

9/28/09

Parent Teacher
Conferences

1:00-4:00

4:30-7:00

10/6/09

BCPS School Board
Meeting

7:00 @ MES

10/14/09

Children's Art
Network

KG 9:00-10:30

1st Gr. 10:30-12:00

10/19/09

MES Academic
Banquet

6:30 @ MES

10/21/09

Hugs 'n' Kisses Play
Theater IV

KG—5th Gr.

1:30-2:30

10/30/09

2nd Gr. Field Trip
Natural Bridge

11/3/09

BCPS School Board
Meeting

7:00 @ YES

11/3/09

School Closed

11/10/09

Report Card
Distribution

11/18/09

Children's Art
Network

2nd Gr. 9:00-10:30

3rd Gr. 10:30-12:00

Wildcat Mews

FIRST NINE WEEKS

Opening at MES Goes Smoothly

Welcome to the new school year. The first days of school are always exciting...from the parents who make sure their digital camera is charged to the students who emerge from their school-imposed exile from their friends. The teachers are excited to be back doing what they love most...teaching our children. Success begins with a partnership between home and school that must be stronger than any trivial matters that may interfere in the teaching of our children. I am reminded of a poem that probably helps to explain the school-home relationship better than any book or television talk show host ever could:

"I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care.

One was a teacher—
The tools he used were book, music, and art.
The other, a parent, worked with a guiding hand
And a gentle, loving heart.

Day after day, the teacher toiled with touch
That was careful, deft, and sure.
While the parent labored by his side
And polished and smoothed it o'er.

And when at last their work was done
They were proud of what they had wrought.
For the things they had molded into the child
Could be neither sold nor brought.



And each agreed they would have failed
If each had worked alone.
For behind the parent stood the school
And behind the teacher, the home."

As a parent, I send my child to school with the intention that she will be treated with respect. As an educator, I will make every effort to ensure that every child is treated with respect. I intend to make decisions based on what is in the best interest of all children. I am confident that you and your child will enjoy being at our school. At Millboro, we will guide students toward personal responsibility and the decision making skills they will need to function in society. My door is always open and I look forward to meeting each of you. I know that by working together, rather than against, we can make this a successful year for you and your child.

Yours in education,
Les Balgavy

MES Remembers 9/11

MES students gathered in the lobby on September 11th to commemorate Patriot's Day. The ceremony began with a moment of silence at 9:45, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by SCA president Levi Riley and flag holder Vaden Lewis. Mrs. Lancaster read from President Obama's Patriot's Day Proclamation, encouraging students to join in service activities in our country, and to honor the lives lost

on 9/11/01. The Freedom Flag was displayed on the lobby doors, and a description of the significance of the stars and stripes was read. Mrs. Hendrix shared a vivid photograph taken of Ground Zero shortly after the attacks on the World Trade Center. The ceremony ended with the singing of our National Anthem, assisted by Christopher Clark.



Kindergarten

I cannot believe the summer is over and school is ready to begin. I'm sure parents and Kindergarten are very anxious about the new school year. It is such an exciting time for everyone but a little scary as well. I'm sure it may take a few days for children to get adjusted to the school routine but I feel certain it will be a good year for all of us.

I meet them outside each morning for a few days and then allow them to have some independence and praise them

on how well they can find their way to the classroom by themselves. I encourage parents to help as well by letting them ride the bus if at all possible to get your child off to a good start. If you bring your child to school, let them show you how grown up they can be by watching them walk down the hallway to the classroom themselves. This can make them feel so important to know they can do it alone.

Please remember to always check their folders each day

for any mail. Remove all papers from their folders to make them ready for the next day's mail. When they return empty folders each day, this assures me you have seen all the papers and are aware of any activities happening at school.

I look forward to an exciting year with the Kindergarten children. I am excited about working with these new students and parents and together we can make this a great first year of school.

First Grade

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

The first few weeks of school we will be busy doing some evaluations to determine each student's present level of performance. We will be giving a new student assessment called AIMS web and will also com-

plete the PALS assessment during this time. As with every day of school, please make sure that your child gets plenty of sleep and a good breakfast.

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

Just a few reminders:

When sending any money to school, please place it in your child's money holder inside

their binder and complete the money form stating what it is for. Place all notes in the money holder as well.

Ice cream can be purchased on Friday's. The cost will be \$.50.

Snack will be provided each day. The cost is \$3.00 per month or \$27.00 for the entire year.

Always obtain a VISITOR'S PASS when going anywhere other than the office.

Second Grade

Second Graders are off to a great start! Smiling faces appear as we see our classmates and catch up on all the things we did this summer.

We welcome our new student LeighAnn Landrum. ☺ We have a total of 13 children in our class this year.

Check out our toothpick equation as you enter our hallway. We are working on writing math equations. Comparing each child's likes and

differences was a favorite activity, as we did our class interviews. We have a total of 28 dogs, about 100 fish, 26 cats, 2 hamsters, 4 ferrets, and 5 rabbit pets in our Second Grade Family, everyone loves pizza and chocolate ice cream were among our favorite.

The first nine weeks we will be studying about Plants. If you have any seeds, or plant clippings you may bring them in. We will be planting daffodils

and tulips in our garden. We will measure their growth this spring. In Social Studies we will be studying about our Community and where we live. We will compare Bath County of long ago to the present. In Reading we will be studying books on friendships and family.

I am real proud of my students. Keep up the good work. If ever you have any questions please call me at 997-5939.



On Target for A Successful School Year

Wake your child up early enough to get them to school on time....even if that means waking them up 15-20 minutes earlier than they are used to waking up!

Third Grade

Third Grade is off to a great start. Forms have been turned in. Desks, pencil boxes, and binders have been organized. The students have learned how to put in and take out books from their desk. Rules have been reviewed and routines are under way! This will be a busy year with much to learn. Skills for math for the first 9 weeks include graphs, reading and writing of numbers,

place value, comparing numbers using (<, >, and =), and rounding. Topics in Science are animal and plant life cycles, and life processes (food, shelter, young of animals, hibernation, behaviors, food chains). Social Studies time will be spent on map/globe skills, and explorers. In Language Arts, the students will be writing in journals, weekly spelling work, and learning

about different types of nouns. Reading groups will be reading many types of materials. Parents are asked to check your child's homework notebook to see that assignments are completed. Be sure to send a note or call if you have any questions or concerns. This will help us all to have a great year!



Fourth Grade

Fourth grade has lots of things to do in the first nine weeks. One of the things the students will be doing in science is trying to reclaim the garden from the weeds. Another thing we will, hopefully, be doing, starting in October, is Trout in the Classroom. In addition, students will be working on learning the different parts of an experiment and how to set up an experiment. Virginia studies and science will overlap in learning about natural resources located in Virginia. We will also work on learning Virginia geography. Some of you already

know that Virginia has five distinctive geographic regions while others of you will hear about them during these nine weeks. The history part of Virginia studies should begin before the nine weeks is over with the Native Americans. Our study of Virginia's history will follow chronological order. The exception will be discussing Virginia's modern government in relation to the upcoming election in November. We will cover our multiplication, addition, subtraction, and place value units in math. We will be working on telling a story in

writing. Stories have four basic parts according to Donald Davis. They are place, people, trouble or a problem, and progress – somebody learned something from what happened in the story. We will be working on prewriting using his method. Finally, we will read. We will start the nine weeks reading fiction with the possibility of moving into some light nonfiction towards the end of the nine weeks. Fourth grade has lots of material to learn, but we will be working on it a little bit at a time. I look forward to a great first nine weeks!

On Target for A Successful School Year

Be a role model to your child. Your child learns from you. Be positive and supportive about the school and teachers.

Physical Education and Health

Physical Education is up and **running** into another school year. The students are excited and wondering what new activities they have to look forward too.

We will be examining and charting our fitness levels based on physical test scores, height and weight, nutrition and activities when out of school. The students will set per-

sonal goals that they wish to obtain throughout the year. Some of the goals will be short term and others long term. Parents will be asked to help along the way, especially with activities and nutrition when the students are out of school.

The tobacco prevention program, "I Am Too Good for Drugs" will begin on Sept. 25 for grades 3-7 for

10 weeks on Fridays.

Please come and join us and see the students in action. If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to call the school or myself. The students have PE on Mon., Tues., and Friday.

Grade 5-7-Math

Welcome back to Millboro all of you upper block students. Yes fifth graders, you are still fifth graders but you will also be referred to as “upper block”. What going to “upper block” means is this year you will be moving from class to class and will have a different teacher for each subject. It also means you are responsible for getting to your next class on time and being prepared. It’s a change from your previous years here at MES , but a

change I know you can handle. Now, on to the math news. With the passing of each grade level the math expectations are increased and that is certainly true going from fourth grade math to fifth, fifth to sixth and sixth to seventh. A lot of the math problems are of the same nature , only the degree of difficulty increases each year. The expectations and degree of difficulty going from sixth grade math to seventh increases. Sharpen those

pencils seventh graders!!!!

During the next several months all three grade levels will be exploring everything from brushing up on our multiplication tables to learning about linear equations, graphing data and probability and statistics.

As you can see , we have lots to do, so come to math class prepared to work and yes, we’ll probably have some fun also.



On Target for A Successful School Year

A stress free child is a happy child. A happy child will do better in school

Music

Welcome back, students! All classes will be very busy as they encounter many new musical experiences this year. Here is a brief overview of the activities students will participate in during the first nine weeks.

Students in 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 grade will be learning about the different kinds of listening devices that were used during the twentieth century during this first nine weeks. Sixth and Seventh grade students 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!

Guidance

Welcome back! I hope you had a great summer and are ready for the new school year. I am looking forward to an exciting year filled with new adventures. We will stay busy exploring numerous topics in

guidance. As always, learning to respect ourselves and others will be a focus. I plan to see confidence and self-esteem soar as students tackle a new set of challenges. As we stretch ourselves intellectually

and emotionally, I hope that you will recognize improvement in character and academic success. It’s going to be a great year!

Title I



We are off to a 'paws-itive' start this year! Title I students are filling in Wildcat paws with things they can do in order to have a positive year, to display on the hall bulletin board. Be sure to look for their paws on the board near the cafete-

ria. We usually begin by reading a book together that focuses on being a unique individual and doing their best. This year we are reading *Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney, and discussing ways they can make their world a better place. As soon as screenings are completed, we will be diving into word study activities by making and sorting words. Kindergarteners are working on letters K and Y, and listening for the sounds that begin their names. Grades 1-4 will be reading leveled books, working on comprehension and questioning strategies and

grade level skills such as using the Table of Contents, types of sentences, and homophones.

On October 8th this year we will again be participating in the Read for the Record program. All students in preschool through 4th grade will hear Eric Carle's book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* read aloud to them on the same day that children all around the world will be hearing the same story...and hopefully setting a new world record. You can find more information by visiting their website (www.readfortherecord.org), or by using the link from my school website at www.bath.k12.va.us/mes/kiml.



On Target for A Successful School Year

Praise your child. Encourage them. Use positive reinforcement. Let them know you are available to help if needed.

Library

All of the books have been sitting dormant all summer long waiting for the students to return. Now that the students have returned books are flying off the shelf!

Here's how we started the year.

Kindergarten and first grade students have met Sam the library mouse. He is the main character in the book Library Mouse by Daniel Kirk. In the story, Sam has written several books and left them around the library for the children to read. Since Sam is shy, he does not want to be seen on author day. How does he solve the problem when it is time to meet the author?

Second graders are reading

Betty MacDonald's Mrs. Piggle Wiggle books. So far we have been introduced to Mrs. Piggle Wiggle who has helped Mary Lou Robertson to wash dishes, shown Kitty Wheeling how to make beds and Hubert Prentiss pick up his toys.

In third grade we are reading Andrew Clements book, Frindle. What, you have never heard of a frindle? Ask a third grader to help you out.

The Ghost, the White House and Me, a mystery by Judith St. George is the book fourth grade is sharing. Do you believe in ghosts? Will KayKay be able to survive a night in the Lincoln Bedroom? We will have

to wait and see.

Who do you think talks more, boys or girls? The fifth graders all have their own opinion as they share Andrew Clements book, No Talking. Will Dave's boys or Lynsey's girls win the contest?

Gary Paulsen is the author of Lawn Boy a book about an enterprising young man who receives a lawn mower as a birthday present. With 12 weeks of summer in front of him, will he have any fun or will he spend the whole time earning money?

Grade 6-7-Social Studies

6 & 7 History

We're off to a great start in sixth grade! I think we were all happy to reunite after our long summer break. US History II picks up where we left off last year, Reconstruction. After we learn about the 50 states located within the seven regions, we're moving on to the settlement of the Great Plains. From John Deere to sod houses, everyone will enjoy seeing and learning how Americans adapted to the environment in order to settle

this harsh region of the United States. Please visit my webpage frequently to keep up with what your child is doing in US History II.

Civics and Economics has been going wonderfully. This is our third year together and I'm so excited that they're back! We'll be learning how a 221 year-old document consisting of only 4,400 words has provided us with the most stable (note, I said most) form of government in history and how our framers planned for the future so it would last this long. We will be spending some

time discussing the Bill of Rights and how it affects our daily life. We've actually spent some time with that already, but will be spending piles more. I'm very excited about the school year as well as the upcoming election. We'll actually be able to see what we've been learning about in action and hopefully make some connections to all of my soap-boxing about the importance of civic duty and responsibility as Americans!

Grade 5-History & Reading

5th Reading/History

Wow! Where did summer go? It's so wonderful to have all the gang back! I'd like to give a warm welcome to our new fifth graders. I'm looking forward to a super year with all of you! We've gone over lots and lots of expectations and responsibilities of being in fifth grade. Reading will kick off with several read-alouds. We're going to put on a shadow-puppet play of "The Warrior and the Wise Man" by David Wisniewski then move into a great book called "Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key" by Jack Gantos. This award-winning book is about a boy and his strug-

gle with ADHD. Hopefully Joey will learn that responsibility requires action before it's too late!

We did a fun writing project called "All About Me." Students filled a head (on paper!) with everything they wanted the rest of us to know about them. Not only was it fun for them, but I loved reading about your child and learning about their interests.

History has been going well so far, too. We will be starting some fun projects as we begin discussing the Native American tribes that settled in the United States long before Europeans

came. I can't wait to see how they design their totem poles and set up their tribes (oops! spoiler alert!). European exploration is just around the corner, too!

We've been off to a great start this year and I'm truly looking forward to our year together. Please visit my webpage at <http://sharepoint.bath.k12.va.us/mes/joeyc>. I will post class notes and homework. Just be sure to click the US History I or Reading tab to see what's happening in fifth grade.

Grade 6-7-English

Welcome to 6th and 7th Grade English!

My name is Mrs. Jennifer Hendrix and I am the new English teacher. We are already under way with our word study assessments. The assessments will help me to

determine what level each student will need for spelling so they can become wonderful spellers. In the next week or so, we will begin a novel in each class. Also, look for your child to bring home Book Report Bingo. It is a twist on the traditional book report. I will

also send an email out to all the parents when we get close to starting a new project. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me at the school or by email jenniferh@bath.k12.va.us. I am looking forward to a wonderful year.



On Target for A Successful School Year

Have your child prepare everything the night before including clothes, socks, shoes, bookbag, homework assignments...even hair accessories!

“Fun”raising at MES



Box Tops for Education

Box Tops offers three easy ways to earn cash for our school through everyday activities such as buying groceries, shopping online and purchasing books.

Clip — Clip Box Top coupons from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Box Tops coupons are worth 10¢ each when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

Shop — Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops MarketplaceSM (btfe.com/marketplace). Up to 8% of each qualifying purchase is automatically donated to our school. There is no additional cost to your purchase and many exclusive deals and discounts can be found!

Buy books — Purchase books online at Barnes & Noble through the Box Tops Reading RoomSM. Our school will receive 6% of your new book purchases and 3% of all other online purchases.

One of the easiest ways you can help is to sign up to support our school at btfe.com. You will learn about new and easy ways to help our school earn the extra cash it needs.

Plus, you can sign up for email newsletters to receive new product updates, and Box Tops members-only deals and discounts at Box Tops MarketplaceSM retail stores.

To learn more, visit btfe.com—and thanks for choosing to make a difference for our school with Box Tops!

Campbell's Labels for Education

Welcome back to school! For over 36 years, *Labels for Education*SM supported to schools across the country by providing more than \$110 million in free educational merchandise. This year, the *Labels for Education* program is getting even better with a new look and focus on supporting the Arts, Athletics and Academic enrichment programs that can spark children's successes. *Labels for Education* is also adding new partnerships and resources. To learn more sign-up for e-newsletters at labelsforeducation.com.

With your help, we can make this year the best ever! To meet our goals, we need to collect 10000 points. Participating in the program is easy — simply save UPC's from participating Campbell products and send them to our school. Campbell's has also made it easier for us to reach our collection goals with products worth 5 points! Visit labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of eligible products and point values.

Help multiply our efforts by asking your friends and family to collect UPC's on behalf of our school.



DirecTV 4 Schools



Millboro Elementary School has enrolled in the DIRECTV4Schools fundraising program for the 2009-2010 school year. Through DIRECTV4Schools, our school will receive a cash contribution for every new, existing or returning DIRECTV customer who commits to a year of DIRECTV satellite television service using our school code.

Our school will receive \$100 for each new customer who orders and activates DIRECTV service and \$50 for existing or returning customers who extend their current commitment to DIRECTV for one year. To participate, simply call 1-888-388-4724, use our school code **B2413** and sign up for DIRECTV today.

With the help of families like yours, DIRECTV4Schools is an easy way for us to raise the funds we need for the special programs, equipment, and events that enrich our students learning experiences. For more information, visit

www.directv4schools.com



Adult Education Classes GED Test Preparation

A GED can help you:

- ◆ *Get and keep a better job*
- ◆ *Earn a promotion*
- ◆ *Enroll in college*
- ◆ *Prepare for the future*
- ◆ *Help your children achieve in school*

Classes held every Monday and
Thursday evenings from 6:00-8:00
at Millboro Elementary School

All classes and materials are free of charge!
Contact Kim Lancaster at 997-5452 for more
information or to register. Call today!!

Toner Buyer.com

an Image Craft Company / Our 21st Year

Image Buyer currently buys empty print cartridges and new, unused printer copier and fax supplies from over 14,000 small businesses, large businesses, schools and school systems, government agencies, Universities, 501(c)3 non profit organizations, individuals and others in the US, Canada and throughout the world.

Image Buyer collects and recycles over 200 different type empty printer, copier and fax cartridges and purchase over 1200 different type printer, copier and fax new supply items.

Help the environment and Millboro Elementary by bringing in your used inkjet, fax, and laser cartridges.

It's Flu Season!



Good ole hygiene plays a big role in keeping the spread of the flu to a minimum. Practice these healthy habits and help all of us stay healthy.

Avoid contact with people if you, or they, are sick.

- Stay at home — from work, school or other public activities — when you are ill.
- Shield others from your coughs and sneezes by using a tissue.
- Wash your hands often.
- Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Maintain healthful habits — get ample sleep and exercise, drink fluids, eat well.