



Wildcat Mews

From the Principal's Desk—Mrs. Allison Hicklin

Welcome back, Millboro Wildcats!! I hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing summer!

In my five years at MES, this has been the best start ever! The staff and students are doing a wonderful job settling into their routines and setting the necessary positive tone needed for a successful school year. I can't believe how much the children have grown 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 benchmarks. While celebrating this great success, we are still moving forward and continuing to develop and fine tune our instructional programs. All teachers are working on setting goals for individual students to ensure that all children make adequate progress and reach their potential. Everyone is working very hard and I expect great things to happen this year!

I am very privileged to be able to spend time each day with the Millboro staff and students - they are an amazing group of people. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Allison Hicklin
allisonh@bath.k12.va.us

Preschool—Mrs. Leslie Brunner

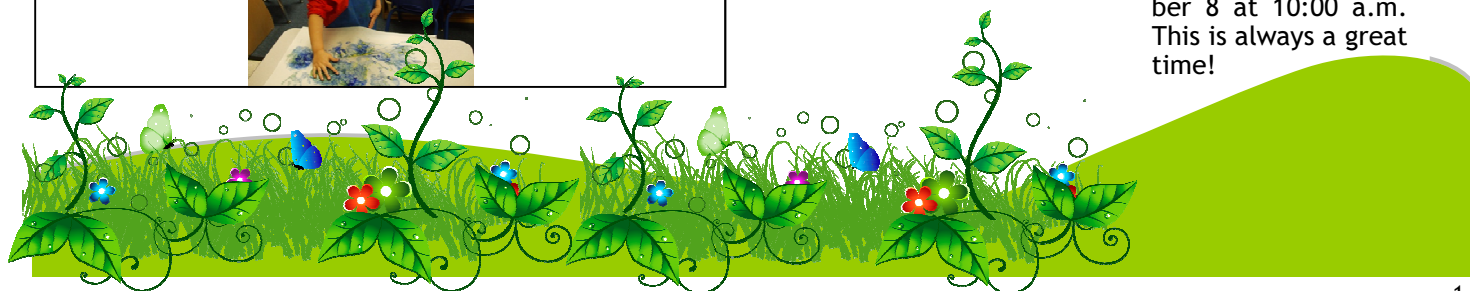
Preschool 2016-17 is off to a great start! We have 13 children enrolled this year, and we are happy to be here! Many of the children are new to the preschool experience, but all of them are learning the routine and safety rules quickly. Our second year preschoolers are being a big help to the students who have never been in school before. We are beginning to learn each others' names. Many of the children are going home singing some of the songs we sing at school. We got to fingerprint for the first time this week. Some of the children weren't too keen on the idea at first, but once they tried it, they all had fun. We also made our own snack for the first time this year. The children made and ate school buses!

Our parents have been very diligent at making sure their children arrive at school on time and keeping us informed of the reasons for absences. We are very grateful that our parents are also remembering to send in everything their children need at school such as blankets, tennis shoes, and daily folders. Way to go Parents!

We are beginning to plan a Literacy Event in September for the preschoolers and their parents. This will be a "kick-off" for our weekly reading bags and writing folders. It will be here at school on Thursday, September 8 at 10:00 a.m. This is always a great time!

Important Dates:

- 09/05 Labor Day/NO SCHOOL
- 09/08 School Board Meeting 7 pm
Preschool Literacy Event 10 am
- 09/09 CFE Family Movie Night 6-9 pm; Zootopia
- 09/10 4-H Visits Gr. 4/7
- 09/14 Fall Picture Day
- 09/17 Bath County One Day Fair 9 am - 6 pm
MES Festival 10 am-2 pm
- 09/19 Progress Reports Go Home
- 09/23 Early Release 12:30 pm
- 10/03 CFE Pizza Fundraiser Begins
- 10/04 School Board Meeting 7 pm
- 10/20 End 1st Marking Period
Early Release 12:30 pm
- 10/21 CFE Pizza Fundraiser Ends
- 10/25 Picture Re-takes
- 10/27 Pupil Holiday/NO SCHOOL
Parent Conference Day 1-4 pm & 4:30-7 pm



Kindergarten—Mrs. Donna 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 will be 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.

Mrs. Hicklin has worked into our schedule for Mrs. Dodie Bayne to help teach reading to part of the Kindergartners in the mornings. Mrs. Bayne will be in my classroom for the next couple of weeks working with the students and we hope to divide the class and be ready to go with our groups after Labor Day. She had the opportunity to teach part of Kindergarten class last year and did a wonderful job. Mrs. Bayne and I look forward to having a great year with your children.

First Grade—Mrs. Pat Whitson and Mrs. Codé Sizemore

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 the year. Not only were first graders eager for the school year to begin, but, our new first grade teacher, Mrs. Sizemore was also very excited to meet her new students and jump into the new year.

Mrs. Sizemore has recently moved from the Roanoke area with her husband and son. She has expressed how appreciative she is with the warm welcome she has received from our Millboro family. She is looking forward to sharing her love for students with her class.



Of course, the first several days of school wouldn't have been any fun at all without spending a little time doing some fun activities. 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 a number of evaluations to determine each student's present level of performance. The data collected will help determine where to begin instruction for your child. Beginning the week of September 1st, we will start 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, healthy breakfast.



Second Grade—Mrs. Kris Hepler

Students are off to a great start in Second grade. They are learning how to be a good friend and how to be responsible. They enjoyed making their friendship bracelets and playing games that taught them about each other. The puppet show from Mrs. McMullen and Mrs. Hepler taught the students how to get along with each other and not to tolerate bullying behavior. We are reading many books on behaviors and friendship.

In Math we are working on the Commutative Property of Addition. They have used many manipulatives to show this. We will also learn our doubles, doubles plus 1, 3 digit numbers and much more. Please review dimes, nickels and pennies with your child.

In Social Studies we are learning about our community, Virginia and the United States. We are currently making our town. We just completed our houses.

In Science we will be studying Life cycles. If you see any Monarch caterpillars please bring them to our class. We are anxiously awaiting our glass frog tadpole that should come in soon. We will watch the stages of the frog.

The students have worked hard so far and are showing lots of responsibility. I am super proud of them.

Keep it up Second Graders!!!!!!



****Please make sure your child is fever free for 24 hours before sending them back to school after an illness.****

SHORT NOTES: Excellent Attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or PE class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.

SHORT NOTES: Did You Know?

Children who regularly eat meals with their families tend to do better in school and avoid risky behavior. Eating dinner together is great, but other meals count, too. If you work a night, maybe you could make time for a family breakfast. Or on a weekend, try a picnic lunch!

SHORT NOTES: Celebrate Progress

Suggest that your youngster create a fun reminder of all the things she has accomplished. Let her cover a container with construction paper and label it "I did it!" Then, she can write each success ("I learned to add fractions") on a slip of paper and put it in the container. If she's feeling discouraged, have her read the slips.



Third Grade—Mrs. Sharon Madison

Our first few days of school have been very busy. We welcome Mrs. Waybright who is a student teacher from Mary Baldwin University. She will be here until the middle of November and will begin teaching the class soon. On the first day 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. As the days go by we are getting more and more into our regular schedule. We enjoyed a great celebration in the gym for our school wide great SOL scores. We made whirlybirds in Science.



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

Science skills will include life processes and life cycles of animals. Map skills will be the first 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. Kim Manion

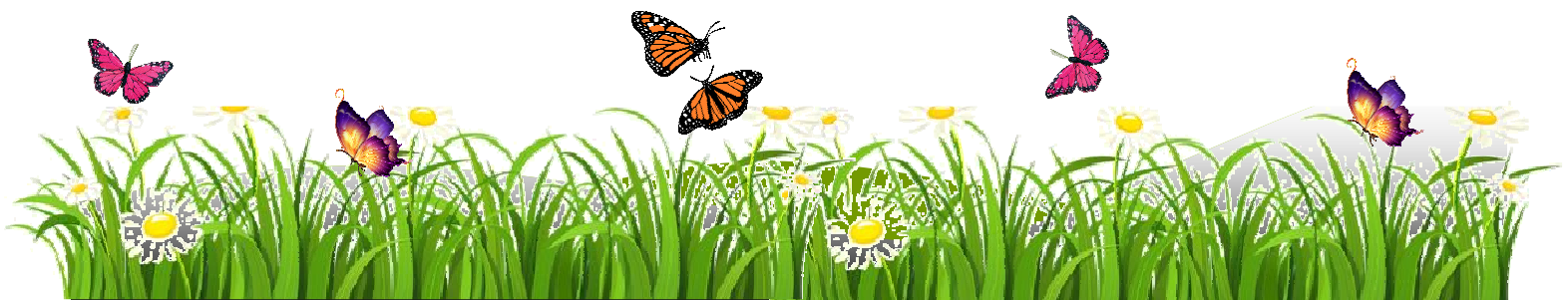
Fourth grade will spend the first nine weeks in math working on number sense while working on place value from the ones place through the millions. We will also review addition and subtraction and work on estimation. In addition, we will be reviewing the basic multiplication facts and begin covering some measurement in science.

In reading we will be working on question-answer relationships while reading a variety of fiction and nonfiction pieces. We are also working on using comprehension strategies such as visualization and prediction. We are working on using external text features to help comprehension in nonfiction.

We will be working on what is a complete sentence and what is an incomplete sentence or sentence fragment in language arts. We will be working on parts of speech and we will be writing. We do a mix of narrative or fiction writing and nonfiction or expository writing. They write in all subjects.

Virginia Studies starts out the year looking at Virginia's geography. We study the physical features, industries, and products of the five regions of Virginia. Then we start studying the first people in Virginia. The Virginia Indians we really focus on are the Powhatan. Then we start bringing the first European colonists to Jamestown.

We have already started work on classifying Virginia trees and identifying them. We work on learning basic science skills such as observing and predicting. In addition, we work on learning the scientific method and applying it. We do some work with plants this nine weeks. We also work on learning about water and the watersheds of Virginia.

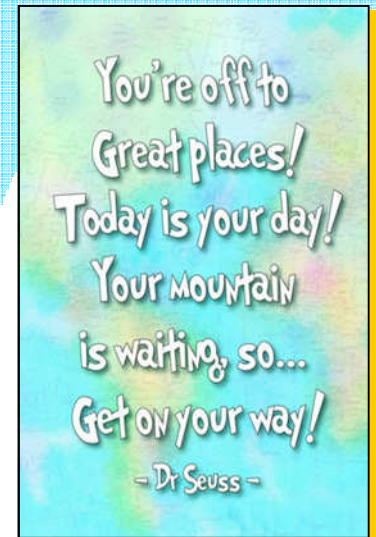


5th Science/Language Arts and 6th Science—Mrs. Dodie Bayne

In 5th grade, we started off the year by reading Dr. Seuss' book "Oh, The Places You'll Go". Each school year is a new start and another chance to be our best. This is my second year of teaching 5th grade Language Arts and I am so excited to polish what I learned last year to make this a new and improved school year. I look forward to nurturing a love of reading with the students. We will be doing a lot of independent reading, using books that the students choose and keeping a readers' response journal to share with others. It's going to be a great year in Language Arts!

In Science, this quarter, we will be reviewing the Lab Safety rules and the Scientific Method, as well as learning a little metric. Did you know? "All countries have adopted the metric system, including the U.S., and most countries (but not the U.S.) have taken steps to eliminate most uses of traditional measurements." www.unc.edu Our Science class promises to be an exciting journey as we learn about sound energy, light energy, cells, animals, oceans and so much more!

5th grade is off to great places!



6th & 7th Grade Language Arts—Mrs. Maria Secoy

Happy New School Year! This year we will read fantastic novels and explore our writing talents. 6th & 7th grade will unite with 5th grade this year to spend time reading during literature circles, and I'm very excited to let them share some really good books this year! We will also be incorporating writing workshop into our class again.



This means that students will be able to write about whatever they want, and their writing will not have a final copy due on a specific day. Instead, students will get to try out all kinds of writing "crafts" (like writing a story that ends with the same line it started with, starting an informative piece with a personal story, or using dialogue to help their characters come alive). We used this last year, and students were so excited to share their stories and knowledge. I can't wait to see what they will write about this fall!!

It's my goal to help your child discover a love of reading and writing, and I'm so grateful to be a part of your child's education.

7th Grade Life Science—Mrs. Maria Secoy



What an exciting year this will be! 7th grade science includes dissecting frogs, creating a whole civilization of "paper pets" that will evolve over much of the winter, taking walks along the nature trail, and inspecting the division of onion root tip cells under a microscope. Students will become familiar with all kinds of new science terms and get to know some really cool scientists, like Rosalind Franklin and Gregor Mendel. I'm looking forward to exploring the world around us with this year's 7th grade class!

6th Grade Science—Mrs. Maria Secoy

This will be my first full year teaching Science 6, and I'm so excited about it! We spend a very large portion of the year studying water. We look at elements that form it, study its properties, and watch it move through the watershed. The best part of this study is that it means we are out on the nature trail almost every week! Since we also study weather, we'll use a classroom weekly forecast to decide what day is best for our weekly walk. We'll collect data about the water found on the nature trail and compile it in our nature journals. Talk about an exciting year!



Counselor's Corner—Ms. Anne Clarry

We've jumped right into our "Be You" unit by talking about individual differences and the importance of self-awareness. Our themes for this year are *Choices & Consequences* and *Empathy*. We'll learn how to appropriately express emotions and discuss ways to overcome stereotypes, before moving into a unit on friendship, conflict resolution, and bullying. Fourth grade is setting goals for the year, both academic and personal. I am here to work with you to ensure your child reaches his/her potential. Parent involvement is welcomed, encouraged, and necessary for your child's success. Please feel free to contact me. Because I split my time with BCHS, email is the best method of communication.

In case you're wondering- How does my child see the school counselor?

Each grade receives a QuadC lesson once a week. QuadC stands for Classroom Counseling Core Curriculum and covers topics relevant to all students. Small groups and individual counseling sessions will also take place periodically, as the need arises. You are welcome to request either of these services for your child(ren).

Students may come to the counseling office before or after school, during lunch, or between classes. We try not to take kids out of class. If it is an emergency, a student can come in and request to see the counselor at any time.

Here's to a great year!

Ms. Clarry

annec@bath.k12.va.us

(540) 839-5804- MES

(540) 839-5775- BCHS

****Please do not drop your child(ren) off at school before 8:00 am.****

Music Notes—Mrs. Tammy Lindsay

Welcome back, students! The year is off to a great start. I am very excited about this school year. I am looking forward to working with all of the students at Millboro! Music classes will continue to be every Wednesday.

Here is a short list of some of the activities and concepts we will be working on this 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 talking 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 recorders in the Spring! We will discuss line and space notes and learn the names of the notes. Students in Fifth, Sixth and Seventh grade 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!

Phys. Ed.—Ms. Connie Forsyth

It is hard to believe summer is over and another school year is beginning. Physical Education class is ready to roll and the gym is open for business. Student's days for PE have changed this year—FIVE DAYS A WEEK PE for all our students! Tennis shoes are required for any activity in the gym and PE classes. For safety reasons it is also important they have them for recess times with their class.

MES students are great to teach. IN the gym they are always eager to try new things and give 100% plus the majority of the time. I want them to know that fitness can be fun and the rewards they can gain physically.

Grades 4-7 are concentrating on pacing for the mile run and upper body strength for push-ups. Fitness testing will begin in the next week and these will be the baseline scores for the winter and spring. Lower grades are working on gross and fine motor skills, and learning how the body works and why exercise is important. You are always welcome to attend class and see what the students are participating in. I look forward to the new school year and the excitement the students bring to physical education class.



4-H Clover Corner

Hello and Welcome Back to School! Our 4-H Campers who attended Junior 4-H Camp had a great time and now the 4-H office is hard at work planning another great year of in-school 4-H programming.

In-School 4-H will resume on 3rd Wednesdays starting in September at MES & VES with 4th through 7th grade students. The MES After-School 4-H Club led by Kim Manion will resume monthly 4-H meetings for the 2016-17 year in September. If you are interested in starting a Bath County 4-H Livestock Club with lessons and projects in sheep, goats, hogs or beef cattle, please contact the 4-H office soon! Bath County 4-H'ers are eligible for participation in the Rockbridge Regional Fair 4-H/FFA livestock program, so if you have questions about that program, please contact the 4-H office. Meetings for this new club could start as early as late September/early October. We'll need some adult volunteers too!

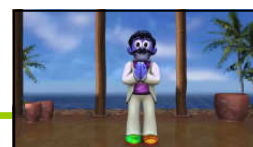
If you are turning 9 on or before September 30th of this year, you can enroll in 4-H project work for 2016-17. Everyone who enrolls through the in-school program in grades 4 through 7 will be bona fide 4-H members and can participate in statewide 4-H opportunities including Junior 4-H Camp, overnight camps, regional workshops, local and district level competitions and more!

If you or your parents have questions about 4-H programming or want to get involved, please give me, 4-H Agent Kari Sponaugle, a call at 540-839-7261, send an email to karis@vt.edu or stop by my office on the ground floor of the Courthouse and I'd love to talk 4-H with you! Have a great year!

5/6 Math—Ms. Jan Lee

Welcome Back! It is fantastic to be back at school. We have the greatest students! In 5th and 6th grade math we are trying to take daily brain breaks, to move our bodies, lift our spirits, and get the blood moving to our brains. As a school, we are using a web site called www.GoNoodle.com. Some of our favorite breaks are POP SEE KO, Roller Coaster, Rainbow, and Peanut Butter in a Cup. My favorite is character is Maximo, he likes to make use of stretch, breath and burn (the students are not fond of him). Pull up www.GoNoodle.com at home, we love it here.

This year we will also use Kahn Academy. I will set the students up at school and they can play when they have free time at school or at home. Many students like to compete and see who can achieve the top score. Tutoring videos are available when a player is having trouble completing a task. Challenging task are available for students that are advancing smoothly. Kahn Academy is a good resource for math students of all levels. Please feel free to use my website for links to online games and math sources. We are going to have a wonderful year and thanks for sharing your awesome children with me.



Title I—Ms. LeAnn Forbes

Welcome back to another school year at MES! For Title I, I am currently assessing and identifying students for the program. All enrollment packets will be sent home the week of August 29th. Title I groups will begin that week as well. Students enrolled in Title I will receive 30 minutes of additional reading support from me in small groups. Here are some important dates to keep in mind:

September 8th - International Literacy Day
 September 17th - Bath County Fair and MES Carnival (10am to 2pm)
 September 23rd - Early Release at 12:30
 October 26th - Read for the Record

Please remember to have your student(s) read for a minimum of 20 minutes a day.

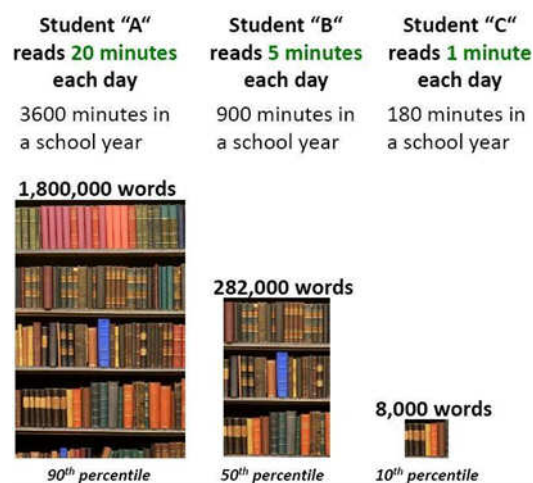
As always, my door is open to anyone who may need support or ideas for home! Please don't hesitate to contact me or check out my website for great ideas!

Ms. Forbes (Soon to be Mrs. Stout!)

leannf@bath.k12.va.us

<http://www.bath.k12.va.us/mes/leanns/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?
(Mary & Herman, 1987)



Special Education—Ms. Charity Reish

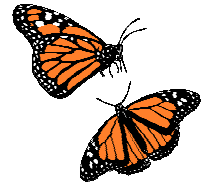
Dear Parents and Students,

I am excited to be teaching at Millboro elementary school as a special education teacher this school year. I want to provide for you some information about me.

This is my 5th year teaching in Bath county and my 7th year teaching. When I moved here in 2012, I came with 2 years experience teaching 6th grade math and science. I was hired to teach 6th grade and taught math and science for 2 years before moving down to teach 4th grade. Last year I had the honor of being an RTI teacher and was able to assist teachers at all grade levels. I am excited to continue to teach and assist teachers and students as a Special Education teacher this year.

Feel free to contact me at 540-997-5452

or email me at CHARITYR@BATH.K12.VA.US



Attention!!!

Adult Basic Education

And

GED Preparation

Adult Education classes

are taught at

Valley Elementary

School

(Bath County Area)

on Mondays and Tues-

days.

Monday 4:00 – 6:00

Tuesday 4:00 – 6:00

Feel free to call

Valley Elementary

School

for more details.

Tammy Lindsay

Becky George

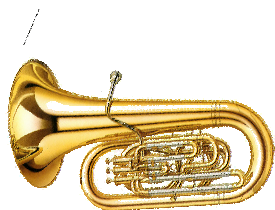
540-839-5395

Band—Mrs. Melinda Hooker

The MES bands are busy already! The 5th grade band members are just getting their instruments, learning how to put them together and keep them clean and well maintained. They are learning note values and beginning sounds. The 6th and 7th graders are working to strengthen their embouchures after the summer break and review scales. They are starting new music and adding notes to their upper and lower ranges.

If your child is in need of an instrument rental, book, reeds, oils etc., please contact Star City Music at www.mouthpieceexpress.com or 540-772-7722. They deliver to Bath County every Wednesday 😊

It will be winter concert time before we know it! Looking forward to an awesome year!



Cafeteria Reminder

New this year is the Grab N Go breakfast. As students come to the cafeteria for breakfast they GRAB the items they want put them into a clear plastic bag and GO! The younger classes eat in the cafeteria, the older ones take their bag back to the classroom and eat there as they start the day. The program is to allow kids to get into their classrooms quicker without having to throw away unfinished breakfast items. We hope all students who are not able to eat breakfast at home will participate.

Soon we will offer a la carte items during lunch. These are the EXTRAS that kids like to buy. I have been encouraging all the kids to talk with an adult from home about whether they are allowed to buy extra items. Whether a student packs a lunch, gets free or reduced fee lunch or pays full price, extra items cost extra money on their account. Please talk to your son or daughter about this so they clearly understand if they don't have extra money on their account they won't be allowed to charge. This applies to ice cream on Friday as well; however, they can bring in .65 to buy ice cream on Friday without using their account at all. Extra items should not be confused with a regular breakfast or lunch. We will always serve your child a full breakfast and lunch if they have not packed one.

It is my pleasure to be back at Millboro Elementary this year. We welcome back Mrs. Joyce Lewis and new to us this year is Mrs. Cassie Ailstock. Feel free to email me anytime with questions or concerns about your child's meals or their account here at MES café.

Stacy Schumacher

stacy@bath.k12.va.us