



The Wildcat Mews

Brent Watts Visits MES

Surprise! Millboro Elementary School welcomed a special surprise visitor from WDBJ-7. Mr. Brent Watts, a meteorologist for WDBJ-7, gave a presentation about weather and shared funny stories about working as a weather-man. Mr. Watts told us that the anchors and the sports folks got to read their part off of a teleprompter, but that the weather was impromptu, which explains why they sometimes "flub-up". He also had a special demonstration that showed the students about weather pressure. Many students laughed at his "special protective glasses", and the

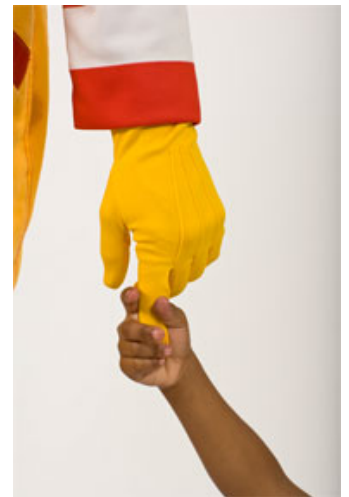
very loud "pop!" It was fun for us as we asked him to "do it again!". Mr. Watts also enjoyed lunch with us and shared that he was impressed with the students' knowledge about weather, and our wonderful school. Come again, Mr. Watts~ you can bring the rest of the weather crew!



MES to Support Ronald McDonald House

Millboro Elementary School and the Ronald McDonald House of Roanoke will team up for the 2011-2012 school year to help families in need. Families who come to Roanoke from 25 miles away get the opportunity to stay at the Ronald McDonald House for free while their child is receiving medical treatment. In order to raise the funds necessary to run the house, schools are invited to collect soda

can tabs to turn into their homeroom. The aluminum in these tabs are purer than the aluminum in the rest of the can and are much more valuable for recycling. The Ronald McDonald House will recycle these tabs and use the funds to help defray the costs of running the house. For families in crisis during a medical emergency, this opportunity means the world to them. Let's help these families during these times.



Calendar:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Progress Reports Go Home | 9/26/2011 |
| School Board Meeting @ BCHS 7:00 PM | 10/4/2011 |
| Bookmobile Visit 3:00pm-4:00pm | 10/6/2011 |
| Family Reading Night 6:00pm | 10/17/2011 |
| Picture Make-Up Day | 10/28/2011 |
| Parent Conference Day 1:00pm-7:00pm | 11/7/2011 |
| Fall Break | 11/21-11/25/2011 |

Attendance Incentive Program

A new attendance incentive program will be put in place for the 2011-2012 year.

- Students can earn a Double Paw when their class wins the best weekly attendance
- Class with the best monthly attendance will earn the Paw Trophy for the month
- Each nine weeks, the class with the best attendance will earn an additional reward

Kindergarten—Mrs. Armstrong

Starting school for the first time can be very frightening yet exciting as well for students and parents. I know the first day is the hardest but I trust that your children will get off to a great start. We work very hard the first few days of school learning the rules of the classroom and the routine of the day. We do have rest time for the first few weeks since the days are very long for the children. It doesn't take long for all of us to adjust to the school schedule.

We will work on many topics during the first few weeks. We talk about our school and the helpers we will meet. We also do units on friends, family, pets, farm animals and zoo animals. We will do special activities during these units as well. I will send home an update letter each week letting parents know what we will study and information on any help we may need for each unit. It's wonderful

to live in an area with great parents who are willing to help. I look forward to working with all of you.

We also celebrated Patriot's Day on September 9th. We started the day by meeting in the lobby to hear Mr. Balgavy discuss briefly some of the events that took place 10 years ago on September 11, 2001. We also said the pledge and sang some Patriotic songs. Mrs. Lancaster explained the meaning of the freedom flag and discussed how we need to not only remember what happened that day but think about how all of the helpers responded to give a hand to those in need on that horrible day.

I took this opportunity to talk about our country's flag with the Kindergarten class. We counted the stripes and discussed the number of stars and how each one stands for the fifty states. Mrs.

Altizer and I helped the students make flags with unifix cubes and play dough. The students worked hard with this activity.



From the Counselor's Desk:

Students are back and hard at work! We are going to stay busy exploring a variety of topics in classroom and small-group guidance. As always, learning to respect ourselves and others will be an important focus. I hope to see confidence and self-esteem soar as students learn and accomplish new things. As we stretch ourselves intellectually and emotionally, I hope that you will recognize a growth in character. The students have been doing very well so far, and I'm looking forward to another great year!

First Grade—Mrs. Whitson

It's so hard to believe that another school year has begun. First graders arrived on the first day of school with smiles on their faces and backpacks on their backs ready to begin a magnificent year. I'm really looking forward to having a fantastic year with my students. I'm sure it will be packed full of fun and excitement all year long.

Of course the first day of school wouldn't have been any fun at all without spending a little time on the playground. It was the perfect time to get reacquainted with those special friends that were greatly missed over the summer break, as well as build relationships with the new students.

During the first few weeks of school we will be busy doing certain evaluations to determine each student's present level of

performance. The data collected helps determine where to begin instruction for your child. We are currently in the process of giving the AIMSweb screening. Beginning the week of September 12th, we will initiate the PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) assessment. As with every day of school, please make sure that your child gets plenty of sleep every night (8 - 10 hours) and eats a good breakfast.

Parent - Teacher Tip #1

Introduce yourself to the teacher.

Don't wait for a problem to escalate until you make contact!



Third Grade—Mrs. Madison

WE'RE BACK!!!! Can you believe it? We had a great back to school night with high attendance. Thanks for filling out all those forms and getting them returned so quickly. It is always great to get those "housekeeping chores" completed early in the year.

The 1st 9 weeks will begin with assessments in most subject areas. These assessments are Aimsweb, Interactive Achievement, and PALS.

Science skills will include life processes and life cycles. Map skills and explorers will be the focus in Social Studies. Math time will find us busy with patterns, graphs, place value, rounding, and much more. Each week there will be

spelling words to study as well as lots of exciting stories to read.

Check your child's homework notebook each night for assignments, notes, spelling list, etc. The homework folder, along with the homework notebook, will help keep your child organized this year. Good study habits, communication between home and school, the proper amount of rest, and good nutrition will help your child have a great year!

The boys enjoyed putting a puzzle together and the girls enjoyed playing games on the first day of Third Grade.



Second Grade—Mrs. Hepler

Students were off to a great start in Second Grade. We read a story about Wemberly Worries. We discussed there is nothing to worry about in Second Grade. We are a team and we all work together. Each team made up their teams name, handshake and flag. We have the Lightening team, the Lighthouses and the Bakugon team. We discussed class rules and made a booklet to share with others.

Each team made friendship bracelets and we talked about the importance of being a good friend. We talked about our anti-bullying plan and signed our pledge cards.

We interviewed our friends and

learned about their likes and dislikes. A survey was taken on what the students like to earn for rewards, games they like to play and points of interest.

We have a new student Kelsey Plecker. We welcome her into our classroom. We now have 6 girls and 7 boys.

This nine weeks we will be reviewing addition, subtraction and many first grade skills. We will review money; nickels and dimes and number words.

In Science we will be talking about bees, apples, butterflies and frogs.

In Social Studies we will be learning about our community. Please review phone numbers and addresses.

We will then learn about our state and points of interest in the United States.

In Language Arts we will learn about capitalization and alphabetical order. We will review how to punctuate sentences. Nouns and Verbs come into play as we learn how to create sentences.

Parent-Teacher Tip #2

Go to the parent-teacher conference prepared. Take time to jot down teacher suggestions to do at home!

Music—Mrs. Lindsay

Welcome back, students! All classes will be very busy as they encounter many new musical experiences this year. Here is a brief overview of the activities students will participate in during the first nine weeks.

Students in Kindergarten will enjoy getting to explore musical instruments, songs and games. First Grade Students will experiment with movement to music. Some of our movements will be structured and some of it will be student initiated. First Grade students will also play

rhythm instruments and learn a lot of fun songs! Second Grade will be learning to follow the words of a song when written below the music staff. This is such a big accomplishment! They will learn about the music staff, the treble clef and the double bar line. Third graders will begin to learn about the orchestra. We will be studying about the Brass Family during this first nine weeks. We will learn about the characteristics of the instruments as well as their names! Fourth Grade students will be preparing to play the record-

ers in the Spring! We will discuss line and space notes and learn the names of the notes. Students in fifth grade will be learning about African American Spirituals during this first nine weeks. We will be talking about the codes found in the songs that were used for escape through the Underground Railroad. Sixth and Seventh grade students will spend their time singing and reviewing many musical concepts. Students will be working with beat and rhythm as well. Let's have a great nine weeks!

Fourth Grade—Ms. Manion

Fourth grade will be working on learning about the state of Virginia all year. The first nine weeks we study Virginia geography and colonization by people—both American Indians and Europeans. We also carry Virginia studies over into science. We will be looking at the natural resources found in Virginia. In addition, we will work on the skills necessary to carrying out a science experiment and perform some experiments.

In math, we will be reviewing the basic multiplication fact families while working on place value. We will also work on our adding and subtracting skills along with estimation. We will learn to ask and answer questions that are found right there in the reading while reading different texts.

Fourth grade is off to a great start! We've been working on learning how to work in groups for the entire year. The first day we participated in the Marshmallow Challenge. The students discussed why their structures did or did not work up to hold up a marshmallow. We learned that there can be



many possible right answers instead of one right answer. I look forward to learning with a great group of students all year!



Grade 5 Reading, Grades 5-7 Social Studies—Mr. Crawford

Wow! Where did summer go? It's so wonderful to have everyone back! I'd like to give a warm welcome to our new fifth graders. I'm looking forward to a super year with all of you! We've gone over lots and lots of expectations and responsibilities of being in fifth grade. Reading will kick off with several read-alouds. We're going to put on a shadow-puppet play of "The Warrior and the Wise Man" by David Wisniewski, then move into a great book called "Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key" by Jack Gantos. This award-winning book is about a boy and his struggle with ADHD. Hopefully Joey will learn that responsibility requires action before it's too late!

We did a fun writing project called "I Am." Students filled a head (on paper!) with everything they wanted the rest of us to know about them. Not only was it fun for them, but I loved reading about your child and learning about their interests. What a creative group they are!

In History, we will start by "visiting" the various geographic regions of the United States. We'll also "see" one of the oldest archaeological spots in America

that's right here in Virginia! Too cool!

We're off to a great start this year and I'm truly looking forward to our year together. Please visit my webpage at www.mistercrawford.com to stay informed on homework, upcoming events and more. Just be sure to click the US History I or Reading tab to see what's happening in fifth grade.

We're off to a great start in sixth grade! I think we were all happy to reunite after our long summer break. US History II picks up where we left off last year, Reconstruction. After we learn about the 50 states located within the seven regions, we're moving on to the settlement of the Great Plains. From John Deere to sod houses, I believe the kids will enjoy learning how Americans adapted to the environment in order to settle this harsh region of the United States. Please visit my webpage frequently to keep up with what your child is doing in US History II at www.mistercrawford.com.

Civics and Economics has been going wonderfully, too. This is our third year together and I'm so excited that they're back! We'll be learning how a 221 year-old document consisting of only 4,400 words has provided us with the most stable (note, I said most) form of government in history and how our framers planned for the future so it would

last this long. To start, we will be spending a good bit of time discussing the Bill of Rights and how it affects our daily life. We've actually spent some time with that already, but will be spending piles more. I'm very excited about the school year as well as the upcoming elections. We'll actually be able to *see* what we've been learning about in action and hopefully make some connections to and understand the importance of civic duty and our responsibilities as Americans! Don't forget, too, to check out our class site at www.mistercrawford.com

Parent-Teacher Tip #3

Communicate regularly. Every few weeks, send an email or call on what your child has brought home from school.

Grade 7 Language/Reading, Grades 6-7 Math—Mr. Hardbarger

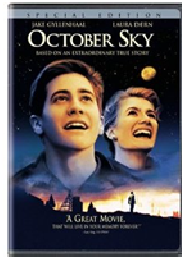
OK 6th and 7th graders, it's time to tune out "Hot Fun in the Summertime" by Sly and the Family Stone and turn on "See You in September" by the Happenings. Put away the pool passes and get out those pencils and papers.

Yes, summers seem to be getting shorter and shorter, so maybe that's why the upper block has fallen into their daily work routines like veterans. Unlike previous years, I will be teaching 7th grade Language Arts and Reading along with the usual 6th and 7th math.

In order to get a clear picture of what particular areas of math and reading are class and individual weaknesses and strengths, all classes have been taking *Interactive Achievement*© tests. These are very thorough tests and should give

me a good sense of where I need to focus our efforts.

The 7th grade reading class is working on daily journals and currently reading a library book of their choice. Within the next week we hope to be reading the memoir of Homer Hickam, a young coal



miner's son who became a famous rocket scientist. The title of his book is "Rocket Boys," which was made into the movie "October Sky."

The 6th math class has started out with exponents and finding the 6th power of 4. Our next unit

will cover variables and expressions. All of these skills will be used when the children take Algebra I. The 7th grade also started working with exponents and the powers of 10, and algebraic expressions and equations.

Each year I find myself going over multiplication tables. This is a recurring problem as multiplication is so very vital to building math skills and an understanding of beyond-basic math concepts. Please take time to go over the multiplication tables with your child and contact me if you have questions.

I am looking forward to working with your children this year and anticipate great things for them and our school.

Physical Education—Ms Forsyth

The 2011-12 MES Physical Education and Health classes are off and running heading into a year packed with fun and challenges. Students in grades K-3 will begin the year working on fine and gross motor skills, with special emphasis on cardiovascular fitness and upper body strength. Grades 4-7 will prepare for the fall Fitnessgram Fitness Testing. Students are tested on cardiovascular endurance, abdominal strength, flexibility and upper body strength.

Test scores from the spring were not where they needed to be on upper body strength and endurance. Students will be bringing home test scores and ideas for

things they can work on at home.

The First Tee National School Program, designed for students in grades K-5, will be brought into the schools in Bath County. The First Tee has established Nine Core Values that represent some of the many inherently positive values connected with the game of golf. The Nine Core Values are honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy and judgment.

Students in grades 6-7 will continue to

receive golf instruction as an extension of the First Tee Program implemented last fall.

Parent-Teacher Tip #4
Help out. Some teachers
welcome parent involvement in
the classroom

Mary Adderton will begin the Tobacco Prevention Program on Fri., Sept. 30 with grades 3-7. This program runs for 10 consecutive weeks on Fridays.

If you have any questions about what is happening in the GYM don't hesitate to call or visit. Wear your tennis shoes and you can join right in with the class.

Art Education—Ms. Horner

I will see students in the afternoons on Tuesday and Thursday every two weeks. The focus of the first nine weeks will be to build students' drawing skills and confidence with drawing. The students' first project is to create a drawing for weather sketchers for WDBJ7 news channel. Students had to create a scene that related to the weather. Students learned about the different parts of their drawing such as background, middle ground, and foreground. Students in

Kindergarten and first grade will use crayons and second through seventh grade will use colored pencils. The second project will be drawing the cover of the yearbook for a design contest to see whos will be chosen for this year's yearbook. Students will focus on what makes a good layout for the cover versus a bad cover. Students in Kindergarten and first grade will use crayons and second through seventh grade will use colored pencils.

Once again students' art will be displayed on www.artsonia.com if permission is given; please remember to view their outstanding work from last year and this year once it is created and uploaded to the site. This site donates 15% of products sold such as key chains or mugs that display your child's artwork. Donations of newspaper or plastic containers would be greatly appreciated. I look forward to another fantastic year teaching your son or daughter in my art room classroom.

Title I—Mrs. Lancaster

It's great to be back in school and beginning a new year. Students are excited to share about books they read over the summer or are reading now. This year we began by reading books together about how to treat others. Younger students enjoyed the book *Do Unto Otters*, a story of rabbits learning how to get along with their new neighbors the otters. Third and fourth graders read Patricia Polacco's book *Mr. Lincoln's Way*, and discovered how reaching out and giving a student a second chance could help to change a bully's behavior. First graders are pictured with Clifford as we read *Clifford's First School Day*. While completing screenings and benchmark testing, we are beginning to work on our reading diet—being sure to include phonemic awareness (letter names and sounds), phonics

(word families), vocabulary (both in reading and content areas), fluency (reading smoothly at a good rate), and comprehension (both literal and inferential). We have a lot of good reading ahead of us!

This will be a busy fall, as we already have 2 reading events scheduled. September 8th is International Literacy Day. Students will be exposed to literature from around the globe to help them appreciate the diversity of the world in which we live. On October 6th we will again participate in Read for the Record by reading *Llama Llama Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney. It is a fun rhyming book about baby llama's bedtime routine with his mama. We hope to help set a new world record as we join over 2.5 million other children reading the same book.

Our Fall Family Reading Night will be coming later this fall. Keep up to date with this and other reading happenings by using the link for my school website at www.bath.k12.va.us/mes/kiml. Remember that the best way to help your children be good readers is to read to them every day!



Grade 5-7 Science—Mr. Halterman

We are anticipating a great year in Science; the students seem excited this year and nature seems to be giving us a first-hand lab.

The fifth grade have begun studying some of the life-science basics, such as Kingdoms of Living Things and will soon be looking at cells. They have also been practicing the art of writing papers.

Grade six has been introduced to water, one of the most unique and marvelous substances anywhere. We have already done some work in the lab and expect more.

Grade 7 (Life Science) have been

working on some of the basic needs and classifications of living creatures. Their studies will go pretty "deep", and cover beyond what most of us learned in high school biology. We all expect a very exciting and fruitful year.

It is always a good idea to begin a year with good study habits. The difference between success and failure is often just habits. Here are some good tips to begin a year with:

Make sure your child brings his planner (homework notebook) home every night. This will insure homework getting home accurately.

Your child has several classes. The odds of not having homework on any given weeknight are slim. More than two nights of "I don't have any homework" probably could be interpreted as "I'm not doing my homework". If this happens, contact your child's teachers to see what is going on.

A good way to insure good study habits is to set aside an hour each night with a quiet place to work. If "Johnny" has no homework, let him read an article on history or science and write a nice extra credit report. After an hour or two of this, the homework may be forthcoming.

National School Lunch Week

OCTOBER 10-14



Fall

Word Search

ACORN

APPLE

DUCKS

HAYSTACK

LEAF

NUT

PEAR

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | A | C | O | R | N | X | S | N |
| N | E | F | A | E | L | Q | C | I |
| D | U | T | Q | X | U | V | A | K |
| H | U | T | A | I | C | H | R | P |
| A | C | C | R | E | S | U | E | M |
| P | D | R | K | A | W | R | C | U |
| P | E | N | U | S | A | S | R | P |
| L | C | Q | I | K | U | W | O | E |
| E | S | N | E | W | J | A | W | A |
| K | C | A | T | S | Y | A | H | R |

PUMPKIN

RAKE

SCARECROW

SQUASH

SQUIRREL

SWEATER

WIND

Try to find all of the hidden autumn related words in the puzzle above. Remember, words can be diagonal, vertical, horizontal, frontward or backwards.

Halloween Jokes

Why did the game warden arrest the ghost? A. He didn't have a haunting license.

Why is a ghost such a messy eater? A. Because he is always a goblin.

What did the ghost say to the man at the coffee shop? A. Scream or sugar!

What do you call a witch who lives at the beach? A. A sand-witch.

Where did the goblin throw the football? A. Over the ghouline.

Why are vampires like false teeth? A. They all come out at night.

What did the bird say on Halloween? A. Trick or tweet!

Why does a witch ride a broom? A. Vacuum cleaners get stuck at the end of the cord.

What's a monster's favorite desert? A. I-Scream!!

Where does a ghost go on Saturday night? A. Anywhere where he can boo-gie.

Can you find the differences between these two pictures?



Band—Mrs. Hooker

The Bath County Elementary Bands are off to a great start!! Our sixth and seventh graders are reviewing scales and beginning new tunes! They are even beginning to prepare for All Area Band Auditions which will take place on Nov. 15th! We have a terrific new set of fifth graders that are learning the basics of embouchure, breathing, hand position, breath support and beginning sounds! They are going to be fantastic! If your child is in need of extra reeds, oils, books, repairs, etc. please contact Star City Music at 540-772-7722 or www.starcitymusic.com. They deliver to our school weekly! Any questions about new rentals, etc. contact Mrs. Hooker at melindah@bath.k12.va.us!

Grade 6 Reading/ Language - Ms. Lee

Alliterations are a great place to start.

Exploring our names with a tongue twist or too.

Read Animalia by Graeme Base

His alliterations will mesmerize you.

Look to literature for character traits so clear

Jealousy, anger, insecurity, and fear

Ambitious, courageous, adventurous, loquacious and

Jovial, just to name a few.

Ray Bradbury's, All Summer in a Day reveals the harmful bully's traits,

things we ought not do.

We are reciting a poem by Charlotte Zolotow and added creative actions about changes in a year

The real change is within each student that we all hold dear.

We read an autobiography about a man and a wild bear,

Respect all creatures is the theme we learned there.

Through a variety of genres, experiences and strifes

I hope we learn a bit about literature and a whole lot

About life!

Adult Education Classes

GED Test Preparation

A GED can help you:

- ◆ *Get and keep a better job*
- ◆ *Earn a promotion*
- ◆ *Enroll in college*
- ◆ *Prepare for the future*
- ◆ *Help your children achieve in school*

Classes held every Monday and
Thursday evenings from 6:00-8:00
at Millboro Elementary School

All classes and materials are free of charge!
Contact Kim Lancaster at 997-5452 for more
information or to register. Call today!!

From the School Nurse - Mrs. Nair

Welcome back! Hope everyone did something fun this summer and are now ready for a good school year.

We have been very busy getting settled in for the new year. Please make sure your child's immunizations are up to date.

The Health Department or your health care provider can help with this. The new student screenings have begun. The school nurse is responsible for testing vision. If a problem is found, a parent or guardian will be notified.

As the new school year begins, head lice begin to show up. Head lice spread very quickly and easily. Please check your child's hair often for the lice eggs. They are white in color and cling to the hair shaft. If head lice are found on your child, the school must be notified immediately. Treatment needs to be started quickly. Personal and household items must be treated. Call the school if there any questions as to how to do this.

Flu season is coming soon. Please protect your family with the flu vaccines that are available now. The first line of defense for any illness is hand washing. Wash frequently with soap and water. If this not available use hand sanitizer.

September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. More than 23 million children in the United States are obese or over weight, therefore they are at risk for Type 2 Diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and strokes. We, as adults, think of these illnesses as being an adult problem. Not so anymore as we eat many foods that are high in fats and sugar. Please take the time to prepare balanced meals and snacks. Also encourage your child to engage in more physical activity. Let's keep our children healthy.

