



Dolphin Press

Can you believe it is already March? We are halfway through the third marking term! The students at Willards have been busy learning and preparing for the next grade level. It is very important to support your child with reading. Each year, reading will be a foundation in all content areas (math, social studies and science). Please continue to encourage your child to read at night and on the weekends!

Listed below are just a few ways to build a better reader:

Stop, look and ask while your child listens. Make sure to pause and point things out to your child while you're reading. Ask questions about the story as you read, and discuss plots and characters after you're done to develop reading comprehension skills.

Make books on tape. Record you or your child reading books so that they can listen at any time. In addition, this is a great opportunity for your child to improve their fluency and expression.

Keep books in reach. Make sure there are plenty of books where your child can easily see and reach them so that they can pick one up whenever they want. Be sure to include catalogs, magazines and newspapers!

Read different levels of books. It's okay if your child chooses an easy book.

Reading a familiar book is a good confidence booster and it then allows you to read more advanced books so that your child can be introduced to new words and challenging stories.

We would also like to congratulate Miss Carolyn Check, our Wicomico Teacher of the Year semifinalist for Willards Elementary. Semifinalists for the Wicomico County Teacher of the Year Award will be interviewed by a blue ribbon panel of judges. On March 17, during the Wicomico Teacher of the Year Banquet at Salisbury University's Commons, the finalists at the primary, intermediate, middle and high school levels will be named, and the new 2015-2016 Wicomico Teacher of the Year will be announced. Best of luck to Miss Check! We are so proud of her and all of the teachers at Willards Elementary for their hard work and commitment to educating the students!

Attendance Counts! (February 2016)

Grade Level	Average Daily Attendance~	Our Goal is
	94% Required	95%
AM Pre-Kindergarten	89.03	
PM Pre-Kindergarten	92.28	
Kindergarten	92.01	
First Grade	94.73 	
Second Grade	93.64	
Third Grade	92.98	
Overall Attendance	93.11	

March 2016



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Special points of interest:

√ *Check your child's agenda book each day.*

√ *Drop off your child after 7:45am.*

√ *Arrive before 8:15am or your child will be counted tardy.*

√ *Send us a note about changes in transportation, illness, and/or contact information.*

√ *Students will not be dismissed from the office after 2:30 unless a note has been sent in stating they have an appointment.*

Dr. Seuss Door Decorating Contest



During the month of February, the Wonderful Willards doors have been changing to create a visual representation of a Dr. Seuss book. Our students and teachers have been creating ideas, writing responses and decorating images to create the best look. Please come in during the month of March to see the unique creations. We will let you know the winning class door in the next publication of the dolphin press. Good Luck!

THE ARTS ARE HAPPENING AT WWS!

As we begin to move into the Spring months we are beginning to plan for the parade and finish up our cultural study of Australia.

We will welcome Kwame Opare at the end of the month to work with Pre-K and K. Students will take curricular content and fuse it with dance. We look forward to his visit and information about this residency will be sent home as the residency gets closer. The funding for this residency comes from the Lion's Club and McTeacher night.

The first grade is practicing for their May 4th spring performance. Art, Music, PE and Library continue to co-teach in many areas including science and sound, looking at art, snowflakes and snow and Dental Hygiene. Everyone is excited about Dr. Seuss with our book related doors and coordinating lessons.

Our team thanks you for the continued support of our arts program.

OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

Our Salisbury University Interns have been super busy preparing interesting and exciting hands-on lessons involving technology, Arts Integration, and small group instruction. Christine Kedra, in Ms. Check's Second Grade, is currently working in New Zealand, but she will be rejoining us in April to complete her teaching assignment. Alia Otwell has completed her Kindergarten placement and is continuing her teaching in First Grade with Mrs. Oliphant. All interns have been actively engaged in putting the finishing touches on the classroom door displays for the upcoming Dr. Seuss Door Decorating Contest.

Good luck everyone!



GOOD DOLPHIN CHARACTER MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Throughout the month of February, our students were showing that they cared for others. We had students helping others with a task, holding the door for a teacher, turning in a wallet to the office, and caring for a friend who fell on the playground.

In the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms, we discussed compassion in our guidance lessons. We learned how to be a bucket filler not a bucket dipper. We also read the story Rockabye Crocodile and saw how Nettie the boar learned to be a good friend and help the crocodile. Lastly, we learned how the Sneetches figured that “a Sneetch was just a Sneetch” and everyone can be friends whether they have a star or not.

In first through third grade, our lessons were centered on bullying. We recognized the difference between someone being a bully and someone being mean. We discussed who to report the bullying to and that we should continue to report if the bullying doesn't stop. We also learned to refuse bullying by using a strong, respectful voice. Lastly, we found out a bystander has a lot of power in a bullying situation. The culminating activity was to create a message square for a friendship quilt which is in the school's cafeteria. Some examples of the students' messages were “Stand Up for What's Right”, “Don't Let a Bully Control You”, “No Bullying Allowed”, “Bystanders Rule” and “Two Wrongs Don't Make a Right”.

We would like to congratulate the following students for being recognized as showing compassion. In pre-kindergarten, they are Kaylee Harbour, Tristin Oyer, Marissa Foracre and Dean Leto. In kindergarten, they are Kailee Santiago, Pason Jester, Adriana McJilton, Abigail Stophel, Paige Miller, Brady Richardson, Gaige Smith, Jacob Derrickson and Noelani Hudson. In first grade, they are Matthew Jones-Levine, Alyssa Salisbury, Allisaya Bowen, Tyler Morton, Randy Holland, Riley Heberlig, Jaime Antonio and Addyson Ondo. In second grade, they are Silas Burbage, Sean Shores, William Morgan, Tabiun Foreman, Alexandra Giordano, Chase Erving, Megan Fleming, Olivia Folke, Jacob Foutz, Tony Geis and David Montenegro-Paau. In third grade, they are Jorge Bautista, Katie Garcia, Glenn Piche-Waters, Alexa LaBrush, Aden Richardson, Lukas Washburn, Kayden Ford, Ella Smith, Jay Scott and Evan Suchting.

During the month of March, our guidance lessons will be centered on perseverance. As a family, discuss a goal you can all reach by the end of the month. With family support, our students can also learn that it's important to encourage others to reach their goals.

Sincerely,

Christina Thompson

School Counselor





Pre Kindergarten



March is here and spring is right around the corner. In Prekindergarten we will begin our new theme called Construction Zone. The students will be reviewing community helpers, learning parts of a house, different tools and machines it takes to build. In math the students will be learning different forms of measurement such as weight and height. We will continue with ramps in science.

Kindergarten

In March, we will be working on our Wheels Go Around theme. We will focus on different ways we travel. We will be using a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts to make connections as we explore how wheels help us. We will be focusing on 2D and 3D shapes. We will be solving subtraction word problems. We will begin solving twelve addition and subtraction facts to five in under one minute. We will be working on reading our Unit 4 sight words- all, but, from, have, his, on, said, that, there, was, with.

First Grade

With spring right around the corner, we will be thinking about administering the final BAS reading assessment in April. Continue to encourage your child to be reading at home each night. In March, we will also be learning about Australia in preparation for our spring parade. We will celebrate Dr. Seuss this month by reading several of his beloved stories. Our central reading theme for the third marking term is "We Can Work it Out". We will continue to be building a community of learners in each classroom to work together in solving problems on a daily basis. In math, we will begin exploring time, measurement, and adding two digit numbers. We will be learning about weather and engineering in science.

Second Grade

During the month of March we will be reading stories about Talents from our anthology and from our leveled readers. With this theme we will be learning about the various talents the students have and the talents they may want to learn about. We will have a Book Bistro during this month which will involve the children sharing books they have read with each other. We will eat a snack, at candlelit tables, which we will prepare as a class.

In math we will be working on foundations of multiplication and continue working on subtraction of 3-digit numbers, including word problems. Our math Professional Development coach will teach us some subtraction strategies. The children will continue working on becoming fluent with their addition **and** subtraction facts as they try to earn their way into the "Minute Club."

We will involve the children in numerous Spring activities which will integrate math, reading, spelling, and language. Mrs. Barbara Barga, our 4-H representative, will involve our students in a hands-on study of plants. The students always have great fun learning with her!

Please continue to read with your child every night and please replenish any school supplies your child may need.

Third Grade

Please check on student's school supplies. It's that time of the year when many of our students are running out of supplies.

3rd grade will continue going outside assuming the weather permits. Please dress your students according to the weather.

ELA

We are continuing our English Language Arts unit on Animal Habitats.

Math

Many of our students are beginning to master their multiplication facts. If your 3rd grader has not mastered their facts, encourage your child to study your math facts at home. Math activities such as flash cards, multiplication war, and computer-based games are excellent resources.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	PTA 6:30 Progress Reports Dis- tributed B 1	C 2	D 3	E 4	PTA Auction 4:00pm 5	6
F 7	A 8	B 9	C 10	D 11	12	13
E 14	F 15	A 16	B 17	C 18	19	20
			Bookmobile	Spirit Day		
D 21	E 22	F 23	A 24	25	26	27
School Closed 28	B 29	C 30	D 31	Spring Holiday– Schools Closed		

MARCH



Pre Kindergarten/Kindergarten registration will be held on April 14th, at 8:00 am-4:00 pm at the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center.

Please check the Board of Education website for further details and forms.