

Millboro Elementary School
January 2018

Wildcat News

From the Principal's Desk - Mrs. Hicklin

Greetings from Millboro Elementary School! We have already started second semester—hard to believe!

We have had a VERY cold start to 2018! I hope everyone kept warm, read a good book, and enjoyed the few extra days added on to winter break. I am certain staff and students are looking forward to getting back to school and back into a routine – I know I am! We have some exciting things coming up this nine weeks so keep your eye on the school calendar.

Just as a reminder: For your child to have a productive day at school, please make sure they are

getting plenty of rest at night and eating a good breakfast in the morning. If your child eats breakfast at school, please try to get them here at 8:00 am so they have plenty of time to eat breakfast and get to class on time. Starting the day off late or hungry can sometimes change the course of a student's entire day.

Also, we all know that snow days are disruptive to learning but they are a part of life in Bath County. At a minimum, please make sure your child is reading on snow days. In addition, all students have a login and password to the iXL website (www.iXL.com/signin/

and can use it on non-school days, provided they have access to the internet. Spending just 30 minutes a day on iXL would be very beneficial to your child. Classroom teachers will also be providing additional resources that can be used on snow days. Thank you for any help you can provide during this missed instructional time.

Thank you again for everything you do! Let's continue to work together to ensure that we are doing our best for our children. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

Preschool - Mrs. Brunner



Preschool has been busy both before Christmas and after. Before the winter break, we had a Round Table event in which the children did a "show" for their parents based on the song, *I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas*. Ms. Kim Call has another great Round Table scheduled for January 17, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. We hope at least one parent of each child will be able to attend!

We also had a great visit from Santa Claus before the break. The children were excited to see him, sit on his lap, and tell him what they wanted for Christmas. Preschool also worked very hard during that time on gifts for their parents. They even decorated the gift bags to put them in!

The children also "shopped" for each other in the classroom. Each child chose a gift for another child then exchanged them on the last day before break. It is so special to see how excited they get to give something to a friend. Even though they are only small gifts, the

thrill of giving (rather than only receiving) shines through!

After the break, we have been discussing "Simple Machines." These include things such as a wedge (for example, a knife is a type of wedge), lever (such as scissors or a see-saw), a pulley, wheel and axle, an inclined plane, and a screw. There is so much to learn in preschool!



Dates to remember in January:

Pupil Holiday—NO SCHOOL	15
MES Spelling Bee; 2:30 pm	17
4-H Visits 4th Grade	19
Garth Newel Concert; 6:30 pm	20
Gr. 7 to Richmond; 5:45 am-6:00 pm	24
Environmental Magic Show; 8:45 am	30

Dates to remember in February:

School Board Mtg; 7 pm at VES	6
No Preschool	9
Division Spelling Bee; 6 pm	12
Board of Supervisor's Mtg; 7 pm	13
Division Spelling Bee SNOWDATE Valentine's Day	14
4-H Visits 4th Grade	16
Pupil Holiday; NO SCHOOL Parent Conference Day 1-4 & 4:30-7 pm	22
Pupil Holiday; NO SCHOOL	23
Read Across America Week "Dress Up Days to Come"	26- Mar. 2

Dates to remember in March:

Gr. 7 to Washington & Lee; 8:30 am—1:00 pm	2
School Board Mtg.; 7 pm at BCHS	6
No Preschool	9
Daylight Savings Time; Spring Forward	11
Board of Supervisor's Mtg; 7 pm	13
4-H Visits 4th Grade	16
St. Patrick's Day	17
First Day of Spring	20
End 3rd Marking Period Developmental Screening for 3 & 4 Year Olds; 8:30—11:30 am	22
Early Release 12:30 pm	29
Good Friday; NO SCHOOL Spring Break	30

Dates to remember in April:

Easter Sunday	1
Spring Break; NO SCHOOL	2-3
Report Cards Go Home	4

Kindergarten - Mrs. Armstrong

We hope to get started with our winter theme once we



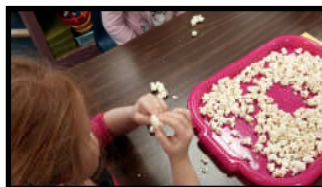
return to school after the winter weather ends. We will start the month of January talking about winter weather and winter animals. We will discuss what animals do in the winter to survive the cold winter months.



We read the story **The After Christmas**

Tree by **Linda Wagner Tyler**. It's a wonderful story that tells what a family does with their Christmas tree to help animals after the holiday season. They moved their tree outside and put nuts, popcorn,

berries and other food around the tree to help feed the animals through the winter. We will be coloring pictures and stringing popcorn to add to a tree on a bulletin board in the hall to go with the story. We decided to help the animals near our homes by making bird feeders too. We will make the feeders



during the next week or so to help the animals near our homes.

We will study Martin Luther King, Jr. during the week of January 15th and sing songs and read books about this famous American. I am always im-

pressed at how much the students remember about things we have studied. Remember to have your children tell you about what they learned about Dr. King.

We will be studying other famous Americans during the month of February. We will talk about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The students will learn about their lives as they grew up and important facts about each while they served as president of the United States. We will also talk about Virginia along with our state flag, bird, tree and flower. The students will learn facts about our country's flag as well. February is a short month but will be a busy one in Kindergarten.

Cafeteria Corner

Happy Winter!!

I want to extend an opportunity for you to acquire information about your child's food account. I am able to send account details as to what the students are buying and how much money is in their account. I want to bypass having to send letters home with the students. The only thing that I need from you is your email address. My email is stacys@bath.k12.va.us Send me a quick email requesting the information you would like to have. I try to check my email often during the working day and will reply within 24 hours. Having the email addresses also allows me to send out positive account info so you know what is in their account.

It is crucial that every person with a food account MUST keep a positive balance. All students will be provided with a standard lunch no matter their balance, however, accounts that are not quickly caught up will get turned over to the superintendent's office for collection. No one may charge ala carte (extras) with a negative account balance.

MES does offer cheese sticks (each stick counts as 1 oz meat/meat alternate) and peanut butter & jelly Jammiches (each jammich counts as 2 oz meat/meat alternate and 1oz grain) on a daily basis. Students may choose either of these to replace the entrée/grain on our regular day's menu. They are also sold ala carte (extra). We offer these items in hopes that having a choice of entrée will encourage more students to participate in our School Nutrition Program and enjoy it!!

Don't forget to send me your email address to stacys@bath.k12.va.us

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First Grade - Ms. Smolarek



What a productive first half of the year! First grade students have really taken off! We can't believe that half the year has already flown by. Our class continues to build our reading and writing stamina. We never want to put down our books! We are working on our long vowel sounds, reviewing our punctuation

rules, and learning about nouns, verbs, and adjectives. In math, we have been using multiple strategies to add and subtract. The students have had the opportunity to become the teacher and lead the class in solving story problems. We had a very special friend show up in our class, Pepper-



mint. Our elf showed up in a new spot doing something new each day, making us laugh each morning. Each day is an adventure in first grade. We look forward to more learning and growth next marking period.

Second Grade - Mrs. Madison

Happy New Year! Our field trip to the high school for the Young Author's visit was fun. The author was very exciting and kept our full attention during his presentation. We've spent time studying about Virginia. We had fun decorating and more fun eating our VA shaped cookies. Thanks to Mrs. Griffin for making the cookies for us! The 2nd 9 weeks has been full of holiday celebrations. We enjoyed the costume parade for Halloween. The Thanksgiving Feast was delicious and our program went well. Thank you parents for helping with costumes and providing the yummy food. Our class

made an ABC booklet and candy jar that we hope the families enjoyed. We had a great turn out for the Christmas program.



The 3rd 9 weeks will be busy as usual. Lots of reading, writing, and math skills will be covered. We are also hoping for some snow days! Aren't you?

Second Grade—Mrs. Hepler

One Little, Two little, Three little Indians-That's what our class has been studying this nine weeks. We studied the Plains Indians, the Woodland Indians and the Southwest Indians. In Reading we read many Indian stories like Little Runner, Pocahontas, The Three Little Havelina's, Buffalo Before Breakfast, Knots on a Counting Rope and many more. The students enjoyed making pottery, tipis, longhouse, Kachina dolls, and weaving projects. Students bartered with their peers at Christmas where we exchanged used toys. The students really enjoyed their Thanksgiving Feast and learned many cultural ways of the Pilgrims and Native Americans. Thanks to all the parents who helped to make our feast so YUMMY!! We have worked on sequencing stories, author's purpose, writing main idea and details and character traits. We will continue this as we study Famous Americans.

In Math we are working on subtraction with regrouping. Please check over your child's homework for careless mistakes. We are trying to prevent careless errors and correct them. We will continue to review what was taught previously. Please review previous taught math lessons at home. We will work on temperature, graphs and

measurement.

Is your child becoming a Meteorologist? I find them looking at the clouds and trying to predict the weather. Yes, we are studying weather, and matter this nine weeks. Students have a better understanding of why when the temperature is at 32 degrees and raining. It's OK if we cancel a game for our own safety. They will know procedures to follow during a storm and where to go for Safety. Please make a home plan for them too. If there is a tornado warning where do you go?

We are becoming mini engineers as we build trees with cups, and objects with Legos.



Our STEM time is this class's favorite time. They are learning to problem solve, work together, redo their original plan and create. I am amazed at the

things and ideas they come up with. Kudos to my Second Graders!!! Mrs. Hicklin got in on the project too.



Mrs. Hicklin is very competitive!

Fifth Grade - Mrs. Bayne

5th grade just finished an awesome second quarter in Science class. We learned about sound energy and the students did a fantastic job displaying their knowledge and their creative sides in the music makers that they created for class. They learned about the properties of matter and how temperature is responsible for the changes in the three main states of matter: solid, liquid and gas. But if you ask them what was their favorite part about Science this quarter, I'll bet they will tell you about the translucent, transparent and opaque ornaments they made last December. Be sure to ask them which one is which when they put them on the Christmas tree in 345 days!

Our 5th grade Language Arts students are on a roll with vocabulary words, learning 120 words and their meanings so far this year! Learning vocabulary increases fluency in reading and also comprehension, so we are prepping for a brighter reading future. Our WRAP book independent reading program seems to be a success, with students choosing books that they want to read independently and creating wonderful projects to share with classmates. The month of January will bring a classroom book read of "The Sign of the Beaver", an adventure classic. I am so excited for what the 3rd quarter will

bring and I look forward to working with your student in the New Year! I also can't wait to start our biography projects and poetry section in February and March! Here we go!



6th Science Mrs. Secoy

6th grade science has completed our study of watersheds and is about to start studying the periodic table, now. They'll be working through exploratory labs to learn about protons, neutrons, and electrons. Then we'll start looking at how atoms bond to form molecules!

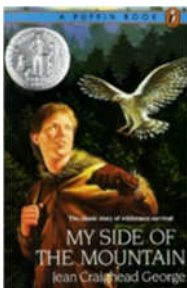
We are continuing to study weather and our nature trail, despite the challenging weather this time of year. Each week a student presents the forecast and we discuss if, or when, we should spend time outside. The students love going out to do water quality testing and have become excellent observational scientists!



6th & 7th Grade Language Arts - Mrs. Secoy



We're really busy this time of year! 7th grade is getting ready to read The Outsider's and 6th grade will be reading My Side of the Mountain as we study the elements of fiction. Everyone will apply their un-



derstanding to their own written fictional stories, and I can't wait to see the results! Students will share parts of their writing in our virtual classroom on Edmodo, and have the opportunity to give each other feedback.

We've finished up research and our study of biographies, now. 7th grade debates went very well, and 6th grade is excited to argue with each other next year! The biography projects were interesting and creative, too.



7th Life Science Mrs. Secoy

In science, 7th grade has been learning more about cells and DNA. They loved extracting DNA from strawberries, and were excited to learn about how genetics works. We are continuing to explore what happens to a population's genetics over time as we create our own species of "paper pets!" We are also starting to look at how energy moves through ecosystems as we explore food chains and energy pyramids.



Fourth Grade - Ms. Manion

Fourth grade started studying elapsed time during the second nine weeks. We also worked on multiplication, division, and measurement. We are still reviewing subtraction and place value. In the upcoming nine weeks, we will be working on fractions and decimals as well as continuing to work on division. In reading, we continued working on main idea and supporting details. We spent a great deal of time on cause and effect. We will continue to work on cause and effect. They need to be able to recognize effects of a cause or the cause(s) of an effect. We will be working more on word parts during the third nine weeks in reading as well as reading. In science, we continued to study electricity with 4-H.

Everyone built a circuit. We also looked at weather. We will be continuing to study weather as well as force and motion. In Virginia Studies, we traveled through some main events in colonial Virginia. We left for break on the brink of the American Revolution, which we will be studying only as it affects Virginia. Then we will create the United States government and move onto the impact of slavery on Virginia. We may or may not get to the Civil War during the third



Third Grade - Mrs. Sizemore

It is hard to believe we are halfway through the year already! In third grade, we have been reading up a storm. We have learned about main idea and supporting details, comparing and contrasting, and building vocabulary and fluency. We learned all about reindeer as we completed a research project and book. We also enjoyed twelve days of holiday reading with guest readers coming in each day to read their favorite holiday books with us.

In math, students are training hard to become multiplication and division ninjas as they practice their multiplication facts to earn their belts. Keep up the great work! My class continues to practice math skills on IXL and has worked over 30,000 math questions this year. This is great practice for when they get to show off their learning at the end of the year.

In science, we learned about the scientific method and tools used in scientific research and how to conduct experiments. We learned about simple and compound machines and found that we use lots of them every day. We made stop motion Claymation movies using I-pads.

I know we are going to have as much fun in the second half of the year as we have had in the first half.



- * *No Parking in Handicap Spaces*
- * *On 2-hour delay please try to have your child here by 10:00 am. They are not counted tardy until 10:25, but we try to start instruction as soon as possible.*
- * *Due to changes in temperature, please send students to school dressed in layers.*

Guidance Ms. Brooks

My name is Ms. Brooks, the School Counselor at MES and I will now be serving the MES community 5 days a week! So far this school year I have enjoyed providing individual, small group and whole class counseling services! In guidance we will be focusing on career and academic exploration grades K-7. Specifically, 6th and 7th grade students will be utilizing various computer based programs to aid in the creation and finalization of their Academic Career Plan (ACP). The ACP is a document that follows students into high school and aids in the process of course selection, CTE preferences, and planning for life after high school. In grades 3-7, we will be spending time discussing test taking strategies, relaxation techniques, and organizational skills in preparation for SOL testing in the spring! I have really enjoyed my time at MES thus far, and I look forward to what the rest of the school year will bring!

Title I Reading - Mrs. Stout

Hello everyone and welcome back from winter break!! The first half of school has flown by! We took the time to review what skills and strategies we have learned the last week of school before the break; part 2 of that review will begin when we get back. All students in kindergarten through 3rd grade will be assessed using PALS the first few weeks we are back. This information lets us know where the students are so that we can adjust our instruction accordingly.

Our next big reading event will be Read Across America Week starting February 26th to March 2nd. More information will follow on the dress up days and celebrations of literature!

Remember to keep reading at home! Our school is now participating in the Book It! program sponsored by Pizza Hut. If your student reaches their monthly goal, a personal pan pizza will be theirs to enjoy!

If you have any questions or concerns, my door is always open! Also, check out my website for fun, educational activities and helpful information for reading, writing, and more!

Happy reading!

Mrs. LeAnn Forbes Stout
Title I Reading Teacher
leanns@bath.k12.va.us



Social Studies - Mr. Crawford

Fifth

The forecast is in and this year shows no sign of slowing down! Despite how fast the year is going, fifth grade is getting a lot done! I think (or at least hope) things have gotten more interesting for everyone. We've moved out of exploration and into colonization and headed into the Revolutionary War. They're in for a treat with an awesome upcoming project using Ozobots!

Sixth

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 learned about the

"Captains of Industry" who helped shape this nation as well as the Spanish-American War and World War I. Wow! I didn't realize how much we'd covered since my last newsletter. Now we're learning about the "Roaring 20s" and heading into the Great Depression. We're on a roll and the time shows no signs of stopping!

Seventh

Seventh graders in Civics and Economics have really impressed me lately! I love their interest in our laws and how government works. If some of that enthusiasm could be shared with all the content they have to know, we'd be golden! After learning about the three branches, we moved right along



into how those branches share power and how checks and balances work. We learned how laws are made and talked about that crazy Electoral College, which was perfect for the election season! They've learned about state and local government, too. We even



Music Notes - Mrs. Lindsay

I would like to begin by thanking each of you for your support our students at our Christmas Program. It was so wonderful for our students to look out and see so many faces at our Christmas Program. It means a lot to me that you take the time to support the students in their performances.

Our students are again busy in their studies. Music classes will be quite busy as well.



All of our students will be working on Patriotic Music. Each class will focus on mastering one patriotic song. Time will be spent understanding the meaning of the song in addition to being able to sing it. Each class will also continue working on age appropriate musical signs and symbols. Kindergarten students will be learning terms such as vocal, instrumental, and introduction. They will also continue to working on fast and

slow, loud and soft, and long and short. Students will also work on keeping the beat of music using movement and rhythm instruments.

First Grade students will be working on understanding of musical terms such as accompanied and unaccompanied. Students will continue working to understand about musical beat, rhythm and melody. Second graders will be working on learning how to follow the words of songs as well as recognizing and understanding about the Woodwind Family in the orchestra. The fourth graders will continue preparing to play the recorders. Their focus will be on learning about the time signature and recognizing different kinds of notes and their values.



Fifth graders are exploring the music of the Twentieth Century. Students will be looking at each decade during the 1900s and talking about the musical styles that were popular, what economic factors influenced the music of the decade, as well as the listening devices that were used. Sixth graders are exploring the history of music. Students will look



at each period of music and talk about musical styles, composers, instruments and other things that impacted the music of the day. Seventh grade students are currently playing guitars. This will probably continue with guitars through the end of February! Students have learned to play Smoke on the Water and Happy Birthday. Students will learn a new song each week!



All classes will continue "Drumming"! All of us are loving our study of World Drumming!

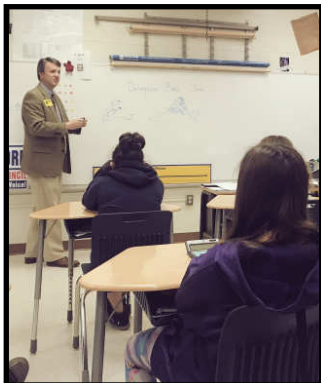
All students will also be studying rhythm. Mrs. Hooker and I are excited about our new approach to counting and understanding rhythm.



Mr. Crawford continued...

had three visitors from our state and local governments come in and speak, including Millboro Supervisor Eddy Hicklin, VA Sena-

tor Creigh Deeds, and Delegate Ben Cline. I think they will enjoy their project on Bath County's government that's coming up. We're moving right along and we'll be on our trip to VA Beach before we know it! Until next time...



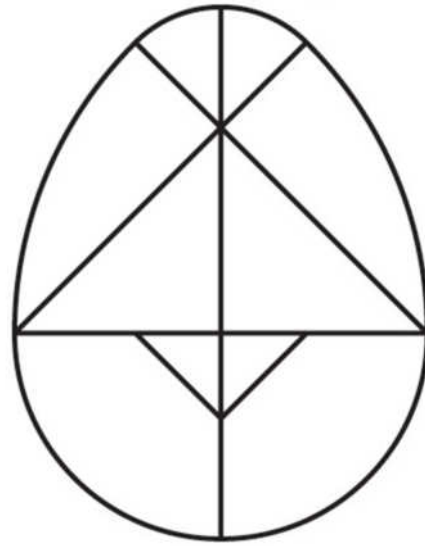
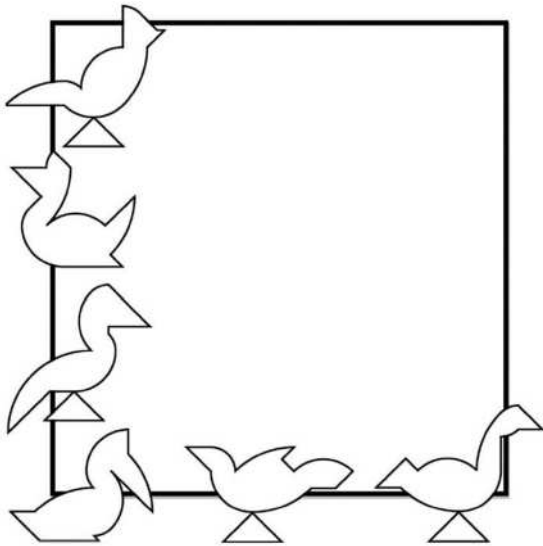
7th Grade Math Mr. Crawford



These guys and girls are on a roll in math, too! We've covered content including probability, volume and surface area, some geometry, and one of their favs... the fundamental counting principle. We even figured out how many possibilities there are for Xbox Live codes using this principle. Turns out it's in the septillions. What's that? Well, it looks something like this, 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. Yeah, I wished them luck guessing one of the codes!

Until next time...





Use all 10 pieces of the egg puzzle to make the birds whose outlines are pictured here. When you find a solution, make a record of it. For an additional challenge, try to make some other bird shapes. Over 50 bird outlines can be made! Make a record of each of your creations.

Balancing Buddy

Your child will be delighted to see this silly pal teeter on his tiny toothpick point!



WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Wine cork
- Two 12-inch bamboo skewers
- Toothpick
- Modeling clay
- Decorations (like paper, googly eyes, and paint)

WHAT TO DO

1. Place the cork upright on your work surface. Press the pointy end of a skewer into one side of the cork at a 45-degree angle (the ends should point up); repeat on the opposite side. Press the toothpick into the top center of the cork.
2. Roll two equal-size balls of modeling clay and press them onto the ends of the skewers. Decorate the cork as desired.
3. Place the tip of the toothpick on your finger to see if the toy balances. If it leans to one side, adjust the angles of the skewers until it stands up straight.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

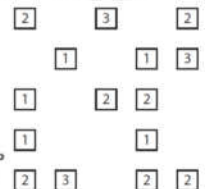
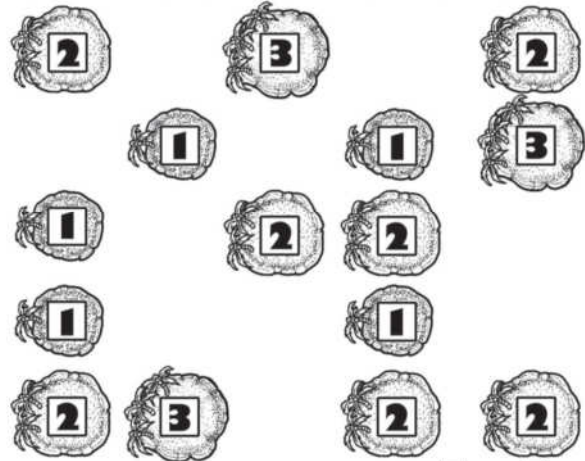
Every object has a center of gravity—the point where its mass is evenly distributed. Because the clay balls are heavier than the cork, they bring the center of gravity to the bottom of the toothpick. In order for the toy to "stand," the weight of the balls must also be in balance: Adjusting the skewers helps to compensate for any difference in size and allows Buddy to stay centered.



The islands shown below are connected by bridges. The number on the island tells the number of bridges it has going to and from it. Figure out where the bridges go.

You must follow these rules:

- All of the islands must be connected so you can get from one to any other.
- Bridges never cross or go diagonally.
- There is never more than one bridge between any two islands.
- Bridges never go through islands.



Once you have found a solution, record it here.