

Westchester News 2019

January

Wednesday, January 2nd
Mon., Jan.7th – Fri., Jan. 11th
Tuesday, January 8th

School Reopens
5th Grade Ballroom Dancing
Lifetouch Club Photo

Tuesday, January 15th
Monday, January 21st
Friday, January 25th

Winter Concert
MLK Day- School Closed
2nd Marking Period ends
School Close at 12:45 pm

Principal's Message:

As the New Year begins, parents often wonder how they can best help their children to be successful in school. We find that parents partnering with teachers is critical to the success of our students. An easy way to be involved is through monitoring nightly homework as well as ensuring your child has a book at home to read for fun. Classroom teachers would welcome any specific request for a mid-year Parent/Teacher meeting to discuss how we can do our very best to meet the needs of each of our children here at Westchester.

Message to Parents

Cold Weather Reminders

As the weather turns colder, please remember to have your child wear hats and gloves as students will continue to have outdoor recess whenever possible as we like to make sure students continue to have lots of physical activity during our winter months. **If you are missing any hats, gloves or coats, please encourage your child to check the lost and found as there are many items already there.**

Reading Specialist Message

Calling All Writers... You are not going to want to miss this **WRITING CONTEST!!**

Famous author Jason Reynolds (author of *Ghost*, *All American Boys*, *Long Way Down*) has written the first 3 lines of stories not yet written.

Here's the fun part... **You** choose your favorite line and turn it into a fantastic work of fiction.

His first lines are:

1. Here's the thing – you can only act like you don't care about the lion in your backyard for so long.
2. Until yesterday, I had never heard of a whomperslooth
3. I keep telling my folks that my bed has already been made with a hammer and nails and doesn't need to be made again by me.

How to Enter

Deadline: March 1, 2019

1. Pick your favorite line from above.
2. Write a short story starting with your chosen line.
3. Stories must be between 800 and 3,000 words. Share with a teacher, edit, and REVISE!
4. Fill out attached entry form!
5. **Send the story and completed entry form to Scholastic by March 1, 2019. Submit a copy to Mrs. Schwab to hang on our bulletin board for your classmates to read!**

Entries can be emailed to: scopemag@scholastic.com

*NOTE: Please attach entries as Word documents or PDFs ONLY, put the contest name "Write-a-Story Contest" in the subject line, and include the e-mail address of the entrant's parent or legal guardian. Entries do not need to be submitted using the *Scope* contest forms.

Counselor's Message

Counselor's Corner

Racheal Jones
410-887-1088/ rjones14@bcps.org

Thank You!

I would like to send a very special THANK YOU to all the families and community members that helped support one of our WES families during a time of need! The amount of support was incredible!

Also, thank you to Trinity United Methodist Church, The Hayden Team, and Westchester staff for helping many WES families during the holidays. Westchester is extremely grateful for your support to our school and community!

Quarter 2 Virtues:

All students are learning about the following virtues through their class community circles. Your student should be able to identify each virtue and share examples of how to practice each.

- Understanding
- Responsibility
- Consideration
- Forgiveness
- Honesty

Personal Safety Follow up:

Personal safety can be an important conversation to have with your child. Discussing the responsibilities of caregivers and the caregiver rules can be beneficial. Caregivers are to keep children safe and healthy at all time. Caregivers can include parents, teachers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, coaches, and any other adults that is taking care of them. It can be a great opportunity to talk to your child about who their specific caregivers are and safety plans that are in place.

Where to find Information:

School Website: <http://westchesteres.bcps.org>

PTA Website: www.westchesterespta.org

BCPS School Status Information Line - 443-809-5555

Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, please listen to local radio or television stations for information about delayed openings or closings. We rely on the media to get this type of information as well. Please do not call the school to find out if we are closed because it may tie up the lines for other calls. Be certain that your child knows where to go in case of an early closing due to bad weather. Information may also be obtained from the Baltimore County Public Schools' website at www.bcps.org. The status of the system is located immediately above the title bar. It is also possible to receive an email at home or work that will let you know if schools are going to close early due to inclement weather. Go to <http://www.schoolsout.com> then choose the state of MD, go to Baltimore County Public Schools under the "Category: Public Schools" section, and sign up there. We hope this will help you to stay connected to what is happening.

Radio:

WBAL	AM110
WPOC	FM 93.1
WQSR	FM 102
MIX	106.5

Television:

WMAR	Channel 2 (cable 12)
WBAL	Channel 11 (cable 21)
WJZ	Channel 13 (cable 23)
FOX	Channel 45 (cable 15)

A Message from the Office

Kindergarten Registration will take place in early April. **To be eligible for Kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year a child must be 5 years old by September 1, 2019.** More information will be provided on the procedures and documents needed in the February newsletter.

- 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 and lfoster3@bcps.org