

Wildcat Mews

October 2017



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

October

Trunk or Treat; 2:45 pm	27
Halloween	31

November

Gr. 7 to Washington & Lee College; 8:30 am –1:30 pm	3
Daylight Savings Time Fall Back	5
Election Day	
No Preschool	7
School Board Meeting; 7 pm At VES	
Academic Banquet; 6 pm	8
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	14
Progress Reports Home	16
Thanksgiving/Fall Break	20-24

December

School Board Meeting; 7 pm at BCHS	5
No Preschool	8
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	12
Early Release 12:30 pm	21
End 2nd Marking Period	
Winter Break	25-31

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

Thank you to everyone that came out and supported the 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, 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.

In addition, the staff is working on a liter-

acy project where we are encouraging all staff members to display what they are currently reading. We are opening the dialog and expanding our community of readers. Ask your child what book their teacher is reading this week! If your child has a favorite book, encourage them to share it with me.

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



Mrs. Brunner - Preschool

Winter Break Continued	1-2
Pupil Holiday; NO SCHOOL	
School Board Meeting; 7 pm at MES	3
School Reopens	4
Board of Supervisor's Meeting; 7 pm	9
Report Cards Home	10

In preschool, we have been learning the letters L, F, E, H, I and T. 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 we try to have fun all day long!

We had a great turnout at our Storybook Kickoff 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 Ms. Kim Call and Mrs. Kathy Sweeney for helping read stories!

We have learned about families (both home families and school families), buildings, 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 #12: "Never

throw a nail." Safety Tip #27: "Don't take people's medicine." Safety Tip #1: "Never play with a rock." Safety Tip #3: "Don't bump nobody on the rug." Safety Tip #: "Never Trip and fall on something." Safety Tip #12: "Be safe to walk." Safety Tip #2: "Don't crash into cars." Safety Tip #1: "Don't run away from a dog." Safety Tip #1: "Do not step on glass, don't see some." Safety Tip #2: "Don't plug lots of stuff in." Safety Tip #1: "Don't smash your fingers in the door." Safety Tip #1: "Don't cross the street all day if it says STOP." Safety Tip #2: "Do not stand on a chair. You could fall." Safety Tip #1: Play inside. Run outside." Safety Tip #8: "No slamming the door, or it will break." Safety Tip #2: "Always wear a safety belt in my car." Safety Tip #4: "Don't stand on my desk." Safety Tip #27: "Never, never bend my book." Safety Tip #7: "Don't get hurt outside." Safety Tip # 16: "Run outside."

We can all learn from the preschoolers!



Mrs. Armstrong - Kindergarten

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 the week of October 2-6, we discussed Fire Prevention and 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. 13th. We thank Billy Grimm for driving us to the fire house on his bus.

Fire Fighters Billy Grimm, and Rhonda Grimm did a good job of showing the students their turnout gear for fighting fires. Firefighter Billy Grimm was 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 students goodie bags 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. Ms. Somers Knight came to school and set up a wonderful display in the school to show the stages of the caterpillar to a butterfly. Some classes had a chance to have their own caterpillars in the classrooms to feed and watch them change into a chrysalis. We fed it many milkweed leaves and watched it go through the stages in becoming a beautiful butterfly. We ended up with a two twins and they both were girls. The class had a chance to set one free while the other came out of the chrysalis at my house and was set free there.



Mrs. Smolarek - 1st Grade

First grade students have been very busy the first nine weeks of school, learning new routines, new rules, new expectations, and a new teacher. Ms. Smolarek has enjoyed every moment getting to know each student, individually, as well as the Millboro community.



We are proud of all the books we are reading, especially on our own! We have even written our own story, *First Graders, First Graders, What Do You See?* We won second place on it at the Bath County Fair! We have been busy exploring what makes a sentence. We put on their doctor hats and gave surgery to sentences to make sure

they all had a subject and a predicate.

In first grade, learning is fun! We are working very hard to count and add numbers. In class, we had help from apples and pumpkins to count seeds, measure the circumference, compare weights, and see if they would sink or float. Boy, were our hands messy!

First grade is looking forward to the year ahead, filled with adventures, activities, learning and fun!



Mrs. Hepler - 2nd Grade (2A)

Busy, Busy, Busy, buzzes the children in the Second Grade.

Children started the year learning about butterflies and its life cycle. The children got to watch as the butterfly came out of her chrysalis. We were all excited our baby girl butterfly arrived.

We then went in to a pirate adventure where we made a treasure map using our math skills on measurement and our map skills for Social Studies. Each team made their own treasure rock and map. Each team followed the direction of the other teams map to find their treasure. We then made a pirate boat out of aluminum foil, an index card, and tape. Each student had to make a boat, a plank and keep their bear on the plank above water as their boat stayed afloat.

Dominyk and Gunnar were the winners in the boat competition.



In Social Studies we studied Virginia. We constructed Virginia out of acorns and learned all about our state. We will then move on to the US and Columbus. We created a city out of

Legos, we created our hometown of Millboro out of blocks and we made a suburb out of blocks. Children learned about the differences in each place and how population, transportation affects a community.

In Math we spent a lot of time on place value, addition, subtraction, word problems and started some on money. We use many manipulatives as we worked.

In Science we studied Plants and their importance to us.

We learned about the food chain, and how plants help us. We did a STEM project and created a plant labeling all its parts and a diorama with the proper living condition for the plant to survive.

In reading we discussed Story maps, Character traits, all short vowels, diagraphs, author's purpose, SWBS and beginning, middle, and end of stories. We will be working on biographies and non-fiction books this nine weeks.

Our next unit of studies will be Oceans, Magnets, Continents, Columbus and then on to Native Americans!!

So Second Graders are very BUSY!!!!



Mrs. Madison - 2nd Grade (2B)



We learned so much about each other during this 9 weeks. We are settled

into the routine and have very busy days! Math, reading, and writing fill up most of our day. We completed several STEM activities including a name plate/pencil holder. We were excited to release Anna, our monarch butterfly. Parachutes were made during our Science investigation time. Each of us placed an entry in the Bath Co. Fair. Pirate Day was fun for all!



The 2nd 9 weeks will find us just as busy. In math we will be working on place value, addition, rounding, patterns money, and time. In Language Arts we will be writing in our journals, learning to spell more and more words, and continuing to work in the handwriting book. We will continue to read in small groups, large group, and independently.



Ms. Manion 4th Grade

Fourth grade had a busy first nine weeks. We went over place value, rounding, addition, subtraction, and basic multiplication facts the first nine weeks. We studied the relationship between the Earth, Moon, and Sun in science as well as participating in Meaningful Watershed afternoon. Fourth through seventh grades studied water quality by looking at benthic macroinvertebrates, the effects of sediment on water, and water chemistry testing. We thank the Cowpasture River Association for their help in making it possible. We looked at the geography of Virginia and studied the Virginia Indians as well as the start of Jamestown. We learned about the external text features in reading that help support the author's text. We also worked on predicting. We are currently working on identifying main ideas and supporting details.

Mrs. Sizemore - 3rd Grade

We have had a fantastic start to our year in third grade. We have been reading, reading, reading. We have delved into fiction books and learned about character traits and theme. We have practiced making inferences and predictions as we read.

Students have really been enjoying selecting books from our new classroom libraries.

Students have stretched their math brains and have been rounding, estimating, adding and subtracting numbers. We will soon be jumping into multiplication. My class has been practicing math skills on IXL and have already worked 10,000 math questions! Wow!

In Social Studies, we have learned our continents and oceans, practiced reading maps, and made grid maps. We became explorers and learned all about the European explorers who were important to the development of our country.

In science, we have learned about the life cycle of Monarch Butterflies. We were lucky enough to be able to watch our caterpillar in

our classroom create his chrysalis and hatch out as a beautiful butterfly. We also had a fantastic time singing and dancing during Science Rocks.

Keep up the great work as we move into the second nine weeks!



FUN FALL CRAFTS FOR KIDS





PHYSICAL EDUCATION MS. FORSYTH

The gym at MES has been taken over by PIRATES! The students are never sure when they will appear, but they receive messages from the Captain. The students have been involved in many different adventures the past nine weeks.

Visitors to the gym have included the purple-people eater, the MONSTER, pirates, zombies, and fish. All activities have involved teamwork, cardiovascular endurance, team strategies and fun.

Grades 4-7 completed the Fitnessgram tests for the fall and have set personal goals for testing in Jan. Please feel free to visit and participate in PE with kids. Ask them what the pirates are up too, they may have an idea of when they will be here. Just remember your tennis shoes!

Physical education at MES is not like any PE class you were in as a student – it sure is not like mine were.

I am in need of cardboard boxes – from LARGE on down – Cardboard is important to our activities in the Gym.

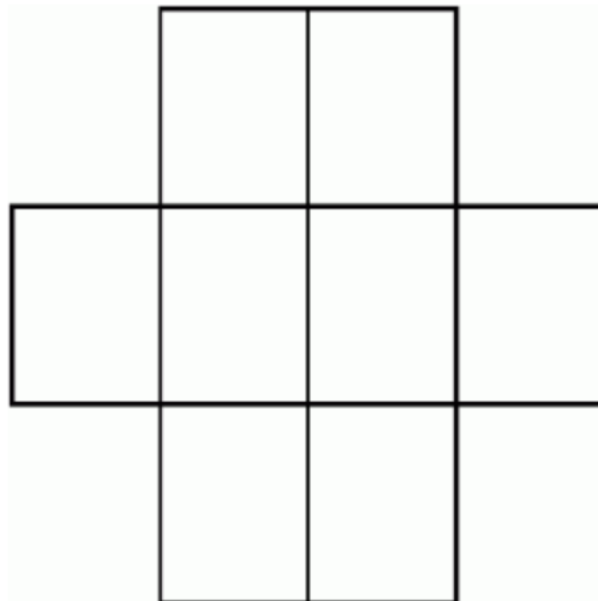
I enjoy working with your children – I want them to have fun with physical activity to encourage them to stay active.

Ms. Lee - 5th Grade Math



Using a piece of scratch paper, cut eight rectangular cards that will fit in the boxes below. Write a 1 on the first card, a 2 on the second card, and so on, until you have the cards numbered from 1 to 8.

The challenge in this puzzle is to place the number cards in the rectangles below so that no two consecutive numbers are next to each other horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. For example, if the 5 is placed in the far left box, then the 4 or 6 can't be placed in the box directly to the right of the 5 or the two boxes that are diagonally above and below the 5.



Think about how you tried to solve this problem so that you can discuss it afterwards.

Find more puzzles at www.aimsedu.org



Mrs. Secoy - 6th Grade

6th Grade Language Arts

We have spent the past 9 weeks working on reading non-fiction and developing our core 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 explored our writing interests while practicing the skills we see author's use. Students wrote everything from ghost stories to Minecraft adventures!

During the second quarter, we will continue to keep up our nonfiction skills as we develop research skills. I can't wait to see what everyone decides to learn about!

6th Grade Science

This first 9 weeks has been so exciting! We started the year by watching the eclipse and learning about the moon. 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.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER MS. BROOKS

My name is Ms. Brooks and I am the new School Counselor at MES! I am very excited to be a part of the Bath County community. I am at MES three days a week (MWF) and at Bath County High School two days a week (T,Th). I was born and raised just down the road in Roanoke, VA. I received my education from both Longwood University and Radford University!

I have had the pleasure of getting to know your students through weekly classroom guidance lessons. In the months of November and December I have a lot of fun things planned for guidance, mostly focusing on appreciating ourselves, parents, and community! We will be working a lot with positive self-talk and being kind to ourselves!



Mrs. Secoy - 7th Grade

7th Grade Language Arts

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. Students explored their own writing interests as they developed stories about a civil war-like battle between frogs and fish, crafted realistic fiction, and made-up Minecraft adventures.

During the second quarter, students will review nonfiction while developing research skills. They'll be using those skills to write persuasive essays in preparation for their debates in December!

7th Grade Life Science

What a great 1st 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. Soon we'll explore one of the largest cells on earth and watch osmosis draw water across the cell member.



Fruity English Muffins

Split a whole English muffin. Top with 2 Tbs. ricotta cheese and sprinkle on pomegranate seeds. Drizzle with 1 tsp. honey.

Mr. Crawford - 5, 6, 7 History & Math 7

Halloween already?! Seriously? I can see it's going to be another one of those years that just zoom by. Fifth grade has been doing wonderfully! In fact, we've gotten to get much more involved in our content because they're doing so well. We've studied the Native Americans who lived on our continent long before we did as well as the European explorers who met those Natives some five hundred years ago. We're about to start on the 13 colonies and how they got their start. The Revolutionary War is right around the corner!

Please don't forget to visit my webpage at www.mistercrawford.com. Be sure to click the US History I tab to see what's happening in fifth grade.

US History II has been equally as exciting! The sixth-graders really seem to be enjoying learning about the not-so-distant past (maybe as much as I enjoy teaching it). They've been catching on to how some sports teams get their names, as we've learned about the steel industry in Pittsburgh, the Gold Rush of '49, and the long-horn steers out west! Fun stuff! We've been learning about immigration and the atrocities of the Jim Crow era. We're headed towards the 20th century and the "war to end all wars."

Seventh graders in Civics and Economics have really impressed me so far! I love their interest in our laws and how government

works. I think their weekly current events assignment has really kept them on the ball, too, with what's going on outside of Millboro! Election season has been perfect for our content as they've been learning about the American political process. Next we're heading in to the three branches of government.

As far as math goes, these seventh graders are really moving along! They're doing great and working hard, too, making class awesome. We've covered a lot of material and I see no signs of slowing down. It's going to be Christmas before we know it!

Until next time...



Mrs. Lindsay - Music



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! They have also learned important musical words like piano and forte! Ask them what they mean! 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 direc-

tions 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 Spirituals 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 added African Drums to our Music classes this year. The students and I are really enjoying our exploration of this new part of our curriculum.

Mrs. Stout - Title I

Happy fall, everyone! We have had a very busy start in Title I and the whole school! Recently, grades 2 through 6 went to the high school to hear author Daryl Cobb speak at the Young Author's Celebration. Mr. Cobb even wrote a book just for our school titled, Do Pirates Go To Millboro Elementary School? His creative energy definitely inspired many of our students!

Our school also joined millions of students to Read for the Record! This initiative pulls together millions of children and adults to read the same book, Quackers by Liz Wong. We are still waiting on the numbers but we are hoping we broke the record this year!

Every student should be reading for at least 20 minutes a night. Title I students are enrolled in Raz-Kids, an online library of books. Their usernames and passwords were sent home at the beginning of the year. If you need another copy of that information, please don't hesitate to ask!

Our school is working towards promoting the love of reading! We are all reading what the students are reading, or can read, so that we can engage in book talks or suggest those books to students. We are posting what we are reading and kids ask us about it every day!

My website has lots of information, websites, and more to keep parents and students up-to-date and on the go with reading! Please don't hesitate to contact me with any needs or questions!

LeAnn Forbes Stout

Title I Reading

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



Ms. Stacy's Cafeteria Newsbite

Fall is upon us! In October we celebrated National School Lunch Week, Farm to Table month and the search for The Great Pumpkin! On a daily basis we offer, and encourage our students to choose, fresh fruits and vegetables. Not every person knows exactly where foods come from when all they have to do is open a can. My goal is to change that. New, fresh items are introduced as often as possible.

Our school, as a whole is doing a fantastic job keeping meal accounts in the positive. BCPS policy states that all accounts must be positive. Meal accounts that are not positive do not result in a lesser meal but, ala carte items such as extra food/ice cream cannot be charged. These items may only be purchased if the student has money in their account. Buying ala carte items is something best decided at home so the proper amount of money can be put

on the child's account. Accounts that fall into the negative will result in frequent notices and phone calls home. We will make every attempt to notify parent/guardians before sending notice to the Superintendent's office for collection.

As always your kids make me smile every day. I am fortunate to have a job that I love, in a town that I love, serving children that I have come to love. For any questions, concerns or otherwise please email me anytime. stacys@bath.k12.va.us



BAND NOTES MRS. HOOKER

The MES Bands have gotten off to a great start! Our fifth grade class has learned to read whole notes, half notes and quarter notes and well as reading note names. They are making terrific beginning sounds and already preparing for their first concert! Our sixth graders are learning 6 major scales and have started rehearsing 2 concert pieces. Our seventh graders are working on scale memorization and concert literature as well as some high school fundamentals. Several 6th and seventh graders have decided to audition for All Area Band on Nov. 8th and are preparing audition materials.

All the bands will be performing at the Winter Band Concert on Dec. 14th at 7PM in the BCHS Auditorium! We invite you to join us and share in an amazing musical experience!

