



*Principal's News*



The leaves and the weather are beginning to change as we enter the month of November. The past several weeks have been busy ones for our school community. The teachers and staff have worked diligently to become familiar with the children and their learning profiles, analyze student data and utilize that information in planning and implementing instruction.

American Education Week will take place the week of November 12-16. Please plan to visit your child's classroom during this week to observe the many exciting instructional activities in which students are participating. The schedule is listed in the newsletter. We cannot accommodate adults in the cafeteria so please be sure students understand that parents cannot join them for lunch.

The end of the first quarter is Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Please take a few minutes to review your child's progress on homework, classwork and assessments. Report card distribution is scheduled for Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. We will hold our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter award ceremonies for students in grades 1-5. Awards will be given for:

- Perfect attendance (present every day and on time)
- W.O.W. (what an outstanding work ethic/ All 3s in self-development)
- Honor Roll (all As and Bs in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Special Area Awards

If your child is expected to receive an award, there will be an invitation in their report card envelope with the date and time

of the ceremony. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

*Notes from the nurse*



The school year is going strong, and so are our students! Every day they have opportunities to grow and learn. Here are some great suggestions to support your growing learner's health:

1. **Nutrition:** Fueling growing bodies is no easy task! Kids love to try new things and one strategy to get them to try new fruits and veggies is going grocery shopping together. Let them pick new or strange items in the produce section and take advantage of their natural curiosity. Another great way to start the day is to have breakfast at school!  
**Did you know OBES offers breakfast starting at 8:30am for just \$1.40?**
2. **Sleep:** Did you know preschoolers still require 10-13 hours of sleep? And school age kiddos are not far behind: the current CDC recommendation for amount of sleep for ages 6-12 is 9-12 hours! Encourage great sleep habits by creating bedtime routines, like a favorite book, music or even scent (think aromatherapy!).
3. **Hand washing** is still the best prevention for contracting illness. Practice good hand washing habits at home and use hand sanitizer if soap & water are not available.
4. **Safe Footwear:** Sneakers are the footwear of choice for an active day

in school. Strains, sprains or even inflammation can be prevented by supportive footwear. While fashion shoes are cute and can really bring an outfit to life, save them for special occasions. Students are encouraged bring a dedicated pair of sneakers to leave in their lockers so they are always ready to participate in PE and recess.

Thank you for all you do to support our kids to stay healthy, happy & ready to learn,

Eva Merryman, MSN, RN, CPN

School Nurse

410-344-1341

[emerryman@bcps.org](mailto:emerryman@bcps.org)



### *The Counselor Corner*



During the month of November I will be teaching lessons equipping our students with skills to help themselves resolve conflicts. Questions we frequently ask at school when resolving conflicts are: “What impact has the incident had on you and others?” and “What do you think needs to happen to make things right?” At OBES we want all our students to feel supported and safe in school. We want all our students to be able to make constructive and respectful choices about their personal behavior and their social interactions by providing students with tools to use when conflicts arise. Being able to resolve conflicts is such a valuable life skill.



This month, the two virtues that we will be focusing on as a school are thankfulness and helpfulness.

*DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!*

Please remember that magnet school applications for the 2018-19 school year must be submitted by November 16, 2018.



We are excited at OBES to have our SOAR store this year for our students to cash in their Class DOJO points once a month. Students receive DOJO points for acting safely, being on-task, acting always respectful, being responsible, or demonstrating the virtue of the week. Once a month, students may choose to spend or save their DOJO points to receive rewards. Some rewards are the gift of time (lunch and/or game with a staff member, extra art or extra gym time, running time, etc.) while other rewards are tangible items. So far the PTA has donated and purchased items for our store. Other items have been donated by staff members or parents. Some of the items were play doh, coloring books, silly putty, light up pens, stuffed animals, lip balm, leggings, sidewalk chalk, wiffle balls, and many more. If you would like to donate any items that are new or gently used please feel free to send in the items or contact Mrs.

Stewart at school. The October store will be held on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The tentative dates for the November store are Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks in advance.



If you have any concerns or questions, please call me at school 410-887-5943 or email me at [sstewart5@bcps.org](mailto:sstewart5@bcps.org). I am here to help support your child to make this their best school year ever!

Sheryl Stewart

### Food Drive



The charitable club is beginning our school wide food drive. Canned foods will be collected through November 16th. The food will be donated to a local food bank serving the Middle River area. The class which brings in the most canned foods will get a reward. Thank you in advance for your generosity!!

### PE News

Hello OBES Parents,



The 5th grade students will be participating in the Ballroom Dance Program from October 29<sup>th</sup> -November 2<sup>nd</sup>. In preparation for this unit, please encourage the virtues of respect, perseverance, and courage at home. While this is a challenge for some students, it is a fantastic opportunity to break

barriers and gain confidence. Perhaps put on some music and dance with your child at home. This would be a great opportunity to bond and teach at the same time. Meringue, Cha-Cha, Fox-Trot, and Swing will be taught and Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am will be open to parents to visit and participate in the performance.

Regards,

-Mr. Telesky

[jtelesky@bcps.org](mailto:jtelesky@bcps.org)

### Library News



Our Literacy Pumpkin Decorating Contest had an unbelievable turnout! 45 families entered our contest and each pumpkin entered looked incredible. I loved seeing the enthusiasm from the children's faces as they recognized their favorite characters. The judges really had a tough time deciding on just three to nominate for each category.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to say I am so proud of each one of you! This was a truly spectacular event. Thank you for all your hard work and for bringing reading to life. I hope you continue to enter pumpkins next year! Also, a special thank you goes out to our amazing PTA for providing prizes for the event! And now what you all have been waiting for...

<u>Nonfiction Category:</u>	<u>Fiction Category:</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place: <b>Brianna Henninger</b> - A Moon Jellyfish	1 <sup>st</sup> Place: <b>Riley Gorman</b> - Frog and Toad

2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: <b>Cooper Edwards</b> - Earth 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: <b>Madison Kahl</b> - Wolves	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: <b>Sophia Valdez</b> - Fancy Nancy 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: <b>Johnny Hughes &amp; Scarlett Hughes</b> - Dog Man Lord of the Fleas
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Everybody Category:</u></b></p> 1 <sup>st</sup> Place: <b>Mariska Kates &amp; Hayleigh Harris</b> Max as Wolf  2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: <b>Carly Montgomery</b> - Pigeon & Duckling <b>Ethan Orzech &amp; Leo Orzech</b> - Man in the Yellow Hat & George  3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: <b>Charlie Dewese</b> - Chicka Chicka Boom Boom	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Teacher Category:</u></b></p> 1 <sup>st</sup> Place: <b>Mrs. Karst</b> Dumbledore  2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: <b>Mrs. Quaerna &amp; Mrs. Richards</b> - Speech Pumpkin  3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: <b>Mrs. Mellinger</b> - Gerald With a Broken Trunk

Please continue reading at home! E-mail Ms. Myers at [km Myers3@bcps.org](mailto:km Myers3@bcps.org) if you would like a parent library card for our very own OBES Library!

### *PreK News*

We have been busy in PreK this month. In ELA we have been reading various versions of the Gingerbread Man. We have been comparing characters and the ending of each story. We made a graph to show which story was our favorite.

In Math, we have been learning 3D shapes- sphere, cylinder, rectangular prism, and cone.

In Phonics, we have been practicing rhyming, letters, and compound words. So far we learned the sight words my, the, no. The boys and girls have been working hard and are having fun in PreK!

### *Kindergarten News*

Kindergarten has started their second ELA unit. We are learning about tools we can use and shapes all around. Students have been learning sight words and reading them in text, while identifying familiar letters and sounds in order to decode. In math students are learning how to represent numbers in more than one way, just ask them about taking inventories! Kindergarten students are working hard learning virtue language and applying it throughout their day. Patience is one of our favorite virtues to discuss and show!

### *First Grade News*

First grade has been busy this month! We are working hard on sounding out words with short vowels, L-blends and S-blends. We are continuing to work on growing in our reading and writing skills. We are finishing up our first ELA unit on fiction stories. We have been practicing retelling the stories by identifying the characters, the setting, the beginning, middle, and end of the story, along with the problem and solution. Next unit is nonfiction and we can't wait!! We are also finishing up our first math unit where we have been working on computing numbers together and breaking numbers apart to find combinations. Our next unit is shapes. Next week we are starting our first Social Studies unit on Geography basics!!

### *Second Grade News*

Second Grade is wrapping up the end of the first marking period in two weeks. Time flies when you are learning and having fun in school! In Math, we are working on Unit 2: 2-D and 3-D Geometry. We are focusing on identifying two and three-dimensional shapes, properties of rectangles and rectangular prisms, and identifying/creating symmetrical designs. In Social Studies, we recently began Unit 1: The United States. We are studying elements of geography, economics, civics, culture and history in different regions of the United States in order to practice core social studies skills and to gain an understanding about how these elements are similar and different in various parts of the nation. In Reading, we are working on Unit 2: Cycles in Our Natural World. Over the course of Unit 2, we will deepen our understanding of the organization of informational text as we know and use various print and text features such as; images, charts, diagrams, and captions.

### *Third Grade News*

The third grade is hard at work! We have started our Fables and Folktales unit in ELA and are working on Addition and Subtraction in our second unit of Math. We are also working on our Mayfly Mayhem unit in Science. Students should be completing their homework each week. They should also be reading at least 20 minutes each night and practicing their multiplication facts.

### *Fourth Grade News*

The 4th graders have begun Unit 2 in ELA and math. We are completing an author study of Kate DiCamillo. The students are also continuing their research of a famous person and will present information about

that person in a written and visual format during American Education Week. In math, we are learning multiplication. Please take time to practice basic multiplication facts with your child. The students are also engaged in learning about "Geologic Journeys" in our first science unit. Look for information about our upcoming field trip coming home soon. **If you would like to chaperone the trip, you must have Volunteer Training completed by November 30th.** Don't forget to sign up for Conference Day on November 30th. Your child will be bringing home information about how to sign up using Sign Up Genius.

### *Fifth Grade News*

We have invited Gary Werner from the Science office to launch our rockets with us! This will happen at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> of American Education Week!

### *Cafeteria News*

It's an exciting time in our cafeteria. Our breakfast friends keep growing and we are at 26 children now which is great for our school. Remember if you don't have time for breakfast at home come on down to see us in the morning. Also November 15<sup>th</sup> is our holiday meal and we will be serving a harvest cookie with the meal. If your child does not buy the meal they can still purchase the cookie for 50 cents. Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving from our kitchen to yours.

### *Upcoming Dates*

#### *November*

4 – Daylight Savings

6 – Election Day – Schools and Offices Closed

9 – First Marking Period Ends – Elementary and Middle Schools Closing 3 Hours Early (OBES will close at 12:20 pm)

12 – 16 – American Education Week

12 – Grade 3

13 – Grades 2 and 4

14 – Grades K and 5

15 – Grade 1

16 – Pre-K and Grandparents Day

13 – Picture Retake Day

19 – PTA School Sprit Day – Crazy Socks

20 - PTA School Sprit Day – Crazy Hat

21 – PTA School Sprit Day – Pajamas

22 -23 – Thanksgiving Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed

26 – Report Cards Distributed

29 – Pre-K Conference Day – No PreK

30 – Elementary Conference Day – Elementary Schools Closed

### *December*

24 – January 2 – Winter Break

