Parade. (Singing Bobcats 4th grade ONLY)

Wednesday, December 11th

- Grades 2 and 3 Winter Concert. 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 9th

- 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.

PBIS Update

We are in full swing with our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports). We need your help. As part of the State Department regulations for PBIS, we need to survey our stakeholder – families, grandparents, community members, volunteers, etc. We need you to please take this VERY short 5 question survey. It will be open until November 26 for your input. Thank you in advance for helping us out. You can use the QR code or the web address. They both go to the same survey.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q87QSNP>

Chipotle Night

Please join us on Tuesday, December 12th for our PBIS Night at Chipotle. All proceeds from this evening will be used to support our PBIS program at Delmar.



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support Delmar Elementary PBIS. Come in to the Chipotle at **2408-B N Salisbury Blvd** in Salisbury on **Tuesday, December 17th** between **4:00pm** and **8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 33% of the proceeds will be donated to Delmar Elementary PBIS.



Online orders will not be included in the fundraiser total. To ensure your purchase is counted in the fundraiser, be sure to order and pay in restaurant. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.



From the School Nurse

As we approach flu season, please be sure to remind your child that hand washing has been proven to be one of the most effective ways to avoid getting the flu. If your child has a chronic condition such as asthma and has not received a flu shot yet, please ask your pediatrician if it's possible to still receive a flu shot. It's not too late to get one in December. And, if your child has a fever of over 100, he/she will be sent home from school! You will be asked to keep your child home until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the help of Advil or Tylenol. If your child gets sick in the middle of the night, please don't send them to school the next morning. Please allow your child to rest at home to recover. Rest is an important key to getting rid of the flu!!!! Please also remember that if your child is going to return to school with medication:

- 1) **All prescription medications require a doctor's order.**
- 2) **All over the counter medications require a doctor's order as well.**
- 3) **I DO not keep Advil and Tylenol in my office to give out to students. It is against local policy for school nurses to dispense Tylenol or Advil in their office without a doctor's order form**
- 4) **ANYTHING that has an 'active ingredient' in it needs to have a doctor's order and this includes cough drops, Chapstick, etc. Check your chapstick/lip balms. Some do have an active ingredient and others don't. If there is no 'active ingredient' listed, then it is permissible to carry the lip balm on the child and apply as needed.**
- 5) **Please feel free to stop by my office and pick up a blank copy of one before you go to the doctor's office.**
- 6) **An adult MUST bring ALL meds into the school. Students are not permitted to carry ANY medications to and from school!!!!**



Please talk with your children about the importance of eating a well-balanced meal at breakfast and lunch while here. Foods rich in protein such as meats and eggs and along with vegetables are healthier choices than chips and cookies!

Also, they should eat in moderation this time of the year and make a commitment to some regular exercise. The combination together can usually avoid putting on extra pounds at Christmas. The average person gains 1 to 2 pounds during the holidays. We can avoid this by just taking an extra 20 to 30-minute walk or if it's too cold to walk, an extra 20 to 30-minute time period on an exercise bike is just as beneficial. Exercise is recommended at least 3 times a week.

Doctor's notes when visiting an ER or an immediate med center:

If your child is seen in the ER or at an immediate med center during the weekend, we still need proper doctor's notes for your child to:

- 1) Receive any medication while in school with the times to be administered or as needed – depending on what the doctor decides.
- 2) To return to school with crutches, slings, casts or boots. If we do not have a doctor's note permitting them to return to school with these items, you will be asked to come pick up your child until we receive a note. This is for your child's safety while here at school. Crutches and even boots can slide on our floors. If your child falls on a casted extremity, they can injure themselves worse. We need to know that the doctor feels it's safe for your child to return to school with any of those items on. If you ever have any questions, feel free to contact us here in the nurse's office.
- 3) **Discharge summaries are NOT considered doctor's orders.**



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 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

November Bobcats of the Month—Congratulations

Morton- am Hayden Johnson

Morton- pm Jackson Piercey

Pedri-am Averie Thompson

Pedri-pm Ailyn Flores Rivera

Adams Rachel Wright

Chew Nathan Jackson

Coleman Caleb Marshall

Hall Wyatt Emely

Minor Skylar McCullough

Mosier Madeline Messatzzia

Scott Zechariah Coulbourn

Beebe Lupita Ortega Rivera

Campbell Rylynn Twilley

Cuffy Levi Moore

Douglas Samantha Timmons

Hurst Andres Santos

Mason Vera Thompson

Thornton Colt Benson

Alexander Hayleigh Stevenson

Barlow Iker Ramos-Lopez

Littleton Katrina Cardarelli

Mallory Valerie Jennette

McCain Chance Bradford

Schrlau Kamdyn Collingsworth

Wilkinson Auldin Brown

Clark Adella Noranbrock

Hudson Ryen Senkbeil

Malone Iker Augueta Herrera

Melvin Shawn Williams

Palmer Kinslee Hogan

Short Grace Hicks

Stein Ava Brown, Eva McGown,
Brynlee Calderone

Allen Ian Mitchell

Bowden Jeesha Patel

Handley Abbey Moses

Sandlin Cody Sennhauser

Shiles Nicole Spies

Sowell Kastel McGown

Throm Jady Hall

Schools Closed

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

Special Dates December

December 3	Singing Bobcats Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 4	McDonald's Spirit Night, 4:30-6:30 PM
December 6	Kindergarten Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 6	2 nd Grade Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 6	3 rd Grade Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 9	Grade 1 Field Trip—Stephen Decatur
December 11	Holiday Program, 6:00 PM
December 12	Midterms sent home
December 16	Singing Bobcats Visit Wicomico Nursing Home/Deer's Head
December 18	Singing Bobcats Visit Delmar Nursing Home
December 19	Last day for students before Winter Break



Casual Days

December 6 & 13

Grade Levels at A Glance

Pre-Kindergarten:

Our Pre-Kindergarten students are enjoying school and are very enthusiastic learners. This month we will 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

We enjoyed having our families join us for our first term Honor Day! Students have worked hard this term and we are happy to celebrate all of their accomplishments so far!

In reading, students will continue to explore a variety of texts that discuss differences and family cultures. We will also have a fun week celebrating the Christmas holiday with different theme days! Be on the lookout for more information regarding these activities. Students will continue to master letter recognition, identify beginning and ending sounds and identify rhyming words. Please focus on identifying all letters and sounds at home with your child. Students are also responsible for blending and segmenting short a-words such as the “at” and “an” word family to assist them when reading and writing. Your child’s current progress with these skills will be shared when midterms go home on the 12th.

In math, students will continue to explore different ways of composing and decomposing numbers through ten. We are also working hard to write numbers 0-20 correctly! Please help us at home by making sure students practice writing the numbers correctly with no reversal. Throughout the year, students are also responsible for knowing the following 2D shapes: square, circle, triangle, rectangle, hexagon, oval, pentagon, trapezoid, rhombus and octagon.

Please remember our field trip to Stephen Decatur is on Friday, Dec 6th! If you have not already turned in your form and money, please do so as soon as possible. Reading incentive calendars for November are also due when we return from break! Thank you for all of your support at home!

First Grade

We are well into the second term now and students are working hard in first grade! In writing, we wrapped up our small moments unit and students published their first personal narrative story. We are now working on teaching others through writing with our how-to books. Be sure to ask your child about his/her different how-to book topics from writing workshop!

We are looking forward to many fun activities coming up during the month of December. Our first-grade field trip to Stephen Decatur High School to see the play *Hansel und Gretel* will be on Monday, December 9th. Also, be on the lookout for a letter with more information about the various activities taking place in classes during the week of December 16th-19th.

Additionally, don’t forget to record the number of minutes your child reads at home on the monthly calendar in the agenda. Our reading incentive goal for December is 150 total minutes. Meeting this reading goal each month will earn your child a free pizza coupon and the reading incentive award at Honor Day. Thank you for working with your child at home to ensure success in school!

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. The highlight of our field trip was trying out soap carving by carving a Mallard duck!

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. They are enjoying learning about text features and how non-fiction authors utilize these aspects in their own writing.

Please continue to support your child with reading at home for their monthly reading incentive. Students should be recording their minutes read each night on the monthly calendar. 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 of our 2nd grade families a great 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 second field trip to see the play "Hansel und Grethel" at Stephen Decatur High School is quickly approaching. All classes will be attending the morning performance on Friday, December 6th. In reading, we will continue our nonfiction unit with expository nonfiction, biographies, and author's point of view with nonfiction text. 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. 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. In social studies, we look forward to learning about Christmas traditions and customs from around the world. 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 in January when we return from winter break. Additionally, please continue to practice multiplication fact triangles with your child to improve fact fluency. As well as have your child log on to ST MATH for at least 45 minutes every week.



Fourth Grade

The fourth grade is busy as usual around DES! Students have been working hard to improve their writing stamina. This term we are focusing on informational writing. Students are writing a non-fiction book about something they are an expert on. We can't wait to learn from our students!!

In reading we have been focusing on analyzing different elements of non-fiction this includes text structure, illustrations, and text features. Students continue to read novels in their small groups.

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. Also, please continue to work on ST Math at home. Our goal for each week is 3% progress. ST Math can be played on laptops or tablets. Will your class be the next winner?

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 everyone that supported our Bobcats with the Spirit wear Campaign! All orders were delivered mid-November. We are happy to share that our membership has reached 141 members. Thank you for being a part of the Delmar Bobcats PTA!

The Penguin Patch Shoppers Fair is from December 2-6 in the Delmar Elementary Health Room. Teachers have signed up for a time slot for their student to shop. Information was sent home before the Thanksgiving break. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the Penguin Patch Shoppers Fair should contact us as soon as possible. Also upcoming is our Angel Tree project to provide Christmas gifts to children in need in our community.

Although it feels like the year just began, our final meeting of the school year will be here in the blink of an eye. In April, we are required to hold PTA officer elections and we need you! If you are interested in serving as an officer or think you might be interested, please contact us for more information.

Upcoming Events

December 2-6	Penguin Patch Shopper's Fair for Students (Volunteers Needed! Contact a PTA officer for more details.)
December 9-19	Angel Tree Donations (More details coming soon)
January	Joe Corbi Fundraiser

Sincerely,
Your PTA Officers

www.facebook.com/delmarbobcatspta
delmarbobcatspta@gmail.com

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!!!



Wicomico County Public Schools



Nomination Form 2020-2021 Wicomico Teacher of the Year

NOMINEE

Teacher's name: _____

School: _____

1. How does this teacher inspire students to learn?

2. List the qualities that make this teacher outstanding.

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.

(Please attach another sheet for any additional comments.)

Thank you for your nomination.