

October 2016



MILBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WILDCAT MEWS



# From the Principal's Desk

It's hard to believe the first quarter of school has come and gone!

Thank you to everyone that came out and supported our MES Fall Festival and the One Day Bath County Fair. It was a wonderful day and we had great attendance and everyone had lots of fun! Many of our students won ribbons and prize money with their entries in the fair. I am already looking forward to this event for next year!

As we look to the second quarter, we have many exciting events continuing to happen. The Halloween Parade and Trunk or Treat, MES Book Fair, the Academic Banquet and the next CFE movie night are just a few of the upcoming events. I encourage you to keep an eye on the school calendar and the MES website for details on these events.

I look forward to seeing all of you at MES as the school year progresses. Working together, we can make sure all students grow academically and behaviorally. MES is a wonderful place to be and I love watching the students learn and grow. As always, I am available if you need me. Please feel free to call or email me with any questions, concerns or comments.

Thanks for all that you do for our students and school! ~ Allison Hicklin

## Preschool-Mrs. Brunner

In preschool, we have been learning the letters L, F, E, H, T, I and U. Help your child find these letters around your home, in the store, or anywhere! We have also learned about the numbers 1 and 2. We continue to work on other pre-literacy skills and math skills. We do most of our learning through play, and try to have fun all day long!

We had a great turnout at our October Family Fun event. Thanks to all the parents who took time out of their busy schedules to spend the morning with us. A special thank you to Adam Gillispie for giving the parents a CPR demonstration!



We have also learned about families, community helpers, and we have been learning a lot about fire safety. We have also talked about safety in general. Each of the children has given us a tip (that they numbered themselves) to stay safe.

Safety Tip #3: "Stay in your safe spot." Safety Tip #7: "Don't leave pencils on the floor because you could fall." Safety Tip #3: You gotta buckle up when you go somewhere." Safety Tip #8:

"Stay with Paw Paw when you're hunting." Safety Tip #1: "(Go down the) slide on your butt." Safety Tip #20: "Be careful with the trash because you will break it to pieces." Safety Tip #5: "Wear your shoes!" Safety Tip #1: "Stop at a red light. Never go!" Safety Tip #18: "Stay in your seat in Mommy's car." Safety Tip #5: "Don't run out in the road." Safety Tip #4: "Listen to my grown-up." Safety Tip #1: "Try not to spill your drinks, or you'll slip." Safety Tip #5: "Stay where Mrs. Brunner and Mrs. Lewis can see you." Safety Tip #1: "Don't leave bananas on the ground so you don't slip."

We can all learn from the preschoolers!

### Dates to Remember for November

School Board Meeting; 7 pm; MES	1
Daylight Savings Time; Fall Back	6
Bookmobile Visits; 2:45-4 pm	8
Mountain Soil & Water Visits Academic Banquet; 6:00 pm	9
No Preschool	11
4-H Visits; Gr. 4/7 Head Start Parent Engagement	16
Progress Reports Go Home	17
Fall/Thanksgiving Break	21-25

### Dates to Remember for December

School Board Meeting; 7 pm; VES	6
Head Start Family Fun; 10 am Geography Bee; 9z;30-10:30 am	7
No Preschool	9
Winter/Christmas Concert; 6:30 pm; MES	12
Bookmobile Visits; 2:45-4 pm	13
Mountain Soil & Water Visits	14
Winter Band Concert; 7 pm; BCHS	15
Early Release; 12:30 pm	21
Winter/Christmas Break	21-Jan. 2

### Dates to Remember for January

School Reopens School Board Meeting; 7 pm; BCHS	3
Bookmobile Visits 2:45-4 pm	10
Mountain Soil & Water Visits	11
End 2nd Marking Period; Early Release; 12:30	13
Pupil Holiday; NO SCHOOL	16
4-H Visits; Gr. 4-7	18
Report Cards Go Home	23
No Preschool	27

## Kindergarten-Mrs. Armstrong



We celebrated Patriot's Day in September. The entire school met in the lobby to discuss the Freedom Flag and its meaning in connection with the 911 attacks on our country in 2001. We returned to the room and talked about the USA flag and made flags with different materials. We made a flag with construction paper strips and unifix cubes. The class did a great job.

During Fire Prevention Week October 3-7, we discussed what to do in the event of a fire. The students were encouraged to go home and talk with their families about doing fire drills at home and to have a place to meet outside to assure all family members were safe. We also

practiced what to do if our clothes should catch on fire. They did great with learning how to stop, drop and roll. We ended our study by visiting the Millboro Fire Department on Friday Oct. 7th. We had planned to walk to the fire house but due to the rainy day, Billy Grimm drove us to the fire house on his bus.



Fire Fighters Billy Grimm, Jeff Grimm and Rhonda Grimm did a good job of showing the students their turnout gear for fighting fires. Jeff, and Billy were great in explaining many of the duties of the fire department and in giving us a tour of the building. The students also had a chance to spray water with the fire hose. When asked what

their favorite thing was about the trip, many responded spraying water. The fire department also gave each student a goodie bag filled with a football and other neat items. What a wonderful thing to do for our students. We thank the fire department for their constant support for our community and their generous hospitality in allowing us to visit them each year.

We also studied Monarch butterflies. Mrs. Whitson gave our class a Monarch caterpillar. We fed it many milkweed leaves and watched it go through the stages in becoming a beautiful butterfly. We ended up with a boy butterfly. The class let him free outside so he could start his trip to a warmer place for the winter.



## First Grade-Mrs. Whitson

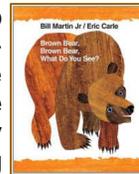


First grade students were very busy the first nine weeks of school. In addition to learning ALL the

new routines, rules, and expectations of first grade, there have been many enjoyable learning activities that have kept them engaged. One such activity is retelling stories in order, with a good beginning, middle and end. Three of our favorite stories were **Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?** by Bill Martin Jr., **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** by Eric Carle, and **The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything** by Linda Williams.

First graders each had a character part for the book, Brown Bear,

**Brown Bear, What Do You See?** After practicing a few days, we did a short skit. The students did a very nice job remembering their character and retelling the story.



In retelling the story, **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**, each student had their own set of story pictures. After re-reading the story and listening to it on tape several times, the children practiced retelling the story with a first grade friend. I was very impressed with their recounting of the story. Each child took their story pictures home with them. I hope that they shared

the story with parents and family members.



Another fun activity that we try to do on a daily basis is 'Book Buddies'. Each student is assigned a reading partner. The pair (or sometimes trio) takes turns reading their books and signing their book buddy folders. As you can see, this trio is really enjoying the book, NO DAVID!. I'm so thrilled that the children absolutely LOVE to read!



## First Grade-Mrs. Sizemore



It's so hard to believe that we have already completed the first nine weeks of our school year! They say time flies when you are having fun, and that is what

we have been doing in Mrs. Sizemore's first grade class. We have been learning and having fun while doing it.

We have been reading, reading, reading. We have read books together about bears, butterflies, fall, Christopher Columbus, bats and pumpkins. The students are practicing their reading skills in class and at home and are really becoming good readers. They have learned to make predictions, identify characters and setting in stories, and can retell stories from beginning to middle to the end.

Students have stretched their math brains by learning about patterns

and sorting. They have learned about geometric shapes and have practiced finding shapes in the world around them. They even completed a STEM project using shapes. They are skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's and are moving quickly into addition.

We have also been having a great time in science and social studies. In science, we have learned about the life cycle of Monarch Butterflies. We were lucky enough to be able to watch two caterpillars in our classroom create their chrysalises and hatch out as beautiful butterflies! We also were fortunate to have an expert on Monarchs come and talk with us about the migration of these butterflies each year.

In Social Studies, we have learned about Christopher Columbus and his contributions to our country. We have also discussed citizenship and what it means to be a good citizen. We learned about patriotism and

talked about the patriotic symbols we have in America. Students even created their own mini versions of the Washington Monument overlooking the reflecting pool.

Keep up the great work !

### COUNSELOR'S CORNER

October is national anti-bullying month. MES students are participating in many different activities to bring awareness to behaviors that constitute bullying as well as ways to speak out against such behaviors. In each grade, we've reviewed the different participants involved in bullying situations and discussed ways we can help students targeted by bullying. The younger grades have focused on ways to be a friend and what to do when friends "bug" us. Older grades have learned about real-life bullying situations through media and scenario practice. Students have also learned about easy targets and how to avoid becoming one.

November and December are all about college and career awareness. Seventh grade is kicking off this unit with a visit to Washington & Lee University on Friday. They will then jump into creating Academic & Career Plans to take them throughout their high school career and into post-secondary schooling or the workforce. All grades learn about post-secondary education options and the amount of school needed for different careers. Older grades work to narrow down their career cluster of interest, while younger grades talk about the benefits of higher education.

As to-do lists increase and time seems to become more limited, please let me know if you have any concerns with your child's academics.



## Third Grade-Mrs. Madison

We are reading machines in and out of school! We are taking AR tests daily on many different types of books on the classroom computer and the Kunos. Our Scholastic News has many great videos that we can't wait to view each week. We had fun with the Science Rocks musical team who helped us write a song. We sang and danced in our classroom to get ready for the concert in the gym.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks will find us just as busy. In math we will be working on addition, subtraction, money, and time. Science time will be spent on habitats and the states of matter. In Language Arts we will be writing letters, learning to spell more and more words, and continuing to work in the handwriting book

along with making more entries in our writing journals. We will sadly say goodbye to Mrs. Waybright as she finishes her student teaching duties with us on Nov. 11.





## 6th Grade Science-Mrs. Secoy

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This first 9 weeks has been so exciting! We started the year by reviewing the scientific method. As part of that unit, we conducted our first lab as we looked at water density. Most of the first quarter was spent focused on weather, and students did an amazing job learning to read weather maps! Understanding the weather is such an important part of our everyday lives, we don't stop looking at it just because we finished the unit. Each

Monday, one student presents our 5 day forecast and leads class discussion to decide which day we should head out to the nature trail.

As we move into the second quarter, we are sure to be observing the trail at least once a week, and we should be able to start testing water quality soon! We'll spend most of this quarter looking at watersheds.



## 6th Grade Language Arts-Mrs. Secoy

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We have spent the past 9 weeks working on reading non-fiction and developing our core writing skills. Students learned that reading non-fiction requires looking at the external text features, determining how the author organized their writing, and taking notes to pull out the im-

portant information. We also wrote nonfiction stories and an informative essay. Students wrote some amazing narrative nonfiction stories!

During the second quarter, we will continue to keep up our nonfiction skills by reading poet biographies

while we take a closer look at poetry. I can't wait to see what everyone writes this quarter!



## 7th Grade Life Science-Mrs. Secoy

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What a great 1<sup>st</sup> quarter we had! We have already reviewed the scientific methods and learned all about how we classify living things. Students have begun learning many of the Latin terms that we use in science. Now we're studying cells and all of their inner-workings!

Already this year, students have enjoyed several labs. We have mixed 2 liquids to see if 50mL + 50mL really does make 100mL. (It

didn't!) We've also dissected frogs and found out that their tongues are really interesting organs. Our class has used chromatography paper to pull the chlorophyll out of leaves as they change colors. Soon we'll explore one of the largest cells on earth and watch osmosis draw water across the cell member.

## 7th Grade Language Arts-Mrs. Secoy

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We have spent the past 9 weeks working on reading non-fiction and developing our persuasive writing skills. Students learned that reading nonfiction requires looking at the external text features, determining how the author organized their writing, and taking notes to pull out the important information. We also read

several persuasive articles and noticed that authors who make the strongest argument include opposing points and respond to them. We looked at exciting hooks, and students began to create their own persuasive nonfiction writing!

During the second quarter, students

will look at poetry and how writers are able to express themselves in a variety of ways using figurative language.



# Music Notes-Mrs. Lindsay

It is hard to believe that the first nine weeks is already over. Students have learned so much in Music over the past nine weeks. I am so proud of our students!

PreSchool students have been singing, dancing and moving to music. The students have learned to play some rhythm instruments too! They have used instruments to make the sounds needed in a story. Many of our songs and games are used to help them learn colors, shapes, and taking turns. The students are learning about loud and soft music too!

Kindergarten students have started to learn the names of many musical instruments. These instruments have been used to keep the beat of music. The students have been exploring their voices: speaking, shouting, whispering and singing. They have learned several fun songs already. Movement to music has been an important part of our music classes. Students have learned to listen to music and know how the music wants them to move. Kindergarteners have also explored fast and slow and loud and soft. The children's enthusiasm makes our classes lots of fun!

First Grade students have been very busy as well. These students are working hard to hear and respond to a steady beat. They have learned lots of fun songs! The children have learned to recognize music moving from soft to

loud and slow to fast. They have learned to recognize pitch that is getting higher and lower. They are able to do this visually as well as aurally. They are excited to be learning some seasonal songs too.

The second graders have learned so much. They can recognize a music staff, a treble clef, and a repeat sign. Students are able to follow the words of a song too! Students have been learning about listening maps and are able to play musical instruments while following a listening map. This has been so much fun! The students have learned so much but we still have lots and lots more to learn!

The third graders have started learning about the families of the Orchestra. Students have talked about the Brass family. They are currently learning about the String family. Students are learning about the instruments in each family as well as the characteristics of the instruments. Students are learning to recognize the instruments by sight and sound. The third graders are also continuing their study of musical signs and symbols.

Fourth grade students are learning about the music staff and the music alphabet. They are learning to identify notes as line or space notes and then figure out their letter names. Students are also learning to recognize and understand musical directions such as

repeat signs and first and second endings. The students have learned so many great songs. They really enjoy singing.

Fifth graders have been busy as well! The students have been enjoying the study of different styles of music. We have talked about Jazz and Bluegrass so far. The students are enjoying singing too. These students are also learning about musical symbols and directions.

Sixth grade students have been talking music from other places. We have learned a couple of Caribbean songs. We also talked about the Steel Drums which originated in the Caribbean and are made from the lids of oil drums. We have listened to and sang songs from Japan. We learned about the Koto and the "Fat Drum". We also continue to talk about musical symbols and directions,

Seventh grade have also been busy. We have talked about "Music of the Generations". We have talked about performers from several generations. It was fun to see which performers the students had heard of! We have been exploring some marching band performances of some of the universities in America. Pretty outstanding!!!!

Our Christmas program has not been scheduled yet. Please watch for updates!

## Mix-and-Match Strategy #1: Kid-Friendly Mediterranean

### Just buy...

Plain Greek yogurt  
Mozzarella balls  
Mini whole-wheat pita pockets

Tomatoes (cherry or heirloom)  
Cucumber  
Canned tuna (in water or oil)

### Then make...

#### **Monday:** Tuna Pockets

Mix 1/4 cup drained tuna with 1 Tbs. yogurt, chopped cucumbers, sliced tomatoes, and a few herbs. Stuff into two mini pita pockets.

#### **Tuesday:** Pita Crackers With Cucumber Raita

Cut 2 mini pitas in half. Brush on olive oil and sea salt or garlic salt. Bake at 450F until pitas are crunchy, about 8 minutes. Mix 1/2 cup yogurt, 2 Tbs. chopped cucumber, and dill; pack in a container for dipping.

#### **Wednesday:** Stuffed Tomatoes and Grilled Cheese

Hollow out a few small tomatoes. Mix 1/4 cup drained tuna with 1 Tbs. yogurt and chopped cucumbers. Stuff tomatoes. Place three mozzarella balls in a pita pocket and grill until cheese is melted, about 5 minutes.

#### **Thursday:** Salad Sticks

Thread cucumbers, mozzarella balls, and tomatoes on three 6-inch skewers. Cut off the pointy end.

#### **Friday:** Buy pizza! Or repeat a lunch.

\*\* Recipe from parents.com



## 5/6 Grade Math-Ms. Lee

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math Challenge.** Bring the completed problem in for a prize.

### Problem 1

**Directions:** Using the Four Step Problem Solving Process (Read, Plan, Solve, Check), correctly solve the problem below. Along with your clearly identified solution, include a specific, detailed response explaining your problem solving process and strategy.



### Bowl of Cherries

In the middle of the night, my dad was hungry, so he came downstairs and ate  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the cherries my mother had put in a bowl. My brother then came down and ate  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the remaining cherries before he went back to bed. My sister came down and, you guessed it, she ate more cherries. In fact, she ate  $\frac{1}{6}$  of them. When I came down, I ate only  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the remaining cherries. By the time my

mother came down the next morning, there were only 16 cherries remaining in the bowl. How many cherries were in the bowl to start?

Problem Solving Strategy Used:

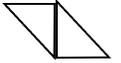
- Act Out or Use Objects
- Make a Picture or Diagram
- Guess and Check
- Use or Make a Table
- Make an Organized List
- Work Backwards
- Use or Look for a Pattern
- Use Logical Reasoning
- Make It Simpler
- Brainstorm

### Problem 2

**Directions:** Using the Four Step Problem Solving Process (Read, Plan, Solve, Check), correctly solve the problem below. Along with your clearly identified solution, include a specific, detailed response explaining your problem solving process and strategy.



### A Row of Triangles



With 1 triangle, the perimeter is 3 units. With a row of 2 connected triangles, the perimeter is 4 units. What is the perimeter of a row of 20 triangles? What is the perimeter of a row of 50 triangles? How could you find the perimeter of a row with any given number (n) of triangles?

Problem Solving Strategy Used:

- Act Out or Use Objects
- Make a Picture or Diagram
- Guess and Check
- Use or Make a Table
- Make an Organized List
- Work Backwards
- Use or Look for a Pattern
- Use Logical Reasoning
- Make It Simpler
- Brainstorm

## 5th Grade Science & Language Arts-Mrs. Bayne

5<sup>th</sup> grade is off to a thrilling start in Science class! While investigating the Scientific Method we wondered what type of paper would make an origami frog jump farther. We experimented, using different types of paper, and found that the construction paper frog jumped the farthest, but we also learned about how flaws in an experiment can change the outcome.

We also spent some time learning about sound energy. Did you know that you can see light before you can hear sound? This is because sound has to have matter (a solid, liquid or gas) to vibrate against. You can do your own experiment at home by having some-

one lightly tap a solid object against a wall while someone at the end of the wall listens for it. You can actually hear the sound faster than you can hear someone talking from a good distance away. This is because sound travels faster through solids (the wall) than it does through a gas (air).

We are having a blast in 5<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts, as well. At the beginning of the school year we set a goal to learn at least 60 new vocabulary words every quarter. This is a particular (specific or special) task that brings us much contentment (happiness). Nonfiction reading and writing was our focus this quarter and the students learned a lot

about how an author uses text structure to organize their writing, so that the reader can better understand it. We practiced writing, using the Compare and Contrast format, by completing an essay on our favorite two sports, candies or animals. I can't wait to see what next quarter brings to our classroom. I want to thank the parents of my students for encouraging your child to do their very best here at Millboro Elementary School.



