

# Westchester News 2018



Tuesday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Interim Reports Go Home
Sunday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Superstar Sprint
Monday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten/Pre K Conference Day
Tuesday, May 8 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting at 7:00 pm
Mon., May 7 <sup>th</sup> – Fri., May 11 <sup>th</sup>	Teacher Appreciation Week
Sunday, May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day
Tuesday, May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Spring Concert at 6:30 pm
Wednesday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Field Day, K– 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade in the Afternoon
Thursday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Field Day, 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade All Day
Friday, May 25 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Rocket Launch
Monday, May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Day- School Closed
Wed., May 30 <sup>th</sup> – Fri., June 8 <sup>th</sup>	STAR LAB visits Westchester
Thursday, May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Volunteer Breakfast

## *Looking Ahead*

Friday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Recorder Concert



## Principal's Message



The end of another wonderful school year at Westchester is fast approaching. All of our students are continuing to work hard and progress. BCPS has received a waiver so the last day of school remains Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Our current plan for year end activities are: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Farewell Assembly on Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. Our Kindergarten Assembly is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. Our Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teams will provide more information as we get closer to these events. We all look forward to our upcoming Spring Events.



# **Assistant Principal's Message**



It is hard to believe we are beginning the last full month of the 2017-2018 school year. Time truly does fly when you are having fun! As we begin to wrap up the 2017-2018 school year I wanted to provide a few reminders to ensure we finish the year off strong!

1. May brings PARCC testing. Please try your best to ensure your child/children are getting a good night of sleep and a hearty breakfast. We know how smart our students are and we want them to shine!
2. Bus-Please continue to remind students to be safe on the school bus each morning and afternoon. As the weather gets nicer, often students will put windows down and let the air flow. However, all limbs and body parts need to stay inside the bus and students need to remain seated at all times.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call or email Mrs. Crabb at [acrabb@bcps.org](mailto:acrabb@bcps.org)!



## **Health Room News**



### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Letter for Immunizations and Physical Exam**

Letter packets will be going home with all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Please return the completed physical report/sports physical report to the school nurse at the middle school. There are additional immunization requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Please provide record of immunizations to the school nurse as your child receives them. Many students will receive these vaccines with their next physical.



**Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup>**

## Counselor's Corner Racheal Jones 410-887-1088/ [rjones14@bcps.org](mailto:rjones14@bcps.org)

### TEST TAKING TIPS!!

As May approaches and we begin to prepare for PARCC testing, it can be helpful to discuss test taking tips with your child.

It is important to remind your child that a little bit of anxiety is normal and they just need to do his/her best job. Everyone works at a different pace and it doesn't matter who finishes first. Remind them if they feel stressed to stop and take a couple of deep breaths. You can also make sure they are getting enough sleep before the test, eating a good breakfast and are on time for school.

#### Here are a few other tips:

- Read the directions carefully
- Take your time
- Think positive thoughts, "I can do it, I will do my best"
- If you go blank, skip the question and go on. Come back to it later!

### Volunteers!

Thank you to all of our wonderful Westchester volunteers! If you have not yet been contacted to assist in the school and are interested, please contact me!

#### Looking ahead: Transitions

As our 5th grade students prepare for Middle School, they may experience a mix of emotions over the changes & added responsibilities. Besides our CMS visit that allowed questions to be addressed, I will be providing discussion opportunities to help them prepare. As a follow up, it is a great idea for you to have a conversation with your child about what they may be worried about/ excited for. A few common fears might be:

- *Getting lost*: Just like being new to WES, teachers are there to help direct you
- *Forgetting locker combination*: Practice, write it down in a safe place, & ask an adult for help if needed
- *Not knowing anyone*: There will be many opportunities to see old friends (at lunch or other activities) and make new friends





# A Note from the Reading Specialist

**MAY IS NATIONAL GET CAUGHT READING MONTH!** Get Caught Reading is a nationwide campaign launched by the Association of American Publishers to remind people of all ages how much fun it is to read.

Celebrate “Get Caught Reading” Month by trying one (or more 😊) of the activities below.

- **Plan a Family Reading Day:** Invite family members to share their favorite books, take turns reading and discussing books, and reading aloud to one another. Extend the invitation to relatives that live close or Face Time those that live a little further away.
- **Form a Book Club:** Gather some friends and a favorite book to enjoy together. Meet once a week to share your thoughts! May (hopefully) brings warmer weather, so for added fun, grab a blanket and read outside picnic-style.
- **Create a Bookmark:** Read your favorite book and create a personalized bookmark with favorite quotes, interesting vocabulary, favorite characters and themes from the book.
- **Visit the Library:** Ask the librarian to show you how to find particular books in order to generate interest in new topics.
- **Host a Book Swap Party:** Clean out your bookshelves and make way for new favorites. Invite friends to bring books they want to swap. Each person gets to take home as many new books as they brought. Donate the ones that aren't selected.

Snap a picture of you, a family member, or friend that “gets caught reading”! Bring it in to share with Mrs. Schwab 😊



## A Message from the Office



- Kindergarten Registration Packets are now available in the office. To be eligible for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year a child must be 5 years old by September 1, 2018. Pre K Registration Packets will be available for students who will be 4 by September 1, 2018. See flier for Pre K requirements.
- Occasionally, a student's dismissal plan needs to be changed. If this should occur for your child, we ask that you e-mail the teacher and the office of the change **and call the office as a back-up**. Teachers are busy with instruction and sometimes the teacher is absent, therefore, the e-mail is not always read prior to dismissal and the school is then not be aware of

the change. The office e-mails are: [jbaldwin3@bcps.org](mailto:jbaldwin3@bcps.org) and [lfoster3@bcps.org](mailto:lfoster3@bcps.org)

# Where to find Information

School Website:

<http://westchesteres.bcps.org>

PTA Website:

[www.westchesterespta.org](http://www.westchesterespta.org)

BCPS School Status Information Line - 443-809-5555