

August 2014



WILDCAT MEWS

From the Principal's Desk

Greetings from Millboro Elementary School!

I am so excited to begin my third year at Millboro Elementary School! The school year is off to a fantastic start. I am truly enjoying meeting the new students and welcoming back the returning students. It is amazing how much each student has grown and changed over the summer.

We have our test results back from last year's SOL tests and there is much to celebrate! We are fully accredited again this year and have met all federal AMO's. While celebrating this great success, we are still moving forward and continuing to develop and fine tune our instructional programs. We spent some time last year looking at the math curriculum and making some adjustments. This year we will be looking at the reading curriculum to see what can be improved. Currently in Kindergarten through 4th grade, there is a great focus on small group guided reading instruction and cooperative learning. All teachers are working on setting goals for individual students to ensure that all children reach their potential. Everyone is working very hard and I expect great things to happen this year!

I am looking forward to another exciting school year. I am very fortunate to be able to spend time each day with the Millboro staff and students. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Allison Hicklin
allisonh@bath.k12.va.us
540-997-5452

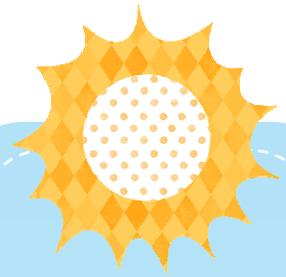


Pawsitive Preschool-Mrs. Brunner

Wow! By the time you read this, our preschool will have the largest class Millboro has ever had. We are so glad to have each and every one of them! They are doing so well adjusting to the school environment and schedule. We have been learning each others' names and talking about safety at school. We have enjoyed time in each of our "specials" during



the week such as Guidance, Library, P.E., Music and Computer Lab. It is amazing how much the children have learned already in such a short time. We look forward to a great year with a great class!



Important Dates

- 09/02 School Board Meeting 7 pm at MES
- 09/05 6/7 to Camp Accovac; 1-3:30 pm
- 09/08 CFE Meeting; 3:30 pm
- 09/10 Fall Picture Day
- 09/12 CFE Family Movie Night
Gr. 5 to Camp Accovac; 1-3:30 pm
- 09/19 No Preschool
- 09/22 Progress Reports Go Home
- 09/26 Early Release 12:30 pm
- 10/06 CFE Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser Begins
CFE Meeting 3:30 pm
- 10/07 School Board Meeting 7 pm at VES
- 10/17 No Preschool
- 10/18 Fall Festival & 4-H Fair
- 10/21 End 1st Marking Period Early Release 12:30 pm
- 10/24 CFE Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser Ends
- 10/28 Pupil Holiday—NO SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher Conferences 1-4 pm & 4:30-7 pm



Pawfect Kindergarten-Mrs. Armstrong

It's hard to believe it is time to start another school year. You may feel that way too but I look forward to a great year with your children. I trust your children will be great helpers in the classroom.

The folder that you received at our open house meeting will go home each day and should return each day with your child. This will be a good responsibility for the students to work on every day. I always remind students to give folders to parents, as well, for important papers go home often for parents to read and/or return to school. Please remember to remove all papers each night so I will know you have seen and read what was brought home and keeping you informed about your child's time at school.

I will be sending home update letters each week to inform you of what we have done in school and the topic for the next week. The letter will also let you know if you can help send items in for the weeks' activities. I also list reminders for the week along with dates to remember for meetings, early releases etc... This is a wonderful way for me to communicate with parents. Please look for this important letter each week.

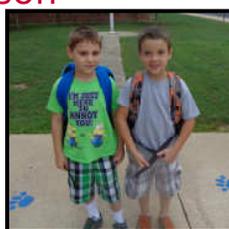
We watched a bus safety video the first week of school. The students enjoyed the video and were able to remember many safe rules for getting on, riding and getting off the bus. Please remind your children often of the importance of following safe bus rules.

You can help your child have a great first year of school by continuing to help them become responsible students, good listeners and caring friends.



Pawtastic First Grade-Mrs. Whitson

Our First Day of School



It's so hard to believe that another school year has begun. I'm really looking forward to having a great year with my students. I'm sure it will be packed full of fun and excitement all year long.

The first few weeks of school we will be busy doing some evaluations to determine each student's present level of performance. As of right now, we will be giving the PALS assessment and the MAP assessment. As with every day of school, please make sure that your child gets plenty of sleep and a good breakfast.

A personal thanks to all my parents for getting all school forms filled out and returned so promptly.

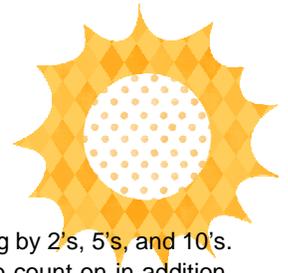
Just a few reminders:

- When sending any money to school, please place it in your child's **'Money Holder'** inside their binder complete the money form stating what it is for. Place all notes in the money holder as well.
- Ice cream can be purchased on Friday's. The cost will be \$.65.
- **Snack** will be provided each day. The cost is **\$4.00 per month** or \$36.00 for the entire year. Please make checks out to MES. Money is due by September 5th.
- The new Security System is working wonderfully. We ask that if you are picking up your child in the evening, **please try to arrive no earlier than 3:15**. Remember that our school day has been extended 10 minutes per day which means the evening bell does not ring until 3:25. This will help keep our hallways clear and will help office staff in the evenings.





Pawsome Second Grade-Mrs. Hepler



Second graders are off to a great start. Students are getting into the swing of things. Each day more things are introduced to your child. They have books, grades, study guides, centers, all of which are new to your child. They have adjusted quite well.

Students have been learning about citizenship and friendship. We made friendship bracelets and sunshine cookies. We have gone over many rules. We are making a video to share with Pre-school and K on playground safety.

We made a booklet on When I Was Young in Bath County. In Social Studies we have started our unit on Where I Live: we started with our home address and made our home to put on our town map. We will then move to studies on Virginia and the United States.

In reading we are reading about homes. We have a house that the students put up and are coloring. We are comparing rural, urban and suburban areas. We are working on story maps, retells, sequencing, Venn Dia-

grams, and blends.

In math we are working on counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's. We are adding. We are learning to count on in addition, how to write number equations, and we will be working on adding 3 digit numbers and addition word problems.

In Science we will learn about Life Cycles and Plants. If you see any caterpillars you may bring them in in an unbreakable jar with food from their host leaf. Flowers may be brought in the week we return from Labor Day. We will look at their seeds.

We have read many books on friendship and bullying. We want our classroom to be Bully free. We have interviewed our friends and learned more about each other. I feel we will have a great year!



Pawrific Third Grade-Mrs. Madison

We had a busy first day of school. We have 16 students in our class including 2 students new to our school. Each student cleaned their desk. They organized their desks, binders, and pencil boxes. Forms were collected as well as other supplies. Rules were reviewed and good behaviors for the school were modeled. We even had time to play games, work on puzzles, and draw.

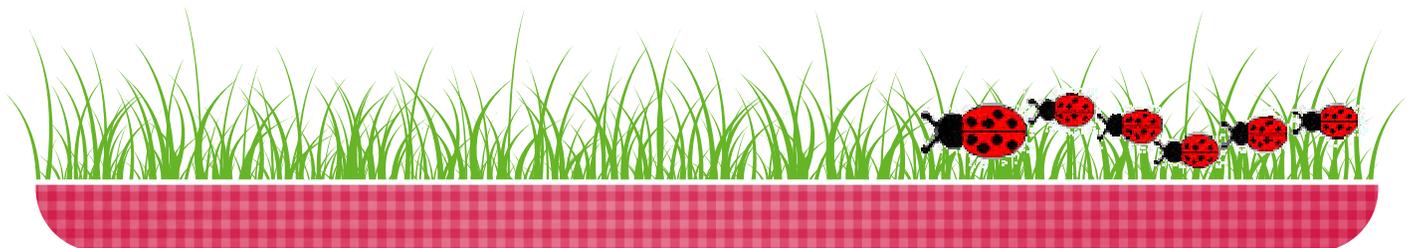


The 1st 9 weeks will begin with assessments in Spelling, Reading, and Math. Two of these assessments are PALS and MAP.

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!



Fourth Grade-Ms. Manion



First of all, I want to welcome all the fourth grade students this year. We have lots to learn. Some of the information is exciting and fun. For example, we study the life cycle of trout by raising them or attempting to raise them. We always lose fish. In the wild, only one trout survives from each batch of eggs. We do usually have more than one survive. On the other hand, such information as grammar seems to bore some people. I'm not sure why people don't find parts of speech exciting.

Seriously, fourth grade works on learning to think independently throughout the year and take more responsibility. Furthermore, there are many vocabulary words to master during this school year. The good news is those words will appear again and again in the next few years. Therefore, learning the new words this year will help in the years to come. They are not just for this year. We will be reading many good books. Fourth grade reading works on understanding what you read and pulling new information out of what you read. As a matter of fact, we have already started Swindle, Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, and Clementine.

Fourth grade language emphasizes understanding complete sentences during the first nine weeks. We learn what sentence fragments or incomplete sentences are. We learn what parts of speech have to be present to make a sentence complete. Therefore, we study words –

their parts of speech, their parts such as prefixes, and their correct spelling. Homophone study starts the first nine weeks and continues all year.

During the first nine weeks, fourth grade works on several different math concepts. First of all, we work on understanding place value through millions. In addition, we compare and round numbers. We took the birthdays everyone gave us on back-to-school night and graphed them. We will be graphing other information as well. We look at tally charts, frequency tables, line plots, line graphs, and bar graphs. Students create their own graphs as well as interpret data from other graphs.

Virginia Studies starts with studying Virginia geography. Virginia has five geographic regions we study. We learn their physical features, waterways, cities, industries, and tourist attractions. We also study the original way of life for Virginia Indians and learn the names of today's state recognized tribes.

Fourth grade science works on learning the vocabulary that goes along with scientific investigation during the first nine weeks. We also learn the steps to follow in conducting an experiment. In addition, we study the water resources and watersheds of Virginia. The James River is the longest river completely in Virginia. We have already planted some plants to start reviewing how plants grow. Moreover, we learn the parts of a flower.

5th Grade Language Arts & 5/6 Math-Ms. Lee



Welcome to fifth grade Language Arts.

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 will recite a poem by Charlotte Zolotow with added creative actions about changes in a year

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

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

Respect all creatures is the theme we will learn there.

Through a variety of genres, experiences and strifes

I hope we learn a bit about literature and whole lot

About life!

Fifth and Sixth Grade Math.

What a great group of students! I am thrilled to be at Millboro working with the fabulous fifth and stunning sixth grade students (Can you find the alliterations and explain them to your parents?). We will use hands-on objects and real life situations with our math objectives. Recipes, crafts, Olympic records, floor plans and nutritional information are examples of real life math we will explore in class. The math objectives are more rigorous and expectations for students are high. Please look over the math standards of learning on the Virginia Department of Education website. Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with me.

6/7 Grade Language Arts-Mrs. Secoy



Welcome back to school!

I'm so excited to start the new year, and it looks like students are as well! Everyone has chosen a W.R.A.P. book for their independent reading, and we've even started our first round of literature circles. This year, we have time dedicated just for literature circles, so we will have those going all year long. All of the students have quickly adapted to our classroom routines and expectations, and we are just getting started on the core of Language Arts. We will be focusing on Nonfiction for this first quarter. I'm excited to say that we will be using a lot of technology to support our study of reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary! Each class now has a virtual classroom on Edmodo, and parents are welcome to join us. Each student has a parent code that offers parents a peek at what we do. If you are interested, please contact me at the school or by email (marias@bath.k12.va.us) for more information.



7th Grade Life Science-Mrs. Secoy

Welcome back to school!

Science is off to an awesome start. Our first unit focuses on the basics of scientific method, and we are already half way through it! Students have been working hard and are excited about all of the labs we will be able to do this year. We will be using the nature trail to connect the life science we read about in class with the science of life we see all around us in beautiful Bath County. We will also get to dissect frogs this fall as we look at the organization of cells to create organisms. We do have an Edmodo virtual science classroom set up where we will see first-hand how technology supports our understanding of science. If you would like information about your parent access, please contact me at the school or by email (marias@bath.k12.va.us) for more information.

Counselor's Corner-Ms. Jessica Hornsby

Me, oh my, the summer completely disappeared! Where did it go? I am so excited to be the new School Counselor at Millboro Elementary. I would like to thank everyone in the community for being so welcoming and making this such an easy transition! I am eager to work with your students through comprehensive character education, academic support, and career exploration. I am fortunate to work with each grade level for thirty minutes each, once a week. During this time, we will cover a number of valuable topics for your student(s)!

September will be our "RESPECT" month. We will spend four weeks learning about different aspects of respect, such as respect for other people, respect for places, respect for things, and respect for oneself. We will complete a number of hands-on, interactive activities and practice scenarios that will allow students to develop respectful habits to use for the rest of their lives!

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Schools around the country are encouraged to "Stomp Out Bullying" and increase awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on children of all ages. We will spend four to five weeks discussing the nature of bullying and what to do in a bullying situation. Each grade level will participate in their own school-wide prevention program to support kindness, awareness, and methods for dealing with bullying!

It's going to be an exciting first marking period here at Millboro Elementary. I will be working with students in small groups and individually as needed for increased positive behavioral support and activities to improve students' lives. If you have any questions or concerns about the counseling program or your student(s), please feel free to give me a call, e-mail me, or stop by in person. I am so thrilled to work with your community, your family, and your wonderful students!





5th Grade Science- Mrs. Paret

5th and 6th grade science is off to a great start! The students have been busy creating fun posters of where they have lived and visited. Their work is proudly displayed in our hallway.

Our 5th graders are going to be learning how to classify various living and non-living things in the next couple of weeks. This will be a fantastic opportunity for observation and exploration both in the classroom and in the school playground.

The 6th graders are going to be working on scientific investigations and identifying things that change and things that stay the same in an experiment. This happens to be a great way to bring cooking into the Science room. Students will see how changing just one or two ingredients in a recipe can make a completely new outcome.

I so appreciate all the support you give your child. It makes all the difference for them.

Happy Fall!

Deciduous Trees Word Search Puzzle



D E C I D U O U Y R O K C I H
M S S Y C A M O R E T R E C E
S A A E R E T R R E E S E T H
D A P L T L O S E E T E H E I
W O L L I W R L B E B A V E S
S S G O E E A I L O N G A M A
S W O W N A S L U L E Y L D U
R A I W O N G E M T L E A H E
C L O O L O D O H R P S D R P
Y N S O E Y D B A S P S O O N
D U B D E R I D E E A P P E N
D T I N G R O N N O B L T H E
C L I M C E A T E A A N D S T
A Y B H A H R E U R R K N T I
L S P L O C U S T R C I S N G

ASHES
ASPEN
BEECH
BIRCH
CRABAPPLE
CHERRY
DOGWOOD
ELMS
HICKORY
LOCUST
MAGNOLIA
MAPLE
MULBERRY
OAKS
POPLAR
REDBUD
SYCAMORE
WALNUT
WILLOW
YELLOWWOOD

Art-Ms. Horner

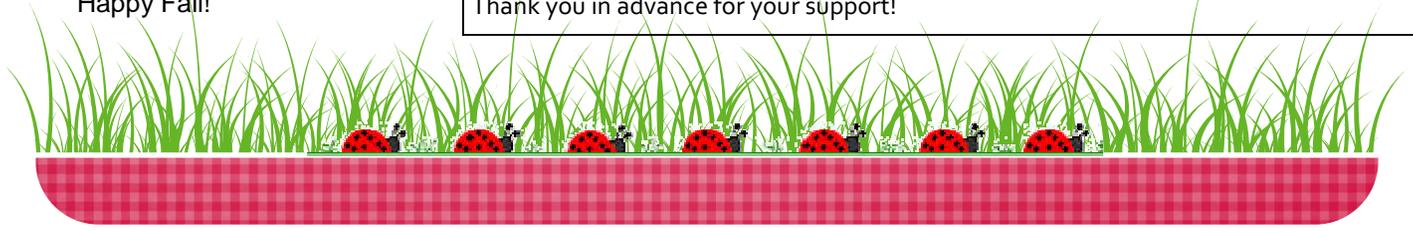


Welcome back to another exciting year in the art room. Students will go over rules, positive and negative consequences, what is expected of them in the art room, and procedures. Next students will be working on variety of projects. Kindergarten and First Grade will be making leave rubbings using crayon. Students will add a paint wash to their leave rubbings. Second and third grade will print leaves using red, orange, yellow, and brown paint. The following class they will draw the veins in with colored pencil and decorate around their leaves using colored pencil. Fourth grade will print leaves too, but will use white paint on black paper. The following class students will add colored pencil to the leaves and sponge paint around their leaves. Fifth, sixth and seventh grade will learn about illuminated letters and will then create their own illuminated letters on black paper using colored pencil.

Please remind your child to not wear his or hers best outfit on art days. Students will be exposed to a variety of lessons that use Virginia's standard of learning for art. Please encourage your child to give their best. Donations of newspapers and plastic containers are highly appreciated. I look forward to seeing your son or daughter create and learn about art!

Kroger
Plus Card Education

If you want to register for Kroger points for our school and you forgot the letter with our barcode, just let the cashier know. They have our school on record and they can look it up and register you on your next shopping trip. Thank you in advance for your support!



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 tons of expectations and responsibilities of being in fifth grade. We did some really fun team building exercises to kick off the year. 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 tab to see what's happening in fifth grade.

We're off to a great start in sixth grade, too! 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.

Civics and Economics has been going wonderfully, as well. This is our third year together and I'm so excited that they're back! We'll be learning how a 222 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 for homework, links, and more.



Band-Mrs. Hooker

The MES BANDS are off to a great start! Our fifth graders are just getting instruments, books and care kits and are so excited to make their first sounds! Our sixth and seventh graders are already knee deep in fundamentals and at work learning and memorizing scales. Many are preparing for all area auditions that will occur in Nov. We will be on to concert literature soon and it will be concert time before we know it! If you still need to rent and instrument, get an instrument repaired or order books or materials, you can contact Star City Music at www.starcitymusic.com or call them at 540-772-7722. Please feel free to contact me at melindah@bath.k12.va.us if you have any questions for concerns! I am looking forward to an amazing year with your children!

CFE NEWS

CFE, Citizens for Education, was able to support the education of all Millboro Elementary students in several ways during the 2013-2014 school year. First of all, CFE used money to help enrich students' educational experiences. Money was given to help pay each student's field trip cost. Money was also given to help with Olympic and Field Day expenses as well as the Fall Festival. The CFE also contributed to the cost of bringing an author to our school last year for a visit. Secondly, the CFE used money to promote our positive behavior program and participation in school events. CFE purchased a popcorn machine for Millboro Elementary which is used each nine weeks to pop popcorn for our nine weeks reward movie. In addition, money was used to purchase ice cream for students who attended the Christmas program. Money was also used to purchase the participation gifts for talent show participants. CFE also purchased books for rewards for AR reading. Thirdly, the CFE invested money in equipment for the school. The CFE contributed to the cost of a poster-maker.

The CFE looks forward to contributing to students' educational experiences again this year with your help. We will have our Little Caesar's fundraiser in October. We will be selling from October 6, 2014 – October 24, 2014. Orders will need to be picked up on November 5, 2014. Our first movie night will be on September 12, 2014. We will also be looking for volunteers to help with the Fall Festival.

The CFE greatly appreciates and thanks you for all of your support. Some people volunteer in the office at school. Some people donate goods to our movie nights enabling us to make some money on them. Others help with events such as the Fall Festival or Field Day. Many of you help with our main fundraiser, Little Caesar's. Some of you simply say thank you to people for doing things to help students. Everything, all of you do, contributes to helping the students at Millboro Elementary have a richer educational experience.

Thank you!

Music-Mrs. Lindsay

Welcome back, students! It is hard to believe we are back already! The summer certainly flew by!!!

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 Preschool and 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 talking about the Brass and String Families 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 recorders in the Spring! We will discuss line and space notes and learn the names of the notes. Students in fifth, sixth and seventh grades will continue to work on reading musical notation and recognizing musical symbols. We will explore different styles of music. We will talk about performers, instrumentation and characteristics of the various styles. We will continue to build our repertoire of songs as well.

I am looking forward to another great year with our students!



Popcorn Trail Mix



Ingredients



- 1 package (6 to 7 cup yield) plain microwave popcorn
- Nonstick cooking spray
- 2 - 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 cups potato sticks
- 1 1/2 cups peanuts or almonds
- 1 cup mixed dried fruit

Make It

1. Pop popcorn according to package directions. Pour popcorn into a very large bowl; coat lightly with cooking spray.
2. Sprinkle popcorn with Parmesan cheese; toss gently to coat. Stir in potato sticks, peanuts, and dried fruit.

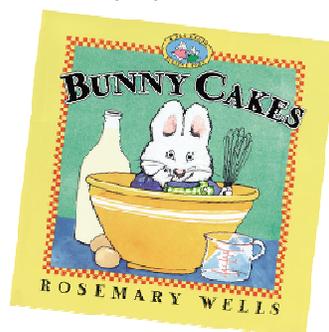
Title I-Mrs. Lancaster

We are ready for a great new year! Students are excited to be back and ready to READ. We are beginning the year by reading together books about treating each other with kindness and respect. Some of the titles we have read include *Each Kindness*, *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat*, and *Don't Laugh at Me*. We discussed the author's purpose for each book, and what we can learn about how to treat others the way that we want to be treated.

This fall will be busy with fun reading events. We celebrated our summer reading with a READING ROCKS party. Students who returned their summer reading activity sheets were invited to join the celebration! Our special guest was Satchmo the Reading Buddy Dog. He showed the students how to run through his maze, and everyone had a chance to read to him. We also have two special reading activities scheduled. September 8th is International Literacy Day. Students will be participating in activities to Lift Off to Literacy. On October 21st we will again participate in Read for the Record by reading *Bunny Cakes* by Rosemary Wells. We hope to help set a new world record as we join over 2.5 million other children reading the same book. Our first 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!



Recipe taken from Parents.com