

Windy Hill Elementary's Wizard Wire

September 9, 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

FROM MRS. CLELAND

"There is no tired like the first week of school tired!" School staff know what this means. After days of meetings, classroom preparations, lesson development and reviewing procedures, staff finally greeted students and began doing what we do best! Working with students!!

Huge shout out to everyone for their patience during the first week. The new doors, walls and vestibule created some challenges as we implemented new arrival and dismissal procedures. Again, thanks for your patience. This week we begin digging into curriculum and homework routines!

Calvert County Schools Environmental Education

CHESPAX is the environmental education program for the Calvert County Public School System. CHESPAX is a unique program in which the Board of Education staff work closely with local, state and regional partner agencies to provide hands-on environmental education experiences for the students of Calvert County.

The Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River and other natural settings serve as living laboratories for students to use their science content and process skills to learn to make responsible decisions regarding the natural environment. Students and teachers will also work with CHESPAX staff on a variety of special projects including the Terrapin Headstart Program, Raising Mosquito fish in the classroom, Oyster restoration, energy conservation, the Green Schools program, Schoolyard Habitat improvements or serving as a resource for the Science and Engineering Expo projects and other environmentally related efforts.

The CHESPAX staff are based at King's Landing Park in Huntingtown. However, quite often you will find the CHESPAX staff at your school site assisting with some

of the environmental education projects that are happening across Calvert County!

"I WAS NEVER GOOD AT MATH"

When well-meaning family and friends say this to students it's almost like giving students permission to give up on learning. Most teachers will agree, teaching math has changed since we were in school. As a learning culture we need to change the messages we send to our children. Below are some encouraging statements you can say when children are struggling with math:

1. "That looks tough, let's figure it out together."
2. "Let's break the math problem into manageable steps!"
3. "Math can be fun." Look for mathematics everywhere: patterns, sports, money, crafts, baking and games!

The goal for teaching mathematics is building problem solving skills, creative thinking, perseverance and practice. ***Struggling at math is not a bad thing.*** The way we support our children as they struggle is the key to keeping them engaged and learning.

Always, always reach out to the teacher if you have questions!

Upcoming Events

September 13th Volunteer Orientation 1:00

September 18th Picture Day

September 20th PTA Meeting

September 25th Open House

- 6:00 preK & Kindergarten
- 6:30 1st Grade
- 7:00 2nd Grade

September 26th Open House

- 6:00 3rd Grade
- 6:30 4th Grade
- 7:00 5th Grade

Car Rider Information

Our students are involved in instruction until 3:05 p.m. each day. Any students leaving early are missing valuable instructional time. Requests for early dismissal should be made on rare occasions. Parents picking up students are asked to follow the guidelines below:

1. It is important that student data be kept up-to-date at all times. Information can be updated in HAC (Home Access Center). A change of address must be completed at school. We request that you provide a minimum of three (3) emergency contacts other than parents. However, please be aware that these contacts are for the purpose of emergency only, i.e., injury or illness. **LISTING PERSONS ON THE EMERGENCY FORM DOES NOT ENABLE THEM TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN AN EMERGENCY.** Students who are picked up at the end of each day should be signed out by 3:05 p.m. in the **cafeteria**. For an early dismissal, please sign the child out on the computer labeled "Student Sign Out" located in the office. ***EARLY RELEASES WILL NOT OCCUR AFER 2:55 P.M. AS THIS WILL INTERFERE WITH OUR BUS DISMISSAL.***
2. If you have made arrangements for another adult to pick up your child, please send a permission note to the school with the name of the individual who will be picking up the child. When an emergency arises, making it impossible to give prior written notice, it is the responsibility of the parent to contact the school to work out suitable pick up arrangements for that day. **ANYONE PICKING UP A STUDENT MUST BE PREPARED TO SHOW I.D.**
3. In an effort to maintain a safe and orderly dismissal, please refrain from calling the school with transportation changes.
4. **A NOTE IS REQUIRED WITH PARENT SIGNATURE REGARDING A TRANSPORTATION CHANGE.**
5. Students and adults must follow the crosswalk when entering and leaving the building from the parking lot area to ensure everyone's safety.

When sending a bus note, we must have:

- **location of where they the student will be dropped off**
- **name and phone contact for the person meeting them at the bus stop.**

We are getting a lot of notes that say my child is riding bus.

Interested in Volunteering?

Attend WHES Volunteer Orientation

Thurs. 9/13 1pm - 1:30pm

Attachments:

1. **Bus Map**
2. **Bus Rider Permission Form**
3. **Recipes for Success**
4. **PTA MUM Flyer**

Student Hours 7:55am-3:05am

9550 Boyds Turn Road

Owings, Maryland, 20736

443-550-9790

Fax 410-286-4023

Calvert County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ancestry or national origin, familial status, marital status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or genetic information or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Student Services; Director of Human Resources, 443-550-8000. For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office of Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <http://ocrcas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.

Discrimination can manifest itself in behaviors such as bullying, harassment, or intimidation of individuals. Calvert County Public Schools does not tolerate any form of harassment including, but not limited to, sexual, racial, or disability. Any individual (student, employee, or community member) who believes that he or she has been subjected to any form of harassment is encouraged to report the allegation of harassment. Students, parents and community members may report allegations of harassment to: Ms. Kimberly Roof, Director of Student Services, Calvert County Public Schools, 1305 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678. Employees may report allegations of harassment to: Ms. Laveeta Hutchins, Director of Human Resources, Calvert County Public Schools, 1305 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678. Calvert County Public Schools is committed to conducting a prompt investigation for any allegation of harassment. If harassment has occurred, the individual will be disciplined promptly. Disciplinary actions for students found to have engaged in any form of harassment may result in suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary actions for employees found to have engaged in any form of harassment may result in suspension or termination. Calvert County Public Schools encourages all students, parents, employees, and community members to work together to prevent any form of harassment. For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office of Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <http://ocrcas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.